

Leinster Bowling Club

Return to Bowling: Level 3: To come into effect again on 1 December 2020

1. Introduction

Leinster Bowling Club cannot accept liability for the safety of members as they return to play under the current arrangements. Active members are reminded of their obligations to comply with current legislation and Government and HSE guidelines regarding travel, interacting with others, social distancing, hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette, and any other matters relevant to their safety and the safety of others in the Club environment.

In particular members are asked to note that:

- The cocooning population may leave their houses for exercise but they should avoid contact with other people, even on a socially distanced basis. This advice does not recommend over 70's playing sport, however, it is not mandatory it is advisory: so individuals can make their own decisions. (Department Transport, Tourism and Sport)

While Leinster Bowling Club has put in place protocols for optimising safety during the COVID-19 period members must take responsibility for their own decision as to whether to participate in the activities of the Club at this time and whether they take personal protection measures (e.g. the wearing of face coverings) beyond those provided in the measures below.

The Leinster Bowling Committee has agreed these protocols for play during this period. Revised protocols will be agreed and issued as the season develops.

Player health (issued by BLI and LBLI)

All players who have tested positive/in isolation for Covid-19 or are living with a Covid-19 positive person will not be permitted on the premises of Leinster Bowling Club and will be ineligible to do so until specific criteria are met:

- i) If you have tested positive you may not return to bowling for a minimum of 14 days and at least 5 days without fever or any other symptom, as per HSE guidelines;
- ii) If you are in self isolation you may not return to bowling for 14 days or until you have returned a negative test and are symptom free, whichever is less, as per HSE guidelines; and
- iii) If you are living with a Covid-19 positive person, you must also follow (ii), as per HSE guidelines.

Players who have symptoms **or who have been referred by a doctor for a Covid-19 test** should notify the secretary of the Bowling Club if they were due to play, and start self-isolation **and stay away from the Club and follow public health regulations.**

Failure to adhere to these requirements could result in the immediate suspension of membership of the Bowling Section.

LEINSTER BOWLING CLUB PROTOCOLS FOR PLAY

1. Scope

- a) There will be no planned recruitment activities until further notice
- b) Prospective members who make contact directly with the Club, or are contacts of existing members, may visit the Club in the company of a member for up to three visits, after which they must join as a member or cease to visit the Club
- c) Coaching of members and prospective members may take place on an informal basis with a maximum of 3 people (including the coach) on a rink at any one time. Coaching sessions must be pre-booked on the electronic booking system

2. To access the bowling green a player must:

- a) Be a paid-up member of Leinster Bowling Club, apart from prospective members (point 1 (c) above)
- b) Not have been out of the country in the last 14 days in any country (either to stay or in transit) other than on the government's green list. If a country is de-listed from the green list, members must immediately cease attendance at the Club until the 14 day period since their return to Ireland is over and is compliant with points c) and d) below
- c) Not be in self-isolation or living with a person who is self-isolating
- d) Not be displaying any COVID-19 symptoms
- e) Have a pre-booked rink time

3. Booking a Rink

- a) Only those players who are pre-booked may play
- b) Four rinks will be in use at any one time
- c) An electronic booking system is in operation where you can book rinks up to a week in advance
- d) The booking system is accessed from the Bowling Club website
- e) Members who need assistance or do not have access to the website may phone or text Anne FitzGerald (087 9182215) and she will assist in making your booking
- f) The daily booking times available are as follows:
 - 11.00 to 12.50
 - 13.00 to 14.50
 - 15.00 to 16.50
 - 17.00 to 18.50
 - 19.00 to 20.50
- g) We will have a turnaround time of 10 minutes. We would ask all players to leave on time and those arriving at the green are not more than 10 minutes prior to playing time so as to avoid large gatherings
- h) The maximum number of players on any one rink will be 4 people
- i) Leinster Bowling club will retain copies of each day's bookings so as to facilitate any contact tracing that the HSE may have to carry out, for this reason players are asked to adhere to their allotted time and rink once a booking is made

- j) Players are asked to leave their rink at the allotted time even if the rink is not booked for the subsequent session. This is to ensure that the correct attendance on the rinks is recorded for possible future contact tracing.

