



Bowls Scotland

COVID-19 Guidance for Getting Back on the Green

Phase Three

Effective from: 3rd August 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.

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 THREE:

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), we have now moved into Phase 3, the recovery phase, bringing us closer to feeling normal. This means additional easing in restrictions for sport and leisure, including bowling clubs:

- **Effective from 10th July:**
 - Internal Club Competitions can resume in line with bowling activity guidance, physical distancing and good hygiene measures (more detailed information can be found below)
 - Bowling Activity Phase 3:
 - Practice individually or games/competitions with members of your own household
 - Practice / Games / Competitions between 5 households per day where physical distancing can be maintained and up to 8 people on a rink. (For example, a players' household and 4 other households)
 - All rinks can now be used for Singles & Pairs in line with bowling activity guidance, physical distancing, and good hygiene
- **Effective from 15th July:**
 - Indoor bar/food service can resume on a 'limited basis' and subject to conditions outlined by the Scottish Government.



- **Effective from 3rd August:**

- Coaching is permitted if physical distancing can be maintained and is in line with household numbers and good hygiene. A coach should not deliver coaching to more than 4 households (with a maximum of 15 people) at any one time. Coaches are able to provide multiple training sessions in one day to no more than 4 households (with a maximum of 15 people) per session.



Using four sections (Clubs, Players/Members, Bowling Activity and Additional Information), we have updated each section to reflect the further ease in restrictions. Any changes to the guidelines from Phase Two are highlighted in **YELLOW**.

Further changes from Phase 3 are highlighted in **TURQUOISE**

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

COMPETITION UPDATES

- Internal club competitions can resume provided bowling activity guidance, physical distancing and good hygiene measures are met
- A maximum of 24 players should be allowed on the green at any one time:
 - Singles & Pairs games using all available rinks in line with bowling activity guidance, physical distancing and good hygiene measures
 - Triples & Fours games using alternate rinks (i.e. rinks 1,3,5) in line with bowling activity guidance, physical distancing and good hygiene measures
- No open/invitation/external competitions to take place at this time – this is to ensure players do not exceed the maximum number of households that they can play against in one day
- If a club chooses to play their Club Championship in 2020 it will be at the discretion of the Club to decide the method of selection for the National Championship Playdowns (Stage 1) in 2021
- For all informal/formal competitions clubs should continue to organise a system for booking and allocation of rink times that ensures the safety of players to comply with the introduction of a Test and Protect system by the Scottish Government. Competitions must follow household, physical distancing and hygiene guidelines. Individual bowling clubs should risk assess appropriately to ensure these procedures can be implemented for internal competitions.
- **There is absolutely no urgency or pressure to host internal competitions and should only be introduced if all the necessary measures to ensure the safety of players and volunteers can be implemented.**



SECTION 1: GUIDANCE FOR CLUBS

Phase One	Phase Two	Phase Three
Clubs are not required to open their green/s and should decide on what best suits the club and its members	No Change	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	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	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	No Change
Clubs should check with their landlord that they have permission to re-open	No Change	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 Test and Protect system by the Scottish Government	No Change
Consideration should be made for members who require mobility support	No Change	No Change
Clubs should ensure a clear plan is in place for the cleaning of equipment before, during, and after play and provision should	No Change More information is available here:	No Change



<p>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/</p>	<p>Health Protection Scotland: General guidance for non-healthcare settings</p> <p>Health Protection Scotland: Hand hygiene techniques</p>	
<p>All other Bowls Scotland policies and procedures must be adhered to</p>	<p>No Change</p>	<p>No Change</p>
<p>Club meetings should not be held face to face</p>	<p>No Change</p>	<p>We recommend clubs continue to host meetings online, by phone or email.</p> <p>Club meetings can take place within the clubhouse dining/bar area only if Scottish Government hospitality guidance, physical distancing, household rules and good hygiene are maintained.</p>
<p>No club friendlies, internal competitions/club ties or external matches should take place whatsoever</p>	<p>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</p>	<p>Internal club competitions can resume if physical distancing, bowling activity guidance and good hygiene is always followed and adhered to.</p> <p>There should be no external club competitions at this time</p> <p>More information can be found in the introduction section.</p>



