Bournemouth Bowling Club

Rules and Policies

Revision V2.00 : March 2025

The following are a simple set of rules to ensure all Members (new and old, playing and social) are aware of how the Club operates to allow for good management of the Club and its facilities.

Policies
The Club has adopted the following Policies and all Members must comply with them:

Anti-Bullying Policy.
Equity Policy and Code of Ethics and Behaviour.
Health & Safety Policy.
Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

Members should read the notice boards regularly. We try to keep everyone up to date but this does rely on Members reading the information provided. There are also various notices of a more permanent nature around the Club which are there to assist Club Members, e.g., the Club Constitution, Rules and Policies.

Club Colours
The Club colours are White with Royal Blue, Red and Gold shirts and tailored Navy Blue shorts, trousers or knee length skirts.

Club Year
Runs from 1st April to 31st March.

The Green
The Green will be opened for the season during April each year and close approximately at the end of September, at dates confirmed by the Management Committee. All play shall be subject to Bowls England rules.

On arrival, ascertain the direction of play and the colour code for the particular day.

Bowlers must change into their bowls shoes after they have arrived at the Green to ensure that debris, gravel or harmful fungus are not taken onto the Green.

Members must take care not to damage the Green. Should any Member notice damage being done, a Committee Member should be informed immediately so that the necessary action may be taken.

Rink and Rollup Booking Arrangements
All League and Competition matches will be entered in the diary and shall have priority over roll-ups. Members attending for roll-ups must enter their names in the diary on a 'first come' and recorded basis.

Dress on the Green
Members, guests or visitors shall comply with the following dress code, when playing on the green:

a) Footwear:
There is no requirement to wear approved bowling shoes, however footwear must conform to the appropriate requirements in the laws of the sport, with minimal ridging and no heels to prevent damage to the green. For safety reasons, footwear must be enclosed and open toed sandals are not allowed, unless for medical reasons.

b) B&D Premier and Saturday Mixed Triples Leagues:
Approved club shirts with navy blue bottoms.

c) BETBA (Tuesday Evening Triples League and Knockout Cup):
Approved Gales sponsored shirts. Players have the freedom to choose what colour bottoms to wear (BE compliant), providing all members of the same team/side wear the same colour/design.

d) Bournemouth & District BA Competitions (All rounds, up to and including Final):
Approved bowls shirts, or club shirts, and players have the freedom to choose what colour bottoms to wear (BE compliant). For team competitions all members must wear the same colour/design.

e) BE National and BH County Competitions:
For all rounds up to Area Finals; Approved bowls shirts or club shirts. Players have the freedom to choose what colour bottoms to wear (BE compliant). For team competitions all members must wear the same colour/design. For Area Finals onwards; approved club shirts with navy blue bottoms.

d) Club Friendlies:
Approved club shirts with navy blue bottoms.

e) Club Competitions/Tournaments:
All rounds leading to the final; players may choose to wear smart casual dress (no cut-off shorts or vests). For tournaments; as specified by the organiser/competitions secretary. For all finals; approved club shirts with navy blue bottoms or as specified by the organiser/competitions secretary.

f) Casual Play:
Members or guests may wear smart casual (no cut-off shorts or vests).

g) Additional Items/Outerwear:
Any additional items such as fleeces, jackets, wet weather clothing, headgear, long-sleeved base layers, leggings or similar items do not need to match your club colours

Appointment of Club Coach
The Management Committee shall appoint a Qualified Bowls Coach(s) who shall coach Members and advise on the interpretation of the rules of the game and Green etiquette.

Selection for Teams and Matches
Members selected to play in league matches shall confirm their availability by ticking the list on the Clubhouse notice board as soon as possible, otherwise it will be deemed that they are unable to play.

For Friendlies, match sheets will be placed on the Clubhouse notice board at least four weeks before the date of the match and all Members are invited to insert their names for consideration by the Match Secretary. The selection will be made from the names submitted and the final selection will be posted for a minimum of a week. The Match Secretary has the power to invite submissions when insufficient names are present on the match sheet and may, where necessary, invite players from another Club. Members selected to play in friendly matches are requested to tick against their name at least two days before the match.

Reporting for Matches
Members selected to play but who are unable to play shall notify the team Captain of the day as soon as possible. Members selected for matches shall report their presence to the team Captain of the day not less than ten minutes before the scheduled starting time.

