



WELCOME PACK

Welcome to Essex County Bowling Club and wishing you many happy hours of bowling and socialising.

We are very lucky to have such excellent facilities. The restaurant is very good and has an extensive menu and the bar is well stocked.

We have a proud history and have been extremely successful over the years. The bowling club was formed in 1906 in Chalkwell Park originally and was the first bowling club in Essex. When more clubs were established, an association was formed to represent the County, and we were asked to relinquish our name.... we declined and so we kept our name!!

NAME:

USERNAME:

PASSWORD:

For use on Bowlr

BOWLS SUMMARY

THE GAME

	No of Bowls each	No Ends	or No Shots
Singles	4	N/A	21
Pairs	4	18 or 21	N/A
Triples	3	18	N/A
Fours	2	18 or 21	N/A

MEASUREMENTS

Position of T from the ditch	2 metres
Minimum length of the Jack	23 metres
Maximum length of the Jack	From the T to the T

ROLES OF PLAYERS IN EACH TEAM (home and away)

- **Lead** – places the mat, then casts the Jack to the required length, taking advice from the Skip if given.
- **No 2** – home player completes the scorecard, and the away player maintains the scoreboard.
- **No 3** – agrees with the opposition the number of shots scored at each end, measures, and if required guides the skip during play.
- **Skip** – can stand at the required length of the Jack, manages the team and guides them as to which is the best shot to play.

TERMINOLOGY

- **Head** – this is the collection of bowls around the Jack.
- **Toucher** – this is a bowl that has touched the jack and remains on the rink or in the end ditch, this is then a “live” bowl.
- **Dead/Burnt End** – when the Jack is forced outside of the rink (outside of markers), then the Jack is placed on the nearest re-spot, apart from competitions when the end is replayed and direction agreed with the Skips.
- **Stickers** – home yellow and away red, or none but the whole away team must either use stickers or none. They should not be stuck on top of each other. if you are playing for the club, then yellow stickers are used, however if it is an away game and the opposition uses yellow stickers then we must change our stickers.
- **Novice** – players with less than three years’ experience

Tips

- Always spray mark a touching bowl in case it is pushed into the ditch during play. Spray on both sides of the bowl!
- When deciding the result at each end, always wedge a falling bowl before measuring, remove the obvious scoring bowls first and measure the remaining winning bowls, if necessary, agree number of shots with the opposition. If a score cannot be agreed, request assistance from the skip or Umpire.
- Any bowl (apart from “live” bowls) that go into the ditch, must be removed immediately and set on the bank.

COACHING

One of the things which puts Essex County above other clubs, is the level of coaching we can offer. Coaching sessions are run by friendly, qualified coaches. During the winter season regular coaching sessions take place every **Tuesday and Sunday** mornings between **08:00 and 10:00**.

During the outdoor season, coaching is available on **Wednesday** mornings by request starting at **10:00**. A list of the Club's qualified coaches is available on the website and their contact details are in the members list.

Cadet evenings are held on Thursdays – indoors during the winter at 18:30 and outside during the summer at 18:00

Individual coaching can also be arranged.

FRIENDLY FIXTURES

During the winter, summer and indoor summer season we have friendly games arranged at home with local clubs and further away by coach. These games are an excellent way to improve your game and meet new bowlers. You are eligible to play in friendlies as soon as you join the club, but if you are a novice bowler you may feel more confident once you have played a few league or disc games before putting your name down.

Details of games are posted in the corridor, just enter your name and put your preferred position. If you are selected just tick your name off and you are good to go and enjoy a fun bowling game.

Our Club captain is always available to answer any questions or to offer advice.

LEAGUES

Indoors we are currently running many leagues during the winter and summer season. These consist of novice, men's, ladies' and mixed leagues, so plenty to choose from. Obviously if you are new to bowls, your first step would be novice leagues which run throughout the winter. You can speak to one of the club coaches or our League Secretary about joining a novice league. If you have bowling experience, our League Secretary can help you to find a team with availability. The League Secretary can also give you details of team sponsors so you can contact them directly. Alternatively, you can put a notice on the board in the corridor saying what time/day you can play and asking sponsors to contact you. Leagues are very popular so do not be afraid to be proactive. League sponsors will produce a spreadsheet for players in their team, ensuring all players have an equal number of games and letting players know in advance what dates they are playing.

Outdoors there are two leagues running during the summer on Tuesday and Friday mornings, there is also a Supper league on Friday evenings. the joining process is the same, just contact the League Secretary or Team Sponsors.

ROLL UPS & DISC GAMES

These are games you can just turn up, register, and play. There are three weekly disc games during the outdoor season, 1 for men only on Monday morning and two mixed games on Wednesday and Thursday mornings. Indoors there is a weekly novice disc game. More details are on the Club website.

