

## **Damage to Greens Policy**

Bowls SA is conscious of its responsibility to assist Member Clubs with the preservation of their most valuable asset, by providing direction in relation to the process that should be followed when a member or visitor is observed as potentially causing undue damage to a bowling green. As such the following policy has been developed after research and consultation with appropriate bodies.

The Bowls SA Damage to Greens Policy applies to the Metropolitan Pennant competition and Bowls SA State Events. The Bowls SA Damage to Greens Policy is recommended for adoption or use by Member Clubs, Sections, Associations and Regions.

'Dumping' is defined as the act of dropping a bowl on the green so as to leave a depression on the playing surface. Typically this will occur when a bowler releases their bowls too high above the playing surface. This can also occur during unloading a bowls bag without due care or dropping bowls after dusting or polishing.

Whilst fully supportive of the Member Club and their playing surface, Bowls SA is also cautious with the reporting process of this policy, with the best interests of the Member to be considered at all times.

Bowls SA is committed to the longevity of Members in the sport and encourages the education stage of this policy.

### **Responsibility**

Ultimately, Member Clubs have the responsibility to ensure that their members are aware of this policy, and educated appropriately as to the steps they can take if their delivery or actions are deemed to have the potential to cause undue damage to a green.

### **Procedure**

- 1) If on appeal by the Greens Manager, their proxy, or appointed club official, of the Member Club on whose green the match is being played, that in their opinion a player in the course of delivery may be causing undue damage to the green, the Umpire of the Day will be requested to warn the player's Side Manager (Pennants), Skipper (Team game) or Player (Singles game). Side Manager then to inform player of the concern.
- 2) If the offence is repeated, the Umpire of the Day is to complete 'Damage to Greens Infringement Notice' and submit to Bowls SA immediately following the match. The offending player, their Skipper or Side Manager is to be made aware of the report at the completion of the game.
- 3) Upon receipt of the Infringement Notice, Bowls SA will advise the offender's Member Club in writing of the incident. Bowls SA will encourage the Member Club to discuss the areas of concern with the member and a coach. If coaching does not correct the problem then consider options such as a bowlers arm.
- 4) Member Clubs are required to provide feedback to Bowls SA as to the corrective steps taken.
- 5) In exceptional circumstances where the bowler's delivery would cause immediate or serious damage to the Bowling Green, artificial or grass, the bowler will be asked to modify his bowling action or a 'dump mat' will be used. Bowler, Skipper and Side Manager along with the Greens Manager or his proxy should be involved with this discussion. If invoked Bowls SA is to be notified.