

A Compilation of Lawn Bowling Reopening Protocols

Bowls USA

- Follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines. <https://www.cdc.gov/>. Persons with acute illness or exposure to illness should self-quarantine for at least 14 days. They should not participate in lawn bowling activities. **If you feel sick, STAY HOME.**
- Many cities and communities are closing non-essential businesses and issuing stay at home orders. **If your local government tells you to do so then, please follow those mandates and STAY HOME.**
- Getting exercise is important and if your local government and club allows, then here are some guidelines to follow while still practicing social distancing (keeping a distance of 6 feet from others):
 - Do not gather in the clubhouse.
 - Hands should be sanitized before and after play.
 - Leave an empty rink between your game and the game next to you.
 - Keep to individual practice, singles or pairs. No triples or rinks.
 - Maintain a distance of 6 feet from other players.
 - No spitting or licking of fingers.
 - Use a clean towel each game. Take home and launder used towels.
 - If playing singles or pairs, limit the responsibilities of players
 - **Jacks.** Pre-set the jack (preferred) OR only allow one person to pick up/handle the jack for the entire game. Sanitize the jack before and after play.
 - **Rakes.** Do not use rakes (preferred) OR designate one person to touch and use the rake for the entire game. Sanitize the rake before and after play.
 - **Measuring.** Do not measure with a tape (preferred) OR if it must be done, limit to one designated person for the entire game without touching the jack or bowls. Sanitize the measure before and after play.
 - **Bowls.** Players should touch and handle their own bowls for the duration of play. Bowls should be sanitized before and after play.

Phase 1 : Passed 5/17/2020 - submitted to City's Public Health Officer (PHO) for advice and approval on 5/19/2020

Prepared by: The *ad hoc* Reopening Committee

Purpose: Given the City of Berkeley's slight easing of Shelter in Place (SiP) regulations pertaining to some recreational activities, the committee recommends that the club prepare to reopen in phases. Each phase will gently relax the restrictions and guidelines that allow our members to bowl while maintaining maximum health safeguards.

Commencement: Starts approximately five days after board approval and will remain in effect until further notice. The *ad hoc* Reopening Committee will meet every two weeks to consider adjustments to the protocol, which will be sent to the board for approval, as necessary.

Eligibility: Only BLBC members are permitted at the club. Before playing for the first time, all members must sign a waiver acknowledging that they understand and agree to the protocol established by the club. This acknowledgement must be via email to Andy Vevers (andyvevers@gmail.com) and will serve the purpose of a signed waiver.

Availability: The green will be open Tuesday through Sunday from 10 AM until dusk.

Scheduling: Green use will be managed by a reservation system. Players are required to email Andy, our volunteer scheduler, the day and time they want to bowl, preferably at least one day in advance. Andy will confirm availability. Please do not exceed two hours at any session and be mindful of excessive scheduling.

Green Use: There will be a maximum of two rinks, separated by two unused rinks. Participation is limited to individual practice only. Hence, only two participants can be on the green at one time. Rink markers will be set out by greenskeeper Dave every morning and must not be moved.

Safety Precautions:

- Do not come to the club if you have tested positive for COVID-19, exhibit COVID-19 symptoms, or you have been exposed to a known COVID-19 case.
- Assume that all shared equipment is not sanitized. The club will endeavor to maintain a supply of disinfectant wipes and sanitizing spray in the shed. However, bowlers are urged to bring their own sanitizing supplies as the club cannot guarantee availability.
- Wear masks that cover your mouth and nose.
- Maintain social distancing (six feet separation).
- No handshaking, hugging, or other PDAs unless it is with a spouse or cohabitant.
- Do not use rakes.
- Use mats but do not share them. Take a mat on your first day of play, use it, and then keep it in your possession until further notice.
- Use one or two jacks and do not share.
- Please wipe any common items you touch...e.g., jacks, locks, door handles...with disinfectant wipes before and after use.

