



Bentleigh Bowling Club



Bowls Etiquette at Bentleigh BC

In all sports, there are written laws and unwritten laws that govern a game and how it is played. The written laws are usually obvious and for bowls, are readily available for purchase from the Bowls Australia online shop. The unwritten rules are often referred to as “etiquette” and can often lead to problems on the green so please take these on board.

The following etiquette ideas when implemented will help to demonstrate that BBC is a **good sports Club** and will help us to earn respect.

Before the game

- Do not leave bowls bags on the seats.
- Wear your name badge.
- Introduce yourself and shake hands with each opposition player before roll up.
- Wish your opposition an enjoyable day/game.

During the game

- Pick up bowls for your team mates and/or ask them if they prefer to pick up there own.
- Applaud / cheer good bowls by your team mates.
- Own up to your flukes / lucky bowls in good spirit.
- Acknowledge genuinely good bowls from your opposition.
- Never a cheer a poor bowl or bad luck by your opposition.
- Never vocally urge a miss by your opposition – think it by all means, but don’t say it.
- Do not interfere when thirds are measuring.
- Stand behind your third at the head when skips are bowling.
- Do not get in the line of sight of the mat and the boundary pegs when players are bowling.
- No tantrums – swearing is never appropriate.
- If the opposition is behaving poorly, raise the matter with your skip who will in turn raise with their skip and continue to maintain our standards.
- Quietly pull up your team mates or let the skip know if someone is not adhering to our standards.
- Do not walk across rinks when play is in progress and do not walk across the back of the rink when a bowler is in delivery mode. If late, walk around the green.
- Inform your opponent if you need to leave the green.
- Do not play until your opponents bowls has come to rest.
- Leave the mat immediately your bowl has come to rest – from that instant, the mat belongs to your opponent.
- 2nds and 3rds – do not take up position on the mat until you have received instructions from the skip.

- Skips – pick up the mat when your opponent has the last bowl.
- Never talk to any player who is about to deliver a bowl.
- Don't walk about or cast shadows when a player is on the mat.
- Keep your mind on the game and be ready when it is your turn.
- Keep your shadow off the jack.
- Do not sit on the bank.
- If a match is in progress, practice on a different green or well away from the rinks being used for matches.

After the game

- Whatever the result, thank each of the opposition for the game and shake hands
- Celebrate good wins with your team mates and shake hands with each
- Whatever the result, if it's your home game, offer your individual opposition player a drink (they may or may not shout back)
- Whether playing at home or away, stick around until the last rink is finished
- If playing away, do come back to the Club, win or lose