



COVID-19

Guidance for Getting Back on the Green: Phase Two

Effective from: Friday 19th June 2020

INTRODUCTION

Bowls Scotland continues to fully support and follow the Scottish Government guidelines relating to COVID-19, including ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all members of Bowls Scotland. Working in partnership with the Scottish Government, Public Health Scotland, **sportscotland** and our members, we have produced guidance for clubs in line with Scottish Government guidance on sport and physical activity.

As with phase one, this guidance is not a 'one size fits all' approach as we appreciate bowling facilities vary across Scotland and as such individual bowling clubs should risk assess appropriately to ensure these procedures can be implemented. There is absolutely no urgency or pressure to return to the green, please continue to err on the side of caution; clubs should not open unless all the necessary measures to ensure the safety of players and volunteers can be implemented. Players should only play if they feel fit, well and can adhere to the guidance put in place by their home clubs.

Our message remains clear that public health and wellbeing remains the most pressing priority and we all have a responsibility to do what we can to continue to suppress the spread of the virus. Any club found in breach of the guidance may be deemed as bringing the game into disrepute and be subject to Bowls Scotland disciplinary action.

PHASE TWO:

In line with the Scottish Government's Coronavirus (COVID-19) framework for decision making and Scotland's route map through and out of the crisis (the route map), the virus is in the controlled stage, meaning small changes in restrictions for sport and leisure. For bowling, this includes:

- Players in the shielding category can now participate in bowling but should do so with caution
- Informal competitions within the club may resume in line with bowling activity guidance set out below
- Coaching is permitted if physical distancing can be maintained and it is in line with bowling activity guidance
- 'Stay local' messaging remains in place, but you can now travel to the bowling club by car
- **Bowling Activity Phase 2:**
 - Practice individually
 - Games / informal competitions with members of your own household
 - Games / informal competitions with two other households where physical distancing can be maintained and up to a maximum of 8 people on a rink (Only play with two other households per day)

Using the same four sections as before (Clubs, Players, Bowling Activity and Additional Information), we have updated each section to reflect the further ease in restrictions. Any **changes** to the guidelines from Phase one are highlighted in **yellow**.

This will be subject to review should the Scottish Government issue further advice and guidance. We would encourage you to read through all the guidance and supporting information thoroughly. If you require any additional support, please contact your National Development Officer.

For general enquiries, please contact info@bowlsscotland.com

SECTION 1: GUIDANCE FOR CLUBS

Phase One	Phase Two
Clubs are not required to open their green/s and should decide on what best suits the club and its members	No Change
Bowling clubs are responsible for ensuring the club and members comply with Scottish Government legislation and follow the guidance outlined within this document	No Change
Clubs should check with their insurance company that the correct and full cover is in place before any play can take place	No Change
Clubs should advise their members if their bowling green is open and ready for play and what procedures must be followed for those planning to play	No Change
Clubs should check with their landlord that they have permission to re-open	No Change
Clubs should organise a system for booking and allocation of rink times that ensures the safety of players	Clubs should organise a system for booking and allocation of rink times that ensures the safety of players to comply with the introduction of a Track and Protect system by the Scottish Government
Consideration should be made for members who require mobility support	No Change
Clubs should ensure a clear plan is in place for the cleaning of equipment before, during, and after play and provision should be made for this. For example, disinfectant spray must be made available by the club and accessible for those playing. More information is available here: https://www.hps.scot.nhs.uk/web-resources-container/covid-19-guidance-for-non-healthcare-settings/	No Change More information is available here: Health Protection Scotland: General guidance for non-healthcare settings UK Government / HPE: Cleaning in a non-healthcare setting Health Protection Scotland: Hand hygiene techniques
All other Bowls Scotland policies and procedures must be adhered to	No Change
Club meetings should not be held face to face	No Change
No club friendlies, internal competitions/club ties or external matches should take place whatsoever	Informal club competitions are permitted (this does not include club ties and club championships at this moment in time). Competitions should only be undertaken locally and informally at your own club where household, physical distancing and hygiene measures are in place

