

HOW TO PLAY THE GREAT GAME OF BOWLS

1. A normal club game consists of 12 ends and lasts (more than one hour)
2. It's a lot like curling on grass, only MUCH WARMER (and many often say more challenging) Others tell us it is a cross between billiards and curling.
3. Bowls are heavier on one side than on the other, so they "curl" or "bend" towards the side called the 'bias'. A set of Bowls consists of 4 identical bowls. They come in several sizes. Choices are to fit the player's hand and bias choice depends on green condition.
4. The amount of curl depends on the speed of the green and can range from as little as 30 cm (on a very soft green) to as much as 6 m on a hard fast green.
5. Games can be played with 1-4 players per team. *singles & pairs each player plays 4 bowls
*triples each player plays 3 bowls * in fours each player plays 2 bowls
6. The first player (Lead) chooses the position of the mat on the centerline of the rink and rolls a 3" white ball (called a 'jack' or 'kitty') towards the opposite end of the green to be the target.
7. Provided the Jack is bowled far enough (23m) and remains in play, it is centered on the green and the same player then rolls a bowl from the mat, trying to stop it as near as possible to the jack.
8. Players take turns, by position, delivering their bowls until all the bowls have been played.
9. A Bowl is permitted to strike and move the jack or to knock it out of play.
10. A Bowl (during it's original course) that strikes a Jack becomes a "TOUCHER".
11. A Jack or a toucher that goes into the end ditch is LIVE provided it stays in bounds.
12. A Bowl is permitted to strike and move other bowls or to knock them out of play.
13. The team whose bowl is nearest the jack counts one point for each bowl they have nearer than their opponent's best bowl.
14. The team who scored last delivers the jack and bowls first on the next end.
15. If a bowl or a jack is displaced by a player the skip of the opposing team shall restore it as near as possible to its former position.
16. If a bowl falls prior to or during measuring, the bowl shall remain in new position.

FYI : *** Crown bowling is a more informal variation of the on greens game .

*** Short Mat bowling is an indoor version. Played on a mat about 6 ft by 40 ft long

*** A bowling green is 37-40 metres square. The green is divided into rinks which are not less than 5.5 m nor more than 5.8 m wide. This allows several games to be played on separate rinks at one time.

*** There are several good videos on UTUBE about learning to Lawn Bowl