



**CODE OF CONDUCT: COMPETITORS IN BOWLS ENGLAND NATIONAL
CHAMPIONSHIP AND NATIONAL COMPETITION
FINALS**

PUBLISHED: MAY 2015

This code of conduct applies to all players who participate in the Bowls England National Championship and National Competition Finals, and is to be read in conjunction with the Bowls England Regulations for National Championships and National Competitions.

All players who participate in the National Championship and Competition Finals, at whichever prescribed venue, shall at all times conduct themselves in such a manner that reflects favourably upon themselves, Bowls England and the County or Club that he/she is representing at national level.

In particular he/she should:

1. Report punctually at the prescribed time and place.
2. Be conversant with and comply with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls and all Bowls England domestic rules and by-laws relating to National Championships and National Competitions.
3. Adhere to Bowls England's Betting Integrity Guidance (*Bowls England Regulation No. 4*)
4. Adhere to Bowls England's Disciplinary Regulations (*Bowls England Regulation No. 9*)
5. Adhere to Bowls England's Anti-Doping Guidance (*Please refer to Bowls England website*)
6. Adhere to Bowls England Equality Policy (*Please refer to Bowls England website*)
7. Adhere to Bowls England Social Media Policy (*Please refer to Bowls England website*)
8. Note that matches must be conceded where it is not mathematically possible for the losing team/individual to win.
9. Not cheat in order to gain unfair advantage, or cheat in order to deliberately lose a game.
10. Not use any form of gamesmanship in an attempt to gain unfair advantage.
11. Comply strictly with the rules relating to 'slow play'.
12. Not render himself/herself unfit through alcohol or drugs on or off the bowling green.
13. Show respect to colleagues, opponents and officials and not subject them to any physical or verbal abuse at any time.
14. Smoking on the green and surrounding banks (including electronic devices) will be prohibited during all games.
15. The use of mobile phones whilst playing is prohibited.

Failure to adhere to any of the above will result in an initial warning that will be issued by a nominated umpire. Should the player continue to not adhere they will be subject to disqualification at the discretion of the Tournament Director (or nominated deputy), whose decision will be final.

SLOW PLAY

The following will be enforced in the final stages of all Bowls England National Championships and Competitions.

Singles – Neither player may visit the head until both have delivered three bowls each. Should a player wish to visit the head prior to this point being reached the permission of the marker must be obtained. The maximum time that a player may deliberate before playing a bowl is two minutes, the time being calculated from the time the previous bowl played came to rest. Should this rule be breached the player will be reported by the marker to the Umpire in charge of the green who may issue a warning. Should the player continue to not adhere they will be subject to disqualification at the discretion of the Tournament Director (or nominated deputy), whose decision will be final.

Two-Wood Singles – Neither player may visit the head until both have delivered one bowl each. Should a player wish to visit the head prior to this point being reached the permission of the marker must be obtained. The maximum time that a player may deliberate before playing a bowl is two minutes, the time being calculated from the time the previous bowl played came to rest. Should this rule be breached the player will be reported by the marker to the Umpire in charge of the green who may issue a warning. Should the player continue to not adhere they will be subject to disqualification at the discretion of the Tournament Director (or nominated deputy), whose decision will be final.

Pairs – Neither Lead may visit the head until both players have delivered three bowls each. There is no restriction on Skips revisiting the head should they wish to do so. The maximum time that a player may confer before delivering a bowl is two minutes, the time being calculated from the time the previous bowl played came to rest. Should this rule be breached and not picked up by an Umpire in charge of the green, the aggrieved opposing Skip should bring the notice of the infringement to the Umpire. The Skip of the offending Pair will be warned by the Umpire and should the player continue to not adhere they will be subject to disqualification at the discretion of the Tournament Director (or nominated deputy), whose decision will be final.

Triples – Neither Lead may visit the head until both have delivered three bowls each. The Second players, having left the head after the Leads have delivered their bowls may not return to the head until both players have delivered two bowls each. There is no restriction on Skips revisiting the head should they wish to do so. The maximum time that a player may confer before delivering a bowl is two minutes, the time being calculated from the time the previous bowl played came to rest. Should this rule be breached and not picked up by an Umpire in charge of the green, the aggrieved opposing Skip should bring the notice of the infringement to the Umpire. The Skip of the offending Triple will be warned by the Umpire and should the player continue to not adhere they will be subject to disqualification at the discretion of the Tournament Director (or nominated deputy), whose decision will be final.

Fours – The Lead and Second players may not visit the head until all four players have delivered two bowls. There is no restriction on the Third players or the Skips revisiting the head should they wish to do so. The maximum time that a player may confer before delivering a bowl is two minutes, the time being calculated from the time the previous bowl played came to rest. Should this rule be breached and not picked up by an Umpire in charge of the green, the aggrieved opposing Skip should bring the notice of the infringement to the Umpire. The Skip of the offending Four will be warned by the Umpire and should the player continue to not adhere they will be subject to disqualification at the discretion of the Tournament Director (or nominated deputy), whose decision will be final.