



CATERHAM BOWLING CLUB

RULES AND BYE-LAWS

30th September 2026

Section 1: Club Rules

Guests in the Club

Members shall enter the names of all guests in the Visitor's Book. Not more than three guests may be introduced in any one day and the same guest may not be introduced more than six times in any calendar year.

Damage to Club property

A member shall not knowingly remove, injure, destroy or damage any property of the Club and shall make restitution for the same if called upon to do so by the Committee or by the Secretary upon the instructions of the Committee.

Exhibiting of notices

A member shall not cause any communication in whatever form to be exhibited on Club notice boards or premises without prior written permission of the Secretary.

Bar Opening Times

The Bar will be open at the discretion of the Bar Manager.

Settlement of Accounts

A member shall settle any indebtedness for refreshment or otherwise before leaving the Club premises, or in accordance with any bye-law relating to the settlement of such indebtedness.

Suggestions

All suggestions should be submitted via the Suggestion Box on the website.

Forum

For discussion of club matters but must not be used for personal attacks on other members.

Bye-laws

Consistent with paragraph 4.3.2 of the Club Constitution, the Officers of the club may adopt such Bye-laws as it considers appropriate for the good management of the Club and its facilities.

Section 2: Bye-Laws

1. Hours of Play

When permitted by the Green Keeper or the Committee, members shall be permitted to use the Green from 11am until dusk on weekdays and from 10am until 6pm on Saturdays and Sundays. The Committee reserve the right to amend or alter these times as appropriate in the best interests of the Club.

2. Conditions of Play

Only those rinks open for play shall be used. The Green Keeper, a member of his team, or any available member of the Committee, shall have authority to decide:

- a.** whether or not the Green is fit for play;
- b.** whether or not particular rinks are fit for play;
- c.** when sheets for the protection of the Green shall be used.

Those officials mentioned above shall have authority to exclude from the Green any player who, in their opinion, is causing damage to the Green.

3. Reservation of Rinks

Rinks may be reserved by making the appropriate entry on the computer, together with details of the nature of the game for which the rink is booked. Every effort should be made to ensure that games commence at the allotted time. If booking for a game that is likely to take more than 2 hours a second period should be booked. If a competition game should overrun its booked time on the rink it shall be permitted to continue to a conclusion unless the next booking on that rink is for a higher priority game (see list of priorities below). Any dispute relating to bookings shall be referred to the Men's or Ladies' Captain (or in their absence a member of the Committee) and their decision shall be final.

The following order of priority for rink reservation must be observed:

- a.** Club matches.
- b.** National, Surrey County or Croydon Borough matches hosted by the Club.
- c.** National, Surrey County or Croydon Borough games (in that order of priority) where a Caterham member or members are drawn to play at home.
- d.** Formal coaching sessions.
- e.** Internal Competitions.
- f.** Casual play. N.B. For casual play a specific rink cannot be guaranteed.

Members are reminded that casual play is a social activity and every effort should be made to ensure that all those seeking to play are able to do so. As rinks accommodate up to 8 players, please allow others to play with you.

4. Club Equipment

All members of the Club shall be responsible for the return of Club equipment e.g. scoreboards, trolleys, bowls, markers, mats etc. to the proper storage place after use.

5. Dress

a. All players on the Green must wear flat-heeled rubber-soled shoes or regulation over slips. Shoes worn outside the Club premises must not be worn on the Green.

b. Dress for matches and all competitions, shall be "club colours" unless shown in the fixtures list as "opt" (optional).

c. For roll ups, multi coloured clothing may be worn but no jeans or tracksuit bottoms.

6. Competition Overview:

1. Entries for all competitions will close on 30th April each year.
2. All competitions will be a random draw by the Competition Secretary and at least one committee member.
3. In the Championship Singles and Open Championship Pairs, the winners and runners up from last season's finals will be seeded at the opposite side of the draw to avoid meeting in the early rounds.
4. The minimum number of entries for each competition must not be less than the number required to have at least a final.
5. The handicaps for each player will be determined by a panel of no less than 6 members including the Men's and Women's Captain, Competition Secretary and three experienced bowlers selected by the committee. The average of each person's assessment will be the individual's handicap for that season.
6. Once the draw is completed and published, it cannot be changed, other than to replace a player in pairs matches with a substitute.
7. The Men's and Women's Championship Singles Finals will be played on the Sunday afternoon. All other competitions will be played at a time selected by the Competition Secretary.
8. In the event that finals are postponed due to bad weather, the reserve finals day will be used. If players are not available to play on the reserve finals day, then that match may be played on a date agreed by the players in the same season. If one player is unable to play in the same season, then the match will be awarded to the opponent. If both players are unable to play in the same season, then the result is void.