Club house/Facility Access:

- Limited to the locker rooms to fetch and store bowls and the restrooms. We recommend that bowlers minimize the need to enter the building by taking their bowls and mats home. All other clubhouse areas are off limits.
- Only one person at a time in the clubhouse.
- Absent an emergency, access to the restrooms is provided for hand washing only.
- Limit time in the clubhouse to the minimum required for bowls retrieval and/or handwashing. Do not eat, drink, or otherwise linger in the clubhouse.
- If you do not have a personal set of bowls, you may take a loaner set of club bowls and keep them for the duration of the SiP period. Do not return them until all SiP restrictions are removed. Sanitize the bowls before and after using them.
- Please wipe any common appliances and fixtures you touch...e.g., gate lock, door handles, and faucets.
- Lock the gate when you enter and leave the club. No “faux” locking.

Communication:

- A large sign will be posted on the front gate describing the restrictions and precautions. This is primarily to keep our neighbors informed but also will serve as a reminder to our members.
- If members are questioned or challenged by passers-by, please respond that we are operating within the city COVID-19 guidelines and reference the SiP orders posted on the gate. There is no value to engaging in further discussion.
- Before opening, we will contact the relevant city authorities to inform them of our approach, reinforcing that we are complying with city SiP guidelines.

Caveats:

- The Phase 1 restricted reopening has been designed to maximize the safety of club members as well as our neighbors.
- **Each bowler is responsible for their own safety. It is your responsibility to protect yourselves by washing/sanitizing your hands after touching anything that might be infected, as well as wearing a mask and maintaining proper social distancing.** Assume that all common equipment and fixtures are not sanitized.
- Many of us fall into the high-risk category and should give extra consideration when deciding to bowl.
- All of us must adhere to the safety protocols defined by the city, the state, and the CDC. When there is a discrepancy, we advise you to abide by the most restrictive protocol. And in no case, does the club protocol supersede a more restrictive one.
- These restrictions and guidelines are intended to keep us all safe. We ask that you observe them. Failure to comply with city directives/orders and club guidelines may force the board to suspend access to all club facilities.

Del Mesa

Began bowling 5/6/2020

We have received permission from Monterey County to resume play with these guidelines:

1. Bowling will be available any day of the week.
2. Masks are required at all times. Social distancing will be maintained at all times.
3. Players will store bowls at home or in their cars. No access to the shed will be allowed. Members may pick up bowls from a key holder when playing for the first time.
4. Starting times will be 1:00 and 3:00 every afternoon. A maximum of 12 players on three rinks, three doubles, but no triples or cut throat. Playing will be first come first serve. If the roster is filled when you arrive at 1:00, you may arrange to play at 3:00.
5. Mick will set out 6 mats and 6 jacks. Tabs will be in place. Do not remove.
6. Scoring will be by end only. No score cards.
7. Play will be for 12 ends or 90 minutes, whichever comes first.
8. Skips and leads will maintain 6 feet social distancing at all times.
9. Spectators will use only the benches perpendicular to the direction of play. One person per bench unless sharing with a family member.
10. No social hour or any gathering, of any kind, at any time, on the patio or near the green. The 6 foot rule is in effect at all times.
11. This is a two week trial. We will review and evaluate at that time. We have been given authority to self-police. Our ability to continue to play our beloved sport depends upon **all** of us following these rules of play at this time.

Fresno

Leisure Town

- Only Bowl on Every Other Lane (i.e. 1-Blue, 3-Blue, or 2-Red, 4-Red, etc...)
 - When Bowling – Maintain 6’ Distance between others
 - Disinfect the Rakes – Before and After each Game
 - Use a Towel when using the Rake
 - Use Feet (duck shuffle) when gathering bowls
 - Use Towel when picking up the Jack
 - When Measuring for Points, Maintain Social Distancing as much as possible.
We are not bowling for money or a tournament, so close inspection – measuring, by two should not be that necessary.
 - When Changing Ends – Maintain Social Distance between others. Skips come down the Left Side, the Leads/Vices go up the Right Side...
 - Limit Teams to 2 Only (Lead & Skip)?
 - Bring and Use a Face Mask when necessary
 - Clean Bowls, and Wash Hands after Bowling
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Oakland

Due to Alameda County Health Officer Order and the City of Oakland new restrictions on park use, particularly in regard to Lakeside Park, no bowling is permitted. Further updates from local government officials are expected June 1.

