



GREENS PROTECTION GUIDELINES

RESPONSIBILITY:	Governance, Risk, Integrity & Policy Committee; National Officiating Advisory Group
AUTHORITY:	Bowls Australia Board
APPROVED:	February 2025
NEXT REVIEW DATE:	June 2025

Policy set in accordance with the Bowls Australia Constitution

1 PREAMBLE AND RATIONALE

- 1.1 These Guidelines acknowledges that greens are the core asset of clubs and inherently expensive to repair and replace.
- 1.2 These Guidelines also acknowledges that bowls is a sport for life and that BA has a commitment to the ongoing development of policies and guidelines to enabled players of all abilities to play the sport.

2 GUIDELINES

- 2.1 The following is a non-exhaustive list of actions that may cause undue damage to a green:
 - a) Dropping bowls from the bank to the green;
 - b) Delivering bowls in a forward motion from a height (e.g. than 30 centimetres from the ground);
 - c) Delivering bowls in a downward motion from a height (e.g. higher than 15 centimetres from the ground).
- 2.2 The process to be followed for a player who is causing undue damage to the green is as follows:
 - 2.2.1 If by observation, the Controlling Body or authorised representative (including club officials), considers a player is causing damage to a green, the player will be warned;
 - 2.2.2 The skip and coach/manager must be alerted to the warning given to the player;
 - 2.2.3 If in the opinion of the Controlling Body or authorised representative the player continues to damage the green, the player must be required to retire from the game but may be allowed a substitute player as per DR 2;
 - 2.2.4 If the player fails to leave the green the player will be a defaulting player and forfeit the game to their opponent as per Law C2 and Law C10;
 - 2.2.5 The Controlling Body must advise the home club of the player concerned so that appropriate assistance can be offered to the player.
- 2.3 All Clubs have an obligation to assist bowlers to remedy the action or activity that is causing damage with a view to encouraging the ongoing participation by the player.
- 2.4 To assist a player who is damaging the green, the following should be considered:
 - 2.4.1 Attempt to understand how or why the player is causing damage to the green;
 - 2.4.2 Ask the club coach to contact the player and provide some coaching advice;
 - 2.4.3 Advice and actions could include:
 - Modifying the player's delivery;
 - Discussing with the player options such as obtaining a bowlers arm;
 - The use of a dump mat.

END