

# Bowls Overview\*

Bowls, or lawn bowling, is a strategic, challenging and fun sport that can be enjoyed by anyone. It has proved to be a fun couple/family activity for many of our members. It is played on a large smooth grass surface called a “green”. Lawn bowls are large, hard resin balls (called bowls) with a bias to them, so that they travel along an elliptical path, rather than going straight. The object of the game is to roll your bowls closer to the target than your opponents. The target is a small white ball called a “jack”. The jack is **rolled** the length of the green and centred to start each end. Players from each team **take turns rolling their bowls down the green** toward the jack until all the bowls have been played.



Bowls involves offensive and defensive strategy. An added challenge is the jack may be displaced within the confines of the rink by the movement of any bowl. The score is the count of the team's bowls nearest the jack after an “end”. The number of ends played to make up a game varies, and is usually between 10 and 14 ends depending on the event.

## Who Can Play

People of all ages and abilities can play the game of Lawn Bowls. It is a low impact game that is extremely accessible and at a reasonable cost. It's a sport for life. Lawn bowling is one of the Commonwealth Games sports for those who enjoy competition, and there are fun events where competition is secondary to having an enjoyable day out.

One of the best parts about the sport is that anyone can play no matter their age or skill level. You don't have to be able to jump high or run fast to enjoy the sport. It is all hand eye coordination and allows everyone to start at the same level. The bowling season is from the beginning of April to the end of September, Tuesdays to Sundays – green closed Mondays for maintenance. Our club is run by our 150+ members, and your contribution to events by way of volunteering would be most welcome. Social memberships also available.

Our club has all the equipment required to get you started. So, act now by wearing flat-soled shoes, comfortable clothing (*whites* are only worn for tournaments) and head on down to Bowen Park to see the action, and to set up a free introduction to the game. Lessons are available.

## *Shirley*

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