

RECOMMENDED ETIQUETTE, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES¹

ALL PLAYERS:

- Help to set up equipment prior to start of play.
- It is customary for all players to shake hands before and after each game and say, "Good Bowling", or "Good Game".
- Maintain interest in the game throughout.
- When switching ends, walk with purpose up the green as close to the centre line as possible so as not to interfere visually with other rinks, and avoid walking through the head so as not to disturb the bowls or jack.
- Remember do not carry equipment across the green. Use the bank.
- Help to put away equipment when the game is over.

LEADS:

- If you bowl first, place mat (normally smooth side down) while facing the far rink number and check with Skip for alignment
- Deliver the jack as near as possible to Skip's feet; centre yourself on the mat and using hand signals assist the Skip to centre the jack.
- Deliver bowls as close to the jack as possible, or as indicated by the Skip.
- Stand well behind the mat after delivering bowls until the Thirds have delivered all their bowls.
- Remember, do not stop to talk or to examine the head when switching ends. Stand well behind the head.
- Once the score has been determined, set up mat for next end if your team won, or rake bowls and it is customary to position them 1-2 m behind the mat and the right-hand side for ease of access if your team did not win the end.

SECONDS:

- Stand well behind the mat while the other players are delivering bowls. Watch for your turn and be ready to step up to deliver.
- Deliver bowls as close to the jack as possible, or as indicated by the Skip.
- Only walk up to the head when the Thirds have delivered all their bowls. Remember, do not stop to talk or to examine the head when switching ends. Stand well behind the head.
- Assist your Lead while they set up for the next game if your team won that end, or help align the bows for your Lead to speed up the raking process.

THIRDS/VICE SKIPS:

- Stand well behind the mat while the other players are delivering bowls. Watch for your turn and be ready to step up to deliver.
- Request and follow instructions from the Skip when appropriate, in case positional or weighted shorts are required.
- To expedite the game: after the last Third has delivered, the other Third remove the mat and place face down on the bank, ensuring it is clear of the back board.
- Take position in the head and only control the head when in possession of the rink; stand behind the opponents' Third when they are in possession of the mat so as not to interfere with player's line of aim.
- Chalk "touchers" immediately and before the next bowl comes to a stop.
- Liaise with opposition's Third when determining the result of an end, measuring when necessary. Once score decided, inform the skip using hand signals.
- Help line up the bowls for the losing Lead.

SKIPS

- Toss a coin for choice of mat or last bowl.
- Stand in position to indicate the desired length of jack and centre it, following Lead's hand signals.
- Direct players as appropriate and give positive reinforcement.
- Chalk touchers.
- Only suggest the green to players if it is obvious they are having difficulty finding the line.
- Stand behind the opposing Skip when not in control of the head.
- Make tactical shots to win the head and request an update of change from the Third if the head has been disturbed.
- Record the score after each end, and at the end of the game initial both score cards and return your card to the draw table or as indicated in the Conditions of Play.
- Remember that players and teams from other clubs may follow different rules of etiquette than our Club yet remain in compliance of the Laws of Bowls.



¹ Acquire and read a copy of the Laws of The Sport of Bowls, and in particular, read and understand your responsibilities regarding:
(a) Possession of the rink: Laws 12 & 13
(b) Restrictions on player movement – Appendix A.4