



Frequently Asked Questions

1. **What is the minimum equipment I need to start to play bowls.**

A pair of flat soled shoes. Grey trousers, shorts or skirt. A white polo style shirt. Later if you play in club matches you will need a club shirt, obtainable from the club. There are many other items such as waterproofs, jumpers etc that can be purchased online or at specialist shops.

2. **Who provides the Bowls**

The club has a stock of bowls that can be used for coaching purposes. When you complete your training and have become a member you are encouraged to purchase your own set of bowls. You may use the coaching bowls for a month after joining the club to give you time to get your own bowls. The coaches can help you select the right bowls for you. Second hand bowls are available to purchase at the club.

3. **If I decide to join the club, what is the next stage.**

Complete a new members application form. This is posted on the club notice board for seven days. You will then be sent an acceptance letter with instructions on how to pay the membership fee. On receipt of the fee you will then be sent another letter detailing your membership number, online log in details to the secure area of our web site, the clubhouse key safe access code and how to gain access to the equipment shed.

4. **How do I go about having a rollup either with another member or on my own.**

You can play on any free rink at anytime available. The club has an on line rink booking system that is available via the secure area on the club web site. You will be sent instructions on how to use this but its pretty simple. If you are uncomfortable with this technology you can request a rink by email dorkingbcbookings@gmail.com

5. **Can I play with a social member or a member from another club.**

Social members are allowed to play with full members for a green fee of £3. Members from another club can play with DBC full members for a green fee of £5. Both these are for a 2 hour rink session. There is an honest box on the bar for the paying of these fees and a book to log players. It is the members responsibility to ensure the fee is paid. Opponents playing DBC members in external competitions do not have to pay a rink fee.

6. **Can I get Tea or Coffee at the Club at any time.**

Kettles, tea, coffee and sugar are available in the kitchen and can be used at any time. There is usually milk in the fridge. Mugs and spoons are also available. There is an honesty box to pay for tea and coffee. Please wash up and put away items used and leave the kitchen as you found it. The Bar is usually open on Monday and Friday evenings and when there are evening home matches. The bar is also open for the Tuesday Night Triples competition.

7. What rollups can I join in.

Monday Afternoon Rollup starts at 2PM. This is a friendly session open to all members. An initial fee of £1.50 and a weekly fee of 50P goes towards prizes awarded at the end of the season. Play is for 16 ends where a draw for rink, team and playing position takes place every four ends. This is a great way to play bowls in a relaxed and friendly way and learn how to play in various positions.

Friday Evening 5:45 for a 6 pm start is club night. Your name goes into a draw and teams are picked. There is a raffle after the rollup and hot dogs are available to purchase. All proceeds go to club funds

Sunday Mornings Rollup starts at 10am. This is a friendly session played in casual dress and is an ideal entry to the game of bowls. Experienced members will be there to help you improve your game.

On Tuesday evenings a Tuesday Nights Triples competition is run. Members put their names down to play at the beginning of the season. Teams are selected and play each other on a league basis throughout the season. There are burgers or sausages in rolls after the game for those so inclined and the bar is open.

8. What if I need further help with my game

Monday evenings at 6PM is reserved for coaching. Just turn up and approach one of the coaches who will gladly give you further instruction. Rinks are available that evening for you to practice on a first come basis. Some experienced bowlers will also be around and will be glad to offer any assistance.

9. Can I play in matches

As soon as you are confident in your play you will be encouraged to put your names down on the online match selection system or on the yellow cards on the outside notice boards. Teams are selected on Monday evenings for all games in the coming week and team selection is shown on the green cards on the outside notice boards and on the club web site. If you are using the online system you will receive an email. Respond to this or tick your name on the green card to confirm you are available to play. If its an away match put a "D" against the tick if you plan to travel to the match directly with your own transport. If you require a lift to the away game let the captain for the match know and they will ensure a lift is organised. Please arrive for all matches 30 mins before the scheduled start time.

Initially put your names down for friendly matches and as your game improves you will be encouraged to join in competitive matches.

Some members just want to play socially and that is ABSOLUTELY FINE. You won't be pressurised into partaking in friendly or competitive matches.

10. What is the etiquette for playing in matches

Arrive at matches at least 30 mins before the start time. The home captain will address all players welcoming visitor, confirming the match and stating the number of ends. The two captains toss for who decides the order of play. The winner usually "takes the mat" and starts the game, but they can elect to make the other team play first. The captains may agree to have two trial ends where each player gets to play two bowls up and two back before the match starts. Sometime in friendly games the game starts straight away but the score is limited to one shot on the first two ends.

11. What do I wear for matches

The fixture book and the green card will show what colours to wear for matches. There is a Dress Code Policy document that covers what is worn at the various kinds of games played at DBC

12. Where can I get bowls clothing and equipment

The club sells second hand clothing and equipment with all proceeds going to club funds. Second hand equipment can be found on various internet sites as can new clothing and equipment. Bowls Direct, Wey Valley Indoor Bowls Club, Lido Road, Guildford, GU1 1H, www.bowlsdirect.com. Club shirts and other branded clothing can be obtained from the club directly. There are notices on the notice board explaining what is available and how to order.

13. Which Direction do I play on the green

Play is East-West up till 6PM and North-South after 6PM. The rinks are moved weekly by a few feet to even the wear on the green. The position is determined by the green team and is colour coded. Nobody is allowed to move any rink markers without the permission of one of the green team.

14. Do you play in wet weather

So long as the green team declare the green playable then matches will play in the rain. Hence the need for wet weather clothing. The green team has the final say on whether the green is playable.