

WORCESTER BOWLING CLUB HEALTH AND SAFETY

Worcester Bowling Club has a health and safety policy that identifies the approach to reducing the risk of hazards to its members.

Accident and Hazard Reporting

Club members are encouraged to report hazards to the Club Management Committee. Examples of such hazards could be uneven or slippery surfaces or sharp edges. Accidents must be recorded by the Club Captain, Club Secretary or the person injured in the Club accident book which is located in the first aid box which is on the wall in the main clubhouse.

The Club cannot necessarily from its own membership expect to have trained first aiders on hand. It provides, however, a first aid box which is regularly checked.

Worcester Bowling Club has a defibrillator which is kept in the club office, but will be put for easy access for every home game. The Club Captain will inform our opposing teams that we have a defibrillator on the premises before every home match. Quite a few members are trained to use the defibrillator and it is checked on a regular basis.

Emergency evacuation

In the event of an emergency evacuation from Worcester Bowling Club members and visitors should congregate outside the Club main gate. They should wait there until advised to return by the fire brigade. Fire fighting equipment is checked annually by Chubb this includes the fire extinguishers and the fire blanket kept in the kitchen. We have three fire extinguishers, one in main club room one in the office and one in the kitchen. There is a fire risk assessment book which is completed on a regular basis kept in the club office

Annual P.A.T. Testing of Portable Electrical Equipment

All portable electrical equipment is checked every three years by a qualified electrician.

Food Safety

Kitchen facilities are maintained to a high standard and meet legal requirements. Members are aware of food hygiene requirements. Catering is under the control of a holder of a food hygiene certificate.

Chemical Hazards

Members are advised by signs when hazardous chemicals are used by the greenkeeper. Whenever chemicals have been applied to the green, a sign will be put by the main entrance door advising members to wash their hands before eating after playing when chemicals have recently been applied to the green.

Manual Handling

Members are advised to take care when lifting bowling equipment.

Slips and Trips

The Club is aware that bowling takes place on grass that can become slippery in wet conditions. Mats are provided and must be used when delivering bowls. In the event of heavy rain and the green is very wet there are protective ground sheets in the mat room which should be put on green.

Members must make a judgement about the safety of the green when bowling and the Club Captain should be advised if the members should consider bowling to be unsafe.

The Club Captain can decide whether the game should be abandoned due to bad weather or extreme heat. There is a removable step to help not so able bodied members to step onto the green. We also have a small ramp to assist members bringing in their bowls bags through the main front door door. We also have a ramp for the front door for wheelchair access.

Safeguarding

The Club has a safeguarding Officer who has received appropriate training for this role. The Safeguarding Officer should safeguard the welfare of children and at risk adults who participate in the Clubs activities. All allegations should be promptly investigated in confidence by the Safeguarding Officer. Safeguarding procedure documents, child protection policy documents and guidelines for disability aids and disabled bowlers are kept in a file in the office for information.

Insurance

The Club holds Public Liability Insurance and Employers Liability Insurance up to the value of 10 million.. Further fees are payable if the Club wishes to organise an open tournament. A copy of our current insurance certificate is kept on the club noticeboard and other relevant documentation is kept in a file in the office.

Covid 19

For the duration of the Covid 19 pandemic, revised bowling procedures have been put in place to reduce the risks to members when playing bowls. Players are required to sanitise all equipment prior to playing and do the same when returning the equipment to the mat room. There are many hand sanitizer stations around the green and members are advised to use this regularly.

During the open season the club is deep cleaned by the club cleaner and there are signs advising members safety around the premises.

The Club has a track and trace app and also a track and trace book. Players are encouraged to use both these and confirm that they are well and not showing any signs of Covid 19 or self-isolating. These procedures will be kept under constant review and will be updated when circumstances change.

Volunteers running sports clubs

Health and safety law does not generally apply to volunteers running a club with no employees unless the club has responsibility for premises like a clubhouse or playing fields or in our case a bowling green.

Anyone including volunteers with premises like a clubhouse or playing fields has a duty to see that the premises, access to them and sports equipment and substances are safe for the persons using them so far as this is reasonably practicable. This is at WBC a shared duty between the management committee.

The extent of a clubs legal duty will depend on the level of control over the premises and type of substances provided. As we own our premises we are expected to keep the premises and any sports equipment in good repair.

At the first committee meeting after the club AGM various committees are set up to cover the season, the greens committee, site committee and premises committee. These members check regularly that the green, site and premises are fit for use by our members.