



POLICY TITLE: GREENS PROTECTION POLICY

RELATED POLICIES: BA Greens Protection Policy 2020

RESPONSIBLE OFFICERS: Greens Director and Club Coaches

AUTHORITY: Management Committee

APPROVED: 9 / 6 / 2024

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GREENS PROTECTION POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Our greens are valuable Club assets and need to be protected from short- or long-term damage. The major risk comes from bowls that are dropped from the bank or are dumped during delivery from a height that results in dents in the green surface.
- 1.2 This policy has been introduced to protect our playing surfaces from heavy impact from bowls being dumped on the greens. Besides damaging our surfaces, a dumped delivery can also detract from a bowler's performance.
- 1.3 This policy is not intended to penalise players but is a genuine attempt to minimise green damage.

2. DEFINITION – DUMPED OR DROPPED BOWL

- 2.1 In this policy, ***Dumped or Dropped Bowls*** are bowls that are repeatedly dumped or dropped, in the delivery, from a height of more than 15cm and which are considered to have the potential to cause damage to the green. Bowls dumped or dropped from a height lower than 15cm and delivered in such a way that may cause damage to the green are also subject to this policy.
- 2.2 Dumping also includes the act of dropping a bowl on the green so as to leave a depression on the playing surface, either when unloading a bowls bag onto the green without due care or dropping bowls after cleaning or polishing.
- 2.3 The Management Committee acknowledges that Club Coaches are the appropriate persons to determine when bowls are being dumped or dropped from a height that may cause damage to the greens.

3. PROCEDURE

- 3.1 Where a bowler is identified by club coaches to be responsible for dumping or dropping bowls in his/her delivery, the following procedure is to be followed.
 - 3.1.1 The club coach will counsel the bowler that his/her bowls delivery might cause damage to the green and the bowler should seek further advice or assistance to correct their delivery.
 - 3.1.2 These members will be expected to seek coaching assistance to correct their delivery as soon as possible.
 - 3.1.3 Coaches can assist players who are considered to be dumping by:
 - Explaining why dumping is not acceptable;
 - Attempting to understand how or why the player is dumping the bowls;
 - Provide some coaching advice;

- Help the player modify their delivery;
- If necessary and appropriate, introduce the bowler to the use of a Bowlers Arm.

3.2 When the Coach believes the player has modified their delivery and are no longer considered to be dumping, they are responsible for advising the Management Committee of the outcome.

3.3 Where a bowler is identified by club coaches to be responsible for dumping or dropping bowls when unloading a bowls bag onto the green without due care or dropping bowls after cleaning or polishing, the following procedure is to be followed.

3.3.1 The club coach will counsel the bowler that dropping bowls onto the green might cause damage to the green and the bowler should take extra care not to drop the bowl.

3.4 A bowler refusing help as set out above may be denied access to the greens until the problem has been rectified.

4. MANAGING POLICY COMPLIANCE

4.1 All Club Members, visiting bowlers, and social players utilising the greens are subject to the requirements of this policy.

4.2 Those managing this policy are asked to adopt a sympathetic common-sense approach when called upon to adjudicate.

4.3 Seeking a solution to the issue is of most importance.

4.4 Our intention is to strive to keep all members on the green.
