

“BETTER GREENS BREED BETTER BOWLERS”

ADDENDUM

The requirements for the inspection and assessment of a bowling green are not static. Changes in Greens Management and demands from the players have made it necessary to revise and adjust some of the criteria used in inspecting greens as publicised in the Book “BETTER GREENS BREED BETTER BOWLERS “ (2005 Edition) .

That publication contained sufficient detail for a club committee to assess their own greens and to identify problems associated with the structure of the green or deficiencies in the management programme.

It, also, set out the procedure to be followed by District and SA Greens standing Committees when inspecting a green for a tournament.

The introduction of the larger stimpmeter provided the inspectors with a tool which could accurately assess the draw and weight.

Unfortunately time constraints made it impractical to use the large stimpmeter on a regular basis and the use of the large stimpmeter is now restricted to clubs which have the time to assess their own greens.

The smaller stimpmeter has been introduced and can be used -

- to assess the speed of the green as “distance run”
- to test run-off into the ditch

It can, also, be used to test specific parts of the green where there appears to be a change of texture of the grassy mat.

Score Sheet

The score sheet has been revised - Marks are now only allocated to the old Section B which deals with the health of the green and levels and “run off”. No marks are allocated to the speed of the green and the consistency of the draw and weight - the inspector will only express his opinion.

The Addendum will replace pages 27 to 43 of the book “Better Greens Breed Better Bowlers “

SUB – SECTION A

1.0 LAWS OF THE GAME

Lawn Bowls is a game played all over the world and it is important that players playing in different countries should be able to compete under the same rules. (**The Laws of the Game**)

It is for this reason that the inspector must confirm that the green he is inspecting conforms to these basic requirements.

The requirements as set out in the **Laws of the Game** allow a certain amount of latitude and while the various items mentioned in the laws are within those parameters the green can be approved

The length of the green in the direction of play should be between 31.0 m and 40.0 m
The green is divided into rinks which should be between 4.3 m and 5.8 m wide. Wherever possible all rinks should be the same width

For SA Tournaments the rinks must be 5.0 m wide

Any deviation from the Laws of the Game must be reported to the Tournament Committee of that particular event or to the District Authorities.

Note The Inspector does not condemn a green he only informs the Tournament Committee of the fact that certain features of the green are not in line with the Laws of the Game.

2.0 BANKS AND DITCHES

The banks, ditches, pegs, numbers and surrounds are all an integral part of the game of bowls but do not directly reflect the health of the grass or the playing surface.

While no marks will be allocated or deducted in this Sub- Section any deviations from the norm or irregularities must be noted in the appropriate block on the Evaluation Sheet

The inspector should take note of the following –

2.1 PEGS OR STRAPS

Pegs must conform to the Laws of the Game and must be correctly positioned on top of the bank (not more than 100 mm from the face of the bank) or flat against the bank The pegs or straps should not be more than 25mm wide

Pegs will be placed on top of the bank while straps will be positioned against the bank. Anything placed against the bank must not be of a material which might injure or divert the bowl or jack.

They must clearly define the boundaries of the rink or the 25m mark

2.2 BANKS and DITCHES

2.2.1 Banks

Grassy Banks

Uniformity on all four sides is the primary consideration=

Same Height, Angle, and Texture

The grass making up the bank must be healthy with no bare patches or weeds intruding.

The upper edge must be sharp and not rounded

The bottom edge must not be undercut

The top of the banks should be, at least, 230mm above the surface of the green

The banks can be vertical and set at 90 degrees to the surface of the green or have a slope of not more than 35 degrees off the vertical.

Artificial Banks

The main consideration being how often a bowl would rebound.

There must be uniformity in their appearance and in the standard of maintenance.

2.2.2 Ditches

The ditches can be between 200 mm and 380 mm wide.

The ditches can be between 50mm and 200 mm deep.

Within the above limits there must be uniformity re depth and width on all four sides

It is accepted that as a result of regular top-dressing the surface of the green will rise in relation to the ditchboards. The GKP should not allow the surface to become more than 10mm above the ditchboard.

Check on Surface , It must be a holding surface. The inspector must roll a Jack manually or off a short stimpmeter from a point 2.00 m from the ditch and at an angle of 45 degrees to the ditch to establish how freely the jack would run in the ditch.

The inspector should comment on this in the appropriate space.

3.0 EQUIPMENT

Steps and Ramp, Speed Board, Records, and a Wind Indicator must be displayed. The other equipment should be available for inspection.

The surface of the green should be uniformly smooth. If it is not smooth or there is any indication that the equipment is not being used correctly the inspector should examine the mowers and other equipment.

