

West Point Grey Lawn Bowling and Croquet Club (The “Club”)

Code of Conduct and Member Protection Policy

Introduction

The Club is committed to creating a supportive, enjoyable environment where everyone feels respected, safe and valued. This policy seeks to ensure that everyone is aware of their rights and responsibilities and sets out the standards of behaviour expected of those involved in the Club and the behaviours that are not acceptable. Adherence to this code is essential for fostering sportsmanship, respect, and the integrity of the sports of lawn bowling and croquet. All members and visitors are expected to abide by this code to ensure a positive experience for all both on and off the greens. *Members are responsible for the conduct of their guests.*

General Conduct

1. ****Respect and Fair Play****: All members and visitors are expected to demonstrate respect and fair play towards fellow players, officials, and spectators. Adhering to the spirit of the game is as important as following the rules.
2. ****Integrity****: Honesty and fair play is fundamental. Cheating, manipulation of equipment, or any form of dishonesty or behavior that is not in keeping with the spirit of the game is strictly prohibited.
3. ****Compliance with the Rules****: All lawn bowling play must be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations as set by Bowls Canada and Bowls BC and all croquet play must be conducted in accordance with the rules and regulations set out by the World Croquet Federation and Croquet Canada.
4. ****Dress Code****: Members and their guests must wear appropriate attire as specified by the Club's dress guidelines noted on the Club website.

Lawn Bowling and Croquet Etiquette

1. ****Quiet and Considerate****: Players should remain quiet and still while others are preparing to bowl. Do not distract or disturb croquet players during their turn.
2. ****Respect the Green/Court and Equipment****: Avoid running on the green and repair any damage caused by play. Handle equipment with care.
3. ****Courtesy****: Always acknowledge good play from opponents, maintain a positive attitude and thank your opponents after the game, win or lose.
4. ****Timeliness****: Be punctual for games. Lawn bowlers should inform a team member or the club in advance if they are unable to get a spare for a scheduled game. Croquet players

should remove their name from the sign-up sheet in advance if unable to play a scheduled game.

Member Protection Policy

1. ****TOLERANCE****: Any form of harassment, bullying, or discrimination, including but not limited to race, gender, sexual orientation, disability, or religion is UNACCEPTABLE. For greater clarity, the Club has adopted and incorporated into this Code of Conduct, definitions (see **Appendix A**) modeled after the Code of Conduct and Ethics of Bowls Canada.
2. ****PRIVACY****. A member must not use member information to contact another member for any purpose not related to club activities, without the explicit consent of the other member.
3. ****REPORT****: Any incidents of harassment, bullying or discrimination should be reported to club officials immediately. Appropriate action will be taken.

Reporting Matters of Concern To report an incident or possible breach of the Club's Code of Conduct, please contact the Club Vice-President or another Board member.

Conclusion

By agreeing and adhering to this Code, our members can ensure that our Club provides a welcoming, pleasant and safe, supportive space for everyone. This code is a living document and may be updated as necessary to reflect the evolving standards and values of our Club.

Links

The Club is a registered member of the Vancouver and District Bowls Association (V&D) which is in turn a member of Bowls BC, Bowls Canada and World Bowls. As a condition of membership in Bowls Canada, V&D has adopted their Code of Conduct and Ethics. Links to relevant documents are provided below; Club members are encouraged to read them.

1. <https://bowlscanada.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/BCB-Statement-on-Safe-Sport-January-2023.pdf> *Bowls Canada – Statement on Safe Sport*
2. <https://bowlscanada.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/BCB-Code-of-Conduct-January-2023.pdf> *Bowls Canada – Code of Conduct and Ethics*
3. <http://bowlsbc.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/2021-complaints-discipline.pdf> *Bowls BC Complaints and Discipline policy*
4. <https://flagtool.viasport.ca/#> *Complaints decision-making tool*
5. <https://sportintegritycommissioner.ca/files/UCCMS-v6.0-20220531.pdf> *Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport*

Appendix A – Definitions

The following terms have these meanings in the Club's Code of Conduct:

Bullying – Offensive behavior and/or abusive treatment of a Club member or visitor to the Club that typically, but not always, involves an abuse of power.

Discrimination – Differential treatment of an individual based on one or more prohibited ground which include race, citizenship, national or ethnic origin, colour, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, family status, genetic characteristics, or disability.

Harassment – A vexatious comment (or comments) or conduct against a Club member, a visitor to the Club, or a group, regardless of whether the comment or conduct occurs in person or via any other media, including social media, which is known or ought to reasonably be known to be unwelcome.

Types of behavior that constitute Harassment include, but are not limited to:

- i) Written or verbal abuse, threats or outbursts;
- ii) Persistent unwelcome remarks, jokes, comments, innuendo, or taunts;
- iii) Racial slurs, jokes, name calling, or insulting behavior or terminology that reinforces stereotypes or discounts abilities because of racial or ethnic origin;
- iv) Leering or other suggestive or obscene gestures;
- v) Condescending or patronizing behavior which is intended to undermine self-esteem, diminish performance or adversely affect enjoyment of club activities;
- vi) Unwanted physical contact including, but not limited to, touching, petting, pinching, or kissing;
- vii) Deliberately excluding or socially isolating a person from a group or team;
- viii) Persistent unwelcome sexual flirtations, advances, requests, or invitations;
- ix) Physical or sexual assault;
- x) Behaviors such as those described above that are not directed towards a specific person or group but have the same effect of creating a negative or hostile environment;
- xi)** Retaliation or threats of retaliation against a person who reports harassment to the Club.