

West End Bowls Club – Code of Conduct

West End Bowls Club (WEBC) exists to promote, foster and encourage the game of lawn green bowls. It is a friendly neighbourhood club, run by its members for the benefit of members and the local community. Members share responsibility for the running, maintenance and upkeep of the club. This includes commitment to ensuring a safe environment for everyone who uses the club.

Members are required to act in accordance with the Constitution, Rules and Key Policies of the club. The key policies are:

- Equity
- Health & Safety
- Fire Safety
- First Aid
- Safeguarding - Vulnerable Adults
- Safeguarding – Children and Young People
- Anti-Bullying (Including Misuse of Social Media)
- Data Protection
- Use of Members' Personal Information and Images

These are posted on the website and in the clubhouse. Any changes in the constitution are decided by members at the Annual General Meeting or a Special General Meeting. Changes to the rules and adoption of new policies are decided by the Committee. It is the member's responsibility to keep up to date with changes. Members who cannot access the web site are invited to request hard copies from a committee member.

Members are expected to demonstrate high standards of behaviour, both on and off the green, and to promote an atmosphere of courtesy, sportsmanship and tolerance whilst adhering to the etiquette of bowls at all times. It is unacceptable to use foul, sexist, abusive, racist or prejudicial language or to tolerate it from anyone else.

Members are expected to respect the work of officials and volunteers within the club and support them in carrying it out. This includes helping prepare for functions and clearing up afterwards, being punctual and adhering to the dress code. Members must advise the captain in good time if they have to withdraw from a game for which they have been selected and should not do so without a valid reason.

Members are expected to promote a positive image of the club and of the sport of bowls in general and not engage in communications or behaviour likely to bring the club into disrepute. Any member dissatisfied with the general running of the club or committee decision should approach the committee about it and not air a grievance to unauthorised people or organisations. (*Note: Bowls England is the governing body of the sport and members are entitled to bring serious matters to its attention as indicated in the club rules*).

Members are required to respect the privacy of individual members and of the club itself. Any member who has a grievance with another member should approach a committee member or club welfare officer about it rather than airing it on social media or in public. Officers of the club may assist the members concerned in seeking an informal resolution of the matter.

Members found to be in breach of the key policies of the club, will, in the first instance, be warned verbally, or in writing, by the Committee. Further breaches will lead to the members being called before the committee to explain their actions and may lead to disciplinary action.

Serious breaches of the rules of the game or complaints of serious misconduct will be dealt with under Bowls England Regulation: No 9 and a Club Disciplinary Committee appointed accordingly.

Any incident that potentially threatens the safety of a child, young person or vulnerable adult will be dealt in accordance with the Safeguarding Policies.

On joining WEBC and on renewing their membership, all members agree to abide by the Code of Conduct as detailed above.

