



# The Kitchener Lawn Bowling Club

Since 1902

## Members' Code of Etiquette: 2012 edition

### General Etiquette:

- ★ Enjoy the game for its own pleasure! Every one of us comes to the club for the same reason: an enjoyable evening of fun, friendly competition, exercise and relaxation.
- ★ Be proactive in correcting situations such as missing towels in the washrooms, dandelions in the cracks of the sidewalks, dirty benches, etc. If possible, please correct the situation yourself if you spot something that is out-of-order.
- ★ The Club's Executive Committee appreciates suggestions for improvements and new ideas. Working together, we can maintain an excellent clubhouse and green.
- ★ Let's avoid any perception by new members that there are cliques in the club (there aren't, but it is always easy to give that impression). At the breaks, sit with new members and help them to join in all of the fun.

★ **How we are perceived by guests from other clubs is very important. We want the Kitchener Lawn Bowling Club to be known for the courtesy of its members and the friendliness and sportsmanship we show to everyone before, during and after all games and events. And our attitude and cooperation are equally as important when we are visitors at other clubs.**

### Pre-jitney activities:

- ★ Please arrive at the club on jitney nights no later than 6:45 p.m. if possible. We want to start playing precisely at 7 p.m., not let it "drift" for 10 or 15 minutes.
- ★ Sign in with the jitney draw master as soon as you arrive.
- ★ If you arrive after 7 p.m., you may have to wait until the second game of the evening (if one is scheduled to be played) to join the jitney. Don't expect the draw master to reset the draw to accommodate late arrivals.
- ★ When you arrive, help put out the mats, equipment and, if necessary, pick debris off the green.

### Jitney procedures:

- ★ **We draw tokens before each jitney game to randomly distribute players and give everyone a chance to play with and against each other. It is unfair and unsportsmanlike to look at tokens before you draw them from the bags or influence other people on which token to draw. If you want to bowl with a specific person, sign up for a tournament or bowl outside of the jitney draw.**
- ★ Again in 2012, the jitney draw master will make every attempt to ensure that all players have a chance to skip, vice and lead including youth and new members.
- ★ Please cooperatively play the position that has been assigned to you by the draw master. We may try some alternative game formats during the 2012 season.
- ★ If you don't want to bowl a second game of a jitney, let the draw master know so the draw can be adjusted and remove your nametag from the scoreboard. Don't leave everyone wondering where you are and create confusion for the second draw by going home unannounced.
- ★ After jitney games, make sure your score is entered on your slip of paper. Don't expect the draw master to go looking for your score.
- ★ Help put equipment away at the end of the jitney.

### Game Play:

- ★ **In jitneys, skips will ensure that the jack is set at a length that is fair to all players on both teams. Remember, some players have trouble bowling longer ends. Please compromise on the position of the jack so that everyone has an equal change of reaching it without risk of injury.**

- ★ Pay attention to the game. Nothing is more frustrating to your teammates than to have them feel that you are not giving your full attention and best efforts to the game by your lack of concentration.
- ★ Before starting a game, know your teammates and their bowls. This keeps the game flowing.
- ★ Don't drop your bowls on the green. Don't let your bowl cause scuff marks or otherwise damage the green. "Dumping" affects everyone and seriously compromises the integrity of our biggest asset, the green. **Please make every effort to ROLL the bowl, not bounce it!**
- ★ Be quiet when another person is bowling. Keep back from the bowler's peripheral view. Stay behind the mat until it is your turn.
- ★ Be ready to bowl. Clean your bowls when your opponent is bowling.
- ★ Do not walk in front of the player who just bowled — they have the right to see how their bowl progresses.
- ★ When at the head end, keep still when a person at the other end is delivering a bowl.
- ★ Do not walk around talking to bowlers participating in other games; allow them to concentrate on their own game.
- ★ **Do not move or remove any bowl until the score has been agreed by both vices.**
- ★ Walk quickly when changing ends and walk in the middle of the green on which you are playing. Leads and vices should walk together to the other end.
- ★ Do not walk across other greens during games.
- ★ Bowlers not raking bowls should assist by kicking the bowls together to facilitate raking.
- ★ Take your turn raking. Or, if your opponent is having difficulty, volunteer to do all of the raking.
- ★ Be aware of your shadow – night and day. Keep it off the jack.
- ★ A player about to deliver a "runner" should warn the players at the head who should stand well back for safety purposes.
- ★ It is the skip's job to direct the play. Other players should play the shot directed by the skip even if they don't agree with it. **Always pay your skip the respect of waiting for his or her decision. Wait for the skip's instructions!**
- ★ Skips: let the vices measure and determine the score. Stay at your own end unless you are asked to help.
- ★ Always show good sportsmanship by acknowledging a display of good skill by another bowler.
- ★ Do not criticize someone else's shot or their bowling either from your own or the other team. Help less experienced bowlers with positive suggestions on how they can improve.
- ★ Whether you win or lose, always shake hands with opponents and thank them for the game.
- ★ To keep the game moving a dead end will result in one point to the opposing team.

#### Miscellaneous:

- ★ Benches are for people, not bowling cases. Free up the seats for those who need them.
- ★ Keep cases (and rakes) back from the edge of the green. Prevent accidents.
- ★ When there is an overwhelming lead, it is courtesy not to "run" the score.
- ★ Turn your mobile phone off when on the green.
- ★ **The first time out for new people is extremely important – for them and for us! They will decide to come back again largely based on their reception by members and how they feel they would be able to fit in as much as whether or not the actual game appeals to them. Go out of your way to introduce yourself, show them around the clubhouse, explain what's happening and be friendly and welcoming.**
- ★ Don't complain about the condition of the green or clubhouse. It takes work and money to make it as good as it is. We all share the same bowling conditions.
- ★ **Respect all people who come out to play AND RESPECT THE GREEN!**
- ★ **Remember: we are all here to help each other become more accomplished bowlers and better sports. Etiquette is a big part of the game!**

The KLBC Executive Committee requests that all members practice and communicate the 2012 Members' Code of Etiquette. Thanks!

**At the Kitchener Lawn Bowling Club,  
we are graceful losers and modest winners.**