7. Competition Entry Rules:

1. Club Affiliation:

If you are a member of another club and you represent that club in ESLM, ESLL or other external competitions, then you cannot enter CBC internal competitions. The only exception is if you have entered National Competitions with players from other clubs which Bowls England have agreed to. If you decide to play for another club after internal competitions have started, then you must withdraw from any remaining rounds.

2. Finals Weekend:

- a. If you are aware that you will be unable to play on finals weekend at competition entry stage, do not enter any competition.
- b. If you become aware that you will not be able to play on finals weekend during the season you must withdraw from that competition immediately, except in pairs matches.
- c. In pairs matches, one substitute may be used throughout the rounds and can be introduced at anytime including the finals.
- d. If a substitute is used, the person must not have already entered the same competition. In drawn competitions such as 2 Wood Drawn Pairs and Aussie Pairs, a substitute player must not have a larger handicap than the substituted player.

3. Playing Rules:

- a. All rules for bowls competitions, can be found in the "World Bowls Laws of the Sport" in the "Competition Description and Rules" section of the CBC website.
- b. "Local Rules" which have been applied by the committee to cover club competitions can also be found in "Competition Description and Rules".
- c. "World Bowls Laws of the Sport" apply to all competitions and matches unless a local rule has been applied by the committee.
- d. "Local Rules" may include such changes as, the number of ends to be played, eligible players, requirement for markers, or anything else the committee have introduced.

4 Arranging a Match:

- a. It is up to the challenger to arrange a match and find a marker.
- b. Unlike external competitions, the challenger may select the rink to be played on.
- c. Please arrange matches well in advance of the play by date, as missing a deadline may result in one or both players being eliminated from the competition.
- d. If a date to play on cannot be mutually agreed, the Competition Secretary will fix the date and time. Failure to play on this date may result in disqualification of one or both players from the competition.

5. Markers:

You do not need to find a marker if both players agree that you can place the jack. If one player does not agree to this option then the challenger must find a marker. If you choose the option not to use a marker, then the person who won the last end places the jack and mat. This does not apply in finals, where markers must be used.

All disputes should be referred to the Competition Secretary, who's decision is final.

8. Casual Play

Casual play is only permitted after 11am weekdays and 10am at weekends, as indicated in Bye-law 1 above and players may only use those rinks not previously reserved for matches or competitions. Members are reminded that casual play is a social activity and every effort should be made to ensure that all those seeking to play are able to do so.

9. Playing Visitors

1. Playing visitors who are members of clubs and associations which are affiliated to National or County Bowling Associations are deemed to be temporary members of Caterham Bowling Club on the occasions of inter-club matches, tournaments and competitions conducted under the auspices of such Associations.

2. Visiting social bowlers may be introduced by any Full Member of the Club for social play but must seek permission from an officer of the club before doing so and the introducer being responsible to ensure that:

- a. The visitor's name is properly entered in the Visitors' Book;
- b. The dress and conduct of the visitor conforms to Club standards;
- c. No individual is invited to play as a visitor on more than three occasions in any one season;
- d. Visitors do not purchase drinks from the Bar.

3. The officers of the club have the right to refuse a visitor, if they are a past member of the club who left by not paying their membership subscription by the due date, or did not advise the committee in writing of their intention to leave, or has been banned from being a member of a club for disciplinary reasons.

4. Non-bowling visitors may be introduced by any Full Member under the same conditions as paragraph (2) and (3) hereof.

10. New Bowlers

New bowlers who wish to try the sport must do so via an organised "new bowler session" with a coach, or come with a member who has been given permission by a committee member. Members can only bring a new bowler to the club on a maximum of 3 occasions, after which they will need to be assessed by an official coach before becoming a member.