

Dear Club Member

Following the Government's recent decision to remove all legal requirements to impose Covid restrictions, Bowls England have issued the following advice to Bowls Clubs.

From 19th July, Clubs are not required to enforce any COVID restrictions by law. We are recommending, however, that Government guidance on mask wearing indoors is still adhered to by our Clubs, and that all Clubs continue to utilise the NHS COVID app to ensure the spread of the virus is limited.

We are sure that the bowls community will respect people's personal choices regarding masks, social distancing and their own well-being.

It is now up to individuals to make their own judgement as to what precautionary measures they take but whilst making these decisions please bear the following points in mind.

- Having been vaccinated only reduces the likelihood of catching the disease and its severity. It does not provide immunity and without having symptoms, yourself, you can still spread the virus to others.
- Bowls Clubs contain a disproportionate number of elderly and vulnerable members and their protection should be a paramount consideration for all.
- The number of Covid infections in our area is at a high level, compared to when lockdown measures were in force and accordingly members should still be on their guard.
- It is strongly recommended that good hygiene practices continue to be followed namely, sanitisation of hands, sterilisation of equipment before and after use and not handling other players bowls equipment.
- Be aware that social interaction, particularly inside is the primary route by which the virus is transmitted and this is best minimised by avoiding large groups and wearing a face covering.
- There is no lesser risk of catching or spreading the virus within the confines of a Bowls Club compared to similar external environments.

Act sensibly, Keep Safe and continue to enjoy your bowling