



TO THE POINT

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THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

“There are no short cuts to any place worth going”

The new course material that appears to have caused much debate lately is not what it looks like. Nothing has changed. The course is simplified into smaller “bite” size sections to accommodate anyone attempting the course from any walk of life. The only difference is that any candidate may now do as many sections as he/she is capable of doing. Credit is then given for those sections the candidate is declared competent, and at any time continue with the rest of the modules. This appears to have been incorrectly interpreted in certain districts. The first module is the markers module, and so the modules progress into more detailed measuring and law applications. This would eventually qualify you as a level 1 Technical Official. At that point in time you will already have your Markers badge. With this I get back to my quote, “there is no short cut”, all courses will have to follow the sequence of the modules. I am sure Medical Doctors are not taught Surgery before basic Anatomy. The same principles apply when qualifying Technical Officials. Start at the basics and progress to the more difficult. Yet with that I would like to congratulate those TOSC who have progressed and qualified. Many TOs so far this year have completed the new modular system. **WELL DONE.**

ORDER OF PLAY

The following happened a while ago during a multi-district fours championship tournament.

Team A played the morning game with their four players. They then started the afternoon game with the four players playing in the same positions. After the sixth end the skip then informed the umpire and the opposing skip that she is going to switch her team around with the lead playing second and the second playing lead from that point on. The umpire then informed the skip that she will not be allowed to do that. She then told the umpire “but Bowls SA allows us to do that”

Let us now look at the laws involved in this case:

Law 34.2:

- 3 The positions of players within a team should not be changed after the first end has been completed, unless the change is necessary because a substitute is introduced as described in law 51.

- 4 If players in a team game change positions when paragraph 3 above does not apply, the team will be disqualified and they will forfeit the game to their opponents.

BOWLS SA brought out a little booklet: Domestic Regulations and General Conditions of Play.

The subtitle of this booklet states: For Domestic play the following regulations have been amended as per World Bowls (Law 17.1) and as per minutes of Biennial Council Meeting held on 25 March.

In this booklet the following provisions have been made with reference to Laws 34.2.3 and 34.2.4 :

Law 34.2.3 and 34.2.4 : Order of play.

This proviso will be **at the discretion of the Controlling Body/ Conditions of Play.**

Teams may be rearranged within a game if **specified within the conditions of play.** The opposition skip and duty Umpire should be notified when such a change is made. Changes may only be made at the completion of an end. Such changes will **NOT** be in contravention of any laws as specified in The Laws of Sport of Bowls.

What happened in the scenario above is that team A was from District A. Their district has decided that it will allow rearrangement of teams in all competitions where it is the Controlling Body, and has stated that in the Conditions of Play. The above tournament was held in District B. This district has decided not to allow rearrangement of teams in all competitions where it is the Controlling Body. Even so the controlling body for the tournament could have decided to allow rearrangement of teams by explicitly stating it in the conditions of play for the tournament. The Tournament Committee did not specify this.

This means that the Laws 34.2.3 and 34.2.4 *as stated in the Law Book* were applicable for the tournament, the umpire was right and the Skip was not allowed to rearrange her team.

The lesson from this is : Know the contents of your Law Book, know the contents of the Domestic Regulations and know the Conditions of Play of the Tournaments you are playing in.

U25 AND U19 TOURNAMENTS

Let me at this point in time refute any allegations regarding our younger generation, of up and coming bowlers. Being present at the A Inter Districts in Durban earlier this year and being privileged to be at the U25 played in Bloemfontein, nobody will ever convince me regarding the application of the laws and discipline regarding these younger players. It was impeccable and this can only be the reason that **certain quarters** feel threatened by these players. The youth have again made bowls fun and enjoyable, and a great pleasure to watch, and played within the Laws. Well done to all who took part. To the Managers and Coaches, it was great to see. Even the Development section was a wonderful sight to see. The applause from players knocked out in the prelim rounds who sat and applauded any good shot from any player. These games being played on the A green and the game between the host District and the selected U25 players on the B green were watched and appreciated with far less appreciation and applause than the Development (U19) finals. With this, Bowls may have a future if this is continued. This tournament could become huge with no player being excluded who wants to play and be part of this tremendous atmosphere. **WELL DONE TO ALL PLAYERS WHO TOOK PART. IT WAS A PLEASURE TO SEE AND EXPERIENCE.**

TOWNIE GETS BOWLED OVER

Letter received last year and very apt at this time of the U25 tournament

I've always considered bowls an old man's game. Played by geriatrics more intent on sedately exercising their rheumatic joints and gouty toes, than building up a healthy sweat. An excuse to imbibe on pink gin and social patter, clad in whites and Panama hats. No way! I was going to widen my popularity as the butt end of derisive jokes in our community by pitching up to play at our town club. Especially after having overheard remarks in the pub that the game was for "old folks in their dotage". A remark to which the lady members took extreme exception. The club president threatened to refuse membership if I ever requested it. "Have you ever played bowls?" I asked Jan over coffee on my stoep. In retrospect, not the sort of question you asked an ex Free State lock. "No, Townie," he answered, "and I never will." But Jan's not one to shrink from a challenge. When I explained my plan to put the bowls club in its place, he got quite enthusiastic.

We went to the city for private lessons with a leading proponent of the game. After eight hours a day of tuition and practice for a week he said we were ready to compete in league events. He kitted us out with the best bowls money could buy and the very latest in high-fashion white outfits. Together with his tuition fees it all cost a bomb. We packed and returned home, planning strategy on the way.

