

Procedures for bowling at Northwood under COVID-19

Good News! Bowling at Northwood Bowling Club will recommence on Monday 15 June.

The procedures that follow are authorised by Hillingdon Council as consistent with Government requirements and procedures recommended by Bowls England.

Play arrangements

- Do not play if you do feel unwell, or are in a high risk restricted movement group.
- Play will be singles only, without a marker.
- Non-adjacent rinks will be used, alternating between 1,3,5 and 2,4,6.
- Available times for play will (initially) be start times of 11.00am, 1.00pm, 3.00pm on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.
- Initially, to spread demand, members should only play once in the popular six Monday and Wednesday slots.
- Rink allocation will be by pre-booking only. Do not arrive at the club without having confirmed a rink.
- The method of making bookings is in a Process Note at the end of this document.
- Players should arrive at their scheduled time, not before, and should aim to be clear of the premises at least 10 minutes before the next session starts. There should be no more than 6 people on the green at any one time. No spectators.
- Players can agree to play any scoring system and number of ends that they wish on their session.
- A 2 metre social distancing rule applies on the green.

Personal safety

The aim is for the majority of members to have no contact with shared equipment and facilities. This significantly reduces the need for constant cleaning of equipment / handles/ locks.

- There will be no scoreboards, bowls pushers, ditch (toucher) markers, 2m distance sticks.
- Players will use their own bowls, lifters (if needed), scorecards and pens, measure (so long as they do not handle the bowl or jack) and chalk puffer (if used).
- Mats will be laid out at the standard (an estimated 2m) distance from the ditch at each end at the start of the day and will not be lifted during play.
- There will be a jack available at each end, positioned by foot at a length chosen by the last end winner. Chalk marks to indicate the centre of the green will help players to do this.

Setting up the greens

The first person to arrive at the club on any day should open the gate and fasten it in the open position. Note that the gate is changing from using a padlock to a keypad, but the combination is the same. They should open up the two changing rooms leaving the doors ajar, and similarly the three main toilets and the disabled toilet (now reassigned as the new Equipment Store). They should put out (from the new Equipment Store) two (positioned) mats and two jacks on each rink, plus sanitiser and wipes outside the changing rooms. They should wash or sanitise their hands after completing these tasks.

This task must not be shared. If the first person at the green does not feel capable of doing this they must wait for someone who does. If you have an early booking and are willing to do this task it is perfectly OK to arrive fifteen minutes before 11am.

At the end of each play session one person should remain on the premises till the first person of the next session arrives, to avoid the greens being left open and unoccupied.

The last person to leave the club should put the mats, jacks and sanitiser into the new Equipment Store, close and lock this Store, the toilets, the changing rooms and the main gate. They should wash their hands as soon as possible when they get home (for their personal safety).

Use of buildings

The aim is for most members to arrive ready to play and not use any of the buildings while they are there.

- The clubhouse will not be opened. Any drinks/ refreshments should be brought with you and taken away at the end.
- Though the toilets should not be used if possible, they will be open if required. For your own protection and that of others please wash or sanitise all surfaces contacted, and your hands, after use.
- The changing room will only be open for access restricted to your own locker (if necessary). The preferred method is to arrive ready to play with anything needed like bowls, bowls shoes, pens/pencils, measure in your bowls bag. Only 1 person in the room at a time. The changing room will have some scorecards – take a few and keep them in your bowls bag.

Rain

Players should come prepared for rain (bring “wets” / umbrella), as the changing room cannot be used for shelter. In the case of extended rain, procedures to follow will be posted on the Men’s Changing Room door.