

BARLOW GREEN REPORT August 2017

We have now completed five full seasons of play on our Greenweave surface. As we move to the next season I am pleased to report that the green continues to provide a high standard playing surface.

So our goal is to keep this standard for as long as possible. To achieve this goal and increase the carpet's longevity members can help in a number of ways:

- Wear flat soled shoes or those with minimal tread, certainly not with grooves deep enough to bring sharp stones onto the green.
- Vary the positioning of the mat so we minimise the walking and wearing in the area 2 – 3 metres from the ditch. Also, if you are not delivering your bowl or managing your head please stay on the bank.
- Poor delivery, dropping or dumping the bowl on to the green surface can cause serious damage to the base structure. The thin weave carpet lays on a 12 metre underfelt which can be likened to a sponge under that is a compacted gravel base which has a hardened silicone / cement top surface. All the materials allow water to drain freely. This sponge base can absorb general walking and some variation in delivery quality but dropping or dumping the bowl could crack the rigid top surface and cause major damage.

Players having difficulty with their delivery are asked to talk to our club coaches and if necessary consider using a mechanical bowling arm (eg follow Bill Moffatt's example). On a recent trip to Australia at least six members on every green we went to were using bowling arms.

All current members have contributed to establishing our Barlow green and we all want to enjoy its quality for as long as we can. Your help with the above points would be appreciated.

Arnold Osborne
Greens Superintendent.