

ST IVES BOWLS CLUB

HOUSE RULES AND GOOD PRACTICE GUIDANCE

This 'House Rules and Good Practice Guidance' supplements the Club Constitution and Rules. It is additional to Bowls England and English Bowling Federation rules and laws and Club competition rules. Following them will promote cordial relationships within the Club.

St Ives Bowls Club is fully committed to safeguarding and promoting the well-being of members and visitors. In line with current legislation, we have an appointed safeguarding officer. It is important members show respect and understanding for the safety and welfare of fellow members and visitors, and at all times behave in a manner that upholds the good reputation of the Club.

Any breach of Club rules by a member, whether full or social, may result in the Committee taking action against that member.

By payment of an annual membership fee or green fee you accept that as a member or guest of the Club you will observe the following rules and guidance.

Whilst at the Club grounds or representing the Club elsewhere, you should:

- Behave in a manner that combines manners and sportsmanship.
- In general terms treat other members and visitors with the same level of respect you would expect to receive, specifically:
 - Respect the rights, dignity of all members and visitors, regardless of age, gender, ability, race, cultural background, religious beliefs or sexual identity.
 - Respect officials and accept their decisions.
 - Behave with tolerance and understanding, while recognizing some members may need more time or assistance.
 - Bad language will not be tolerated.
 - Avoid offensive gestures or behaving in a disorderly, offensive or embarrassing manner.
 - Arrive on time for matches and other Club events, or inform the appropriate official if you are likely to arrive late.

- Smoking on or around the green is not allowed. The club has designated two smoking areas only, which are signed. This applies to tobacco and e-cigarettes.
- Visitors should be made aware of smoking restrictions.

Whilst playing bowls, you should:

- Observe the rules and etiquette of the sport of bowls.
- Adhere to the Club's dress code, specifically:
 - At all times when on the green, you must use bowls shoes with completely flat soles.
 - For all games after 12 noon, you must wear a white top or Club shirt with grey trousers, skirt, cut offs or approved bowls manufacturer shorts. This dress code applies to all competitive games.
 - Approved shorts means shorts by ANY bowls manufacturer. This also applies to Roll up sessions.
 - Markers for all games should wear white tops, which indicates a neutral position. Grey trousers, skirt, cut offs or approved shorts whatever the time of the game.
 - For roll ups before 12 noon the dress code does not apply, with the exception of Jeans. No Jeans can be worn on the green.
 - Finals Day will be played in Whites. Club shirts can be worn but both players must be dressed the same.
 - Order of play for Finals Day will be posted at the club by the chair of the subcommittee. Rinks will be assigned on Finals Day.
- No use of the green before 10.30 am without greenkeepers agreement.
- Closure of the green and restriction on rink use, is at the discretion of the greenkeeper.
- Play in afternoon will be from Clubhouse to Hedge. Play in the evening will be from Pump House to Lane. This applies to all games*** *See footnote.*
- When the green is wet or soft, deliver your bowls in such a way as to avoid damage
- Any bowler who continually damages the green may be asked to stop bowling.
- Have St Ives Bowls Club stickers on your bowls when representing the Club, available from any Committee member.
- Trial ends in Club competitions are allowed.

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- During play, stand at least one meter behind the mat until it is your turn to bowl. Stand still and remain quiet when other players are on the mat. When standing behind the head, stand behind the bowl nearest the ditch or stand on the bank. Do not move when there are bowlers on the mat.
- Avoid standing in front of rink or boundary markers.
- Admit to your lucky shots and do not pretend they were intended.
- Never cheer when an opponent knocks your bowl in.
- If you follow your bowl up the green, even part way, ensure you are behind the mat or the head when your bowl comes to rest. Do not obstruct your opponent's view of your bowl. Do not run up the green after your bowl. To do so when the green is soft could damage the surface.
- When an end is finished, do not move any bowls until the end has been assessed for shots. If you do not have a measuring role keep away from the head and do not become involved in the assessment.
- Don't waste time discussing which are the 'counting' bowls. Use a measure.
- No mobile phones allowed on the green.

As a member you should also:

- Ensure you are up to date with the Club rules, safety requirements and this House Rules and Good Practice Guidance and adhere to them.
- When selected for specific matches, indicate your availability on the team sheet as soon as possible. Leaving it to the last minute may mean you miss being included in the final selection.
- Use Club property with care and promptly report any damage to a committee member. If last out of the clubhouse turn off the lights, secure the doors, check the equipment shed door is locked and close and latch the gate on your way out.
- Promptly pay the annual membership fee, competition fees.

Any breach of the Club Rules or House Rules and Good Practice Guidance should be reported to a committee member.

Where a breach occurs the Committee, or a panel selected to represent the Committee, will fully investigate the matter. If it is concluded that a breach has occurred appropriate action will be taken. This may include:

- Issuing a formal reprimand in writing.
- Temporary suspension of Club membership.
- Full revoking of club membership.

Anyone affected shall have the right of appeal within 4 weeks of being notified of the Committee's findings.

In the case of suspension or revoking of membership, there will be no refund of the membership fee.

In the case of breach by a non-member, action may include a ban from Club premises for a set period or for life.

Any breach of criminal law may be referred to the Police.

**** Changes to order of play apply to County and National Competitions only.*