



Phase 3 Community Level Sport - July 26th 2020

## Return to Sport Action Plan. Crown Green Bowls.

Update social gatherings of up to 30 people are now permitted, as long as all social distancing is maintained, this will allow up to 30 on or around a green in total.

The number of players on the green should be **risk assessed** by your club and an acceptable number agreed based on the size of the green.

Each group can consist of 2 households, (Social bubbles) or up to 6 from individual households.

Open, League and external competitions will need to be risk assessed to ensure a covid secure event is held and all documentation completed and player informed of guidance.

**ALL PREVIOUS GUIDANCE AND ADVICE REMAINS IN FORCE AND IS AVAILABLE ON THE BCGBA WEBSITE**

- Social distancing 2 metres or 1 metre plus mitigation (this would require additional measures such as face coverings to allow 1 metre, and/or ensuring good hygiene and cleaning is maintained as all times)<sup>1</sup>
- Players should maintain social distancing and keep up to 4 metres between groups to allow for social distancing between groups
- **Multi Green venues** permitted maximum groups numbers agreed per green and must enable groups are separated and entrance and exits routes are displayed to avoid cross contact between groups
- Club Schedule of Attendance (**names, dates & times must be recorded**) produced to ensure limited attendance should be maintained. Club contact records telephone numbers and email contacts collected
- **Family groups** – 2 family groups can meet up of any size, but all other guidance applies on social distancing.
- **Common sense applies.** Players take responsibility for their own actions.

### **Club Competitions, single's and pairs**

- **Competition organisers should be aware of the issues regarding Covid19 guidance\***
- **Paperwork\* and risk assessment\* completed and a copy forwarded to County Secretary<sup>2</sup>.**
- \*The Club Secretary and or Chairman to sign the Covid Competition action plan/risk assessment detailing how competition will be run safely and within the current social distancing arrangements. All competition administrators to sign that they understand the action plan to ensure they fully understand the regulations.

**Be aware that this guidance could change at any point and could be withdrawn if the risk level increases**



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### Equipment

You are now able to use club communal equipment however a strict cleaning plan should be displayed and be clear to all players.

- Equipment to be disinfected/cleaned before and after each game is completed, ie. jacks and mats.
- Shaking of hands – use appropriate alternative methods. ie. elbows, thumbs up etc.

### THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

- Follow strong hygiene practices at every opportunity - wash your hands when you get home
- Once you have completed your session, please depart as soon as you safely can to enable others to access the green.
- Being careful about touching solid surfaces e.g. gates, seating, doors, etc.
- Wash your hands as soon as you get home, avoid touching your face and take hand sanitiser with you to use while out if possible

### NOTE FOR CLUBS:

- You must have a clear process for knowing who is playing at the green, make this as clear as you can for your club members to understand and abide by.
- Please place a sign in clear view of all visitors of the guidelines set out above.  
Shared Public greens – ensure you have an attendance list of your club members who have attended should this information be required. You are only responsible for your club members information.

*1 See notes on equipment*

*2 Secretary or nominated contact*



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Bowls Clubs are a complex environment where the risk should be assessed for the venue and the activity to ensure effective social distancing and infection control.

Clubs should clearly communicate to all participants, volunteers and workers to ensure reasonable measures are complied with at all times, before, during and after any activity.

- Members should arrive prepared to take part within the prescribed time limits for play. Changing facility use should be avoided but should be available where there are additional needs for members.
- Undue raising of voices should be avoided to avoid any airborne transmission of virus. (consider use of masks where needed).
- Minimise any personal contact with surfaces while taking part in sport.

### A. Steps clubs should take:

1. Advise members/players of guidance before they arrive at the green to ensure safety and compliance.
2. Provide handwashing, sanitiser and encourage good hygiene at all times.
3. Use contactless payment where appropriate.
4. Keep doors open where possible to avoid contact.
5. Avoid the use of lockers or equipment stores and keep equipment accessible where possible.
6. Avoid the use of paperwork wherever possible, use online processes as much as possible for booking sessions.

### B. Managing Risks

1. Undertake a risk assessment for the Bowls Club for any proposed activity.
2. Risk assess the number of players that can access the green.
3. Limit numbers where appropriate.
4. Have a plan for arrival and leaving the green.
5. Use markings where possible.
6. Ensure Parking arrangements are covered and communicated.
7. Use one way systems when moving through buildings.

### C. Avoid contact while taking part.

1. Social distancing should be maintained between all users including, individuals, groups, teams and coaches, unless from the same household.
2. Spectators & players to follow social distancing and manage their children in attendance.
3. Assist track and trace by keeping records of attendance (21 Days)



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Each club should review their Risk assessment to allow for non-club members attending and all relevant information provided to the opponents in advance of attending your green.

Matches can be up to a maximum of 12 a side but the total group size including officials and coaches must not exceed 30.

Individual games should ensure social distancing is maintained within the game and other games on the green.

Use your own equipment wherever possible and shared mats and jacks should be cleaned before and after each game.

If someone outside your game touches the jack it should be cleaned prior to continuing with the game.

Players to remain socially distanced at all times.

Use of club facilities, clubhouse, toilets and changing areas should adhere to latest government guidelines.

Keep records of all those who have attended the match, players spectators and officials and record contact details.

Measuring an end should be done by the players if a mutual decision cannot be agreed. Equipment should be cleaned after each use if shared.

If running an open competition, you should produce a Risk assessment for the Competition to ensure that you are able to maintain safety of players and visitors in line with BCGBA guidance and adhere to Government Advice. Approval should be sought for the open competition in the normal way via your county and apply for an open certificate.