The clubhouse remains closed but members may enter if needed. Cleaning supplies are in the equipment shed and in the kitchen for use to wipe down equipment, tables, chairs and other fixtures.

Masks must be worn and members must adhere to social distancing.

Palo Alto

Rossmoor

Key Points:

Mat House

Mat House remains CLOSED - no socializing- no entry to main room.

Locker Room Open - Tuesday May 5, 7:30 - 10:30 am

The locker room will be open for one-person at a time equipment retrieval. Frankie will monitor the one-person rule. If more people are willing to serve as monitors contact Frankie so he can schedule you to keep the locker room longer - frankie_alvaro@yahoo.com.

If no monitor is at the door the locker room is off-limits to everyone.

Bowls

Bowls/equipment will be taken home for future use and not returned to locker room.

LAWN BOWLING RULES Effective 5/5/2020

1. Must adhere to social distancing of 6' at all times.
2. Masks must be worn at all times during games.
3. If sick or exposed to Covid-19, stay home.
4. Use Hand sanitizer stations and/or wash hands for 20 seconds frequently.
5. Practice alone, singles, or pairs games only.
6. Rakes will not be used... mats to be handled (& therefore set), by 1 person only to be determined prior to play... if the other team 'has the mat', the designated mat handler will place it where instructed.
7. Take advantage of rinks which promote maximum social distancing & be aware of the order of green use - that will remain posted outside the Mat House.
8. The Mat House and Locker Room will remain closed at all times.
9. Disinfect bowls between matches.
10. No gatherings before or after matches.

11. No sharing of club or personal equipment.

12. No tournaments, lessons, or club draws.

13. No handshakes or physical contact.

San Francisco

Passed first week of March 2020. Seeking to gain approval for reopening from SF Public Health and Rec-Parks departments before opening for play

1. General Protocols

1.1 Until further notice, clubhouse and greens are for members only. No guests, family members, pets or public permitted at club facilities, except for areas outside fences beyond Club control (where masks and social distancing is encouraged).

1.2 Before any member or visitor initially uses the clubhouse and/or greens after re-opening, he/she must sign our "COVID-19 AND OTHER COMMUNICABLE DISEASE AGREEMENT, RELEASE AND WAIVER."

1.3 No one may bowl if they have a persistent cough, fever or other COVID-19 symptom, or if a member of their household exhibits such symptoms.

1.4 Bowlers must stay away if too risky given his or her underlying conditions and are advised to seek a physician's advice as to the risks/rewards of bowling.

1.5 All bowlers must sign the Daily Attendance Log each day they bowl. The Log will be made available either at the entrance to the green of play or in the clubhouse.

1.6 Each bowler must self-identify and give notice to the Club Assistant Secretary as soon as possible if he/she or a member of their household is determined to be infected by COVID-19 or experiences a high-fever. The Club will attempt to notify each person who signed in on the Daily Attendance Log on any day the infected member also signed the Log. In that notice, the Club will not identify the member at issue. The Club will rely solely on the Log for giving notice. However, privacy of any infected person is not assured.

1.7 All bowlers must maintain minimum 6 foot social distancing in compliance with applicable governmental Orders.

1.8 Face coverings (bandanas or masks) must be worn before entering and while in the clubhouse and on the greens at all times.

1.9 Any member or bowler who fails to comply with these Protocols and/or applicable governmental Order (say, by not keeping their mask on when these rules or governmental Order require) is subject to suspension from play, or suspension or expulsion from the Club.

1.10 Each bowler must supply their own personal supplies when at the Club: masks, wipes, sanitizer, gloves, clean towels, pencils, scorecards, etc. The Club will attempt to supply hand sanitizers, disinfecting wipes and/or disinfecting spray, but cannot guarantee being able to do so. Each bowler is responsible for their own sanitizers and disinfectants and should not rely on the Club to do so.

