

## Bowls Scotland Carpet Bowls and Short Mat Recommendations for Play

This document has been developed to support Bowls Scotland affiliated clubs in delivering Carpet Bowls and/or Short Mat within their club house facility. This document should be read in conjunction with the Bowls Scotland Return to the Green COVID-19 Guidance 2021 and Scottish Government advice and guidance.

### Bowling Activity

- Club should risk assess their ability to deliver short mat sessions based on space, capacity, and ventilation, ensuring appropriate health and hygiene measures are in place.
- Whilst there is no restriction on the number of participants permitted to play, clubs should ensure appropriate space is given and participant numbers are included in the overall clubhouse capacity.
- Clubs should risk assess competition matches and club friendlies, ensuring appropriate hygiene measures are in place before, during and after matches.

### Before, During and After Play

- Players should wear a face covering when not participating in bowling activity.
- When changing ends clubs should consider a one-way system
- Where shared equipment is necessary for an activity, clubs should risk assess and have appropriate cleaning measures in place to reduce the risk of contamination.
- Players **should not**:
  - Pick up any other player's bowl.
  - Share equipment e.g., cloths, measures, etc.
  - Moisten their hands with saliva before delivery.
- Players are encouraged to 'give people space' and should continue to avoid shaking hands and high-fives.
- For the following activities clubs should risk assess and ensure appropriate safety measures are in place:
  - Replacing Centre Block
  - Measuring shots
  - Removal of Dead Bowls
  - Touchers should only be marked with spray chalk

### Setting up Equipment:

- Clubs should risk assess the process of setting up and removal of equipment.
- Clubs should follow the [Scottish government](#) advice on ventilation when setting up equipment within the clubhouse.
- Players should avoid sharing equipment eg. Bowls, measures, cloths etc
- Where sharing of equipment is unavoidable, equipment should be sanitised before and after every session. Any member that touches shared equipment should maintain good hygiene throughout the session

### General Club Guidance

- People who are symptomatic should self-isolate and follow the Scottish government guidance. No one who is self-isolating should attend a bowling club.
- It is the responsibility of each club to appoint a responsible person/s, referred to as the COVID Officer, to act as the point of contact on all things related to COVID-19. A COVID Officer role descriptor can be found here: <https://www.bowlsscotland.com/clubs/club-support-covid-19>

An [e-learning module for COVID officers](#) is available to support those undertaking the role.

- For guidance on club house facilities, including safe hygiene practices, please read the Bowls Scotland Return to the Green COVID-19 Guidance 2021 and **sportscotland's** Getting Facilities Fit for Sport <https://sportscotland.org.uk/covid-19/getting-your-facilities-fit-for-sport/>
- Face coverings are mandatory for indoor hospitality. This means you must wear a mask when entering, leaving, or moving round the clubhouse.
- Clubs should take a register for all participants attending a short mat / carpet bowls sessions to comply with Test & Protect.
- Clubs should encourage players register for the Test & Protect App: <https://protect.scot/>
- If your club uses external facilities (such as a village hall/community centre) to organise activities, the club should also ensure indoor leisure facilities guidance is followed. <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-sport-and-leisure-facilities/>
- First Aid:
  - Clubs should risk assess if First Aid is to be provided and is accessible within the club house (this include updating the first aid equipment for COVID-19 and First Aiders have undertaken appropriate additional training)
  - Clubs should ensure they have players emergency contact details and inform them of how First Aid is accessed. <https://www.sja.org.uk/get-advice/first-aid-advice/covid-19-advice-for-first-aiders>

**Our National Development Officers are here to help:**

- Districts 1-10: Stuart Bell 07525 134385 / [stuartbell@bowlsscotland.com](mailto:stuartbell@bowlsscotland.com)
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**More information on Short Mat can be found here:** <https://scottishsmbf.wixsite.com/home>