Club Competitions
Members entering Club Competitions must ensure that they are available to play on Finals Weekend should they progress that far. Members who find that their situation has changed since entering must withdraw from competitions immediately. Extenuating circumstances must be presented to the Competitions Secretary for their decision.

All competitions are to be played on or before the closing dates determined for each round. These dates will be shown on the relevant Competition sheets displayed on the notice board.

It is the responsibility of the first named player (the Challenger) in each match to contact their opponent to arrange a suitable playing date within the time limit for the respective round, book the rink and arrange a marker if required.

When a match has not been played by the given authorised play by date the Player or Players considered by the Competition Secretary to be responsible will be deemed to have forfeited the match to their opponent.

In the interest of fair play any Member playing Club Competitions must neither practice on, nor play more than one Competition match on the same rink on the same day.

Where appointed, the Marker shall keep the scorecard in a singles match, otherwise both players shall keep a card. For team events a player in each team shall be responsible for keeping score and confirming the score with his counterpart in the opposing team. All scores must be agreed and signed by opponents before the result is posted on the Competition Sheet.

No substitutes are allowed. If one player in a pair's team becomes unavailable, that pair will forfeit the match.

For the final of each singles Competition a competent marker will be nominated by the Competition Secretary.

Any dispute arising from any competition or matter requiring clarification shall be advised to the Competitions Secretary for consideration. Any such decision made will be final and binding.

Smoking
Smoking or vaping is banned on the Green or around the clubhouse unless within specified areas designated for smoking/vaping.

Mobile Phones
When bowls is taking place on the green, mobile phones should be switched to silent or vibrate and should not be used on the Green.

Club Equipment
Club equipment should be returned to its correct place after use. Currently 2m sticks, scoreboards, jacks, red and white bowl and jack indicators, mats and pushers are kept in the Equipment Shed.

Please ensure all equipment is returned after use and the shed is locked. Club bowls should be returned to the location from which they were borrowed. Club equipment must not be removed from the premises unless this is agreed by a Committee Member.

Security
It is important that the building and equipment shed is properly locked when vacated and this responsibility rests with every member.

Pet Policy
Club Members and visitors are permitted to bring their pets into the grounds of Bournemouth Bowling Club under the proviso that (a) any animal is under the constant control of its owner and is at no time left unattended and (b) the owner of such animal accepts all liability and consequence for the behaviour of the animal. Bournemouth Bowling Club will accept no responsibility for any animals brought to the Bowls Club.

Any fouling must be picked up and disposed of in a suitable receptacle away from the Green and its surrounds.

Complaints
Any offensive behaviour, including racist, sexist or inflammatory remarks, will not be permitted. Anyone behaving in an offensive way or breaking the code of Ethics & Behaviour Policy may be asked to resign from the Club if an apology is not given or the behaviour is repeated.

Any complaint should, in the first instance, be brought to the immediate attention of the relevant Committee Member (or Captain). If the person bringing the complaint remains dissatisfied with any action taken, the member should communicate in writing to the Secretary who will present the complaint to the committee.

The Management Committee will meet to hear complaints within 14 days of a complaint being lodged.

The outcome of a disciplinary hearing should be notified in writing to the person who lodged the complaint and the member against whom the complaint was made within 14 days of the hearing.

There will be the right of appeal to the Management Committee following disciplinary action being announced. The Committee should consider the appeal within 14 days of the Secretary receiving the appeal. The member having submitted the appeal will then abide by the Management Committee's decision, which will remain final.

All complaints will be dealt with fairly and in accordance with the relevant Bowls England policy.

Suggestions
Any suggestion for improvement within the Club shall be made in writing to the Secretary. The Secretary will respond in writing following discussion at the next Committee meeting.

Amendment History
Any proposed alteration to the Club's Rules & Policies may only be considered at an AGM or SGM convened with the required written notice of the proposal.

Version number – the main number refers to a major revision to the Constitution. Sub numbers refer to amendments to the main document as revisions pending approval at the next AGM or SGM when the main number will be increased after acceptance.

Version	Date	Reason for Change
V0.01	01 Feb 2021	Updated from existing Constitution, Rules and Regulations dated 2020.
V1.00	15 Mar 2021	Version 1.00 issued following approval at Committee Meeting.
V1.01	March 2025	Amendments / updates to clauses; Club Colours, Dress on the Green and Smoking.
V2.00	30 March 2025	Version 2.00 issued following approval at our Spring Meeting