1.11 Each bowler must sanitize their bowls and other equipment after each game.

1.12 No lessons will be given to non-members until further notice.

1.13 Prominent signs with these protocols will be placed by the entrances to each green and clubhouse.

2. Clubhouse

2.1 Limit use of the clubhouse to the extent possible. Try not to use the restrooms or change clothes in the clubhouse. If practical, bring bowls and other equipment with you each day.

2.2 Maximum time in clubhouse: 10 minutes (except as authorized).

2.3 Maximum of 3 people in men's clubhouse and 2 people in women's at any time, with minimum 6 foot spacing.

2.4 Maximum of 1 person in either restroom. Wash or sanitize hands before and after each use.

2.5 No congregating, meeting, eating, food prep or phone calls in the clubhouse or exchange of money.

2.6 The less touching of clubhouse doorknobs, sink handles, surfaces, the better for you and for others.

2.7 Chips will not be used until further notice.

2.8 Wash hands frequently with soap and water or use a good sanitizer, especially each time you enter or leave the clubhouse or use the bathroom. Avoid contact with face and face covering at all times.

BOD appr'd 5/6/2020

2.9 No use of kitchen, kitchen appliances, refrigerator and tables. Except for 2 chairs in each clubhouse, chairs shall remain folded and not used.

2.10 Bulletin board/wall materials should be handled only by authorized members.

3. Greens (see graphic for social distancing scenarios)

3.1 Singles and pairs games, and individual practice only.

3.2 Face coverings required at all times while on the greens.

3.3 Maximum of 16 players on any green at any time. Additional members may be on benches away from games, safely distanced, with face coverings.

3.4 Maximum of 4 rinks per green, with vacant rinks in between.

3.5 Maximum of 4 players per rink and maximum of 2 players at end of each rink.

3.6 There will be no draws and pairings may not be made in the Clubhouse. It is recommended that upon arrival, the bowler proceed to the farthest rink which has an open spot for play.

3.7 Bowling will be "first come, first served" until further notice. Should all available rinks be full, a 10 end/2 hour limit shall be followed, to allow waiting bowlers to take over a rink and start play after bowlers have played 10 ends or for 2 hours, whichever is earlier.

3.8 If necessary, a system will be created for reserving times for play.

3.9 No congregating around head. Only one player may measure at a time. Maintain social distancing when observing a measure.

3.10 Use a second (overflow) green if needed and then only if OK'd by Tory, Nick, greens committee member (Bill, Al, Sebastian, Mike) or Club President.

3.11 Every player handles and sanitizes their own bowls, measures, towels, chalk, etc.

3.12 No sharing of bowls, jacks or mats. City and County Order prohibits recreation that that uses shared equipment.

3.12.1 Rakes –Only one person may use a rake at each end. No sharing of rakes between rinks. Sanitize the handle of each rake before and after use of a rink.

3.12.2 Jacks – Each bowler uses his/her own jack.

3.12.3 Mats: one person places one mat at one end, and one person places a mat at the other end. In pairs games, the lead grabs the narrow end of the mat to set it, and the skip grabs the long end to remove it. When the opposing player/team won the last end, the mat shall be placed where the winning team/player directs it be set.

4. Rink Set Up/Tear Down

4.1 Handlers for Club equipment must be designated each day of play (keys, markers/tray/daily log, signs, flyers, etc.)

4.2 Each rink sets up and tears down its own rink with mats, markers, and if desired, rakes. If bowlers are waiting for a rink, do not tear down the rink. Use disposable gloves if possible, and wash or disinfect hands after each set up and tear down. Face coverings are required when setting up and tearing down.

5. Release/Waiver and Daily Attendance Log

5.1 All members must sign the “COVID-19 and Other Communicable Disease Agreement, Release & Waiver” upon their first visit to the Club after it reopens, and the Daily Attendance Log each visit thereafter, using their own pen or pencil.

5.2 A file of signed Agreements and Daily Attendance Logs will be kept by the Assistant Secretary.

San Jose

Sunnyvale

Santa Clara