Mowers

Horizontal

When examining check the following –

Condition of Mower:

Cutting Cylinder – Sharp Leading Edge - Adjustment against Bottom Blade

Condition of Bottom Blade

Tension of Drive Chain

Evidence of Regular Service

Check Setting Bar and Mowing height.

Clutch - Free Play.

Electrical points and cables.

Rear Roller.

Vertical Mowers

Examine Pins of Scarifier and Blades of Verticutter and Groomer

Bank Cutter

The Condition and appearance of the Banks will confirm how efficiently the Bank Cutter is being used.

4.0 COMMENTS

Although no marks are awarded in this section the Inspector must still be assured that, within the parameters of the Laws of the Game, there is still uniformity as far as the Banks and Ditches are concerned and that the equipment is not only adequate but well maintained and correctly adjusted.

5.0. PRESENTATION

The Inspector must put himself into the mind of the visiting bowler arriving at the club to play in a major tournament. His first impressions will have an important bearing on how comfortable he will feel about playing at that club.

If the gardens and surrounds appear to be well kept, the green has been mown correctly, has a smooth appearance, and the ditches are clean and free of any debris the visiting player will feel the members care about their club.

If the greens and Banks look scruffy, there are mower marks and there are weeds all over the approach paths then it must be noted.

If the Inspector is not in agreement with certain aspects of the presentation of the green and surrounds he can comment in the blank area of the evaluation sheet.

SUB – SECTION B

100 Points

In Section “B” there are many items – each representative of one or more aspects of a GKP’s management programme.

Each item will be scored on it’s own and the grand total will serve as a reflection of the GKP’s ability to produce and maintain a green of the required standard.

While it must be acknowledged that a GKP often “inherits “ a green with inherent deficiencies (Levels and Foreign grass) which might preclude him from attaining top marks the other results will reflect his ability to overcome these deficiencies.

1.1 THE GRASS COVER

20 Points

A GKP is expected to provide his members with a playing surface which is completely covered by a mat of even thickness throughout which allows the bowl to run at an acceptable speed without compromising the health of the grass – a balancing act between “leaf area” and speed

The ability of the grass plant to produce it's own food (Carbo-hydrates) by the process of photosynthesis depends on the number and size of the leaves exposed to sunlight i.e.

- The number of leaves lying in the mat which are exposed to sunlight
- The length of leaves left protruding from the mat after mowing.

The grass plant will be under stress when the available leaf area can no longer produce sufficient “food” to maintain healthy grass growing at the appropriate rate.. Weak and bare areas, weeds, fungi and other symptoms of stress will appear..

A prudent GKP would always ensure that there is enough leaf area to maintain the growth expected of a grass plant on a bowling green but having done so he must, now, “thin out” the mat regularly to remove any superfluous material.

Any area on the green where the mat varies in thickness or there is a limitation of growth either because the growth is sparse compared with the rest of the green or where there is no growth at all (bare area) must be examined carefully to confirm the cause.

It is up to the Inspector to assess whether variations in the thickness of the mat or weakened growth is as a result of the actions of the GKP (Grass Abuse) or some other unforeseen incident.

Points are deducted according to -

- the cause of the damage (Mat wear is probably the commonest cause of a weak or bare area) – is the damage still evident or has the GKP already taken steps to limit it.
- the length of time this area might take to recover
- the size of the weak or bare areas and the influence such an area might have on the behaviour of the bowl (a bowl will run faster over a weak or bare area)
- variations in the thickness of the mat due to grasses of different texture.(Heinz Green)

Note A green with bare spots should be rejected outright unless the GKP has a full season available to restore the grass cover completely.

- a) For every weak or bare area greater than 500 mm in diameter
Deduct 2 points for each such area
- b) If the affected areas are smaller than 500 mm in diameter then points must be deducted according to the number of such areas.
Deduct 1 point for each such area
- c) If the mat is so thick that it slows down the bowl and there is evidence that the grass is not healthy – water repellence or thatch
Deduct 3 - 6 points
- d) If the ditch board is more than 10 mm below the surface of the green
Maximum points can be deducted if the edges are frayed and cannot “hold” a bowl at the edge. **Deduct 1-2 points**

Note Marks must be deducted as shown above if there is no evidence that the GKP is aware of what has happened and done nothing about it.

If there is evidence that the GKP has re-planted a bare area or is nursing a weak area the Inspector can be more lenient.

1.2 COMPACTION / ROOTS

10 Points

Unless the Particle Size Analysis of the soil shows that the percentage of clay is 20% or more root depth and compaction are usually linked.

The inspector must use a probe (Screwdriver, nail) to determine whether there is any compaction hindering the penetration of the probe.

