



South Woodham Ferrers Bowls Club

Covid-19 Guidelines for Play

South Woodham Ferrers Bowls Club requires that all players follow the guidance below as recommended by Bowls England to ensure that activities at the green are consistent with Government advice and social distancing requirements. The guidelines below define how we will implement the Bowls England requirements within our club; the full Bowls England document and related FAQ is available separately.

Social distancing rules must be strictly adhered to and you must, always, remain at least two metres apart from all other bowlers who are not part of your household.

If you have any queries or concerns about the guidelines, please speak to Tom Mills (Club Chairman) or Helen Williams (Ladies Captain/Fixtures Secretary) who are our designated Lead Persons. Tom and/or Helen will be at each bowling session and they will ensure that the guidelines are being followed. Their responsibilities will be to:

- Liaise with members to agree attendees for each bowling session
- Arrive at the club facilities 20 mins ahead of anyone else
- Enter the main building at Champions Manor Hall via the front door and sanitising door handles before and after use
- Source the required equipment from the club storage cupboard (in the corridor) and sanitise the door handles before and after use
- Sanitise all required equipment
- Set up the green in accordance with general guidelines ensuring that alcohol wipes and rubbish bags are placed on both ends of each rink
- After the session, collect all equipment, sanitise, and return to the store cupboard
- Sanitise all door handles and car park gate on departure
- Secure premises if appropriate.

Playing arrangements

- Once the green is opened for playing again there will be two scheduled sessions each week for a maximum of two hours for each session – the exact dates and times of each session will be emailed to all bowls club members at the beginning of each week. **Bowling at any time, other than the scheduled sessions, is NOT permitted.** Depending upon the ‘take up’ of the regular sessions, it may be decided to change the number of weekly sessions
- Any club member wishing to go to the green at Champions Manor for a roll up session must “book a slot” by contacting one of the Lead Persons:
 - Tom - telephone 07860 616210, email ta.mills67@gmail.com
 - Helen – telephone 07939 143981, email helenceleborn@hotmail.co.uk
- When making your booking please state which session you would like to attend, and your request will be confirmed or declined based upon the number of bookings already taken. **It is important that members do not attend the green unless they have been advised that their ‘slot’ is booked.** Those club members who are booked to play will be advised in advance of each session regarding the following:
 - Social distancing requirements
 - Sanitising requirements

- Parking arrangements
- Dress code
- Storage requirements
- Use of facilities
- Name of the Lead Person allocated to their session
- Session time allocated to their 'slot'
- Rink allocation number and playing partner to eliminate any congregating of players on the green in advance of each session
- Players should not arrive more than ten minutes before their allocated time.
- Play will only take place on alternate rinks e.g. 1, 3, 5 OR 2, 4, 6 (so there will always be an empty rink between rinks that are being played on). The appropriate rinks will be clearly identified at each session and advised to players in advance.
- There is a maximum of six players, on each of the three rinks being played, at any one time
- No visitors/spectators are to be admitted to the green.

Playing Formats

The following playing formats, which are in accordance with Government guidelines, may be played:

- Individuals playing bowls on their own on a single rink
- Up to six individuals (from different or the same households) playing on a single rink.

Facilities

- Sanitiser and wipes will be available for cleaning hands and equipment before and after playing
- Only the Lead Persons (Tom and Helen) will have access to the storage cupboard in the main building – they will bring all necessary equipment from the cupboard to the side of the rink
- There will be no access to the changing rooms
- Until further notice:
 - all men attending a bowling session should only enter the main building to use the gents toilet/hand washing facilities
 - all ladies attending a bowling session should only enter the main building to use the ladies toilet/hand washing facilities
- After using the toilet/hand washing facilities any surfaces touched including toilet seat, taps and door handle must be wiped down with wipes and/or sanitiser spray
- There will be no rubbish bins available on site – players must take any rubbish away with them including any wipes used. It is recommended that players bring a small bag for any rubbish which they can then dispose of in their wheelie bins at home.

Equipment

To minimise the risk of infection, only essential items (as below) should be utilised during any session:

- Mats – these will be available by the rinks and should only be handled by one person during a game. Please remember to clean mats with wipes and sanitiser spray before and after use
- Bowls – players should always bring their own bowls and never touch other players' bowls
- Jacks – these will be available by the rinks and one should be placed at each end of the rink with only one player handling each jack. Please remember to clean with wipes and sanitiser spray before and after use.
- Rink markers – these will already have been put in place by the Lead Persons
- Bowling Gloves
- Scorecards (these should be retained by one person only if required)
- Bowling arm/lifter - for use by one person only, if required.

To minimise the risk of infection, any other equipment is not deemed essential equipment at this time and should not be utilised. This includes:

- Scoreboards • Bowls pushers • Ditch markers • 2m distance sticks • Chalk

Summary of Required Actions

Before playing

- Do not go to the club if you are experiencing any coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms or any cold or flu-like symptoms, in particular a cough or a high temperature. Use the NHS 111 website or helpline and seek advice
- For your own protection, follow the advice about self-isolation if you are (or are living with) someone in one of the vulnerable groups
- Dress appropriately before you get to the club to avoid the need to change clothes – change shoes immediately before and after your game
- Travel to the green on your own or with members of your own household only – do not offer a lift to, or accept a lift from, anyone from outside of your own household. Do not arrive more than 10 minutes before your allocated booking time and leave immediately afterwards.

Personal care

- Avoid using toilets at the club wherever possible and clean anything you have touched after use.
- Take any food or drink you might need with you
- Wash or sanitise your hands and sanitise any equipment (including bowls, jacks and mats) you use before and after you play – do not assume that the person before you has sanitised the equipment thoroughly.

Playing the game

- You should only play with people from your own household or by yourself or, as long as you stay two metres apart, with up to five other persons from outside your household
- Do not shake hands before, during, or after a game
- Do not 'high-five' OR 'hug' other players to celebrate shots or a win
- Only one player should handle the mat during the session unless you are from the same household
- Two jacks (one at each end) should be used and each one should be set by one player only throughout the session
- If scoring, social distancing rules must always be strictly adhered to, do not touch your opponents' bowls with your hands and avoid measuring for shot/s
- When you finish playing, change your shoes and leave the club immediately – ensuring that you have sanitised all equipment used and that the club is secure.

This document has been prepared, in line with Bowls England guidelines (available separately) by:

**Helen Williams
Ladies Captain / Fixture Secretary**

**David Lewis
Secretary**