

## **BOWLING ETIQUETTE**

- ❖ Dress correctly for all games
- ❖ Greet and shake hands with team members and opponents at the start of a game and shake hands, congratulate or compliment them at the end of play.
- ❖ Stand still when a player is on the mat and be ready to bowl when it is your turn. Do not talk or make a noise behind the mat.
- ❖ Don't become a wanderer and distract other bowlers. Don't move at the head when a player is preparing to bowl.
- ❖ Remain behind the mat or behind the head when it is not your team's turn to play.
- ❖ Always remember that, as soon as your bowl has come to rest, possession of the rink passes to your opponent.
- ❖ Keep to your own rink.
- ❖ Walk down the centre of your rink when you are changing ends.
- ❖ Don't walk through the head and be aware of players on the next rink.
- ❖ Don't 'dilly dally' checking the state of the head as the skips will be waiting to bowl.
- ❖ Pick up the mat for your opponent after an end is completed.
- ❖ Stand well back from the head when drive shots are played and warn others on adjacent rinks.
- ❖ Always help to push the bowls to the end of the rink. The only player not clearing is the player who is placing the mat.
- ❖ Outdoors, on sunny days, be aware of your shadow. Don't let it mask the jack or allow it to fall in front of the mat when a player is about to bowl.
- ❖ Never criticise your opponent, the greens, or your own team. If you cannot say something positive, don't say anything at all.
- ❖ Avoid obscuring any of the rink markers or the jack.
- ❖ Don't applaud a team member who has outrageous luck.
- ❖ Don't wave opponent's bowls through the head.
- ❖ Encourage and praise your team.
- ❖ Compliment your opponent on a good shot.
- ❖ Admit a fluke with grace.
- ❖ Be a gracious winner and a good loser.
- ❖ When not on the green don't walk past the end of a rink when a player is about to bowl towards you.
- ❖ Learn the Laws of Bowls and abide by them.
- ❖ Keep the game moving along by avoiding slow play so help one another.