I phoned the club president. "Jan and I challenge your best pair to a twosome match." "After your derogatory remarks I didn't think you played the game," he answered. "However, if you wish to make spectacles of yourselves we'll accommodate you on Saturday." Pompous ass. Jan and I stepped onto the green, resplendent in our designer gear. The spectators hushed, the giggling stopped. The club's skip introduced himself. He was half our age. His partner joined us. None other than our coach from the city. An out-of-town member of the club he assured us – and the president's son. Jan and I didn't win a single end. Trounced. Annihilated. Beaten to a pulp – by a pair of youngsters. Nursing our defeat over pink gins in the bar the president asked me "If you still hold the view, Townie, that bowls is a game for old folks in their dotage.....would you like to join the club?" (D. C.) Thank you for your contribution

LOST BADGES

Lost badges (markers and level 1-4) can be replaced through the district office who in turn will request same from the Bowls SA office, at a cost of R30.00. Unfortunately any old badges cannot be replaced as no more are available, and unfortunately an old badge lost cannot be replaced with a new level 1 badge.

SLAAGSYFER VAN MERKERS EN SKEIDSREGTERS KURSUSSE

Daar is heelwat rolbospelers wat kla omdat die slaagsyfer van die kursusse 100% moet wees. Die rede daarvoor is omdat ons bevoegde (competent) merkers en skeidsregters wil oplei.

Watter rolbaspeler sal die beslissing van `n skeidsregter wil aanvaar wat 50% of 80% in sy assessering behaal het.

Watter persoon sal graag dat `n dokter opereer wat net 50% in sy eksamen behaal het.

Ons sien die resultate in Suid Afrika waar kinders op skool deur kom met `n slaagpunt van 35% en dan kom die dosente op Universiteit agter dat die studente met `n universiteit toelating gesertifiseer

het, nie kan lees of basiese wiskundige berekenings doen nie.

Ons glo dat slegs `n skeidsregter wat sy reëls 100% ken en 100% akuraat kan meet, bevoegd is om `n regverdige beslissing te maak.

Ons kan nie die standaard van rolbal beslissings verlaag omdat dit die algemene tendens in Suid Afrika is nie.

VOETFOUT

Ja ons praat weer oor die mees elementêre reël in die reëlboek nl VOETFOUT.

Baie rolbalspelers kom met die argument dat jy geen voordeel kry as die voet `n paar sentimeter oor die kant van die mat is nie. Dit is korrek-jy kry geen voordeel daaruit nie.

Maar `n reël is `n reël. As jy nie `n streep kan trek en sê jou volle voet moet op die mat wees nie, en die skeidsregter laat toe dat een speler twee of drie sentimeter van die mat af staan, dan moet jy toelaat dat die volgende speler met sy halwe voet of met sy volle voet van die mat af staan.

In ander sportsoorte soos verspring in atletiek is dit `n geen sprong as `n speler `n millimeter oortrap in krieket is dit geen bal as die bouler se voet een millimeter oortrap as hy boul. In rolbal sê ons “ Ag, dit maak nie saak nie!”

As ons skeidsregters toelaat dat die spelers nie eers die mees elementêre reël nakom nie, hoe kan ons hulle forseer om die ander reëls na te kom.

“~n Reël is `n reël” en die reëls in die rolbalboekie is om die spel regverdig en genotvol te laat plaasvind.

Kom ons as skeidsregters begin om die reël toe te pas in die spel en sodoende die spelers bewus te maak van die reëls sodat almal van ons die spel kan geniet.

Onthou die slegte gewoontes in die spel begin by : “Sosiale Rolbal” op klub vlak.

Dit help nie om reël toepassing eers op kompetisie vlak te begin nie. Smoor die slegte gewoontes in die kiem op sosiale vlak.

Waar ek sit en skryf kyk ek na die Onder 25 se provinsiale toernooi. Dit is opvallend hoe gedissiplineerd hierdie jong spelers is in hulle spel. Voetfoute is amper ongehoord hier in Bloemfontein. Van ons ouer spelers kan maar kom kers opsteek by hierdie jong kinders.

DON'TS FOR MANAGERS.

At the Senior Inter Districts Tournament in Eastern Gauteng two managers had to be spoken to. The manager of team A was standing on an adjacent rink, jack level and was directing her team from the side.

When spoken to her reply was that she was not on the rink that her team was playing on, and that the manager of the opposing team had actually been on the rink with her players. Both managers were reprimanded.

Please remember that managers have to be on the bank and must give directions to their players from the bank.

PLAYERS MUST KNOW THE RULES.

At the same Senior Inter District Tournament an end had been completed and the third from team A wanted to prop one of their bowls that was in danger of falling over. The third from team B however stopped her saying that she could not prop the bowl as the Umpire had been called. The bowl fell over and the chance of a probable shot was lost.

There is no rule in the Laws of the sport of Bowls that precludes a player from propping the bowl which is in danger of falling over after the end has been completed, irrespective of whether an umpire has been called or not.

Players, in particular the thirds and skips, must know the rules

"Geen groot prestasie is ooit sonder entoesiasme behaal nie".

Any comment preferably positive, or if negative, with the solution, may be E-mailed to me

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Any bowler who would like to get a copy of this news letter sent directly to them just let us have your e-mail address Club and Bowls S.A. Membership Number

"The greater the challenge, the greater the reward"