<p>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</p>	<p>Where physical distancing and good hygiene can be maintained, clubs are permitted to open the clubhouse for the following reasons ONLY:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide access to the green • To provide access to the toilets • To provide access to First Aid (limited access) • To provide an outdoor bar service (accessible by the workforce only) <p>All other club house facilities should remain closed</p>	<p>Where physical distancing and good hygiene can be maintained, clubs are permitted to open the clubhouse for the following reasons ONLY:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide an indoor bar service (from 15th July) • To provide access to the green • To provide access to the toilets • To provide access to First Aid • To provide an outdoor bar service <p>All other club house facilities should remain closed</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>All club staff and volunteers should work from home (where possible) apart from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenkeepers who can maintain the green as per guidelines set out on the Bowls Scotland website. • Cleaners who will service the club house facilities that are open e.g. toilets • Bar staff providing an outdoor service 	<p>All club staff and volunteers should work from home (where possible) apart from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greenkeepers who can maintain the green as per guidelines set out on the Bowls Scotland website. • Cleaners who will service the club house facilities that are open e.g. toilets • Bar staff providing an indoor and/or outdoor service <p>No Change</p>



	<p>Clubs must ensure the relevant workplace guidance is followed, and any existing health and safety advice is maintained and aligned</p> <p>https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus/business-support</p> <p>https://www.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19/</p>	
<p>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</p>	<p>Bar service can resume from 6th July ONLY to offer an outdoor service if observing physical distancing and good hygiene are in place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clubs must check their operating plan and bar licence prior to offering an outdoor service • Clubs must ensure that drinks are only consumed outdoors • Clubs must comply with any other legislation and guidance set by the Scottish Government • Clubs should organise a system for booking outdoor drinking space to comply with the Scottish Governments Test and Protect system <p>More information is available here:</p>	<p>Indoor hospitality services can resume on a 'limited basis' from 15th July subject to conditions laid out by the Scottish Government, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clubs must comply with any health and safety legislation and guidance set by the Scottish Government • Clubs should organise a system for booking to comply with the Scottish Governments Test and Protect system <p>More information is available here:</p> <p>http://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-tourism-and-hospitality-sector-guidance/</p>



	http://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-tourism-and-hospitality-sector-guidance/	
<p>No spectating should take place</p>	<p>Clubs can allow access for people to watch bowling on their greens ONLY if:</p> <p>Physical distancing can be maintained for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No more than two to a bench • Benches must be at least two meters apart <p>Good hygiene is maintained for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Benches are cleaned after every use <p>Clubs can accommodate the additional numbers and ensure physical distancing remains (including standing and seated spectators)</p> <p>Spectators MUST adhere to all other guidance set out by Bowls Scotland and the club.</p> <p>Spectators under the age of 16 should be accompanied by a parent/guardian at all times</p>	<p>No Change</p>



	<p>Clubs should organise a system for spectating to comply with the Scottish Governments Test and Protect system</p>	
	<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>https://sportscotland.org.uk/covid-19/getting-coaches-ready-for-sport/</p>	<p>Coaching is permitted if physical distancing can be maintained and is in line with household numbers and good hygiene.</p> <p>A coach should not deliver coaching to more than 4 households (with a maximum of 15 people) at any one time or provide training to more than 4 households per day. Coaches are able to provide multiple training sessions in one day to no more than 4 households (with a maximum of 15 people) per session.</p> <p>https://sportscotland.org.uk/covid-19/getting-coaches-ready-for-sport/</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.• Club wellbeing policies and procedures and know who to contact	<p>Specific guidance for junior bowling activity was published on the 22nd of July https://www.bowlsscotland.com/media/2153/2020-07-22-covid-19-phase-3-guidance-for-bowling-activity-for-children-and-young-people.pdf</p> <p>Further updates on guidance for children can be found here: https://www.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19/</p>
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	<p>if there is a welfare concern or issue should be accessible</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further updates on guidance for children can be found here: https://www.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19/ 	<p>https://sportsotland.org.uk/covid-19/getting-coaches-ready-for-sport/</p>
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SECTION 2: GUIDANCE FOR PLAYERS/MEMBERS

Phase One	Phase Two	Phase Three
<p>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</p>	<p>No Change</p>	<p>No Change</p>
<p>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</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>Clubs should consider how to support those who have been in the shielding group return safely to bowling.</p>	<p>No Change</p>
<p>Players who are 70 and over can play but should follow Scottish Government guidelines to make their own decision about</p>	<p>No Change</p>	<p>No Change</p>



<p>returning to the green - https://www.gov.scot/news/people-advised-to-limit-social-contact/</p>	<p>https://www.gov.scot/news/people-advised-to-limit-social-contact/</p>	
<p>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</p>	<p>No Change</p>	<p>No Change</p>
<p>Players should go through the clubs booking system and not just turn up to the green to play</p>	<p>No Change</p>	<p>No Change</p>
<p>Players should only play individually, with members of their own household or between members of two households where physical distancing can be maintained</p>	<p>Players can:</p> <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) 	<p>A player can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice individually or play games/competitions with members of your own household • Play Games / Competitions with another 4 households per day (maximum 8 people per rink) where physical distancing can be maintained
<p>Players should not consume alcohol before, during or after play at the club and smoking at the green should be discouraged.</p> <p>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</p>	<p>Players/Members must only consume alcohol in the clubs designated outdoor space</p> <p>Players/Members must provide contact details via the club booking system to comply with the Scottish Governments Test and Protect system</p>	<p>Players/Members should adhere to their club arrangements for indoor and outdoor bar service. Bowls Scotland would appreciate that players continue to not drink on or around the greens whilst playing.</p> <p>No Change to Test and Protect</p>