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For all activity, the relevant UK Government social distancing guidance should be adhered to at all times (including throughout warm-ups) except in the following limited circumstances during competitive play in England only where social distancing of 1m+ is permitted:

This document refers to current UK Government guidance for England only and is subject to change in response to the current COVID-19 Alert Level, community prevalence of COVID-19 and/or to reflect additional or updated UK Government guidance. **(Where a local shutdown or alteration to guidance is issued this must also be followed).**

### **Prior to all bowling activity:**

- All participants (players, coaches, officials, volunteers and spectators) should check for symptoms of COVID-19. In line with current UK Government Guidance, if an individual is symptomatic and/or living in a household with a possible COVID-19 infection they should remain at home and follow UK Government guidance. In addition, any participants who have been asked to isolate by NHS Test and Trace because they are a contact of a known COVID-19 case, must not exercise outside their home or garden and must not exercise with others.
- Participants should follow UK Government guidance on shielding and protecting people who are clinically extremely vulnerable from COVID-19 if it applies to them. **(Relaxation is allowed after 1<sup>st</sup> August)**
- Participants should comply with all public health restrictions and avoid high risk behaviour outside the sports setting to reduce the risk to their fellow participants when they do attend a bowls club or venue. **(INCLUDING ANY LOCAL SHUT DOWN RULE CHANGES)**
- Personal hygiene measures should be carried out at home before and after bowls activity.
- Participants should bring their own hand sanitiser where possible and maintain strict and frequent hand hygiene measures at all times.
- Participants should follow UK Government guidance on best practice for travel, including minimising the use of public transport. **(This has changed over the last few days, follow local transport rules)** Individuals should travel alone by car unless from the same household.
- Use of the clubhouse and toilets should adhere to the latest UK Government guidance.
- Club representatives should ensure that the facility is compliant with current UK Government legislation including legislation and guidance related to COVID-19. A risk assessment should have been completed and risk mitigation measures put in place and monitored, in accordance with previous BCGBA guidance.
- Club representatives should make all participants aware of expected social distancing and hygiene measures during play and whilst on site. **(Ideally prior to attendance).**
- Clubs should strictly limit the time spent congregating at a venue before activity begins. Meet-up times should reflect this. Participants should arrive changed and ready to begin the warm-up/roll up, if applicable.
- Club representatives should make all participants aware of the increase in transmission risk associated with partaking in even socially distanced group activity and should ensure that all participants are clear that they are opting to participate in bowling activity.
- Matches can return as long as groups are limited to a maximum of 30 participants, including coaches and officials and risk assessed.



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- Participants should enter the site and prepare their personal equipment whilst maintaining social distancing.
- No sweat or saliva is to be applied to the bowl or jack at any time.
- All participants should sanitise their hands prior to the start of the activity.
- Participants should exit/leave the green or club whilst maintaining social distancing.
- Social gathering (**max 30**) after the activity will be allowed in line with current UK Government guidelines on hospitality and social distancing must be maintained.
- Players should be responsible for collecting and disinfecting any shared equipment.
- Regular cleaning of equipment and the facility should take place, particularly between one group finishing, and the next group starting.
- Clubs should encourage all participants to report any infection of their household to the NHS Test and Trace system following use of the facility to limit the spread of the virus (section 3): <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works>.
- On any day of the activity, club representatives and volunteers should ensure that all COVID-19 measures are in place according to the club operating and safety plans, whilst maintaining social distancing
- The duty of care which the club already have remains and therefore other matters such as First Aid must continue to be provided. First Aid equipment (including AEDs where available) and suitable PPE for First Aid must be made available. Advice on First Aid during the COVID pandemic is available from St John Ambulance.
- Clubs must have entry and exit, and parking arrangements to venues that ensures social distancing can be maintained and implement traffic flow systems where possible and appropriate.
- Clubs must outline socially distanced areas for teams, officials, and spectators.
- Spectators should remain socially distanced at all times and refrain from all contact with the jack or bowl.  
Spectator groups must be restricted to discrete six person gathering limits and spread out, in line with wider UK Government guidance. (**Maximum of 30 in total applies**)
- Detailed guidance relating to referees will be released in due course by the referee society.
- In the event of rain, participants should return to their own vehicle to maintain social distancing if there is insufficient outdoor cover from the rain to maintain social distancing.
- Coaches should make themselves aware of and abide by, all guidelines set out by the UK Government & BCGBA and Coach Bowls guidance.
- It is the coach's responsibility to ensure that they coach players in a safe environment and follow relevant guidelines.
- Coach should explain the safety guidelines of what is expected pre, during and post session including what the player is expected to do to maintain compliance with social distancing guidelines and all other health and safety guidelines



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**Open Competitions / Club Competitions**

A Player can only play a maximum of 4 rounds on a single day to stay within the groups of 6 rules within the social gathering guidance.

This is based on the guidance issued from the Department of Sport following our latest submission where agreement needed the social bubble of 6 individuals and or single households make up a maximum of 6 in a bubble. The maximum in a social gathering also remains at 30. Should these numbers change then additional rounds on one day could be increased. Due to local restrictions in some areas you may wish to record the local area.

**Example player grouping and total interactions with other player by rounds.**

4		4	4+1		5+1	
A v B		A	A			<p><b>WINNER PLAYS ROUND 5 ON NEXT APPROPRIATE DAY.</b></p> <p><b>EACH PLAYER HAS ONLY INTERACTED WITH A MAXIMUM OF 6 OTHERS ON A SINGLE DAY.</b></p>
C v D		D				
E v F		F				
G v H		H	H		H	
I v J		J				
K v L		L	L			
M v N		N				
O v P		P	P		P	

Combinations of groups of 16 can therefore be used over different days to reach a finals day that meets the maximum group interactions on a single day for any one individual.

**This fulfils the conditional approval for our guidance submitted to the Department of Sport to further relax the playing guidance in competitions.**

