

SOME BASIC INSTRUCTIONS FOR NEW BOWLERS

Games are structured for up to four players, i.e. singles, pairs, triples or fours.

Fours is the Pennant game and teams take it in turns to deliver their bowls (2 bowls per player), starting with the leads, then the seconds, the thirds, finally the skips (captains). The first lead rolls the jack, then opposing leads alternately deliver their bowl and so on through the other players.

Each bowl has a bias that causes it to bend rather than run in a straight line. One side has a large ring and the other a smaller one. The bowl will always bend towards the smaller ring.

Stand on the mat to deliver the bowl. Select an aiming point at the opposite end, allowing for the bowl to turn back to the centre line, say about a 30 deg. angle.

Bend, step, then release the bowl low using your arm as a pendulum. To protect the greens, you should not 'lob' the bowl – so you need to get down low.

The aim of the game is to try to get your bowls closer to the jack than those of your opponents. If you have two bowls closer than their closest, then you earn two points and so on. If your bowl finishes in the ditch or outside the rink, which is marked by pegs at both ends, then it is placed on the bank and does not count. However, if a bowl touches the "jack" and finishes in the ditch within the confines of the rink, it is regarded as a "live" bowl and is not removed. Subsequent bowlers then have to try to get their bowls as close as possible to where the "jack" that was contacted by the toucher has been relocated.

Once everyone has bowled and the score noted, walk to the other end and bowl back in the opposite direction. Use the mat & jack placement to alter the length being played; this is generally for tactical reasons (minimum is 21m).



ENJOY YOUR GAME OF BOWLS

To protect the greens, we ask that you abide by the following rules:

Wear flat (no heel) shoes, bare feet, socks or thongs

No food or drink on the green

No sitting on the edge of the green

No driving (bowling at full speed) or throwing the bowl

No smoking on or near the green

If a bowl lands in the ditch, please clean off any sand into the ditch and place it on the bank.