

GHLBC Note to Members March 21

These are extraordinary times with the COVID-19 pandemic affecting all aspects of our lives. It calls on all of us to be responsible for the health and safety of our families, friends and neighbours. Our Club must also show the same responsible decision-making for the protection of its members and the community at large. The pandemic is projected to last for a few more months, how many, no one can say. By 'flattening the curve' we give ourselves a better chance of not getting the virus while at the same time giving it more longevity.

THE CURRENT STATUS OF LAWN BOWLING IN CANADA, B.C. and GORDON HEAD:

CANADA:

- All 2020 National Championships, including the inaugural Para Bowls Championships have been cancelled.
- The 2020 National Bowls Day Program has been cancelled.
- All NCCP coaching programs are suspended until further notice. Virtual training is being considered. More information will be provided if and/or when it becomes available.
- The 2020 Bowls Canada fees will be waived.

BRITISH COLUMBIA:

- All Provincial Championships are cancelled for 2020. Bowlers already registered will receive a refund of their entry fees.
- All Coaching and Officiating courses are cancelled. Bowlers already registered will receive a refund.
- Bowls BC will not be charging the bowler membership fees.
- Bowls BC will be providing all member Clubs with the usual liability insurance, at cost, to the member Clubs.

GORDON HEAD:

- Gordon Head Semi-Annual General Meeting is cancelled.
- The Open House on April 19th is cancelled.
- The executive has contractors working on upgrades to the facility (outside) approved by members with executive members providing supervision (everyone else is asked to stay away).

- We are looking to have limited outside bowling soon for any 2019 member who would like to practice or play in small groups. This is completely at the discretion of the players and the Club accepts no responsibility for their decision.

Or At present, the BC Health Authority is strongly encouraging everyone to minimize contact with others through “social distancing” and simply staying home. Closing the clubhouse and the green would be consistent with that position. Therefore, in support of the Health Authority’s recommendation, and to do all we can to minimize further COVID-19 infection, the clubhouse and the green will be closed until further notice.

- There will be no kitchen use until after the end of June, subject to continued review of the COVID-19 situation.
- The Junior Program will not begin until it is safe to do so.
- All 2020 Gordon Head BSI tournaments scheduled for May and June are cancelled.
- All Gordon Head Club tournaments in May and June are cancelled.
- GHLBC will not be available for overflow tournaments until the end of June.
- The June Potluck dinner is cancelled.
- No coaching will take place until it is certain that no-one’s health is in jeopardy.
- Club rentals for private functions will not be available until October.
- No field rentals and school visits will be available until the end of June.
- Greens will be maintained for the season in order to prevent its deterioration.
- All 2019 bowlers and Social bowlers will automatically be renewed for the 2020 bowling season at no cost, with the proviso that if the pandemic subsides during the summer bowling season, and the BC Health Authority lifts its current prohibitions intended to minimize or eliminate COVID-19 infection, then a general meeting of members will be held to decide on an appropriate fee, if any, for the remainder of the 2020 season.

Brian Morin

President Gordon Head Lawn Bowling