Phase One	Phase Two
Club house facilities (including toilets) should remain closed until further notice. However, where the green can only be accessed through the clubhouse the club must ensure that players enter and exit one at a time, ensuring physical distancing guidance is adhered to at all times. Players should not cluster within the club facility	No Change
All club volunteers should work from home (where possible) apart from Greenkeepers who can maintain the green as per guidelines set out on the Bowls Scotland website.	No Change
No alcohol consumption to take place before, during and after play at the club and we encourage all members not to smoke/vape/electronic cigarettes at the green	No Change
No spectating should take place	No Change
	<p>Coaching is permitted if physical distancing can be maintained, and it is with members of your household and/or members of 2 other households.</p> <p>A coach should not deliver coaching to more than 2 households at any one time or provide training to more than 2 households per day.</p>
	<p>Children and Young People:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players under 16 should always be accompanied by a parent/ carer throughout the training session. • Preferably only one parent/carer from the family should accompany a player under the age of 16. • Where the player is under 16 the parent/carer will have first aid responsibilities as no one else other than a medical professional can be within 2m of the player. • All members should have access to the club wellbeing policies and procedures and know who to contact if there is a welfare concern or issue.
	Clubs should consider how to support those who have been in the shielding group return safely to bowling.

SECTION 2: GUIDANCE FOR PLAYERS

Phase One	Phase Two
Players who have COVID-19 symptoms or if anyone in their household that displays symptoms, those players should stay at home and follow NHS guidance. No one who is self-isolating should attend the club	No Change
Players who are at a higher risk; have an underlying health condition; or are in the shielding category, should remain at home until Scottish Government guidelines change	Players in the shielding group can now participate in bowling activity but should do so with caution and follow Scottish Government guidelines on physical distancing and good hygiene.
Players who are 70 and over can play but should follow Scottish Government guidelines to make their own decision about returning to the green - https://www.gov.scot/news/people-advised-to-limit-social-contact/	No Change https://www.gov.scot/news/people-advised-to-limit-social-contact/
Players should check if the club is open for play. Please be patient and understanding if the club cannot or choose not to open the green	No Change
Players should go through the clubs booking system and not just turn up to the green to play	No Change
Players should only play individually, with members of their own household or between members of two households where physical distancing can be maintained	Players can: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice individually • Play games / informal competitions with members of your own household • Play games / informal competitions with two other households where physical distancing can be maintained and up to a maximum of 8 people on a rink (Only play with two other households per day)
Players should not consume alcohol before, during or after play at the club and smoking at the green should be discouraged.	No Change
Players should not attempt to enter the club house as these facilities will remain closed. However, where the green can only be accessed through the club house players should enter and exit one at a time, adhering to physical distancing guidance at all times. Players should not cluster within the club facility.	No Change

SECTION 2: GUIDANCE FOR PLAYERS

Phase One	Phase Two
<p>Players travelling to bowling greens should do so in line with the Scottish Government Travel/Transportation Guidelines E.g. It is permitted to travel short distances for outdoor leisure and exercise but advised to stay within a short distance of your local community and travel by walk, wheel and cycle where possible - www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-staying-at-home-and-away-from-others/pages/exercise/</p>	<p>Players travelling to bowling greens should do so in line with the Scottish Government Travel/Transportation Guidelines. You can drive within the local area for the purposes of undertaking outdoor exercise and physical activity. As a guide, rather than a fixed limit, broadly 5 miles from your home would be within your local area. www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-staying-at-home-and-away-from-others/pages/exercise/</p>
<p>Players should follow the 'Guidance for Bowling Activity' set out in Section 3</p>	<p>No Change</p>
	<p>Guidance for Para Players:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher Risk: Players in higher risk groups should follow any medical guidance they have been given General Assistance: Players requiring personal support can bring a carer with them Equipment: Players must always only use their own personal equipment and follow hygiene guidance Visually Impaired Players: Directors of visually impaired players should be considered as a player within the phase 2 guidelines and should adhere to the bowling activity guidance.
<p>Ensure green is fit for play</p>	<p>No Change</p>
<p>All equipment to be removed e.g. 2m Sticks, Score Boards, Chalk, pushers etc (except rink markers)</p>	<p>No Change</p>
<p>Benches, ashtrays, and bins to be removed, covered or sign-posted in such a way that members do not touch or use them.</p>	<p>Benches are permitted for use only for those that are playing e.g. for putting on shoes / preparing for play / finishing play and only if good hygiene and physical distancing can be maintained.</p> <p>Bins may be provided but should be regularly checked, cleaned/sanitised, emptied and disposed of using appropriate personal protective equipment.</p> <p>Ashtrays to be removed, covered or sign-posted in such a way that members do not touch or use them.</p>