<p>should enter and exit one at a time, adhering to physical distancing guidance at all times. Players should not cluster within the club facility.</p>	<p>Players/Members are permitted to access the clubhouse for the following reasons ONLY:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To access the green • To access the toilets • To access First Aid (limited) <p>Players/Members must always adhere to physical distancing and good hygiene. All other club house facilities should remain closed and are inaccessible</p>	<p>Players/Members are permitted to access the clubhouse for the following reasons ONLY:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To access the bar/lounge area • To access the green • To access the toilets • To access First Aid <p>All other club house facilities remain closed. Players/Members should not try to access these areas.</p>
<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>Travel distance limit for leisure has now been lifted meaning there are no restrictions on travel to your bowling club.</p> <p>Exemptions to this rule are those in post code areas outlined by the Scottish Government.</p> <p>For more information on these exempt post codes and advice on travelling safely, visit: http://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-phase-2-staying-safe-and-protecting-others/pages/travel/</p>	<p>No travel restrictions are in place for leisure</p> <p>Face coverings are mandatory (with limited exceptions) on public transport</p>
<p>Players should follow the 'Guidance for Bowling Activity' set out in Section 3</p>	<p>No Change</p>	<p>No Change</p>
	<p>Guidance for Para Players:</p>	<p>No Change</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. 	
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SECTION 3: GUIDANCE FOR BOWLING ACTIVITY

BEFORE, DURING & AFTER PLAY		
Phase One	Phase Two	Phase Three
Ensure green is fit for play	No Change	No Change
All equipment to be removed e.g. 2m Sticks, Score Boards, Chalk, pushers etc (except rink markers)	No Change	No Change
Benches, ashtrays, and bins to be removed, covered or sign-posted in such a way that members do not touch or use them.	Benches are permitted for the following reasons ONLY : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Players changing shoes - Players preparing or finishing play 	No Change



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spectators (spectating guidance MUST be followed) - As part of offering an outdoor bar service <p>Benches should only be used 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>	
<p>Players must bring their own hand sanitiser and use this throughout play</p>	<p>No Change</p>	
<p>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.</p> <p>Bowling Clubs with more than one green need to ensure that compliance is achieved across all greens</p>	<p>No Change</p>	<p>A maximum of 24 players can be allowed on the green at any one time:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singles & Pairs games using all available rinks in line with bowling activity guidance, physical distancing and good hygiene measures • Triples & Fours games using alternate rinks (i.e. rinks 1,3,5) in line with bowling activity guidance, physical distancing and good hygiene measures



		Bowling Clubs with more than one green need to ensure that compliance is achieved across all greens
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	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 Test and Protect system by the Scottish Government	No Change
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, in accordance with Scottish Government requirement on households and physical distancing	No Change
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 Test and Protect system by the Scottish Government.	No Change



<p>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.</p>	<p>Players/Members are permitted to enter the clubhouse for the following reasons ONLY:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To access the green - To use the toilets - To access First Aid (limited) <p>Players/Members must always adhere to physical distancing guidance</p> <p>All other club house facilities are closed and inaccessible to players/members</p>	<p>Players/Members are permitted to enter the clubhouse for the following reasons ONLY:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To access the bar/lounge area as per home club guidance • To access the green • To use the toilets • To access First Aid <p>No Change</p> <p>No Change</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>No Change</p>	<p>No Change</p>
<p>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.</p>	<p>No Change</p>	<p>No Change</p>



<p>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)</p> <p>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>	<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>	
<p>The 2m physical distancing rule must always be observed on and off the green</p>	<p>No Change</p>	<p>Scottish Government advice remains that people should follow the 2m physical distancing rules (with exemptions outlined by the Scottish Government)</p>
<p>Other bowls equipment cannot be shared between players (e.g. cloths, measures etc).</p>	<p>No Change</p>	<p>No Change</p>
<p>Players should always practice safe hygiene</p>	<p>No Change</p>	<p>No Change</p>
<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>	<p>No Change</p>	<p>No Change</p>
<p>Players must leave the premises immediately after conclusion of play, making sure they</p>	<p>No Change</p>	<p>No Change</p>



have sanitised the mats, jacks, and their hands		Players can stay to watch bowling/partaking in bar service, but this must be in line with the club procedures
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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 Bows Scotland website and social media for further updates.