

Mulgrave Bowling Club

2023 SESSION – INFORMATION for MEMBERS

mulgravebowlingclub.weebly.com

The Club also has a private group on Facebook. For access contact the Chair/Secretary.

- 1 Playing Times:** DAILY – 12 noon till 9.00pm (or dusk whichever is earlier)

First day of season: Saturday 8th April

Last day of the season: A date in September tbc
- 2 Pavilion Access:** Members will be given a key to gain access to the pavilion and the equipment store cupboard by the Treasurer on confirmation of membership approval.
- 3 Equipment for play** is stored in the pavilion in a locked cupboard in the Cricket Viewing Gallery. The pavilion key will open the equipment store cupboard. The keys and list to the lockers containing the Club's bowls are on the back of the equipment store cupboard door. Members are requested to keep the cupboard locked and return equipment to the store on finishing play.
- 4 Lockers** are available for storage of members' personal kit. Locker keys are available from the Treasurer at a charge of £5. The keys are to be returned and the locker vacated if membership is not renewed.
- 5 Club Notices** will be displayed on the notice board in the Cricket Viewing Gallery. It is important that members check the board to keep up with developments.
- 6 Refreshments:** Tea, coffee, sugar, cordial and biscuits are available for members in the club house kitchen, in the cupboard marked MULGRAVE BOWLING CLUB. Members will need to bring their own milk. Ad hoc donations to replenish the refreshments would be appreciated.
- 7 Caretaking:** The pavilion and grounds are cared for by the members of the associated clubs. Members are requested to leave the facilities in a clean and tidy condition. Offers to assist with green keeping duties are always welcomed.
- 8 Green Care:** **Only flat soled bowling shoes to be worn on the Green.**
The Green is susceptible to damage. In order to maintain as good a playing surface as possible, please endeavour to develop a bowling action to minimise the bounce of your bowl and avoid standing on the edges of the green.

- 9 Health and Safety:** please observe the warning notices on the green. The Bowling Green is adjacent to the cricket pitch and if a cricket match is in progress it is possible for an adult batsman to hit a ball onto the bowling green. Please note: you will hear a loud and clear warning from a fielder if a cricket ball is likely to land on the bowling green.
- 10 Dress Code:** Members representing our club in league matches are requested to wear grey below the waist and club shirts above. In friendly matches white tops can be worn instead of club shirts. At all other times the only requirement is that flat sole bowling shoes be worn.
- 11 Guests:** Members are free to bring guests along to play. Guests will be charged a fee of £2.50 per session. Please leave money at the pavilion in the cash box kept in the equipment store cupboard. There is no limit to the number of times that a guest is able to play. We always welcome new members and prospective members are welcome to play on the green on up to 3 occasions without charge before joining the club.
- 12 Coaching:** Members who wish to have assistance to improve their bowling skills should contact a member of the committee, and the committee member will arrange for another member with appropriate experience to assist. An excellent publication to introduce you to the game is 'Crowood Sports Guides, Bowls by John Bell' and if you are on the internet YouTube offers many videos on the game.
- 13 Rink Booking:** Inner rinks (not the two rinks at the edges of the green) will be reserved at the times of Club Competitions. All six rinks may be used at times of Club sessions on Tuesday afternoons from 2.00pm and Thursday evenings from 6.00pm. At all other times rinks are available on a first come first served basis. Members wishing to book rinks for private functions should make application to the committee at least one month before the date required. League matches are played on Monday afternoons, Wednesday afternoons and Wednesday evenings (see point 16) but not all rinks are used so other members are still able to play.
- 14 Etiquette of the game (or the unwritten laws of the game)**
1. Be conversant with the laws of the game and observe them (copy available on the notice board)
 2. Respect the decision of the umpire
 3. Be punctual for all games to commence play on time and come to each game attired correctly
 4. Keep quiet and refrain from moving when players are on the mat (Law 49)
 5. Stand behind the mat when your opponent bowls (Law 50)
 6. Always stand still at the head when a player is about to bowl - movement or talking at the end of the mat can be very distracting
 7. Always allow your opponent the right to the head, as spelt out in the 'Laws Of The Game', failure to do so decreases the enjoyment of the game (Law 49)

8. When changing ends walk close to the centre of the rink and with the minimum of delay or you could distract the players on the next rink
9. Do not delay play - always play your bowl with the minimum of delay
10. Never play your bowl before the previous bowl has come to rest
11. Keep track of play and be ready to bowl when it is your turn
12. Every player at the mat end must assist in collecting the bowls when the end is over
13. Always pay your skip the respect of waiting for his/her decision. Do not step onto the mat and indicate which way you intend to play - wait for skip's instructions
14. Never applaud 'lucky' bowls, accept them graciously
15. Never complain about 'lucky' bowls, they tend to equal each other out over the season
16. Respect the rink's surface at all times - DO NOT:
 - a. Drop bowls onto the surface
 - b. Stand on the edge of the rink
 - c. Stand on the bank (unless jack has been put into the ditch)
 - d. Walk in the ditches
17. Always inform your opponent if you wish to leave the rink
18. Always stand behind the jack
19. If you lose - be a good loser - don't blame your loss on people, the rink, weather, bowls, etc.
20. Win or lose, always shake hands with your opponent and thank them for the game. Don't be taken with your win today it could be reversed tomorrow
21. Offer your opponent a drink after the game
22. When playing singles, whether you have won or lost, be sure to thank the marker and offer a drink. Remember that they have given up their own time to assist in your game. You can repay him or her by being courteous
23. It is polite to thank the umpire of the day before leaving the club
24. Learn to be a good marker. When offering your services, remember that the marker can make or break a game
25. When not playing take care not to walk across the end of rinks when players are on the mat about to deliver, movement can be very distracting
26. When playing away matches it is impolite to be critical of the host team's facilities and playing surface

15 Social Bowling: There are a number of opportunities for members to bowl socially and without the pressure of competitive games. There are mixed weekly club sessions held at 2:00pm every Tuesday and at 6.00pm every Thursday (light permitting). These games are for all bowlers whether they have a wealth of experience or are fresh to the game. You need to register 10 minutes before and you will be asked to pull a rink and position out of a hat to determine where you play and in what position. Whilst it is fun and played without pressure it is important that the rules of the game are adhered to at all times, this gives a good footing before you embark onto the more serious side of the game.

16 **Friendly Matches, Club Competitions, League Matches and Yorkshire Bowling Association Competitions:**

A series of **Friendly Matches** are arranged with our neighbouring clubs by the Fixtures Secretary appointed by the club. Members interested in taking part should place their name on the nomination sheets which will be put on the notice boards. The Club Captain will publicise the teams.

A series of **In-House Club Competitions** are held. The club has appointed an in-house Competitions Secretary who will publicise the competitions on the notice board. Members interested in taking part should place their name on the nomination sheets and the Competitions Secretary will arrange the draw and publicise the teams and the results.

The Club participates in the **Langbaugh League (Triples)** and the **Cleveland League** and members who wish to participate in these matches should make their interest known to the Club Captain by adding their names to the nomination sheets which will be put on the notice board in the weeks preceding the fixture. The Club Captain will publicise the selected teams. Please check the notice board for the rules which apply to these Leagues. Home fixtures take place on Monday and Wednesday afternoons and Wednesday evenings but not all the rinks are used so members are able to play on the rinks that are free.

Yorkshire Bowling Association

The Club is now a member of the above association and is affiliated to Bowls England Reg. No. 35088. Members are now entitled to enter the various County and National competitions held throughout the summer. Details of these competitions are placed on the club notice board.