4. Arrival

- a) At home prior to coming to the Bowling Green bowlers should clean and disinfect their bowls, towels, regulation bowling shoes and any other equipment they will take on the green. **Wheelie or other large bowling bags are not allowed on the green;** only bring what is necessary for your game
- b) Ample car parking spaces are available to ensure social distancing.
- c) Change into bowling shoes before coming to the green. Only regulation bowling shoes to be worn on the green.
- d) Arrive at the green not more than 10 mins prior to reserved rink time
- e) On arrival at the green turn right and follow the pathway to the right hand side down by the side of the club house so as to avoid the players exiting the green by the pathway adjacent to the tennis courts. Ensure that social distancing is observed at all times
- f) Please use the sanitiser that is attached to the end wall of the pavilion to sanitise your hands prior to entering the green.
- g) Wait until all previous players have exited the area before proceeding onto the green to play
- h) Members who have been given permission to store their bowls in the Ladies Locker Room in the Bowlers' Pavilion should enter the Pavilion one at a time to collect their equipment. This equipment must then be sanitised outside beside the shed prior to play. **Congregation of people in the Pavilion is only permitted in accordance with current government regulations.**

5. Equipment

- a) Members may play with up to four bowls at any time
- b) Members playing on their own should only use their own bowls and not take any from the equipment room
- c) Members without their own bowls who wish to play may use four Club bowls taken from the equipment room. These bowls must be sanitised before play and sanitised and returned to the correct basket in the equipment room after play
- d) Take your bowls, towel and personal sanitiser to the green and place at your starting end
- e) Do not touch any other players' bowls with your hands
- f) Do not touch the jack at any time with your hands unless you are a designated lead
- g) Do not move the mat at any time from the 2 meter mark

6. On the Green

- a) Only **4** players to be on each rink at any one time; 3 or 4 bowlers at **same end** are not permitted unless coaching is happening

- b) **Mats:**
- **Before going to your rink take 2 mats from the hanger in the storage area and sanitise using the spray sanitiser provided**
 - **Set the sanitised mats on the rink in any position you wish, so long as they are at least 2 meters from the ditch, where they will remain unmoved for the duration of your game**
 - **After your game remove the mats from green and sanitise them again using the spray provided and hang up again in the storage area**
- c) **Jacks:**
- There will be one yellow and one white jack and 2 mats per rink
 - To be rolled during play by two leads designated at the start of the game, who will each be the 'owner' of a specific jack either white or yellow for the duration of the game
 - To be collected by the designated leads before the game from the basin in the area leading into the toilets
 - will only be touched by the designated lead during the game
 - will be centred by the skip using his/her foot
 - will be positioned so as to be a minimum of 1 metre from the front of the mat
 - To be returned to the basin after the game by the lead and sanitised using the spray provided
- d) When changing ends players must ensure social distancing. Players should always walk to their left thus avoiding other players coming the other way
- e) No measuring allowed except during competition matches
- f) Players will not be permitted to walk from the mat to look at the head unless they are playing a competition match
- g) Use only your feet to move bowls after an end has been completed
- h) Bowls or jack in ditch to be removed using a towel or plastic gloves
- i) Use of scoreboards and/or scorecards will be permitted for competition matches only.

7. At the end of allotted playing time

- a) **When playing social bowls, players are requested to finish on time regardless of the score and return their mats and jacks to the storage area (see point 6 (b) and (c) above)**
- b) If a Club Competition match should overrun on time on your booked rink please allow players to finish their matches. If another rink is free you may use that instead of your booked rink.
- c) Take home **all** belongings including water bottles, plastic gloves, empty cups etc. leaving nothing behind on the green
- d) Please ensure that you wash and sanitise your bowls, hands, shoes and towels after playing
- e) Exit the green by using the pathway adjacent to the tennis courts maintaining social distancing and all players should exit the Club at the end of their game.
- f) Use the sanitizer that is provided on the wall adjacent to the tennis courts to sanitise hands on leaving the green

- g) **If there is nobody playing on the green when you finish LOCK all doors in the Pavilion before leaving**

8. Miscellaneous Issues

- a) Toilet facilities are the only facilities available in the Bowlers' Pavilion; there are no facilities for making tea/coffee
- b) Members are requested to bring their personal sanitiser for use on their equipment and during play on the green. Hand sanitiser and disinfectant will also be provided at the Bowlers' Pavilion
- c) No sharing of bowls or equipment is permitted
- d) Members may visit the bowling green as spectators. In order to comply with HSE requirements for contact tracing such members must adhere to social distancing guidelines and record their attendance in the attendance **book** in the equipment room.
- e) The Greens Manager (Paul Smyth) will change settings and direction of play. No other player is permitted to touch these settings

It is the aim of the Bowling Committee to keep members safe so please observe the guidelines. It will require the co-operation of all players. Guidelines may have to be changed on an on- going basis. We will endeavour to keep you informed. Keep hand washing, sanitising and social distancing at all times.

If you have any queries in relation to any of these guidelines please contact Anne Fitzgerald, Secretary, (anneandronnie61@gmail.com or 087 9182215)

Stay safe and enjoy your bowling!

Bowling Section Committee
7 October 2020