

GENERAL RULES

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1. RULES OF THE GAME

All games will be played under the most recent Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

Additional rules apply for members playing in the England National Championships which may be found on the EIBA website.

For variations applying to Palmerston Leagues or Competitions consult the specific League or Competition rules.

2. RINK BOOKING

Rinks are booked in the booking sheets at the Stewards desk. League games and mixed drives are pre-booked by the computer system. Competitions and rearranged leagues may be booked on any remaining rinks. Roll-ups can then be booked within 7 days.

If a rink is booked but not used or is cancelled less than 24 hours before the start time, the person booking is liable for the cost of the rink. Please ensure cancelled bookings, including league games, are removed from the booking sheets.

Priority for rink bookings : leagues, mixed drives, national competitions, county competitions, club competitions, rearranged leagues, roll-ups.

Members are requested to avoid taking over a lower priority booking if at all possible, and can only do so if the booking is more than 7 days ahead. In exceptional circumstances, a roll-up rink or mixed drive rink can be taken over by a competition between 7 and 4 days before the start time if there is no available alternative. They must inform all members involved as soon as possible.

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Members booking competitions may request the Steward to move a league game or mixed drive to another rink.

Leagues and mixed drives may not book all 8 rinks.

Members booking rinks must CLEARLY state their full name(s), and the competition, so that they may be contacted if it becomes necessary. Provisional bookings (in pencil) must be confirmed later or erased. Pencil entries close to the date risk being removed.

3. DUAL REPRESENTATION IN COMPETITIONS

A member may not represent both Palmerston and any other indoor bowls club in National, Regional or County competitions in the same season, except in a friendly match.

Any member who contravenes this rule will immediately forfeit any entry in any Palmerston representative event for that season and the subsequent season, and any title, prize or other benefit won from such competitions in the current season may be forfeited.

4. DRESS STANDARDS

While on the Club premises it is expected that Members and their Guests should dress to a clean, decent and appropriate standard.

5. DRESS ON THE GREEN

Dress on the Green should conform to the following standards, which may only be varied for particular events by the official in charge :

LEAGUES AND COMPETITIONS

SHIRTS / TOPS

TRADITIONAL - White shirt / blouse.

WHITE SHIRT with no more than 25% colour.

COLOURED SHIRT - Shirts /tops with more than 25% colour may be worn only if all team players wear the same design.

CLUB SHIRT

All shirts must have a collar and sleeves.

JACKET / JUMPER

White zip-up jacket or white jumper. Ladies may wear official blue cardigan / waistcoat.

TROUSERS / SKIRTS / SHORTS

Trousers, cropped trousers, regulation skirts, bowls clothing manufacturer shorts. These must be grey or black.

CASUAL BOWLING

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For club mixed drives or for individually booked rollups or for practice, players should just dress to a smart, clean, decent and conservative standard suitable for playing bowls. JMC officials may advise individuals on the suitability of their choice of clothing.

Please bear in mind that members wearing casual clothing will not be able to join a league game as a substitute unless they can change into the correct dress.

CLUB REPRESENTATIVE MATCHES

Dress will be as directed by the relevant Captain.

FRIENDLY MATCHES

Same as Leagues and Competitions except shirt / top should be Club shirt or white.

CLUB COMPETITION FINALS

Same as Leagues and Competitions except all team players must wear the same design of shirt / top and same colour below the waist.

SHOES

In order to protect the carpet, only purpose designed bowls shoes are permitted.

BADGES

Members may not wear shirts / tops designed for other clubs or with badges from other clubs.

6. CARE OF THE GREEN

All members are responsible for the care of the bowling surface, and any damage or other problem should be reported immediately to the Steward.

No food or liquids of any kind are allowed on the Green. Refreshments must be confined to the tables. Chewing gum is strictly banned.

Any substance applied to the hands to enhance grip should be applied in the changing room only and never on or near the Green. Do not use bowls polish.

To avoid bringing in grit or contamination, bowls shoes should never be worn outside the premises (e.g. in the car park).

Heavy bumping of bowls can damage the underlay and should be avoided. Members who are unable to bend down sufficiently may use an arm extension.

7. FRIENDSHIP TO MEMBERS

All members are expected to invite other members, particularly new members, to enter a game, even if the game is in progress, except a Match or Competition.

8. HEALTH AND SAFETY

Members have a duty to

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- Take reasonable care for your own health and safety and that of others who may be affected by what you do or do not do.
- Co-operate with the club on health and safety issues.
- Correctly use all equipment provided by the club.
- Not interfere with or misuse anything provided for your health safety or welfare.

9. PHYSICALLY DISADVANTAGED AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED BOWLERS

Every physically disabled or visually impaired bowler playing on the Green must be accompanied by a helper. The helper will be responsible for their safety in an emergency.

10. NON BOWLERS

Non-bowlers must take a beginner coaching course at Palmerston carried out by qualified coaches, who must certify satisfactory completion before membership can be applied for.

Any non-bowler who wants to try bowling should be recommended to join the first session of beginner coaching, as this will give the best experience of what bowling is like. If afterwards they do not continue the course they will not be charged any fee. If suitable beginner coaching is not available, as an alternative a member of at least 3 years' experience may take them on the green for a short try out on a suitable rink not adjacent to a league or competition.