SECTION 3: GUIDANCE FOR BOWLING ACTIVITY

GREEN SET UP PRIOR TO PLAY	
Phase One	Phase Two
Consider what support your members might need to play (for example those with mobility challenges)	No Change
Players must bring their own hand sanitiser and use this throughout play	No Change
There must be one rink space (an empty rink) between each rink in use. As an example, a 6-rink green should have rink 1, 3 and 5 in use or 2, 4 and 6. Bowling Clubs with more than one green need to ensure that compliance is achieved across all greens	No Change
Clubs should allocate 30 minutes between booking slots to minimise the number of players arriving and leaving at any one time and allow for any shared equipment to be sanitised	No Change
Clubs should organise a system for booking and allocation of rink times that ensures the safety of players	Clubs should organise a system for booking and allocation of rink times that ensures the safety of players to comply with the introduction of a Track and Protect system by the Scottish Government
It is recommended clubs should allow a maximum of 4 people (1 Pairs Game) can play per rink at any one time and in accordance with Scottish Government requirements	Clubs can allow a maximum of 8 people to play per rink at any one time and in accordance with Scottish Government requirements and physical distancing.
For each session clubs should collect essential information for all players including emergency contact details	For each session clubs should collect essential information for all players including emergency contact details to comply with the introduction of a Track and Protect system by the Scottish Government.
The clubhouse and locker room facilities will remain closed. Limited essential access for example to remove bowls and shoes may be allowed by the club and should be coordinated appropriately e.g. if the key holder looking after the facility placed the items outside for collection, but clubs should risk assess and ensure appropriate measures in place.	No Change

SECTION 3: GUIDANCE FOR BOWLING ACTIVITY

BEFORE PLAY	
Phase One	Phase Two
Clubs to communicate in advance with players to advise on physical distancing requirements that are being applied on arrival at the club. It is advised that players do not arrive until 5 minutes before play and must stay outside the parameters of the club until it is safe to enter, and the previous players have left.	No Change
<p>Mats and Jacks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players should use separate mats and jacks, however if this is not possible, whichever player collects the mats and jack is responsible for all contact with the equipment before, during and after the game. • Disinfectant spray must be made available by the club. Players must use the disinfectant spray after each game to cleanse all mats and jacks (ensure these are completely dry of disinfectant before use on the green again) • As a suggestion jacks or mats can be set at short, medium, or long by the same player after each end rather than rolling the jack down the rink for position 	<p>No Change</p> <p>Cleaning products must be made available by the club. Players must use the cleaning products after each game to cleanse all mats and jacks (ensure these are completely dry before use on the green again)</p> <p>No Change</p>
A maximum of 4 people (1 Pairs Game) can play together	Clubs can allow a maximum of 8 people to play per rink at any one time and in accordance with Scottish Government requirements and physical distancing.
The 2m physical distancing rule must always be observed on and off the green	No Change
Other bowls equipment cannot be shared between players (e.g. cloths, measures etc).	No Change
Players should always practice safe hygiene	No Change
<p>Players should not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pick up any other players bowl • Share equipment out with your rink- e.g. cloths, measures, etc • Moisten their hands with saliva before delivery <p>Shake hands, high-five or have any physical contact with other people on the green (out with their household)</p>	No Change
Players must leave the premises immediately after conclusion of play, making sure they have sanitised the mats, jacks, and their hands	No Change

SECTION 4: ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, RESOURCES AND SUPPORT

- Frequently Asked Questions
- Sport Turf Services Information
- Green Maintenance Update
- Template Risk Assessment
- Template Rink Layout
- Template Booking Schedule
- Eurostick Products (PPE / Sanitising)

sportscotland has produced the **Getting your Facilities Fit for Sport** guidance to help sports facilities as they prepare for sport/activity. The guidance is applicable to all phases of the Scottish Government route map and can be adapted to support other planning-based work being undertaken by clubs and community organisations.

<https://sportscotland.org.uk/covid-19/getting-your-facilities-fit-for-sport/>

General FAQ enquiries should be directed to info@bowlsscotland.com

Our National Development Officers are here to help:

- Districts 1-10: Stuart Bell 07525 134385 / stuartbell@bowlsscotland.com
- Districts 11-24: Daniel Baker 07821 118774 / danielbaker@bowlsscotland.com
- Districts 25-32: Lawra Cox 07715 025736 / lawracox@bowlsscotland.com

Please refer to the Bowls Scotland website and social media for further updates.



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