

Bowls Scotland – COVID-19 Update – 16 March 2022

The Scottish Government have reviewed their current COVID-19 restrictions and protective measures, with a new Strategic Framework for tackling COVID-19 published which outlines the steps required to allow Scotland to achieve a sustainable return to a normal way of life, while remaining prepared for future threats. This new approach will rely predominantly on vaccines, treatments, and public health behaviours and adaptations, rather than legal protective measures.

As a result of this, the current Bowls Scotland COVID-19 guidance documents will be removed from the website in line with the changes coming into place on 21 March. The following information should be considered when organising club activities, including training, competitions, and events.

Bowling Activity

There are no specific COVID-19 restrictions or considerations in place for sporting activity. Bowling clubs can return to normal operation for any bowling activity.

COVID Officers

From 21 March 2022, there is no requirement for clubs to have COVID Officers in place for club activities. Likewise, there is no requirement for event organisers to appoint a COVID Officer for competitive events. However, clubs should consider how they would react to and manage changes in COVID-19 Guidance and restrictions, should the situation change.

Face Coverings

Face coverings remain a legal requirement in public settings, including club house facilities, until 4th April and clubs should continue to ensure players, visitors and staff are adhering to this.

Physical Distancing

There are no physical distancing measures or restrictions in place for indoor facilities and activities. Everyone accessing indoor activities are still encouraged to give each other space to ensure everyone is comfortable and those who need additional space have it.

Testing

Clubs should encourage players, visitors, coaches, and volunteers/staff to take a lateral flow test (LFT) before attending a club activity/competition. Results do not need to be submitted to the club/event. If a member returns a positive LFT then they should follow the Scottish Government guidance and if symptomatic take a PCR test as soon as possible. Anyone feeling unwell, testing positive or isolating, should not attend the bowling club.

Test and Protect Data Collection

The collection and storage of attendee data for the purposes of the test and protect process for club activity/competitive events is no longer required from 21 March 2022. Attendance should continue to be taken as per normal practice.

Risk Assessments

Risk assessments should be reviewed regularly, updated if/when required, to ensure they are still relevant for the club activities/events and the information is communicated as required.

Hygiene Protocols

Everyone attending club activities or events should be encouraged to regularly wash their hands or use hand sanitiser. Clubs should also ensure surfaces and equipment are cleaned and sanitised appropriately.

Spectating

There are no COVID-19 restrictions on spectating at any club activities.

Access to Indoor Facilities

Access to, and use, of meeting rooms, changing rooms, showering facilities and all other indoor spaces is permitted. Good ventilation in these areas should be in place. Clubs should ensure they are adhering to facility capacity as per the clubs' operating procedures.

Hospitality

Clubs should ensure they are following hospitality guidance and legislation, available here: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-tourism-and-hospitality-sector-guidance/>

Travel

There are no COVID-19 restrictions in place for travel in Scotland and the UK. Clubs can check for any updates on travel, car sharing and general travel safety advice here: <https://www.gov.scot/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-guidance-on-travel-and-transport/>

Coaching Activity

There are no COVID-19 restrictions on the number of coaches and support staff that can be on the green. Coaches should continue to adhere to maximum coaching ratios as per normal coaching practice. Coaches should ensure they are PVG checked to deliver any sessions to children under 18 and vulnerable adult groups.

High Performance Training / International Events

Players, coaches, and support staff attending High Performance and International events should continue to follow the COVID-19 guidance in place.

National Development Officers

Bowls Scotland's National Development Officers are always here to help:



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