

ASPLEY MEMORIAL BOWLS CLUB

POLICY FOR PROTECTION OF ARTIFICIAL GREENS

INTERNAL CLUB MEMBERS

General

Aspley Memorial Bowls Club has converted two of their greens to an artificial surface and retained one grass green.

Protection of all greens will be in accordance with Bowls Australia "Greens Protection Policy" as well as the following Clauses.

Signs have been displayed around the greens advising the following:

- No Dumping of bowls.
- No food or drinks to be taken or eaten on the greens
- Bowls polish not to be used on bowls
- No smoking on or near the greens

Dumping

Dumping of bowls as defined below will not be allowed on the greens.

A dump is defined as a bowl that when delivered is likely to cause heavy impact to the bowling surface.

As a guide, it is considered that a bowl delivered from a height of 300mm or higher is not acceptable and the offending member should be warned. However, there are also some members who deliver their bowl lower than this but with a driving action into the green. This will also cause considerable damage. It will be up to the judgement of the senior person on the day to determine the severity of this action and whether the member needs to be warned.

Dropping of bowls onto the green from a bowls bag or other times when not delivering a bowl is also defined as dumping.

Procedure Prior to Installation

With the pending installation of synthetic greens, it is now timely to introduce a strategy that will improve the delivery style of many AMBC members who regularly drop their bowl during delivery. Dropped bowls can cause damage to synthetic greens that is difficult and costly to repair, so, these members will not be able to play on synthetic greens until their delivery is rectified.

The following is an outline of the strategy to help these members before the synthetic surface is installed.

While our natural greens are still in operation, there will be a system of three warnings after which a member cannot play again on our greens until their delivery style is rectified. These warnings to members will be given by members of the Men's or Ladies Division committee, Coaches or Greens Director who are in attendance for the day. The warnings should be done on the day that the infringement occurs and in private where possible to avoid embarrassment.

The first warning will be more of a counselling session where the member will be advised of the damage their delivery style can cause, and the actions they can take to rectify their style. These actions may include different delivery techniques, the use of a bowling arm, (they can borrow the club's arms to practice), or other devices (such as a modified walking stick with attached ferrule), coaching sessions with the club's coaches, and/or discussions with other members who are proficient in the use of bowling arms etc.

The coaching process involves the unlearning of the dumping action, and the changing of the delivery technique to one that avoids dumping.

The second warning can be given on other infringements that are noticed no sooner than a fortnight after the first. This will give the member a chance to take further action, probably involving the use of a supporting stick or bowling arm to rectify their style. This warning will reinforce the information given during the first warning, and will firmly indicate that should a further warning need to be given, the bowler will be told that they cannot bowl on our artificial greens again until a club coach indicates that their delivery style has been rectified and will no longer damage greens.

The third warning will see the member advised that they can no longer bowl on our artificial greens until their delivery style is rectified. All relevant club members (coaches, users of an arm or stick, or experienced bowlers) will continue to be there to provide the necessary help to enable the bowler to return to the greens.

Procedure after Installation

Pre Game Warning

Preceding all events the Club Spokesperson will draw the bowlers and non players' attention to the Club's Greens Protection Policy.

During the Game

Club Competitions

The process for a player who is dumping their bowl will be in accordance with the Bowls Australia "Greens Protection Policy" as modified below to suit social games:

If by observation the Controlling Body or deputised representative considers a player is dumping their bowl, the player will be warned.

The skip must be alerted to the warning given to the player.

If in the opinion of the Controlling Body or deputised representative, the player continues to dump their bowl, they must be required to retire from the game but may be allowed a substitute player as per DR2.3.

If the player fails to leave the green, and in the opinion of the Controlling Body continues to damage the green, the player will be considered to be a defaulting player and forfeit the game to their opponent as per law C2 and law C10, and no substitute will be allowed.

Social Games

"As per Club Competitions" except that there will be no restrictions on Substitutes.