



Local Lobbying Plan for Lawn Bowls Clubs

Bowls Canada is working to highlight the impact of COVID-19 physical distancing practises at a national level with the submission of impact statements to Sport Canada and letters to various Federal Ministers including the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Canadian Heritage (Sport), the Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and the Minister of Infrastructure and Communities. Provincial Associations are likewise lobbying their respective Sport Ministers.

However, the most impactful lobbying for support of local lawn bowls clubs and the ability to access greens to perform a minimum standard of care must take place directly at the community level by the members of the club.

The following are some tips that can help clubs influence the decision-makers in their community.

1. Personalize the Template Letter and Greens Care Plan found in the Bowls Canada Green Lobbying Kit to be specific for your club.
2. Focus on the MINIMUM STANDARD of care required for your greens while they are not being used.
3. Include the Bowls Canada Greens Position Statement with your submission.
4. Identify the decision makers in your local municipality who have the ability to grant access and /or influence a positive decision. This might include:
 - your contact in your local recreation and/or facilities department for clubs who are owned or maintained by their municipality
 - the local Chief Medical Officer
 - your Mayor
 - the municipal Councillor of the municipal riding in which your club resides
 - your MPP for the provincial riding in which your club resides
5. Decide where you will focus to first send your submission of personalized letter, greens care plan and Bowls Canada Position Statement.
6. Identify the next level of decision-making you will contact if your first submission is not successful.
7. Keep your local Councillor in the loop -- supporting local community infrastructure through this pandemic should be at the top of their agenda.
8. If you exhaust your list of decision makers and still are unable to access your greens, involve your Provincial Association and Bowls Canada for help.