COMPETITIONS

We have club competitions that you can enter however long you have been bowling. They are fun and a good way of gaining experience.

CLUB INDOOR COMPETITIONS

- 3 categories. Ladies, Mens and Mixed. You can enter as many competitions as you like.
- **Entry forms** are available from the middle of September and are by the sessions desk in the arena. Help yourself, complete them and return with the entry fee in the red competition post box under the IPads in the arena. There is a closing date on the form and late entries cannot be accepted.
- You can find out **when the date to play** by and your opponent by looking on the website or the printed schedule in the corridor. The rules are displayed on the website and in the arena.
- If yours is the first name in the draw you are the **challenger and need to arrange the game, by booking a rink and arranging a marker for any singles game.** (There is a list of markers on the board in the corridor)
- **Booking a rink.** Go to the website. Log into Bowlr. Then go to my account and a list of the competitions that you have entered will appear.

CLUB OUTDOOR COMPETITIONS

Most of the information about indoor competitions will apply BUT there are differences:

- The entry forms are in the main corridor from the middle of April.
- The drawsheets are in the corridor as before but not on the website.
- Book a rink in the A4 calendar folder on the table in the corridor.

REMEMBER you have competition secretaries in the club who are very willing to help you and answer any questions.

There are also National and County competitions that you will need to apply for if you want to enter.

INDOOR SUMMER

For those who prefer to continue playing indoors during the summer season there is a varied programme to enjoy. This includes leagues, club competitions, Inter-club competitions, friendlies and of course roll ups.

Feel free to contact the Indoor Summer Captain or Indoor Summer Administrator for any advice or help.

BOWLS ETIQUETTE

The etiquette in a game of bowls is very important, a combination of manners, good sportsmanship and sociable behaviour:

- Always arrive suitably attired (cropped, long or short black bottoms, white polo top and white sweatshirt/jumper/cardigan) no jeans or cargoes
- Always be punctual.
- When a player is on the mat, please refrain from loud conversations and movement as this is distracting for the player.
- Be aware of bowlers already on the mat on adjacent rinks and allow them to bowl first.
- Position yourself behind the mat when your opponent plays their turn.
- Always allow your opponent the right to the head during their turn, possession of the rink will belong to the player. When your bowl comes to rest, then possession of the rink will transfer to the opposing player allowing time for any toucher to be marked accordingly. You should not ask questions of the skip unless it is your turn to play.
- Remain still whilst at the Head to keep distractions to a minimum.
- Always walk in the centre of the rink to avoid disturbing players on adjacent rinks or coming into contact with bowls in play from adjacent rinks, if on an end rink walk using the ditch side.
- Wait for the previous players bowl to come to a complete stop before releasing your own bowl.
- Keep a track of the game and be ready to bowl when it is your turn.
- Help collect all the bowls when each end is completed, if you are the lead player pick up the jack and place the mat as quickly as possible.
- Never applaud a lucky bowl/ricochet, just accept it graciously.
- If you win or lose, always accept with graciousness.
- Bowls bags are not allowed into the indoor arena, bowls carriers and handbags must be stored safely to avoid any trip hazards.
- Mobile phones should be switched off or on silent.
- Always respect the decision of the umpire.

WHO'S WHO

Club President:	Ray Woollard
Indoor Captain:	Steve Kerley
Indoor Summer Captain:	Mike Parrott
Indoor Summer Administrator:	John Warman
Indoor Competition Secretaries:	Margaret Shillitto & Phil Sams
Indoor League Secretary:	Lynne Daughtrey
Outdoor Captain:	Steve Kerley
Outdoor Ladies Captain:	Chris Johnson
Outdoor Competition Secretaries:	Lizzie Bridge & Phil Sams
Outdoor League Secretary:	Peter Felstead
Cadet Master:	Matt Osborne

Contact details for all the above can be found on the website/members list.

MEMBERSHIP

Type	Bowling	Voting Rights
Indoor Only	Indoor rinks September – April	Indoor AGM (you can also attend the Full AGM, but cannot vote)
Indoor & Indoor Summer (paying the reduced fee)	Indoor rinks throughout the year	Indoor AGM (you can also attend the Full AGM, but cannot vote)
Outdoor Only	Outdoor greens end April – end September	Outdoor AGM (you can also attend the Full AGM, but cannot vote)
Full Member	Indoor rinks throughout the year. Outdoor greens end April – end September	Indoor, Outdoor and Full AGM

Your spouse/partner is automatically a **social** member for a calendar year, enjoying all the facilities of the Club regardless of which category you have joined.

Please join the Club's Facebook and League WhatsApp groups, useful tools for information and chat.

A copy of the Club's Constitution, Rules & Byelaws together with Indoor and Outdoor Rules & Byelaws are displayed on the noticeboard in the corridor and on the Club's website.

Once again, welcome to Essex County Bowling Club – enjoy your bowling