Depending on the severity of the compaction **Deduct 1-10 points**

To deduct all the points there must also be evidence of the health of the grass being severely affected and there is no evidence that the GKP has been aerating the green

It is up to the inspector to establish what the GKP has done to cope with or avoid compaction.

1.3 PESTS AND DISEASES

10 Points

It must be noted that the incidence of Pests is usually due to the grass being under stress and unable to resist the invasion of the pest. If the GKP has taken steps to strengthen the grass and there is evidence that the grass is recovering and able to cope with the invasion then the Inspector should be more lenient before deducting points.

The inspector must bear in mind that certain weeds eg Dichondra, Pearlwort could naturally appear on the green in late winter when the grass plant is most vulnerable.

Any Inspector should note that there is a time lag between the original invasion of the grass plant by a pest and the appearance of plant damage.

In the same way a damaged grass plant which has been treated will take some time to show signs of recovery.

NOTE - When inspecting a green affected by pests it is unlikely that two or more pests will be present at the same time – for a very severe infestation the inspector can deduct the maximum amount of points even if there is only one pest.

1.3.1. Weeds

a) If the invasion of weeds takes over more than 50 % of the green.
- Deduct 8 points

b) For a lesser invasion of weeds **- Deduct 2 – 4 points**

The inspector can be more lenient if there is evidence that the weeds are being treated and that the normal grass is gaining on the weeds.

1.3.2. Fungi and Algae

If the total area of infestation is less than 7 sq. m. no points will be deducted

a) If the area affected is more than 7 sq. m. **- Deduct 6- 8 points**

b) If the affected area has been treated **- Deduct 2 - 4 points**

1.3.3 Insects

If there is evidence of the green being invaded by insects

- Deduct 2- 8 points

If the GKP has already initiated treatment the inspector can be more lenient.

1.4. FOREIGN GRASS

10 points

While a single-strain green will always be more desirable it must be accepted that in the RSA the majority of the greens will have more than one strain of grass. A multi-strain (or

Heinz) green does not only influence the run of the bowl but presents untold problems for the GKP who has to produce a uniform playing surface when dealing with many strains of grass each with it's own texture.

When inspecting such a green the inspector must be aware of the probability that there will be inconsistencies in the draw.

In some instances the green would have originally been planted with more than one variety of grass or, alternatively, what had previously been a single-strain green had been invaded by a coarser variety because of negligence on the part of the GKP.

Scoring

Any multi-strain green

Deduct 2 points

If a single strain green has a few small ((less than 500mm) patches of foreign grass but there is evidence that the GKP is actively trying to eliminate it then no points will be deducted)

Management of a Multi-strain green

At the discretion of the inspector – the amount deducted would depend on what the GKP has done to minimise the variations in the texture of the grasses.

If the GKP is, by regularly dividing the stolons in the mat, achieving a form of equality between the different grasses and there is no evidence that there are inconsistencies in the draw the inspector can be more lenient.

Deduct 1 - 8 points

1.5 APPEARANCE / SMOOTHNESS

10 Points

The player would prefer to play on a green of the same colour throughout and there are no bumps or hollows which might affect the smooth passage of the bowl.

A mottled green where there are dark patches interspersed with lighter patches can cause doubts in the mind of the player regarding the consistency of the surface..

Evidence of bad mowing techniques with uncut areas or shaving of the green should, also, be penalised.

1.5.1 Colour of green -

a) If there are large patches of different colour on the green

- Deduct 2-3 points

b) If the patches of different colour appear to blend into each other.

- Deduct 1-2 points

1.5.2 Texture

If there are thicker patches alternating with patches where the covering is sparser giving a patchy appearance (whatever the reason)

- Deduct 2-3 points

1.5.3 Overall Impression

If there are bare patches, re-sodded areas, mower lines, anything jarring the senses (including the surrounds) - depending on extent

- Deduct 2- 4 points

1.5.4 Smoothness (To be tested with a jack)

Bumps - Depending on Severity

- Deduct Accordingly

1.6 RUN – OFF

10 points

A bowl increasing it's pace as it draws near to the ditch and inevitably falling into the ditch is most annoying to a bowler. As it is something which can easily be averted the Green keeper must be "punished"

The small stimpmeter must be set up in such away that the jack will run 300 mm from and parallel to the ditch for a distance of about 5.00 m

For each side where run-off occur –

- Deduct 2.5 points

1.7 LEVELS

30 Points

1.7.1 The Level Profile

No Inspector or Club Committee can assume that there are no inconsistencies in the draw unless he has access to a level profile.

A recent level profile (2 years old or less) submitted by a competent person (i.e a person approved by the District Greens Committee) is the only complete tool available to verify the consistency of the draw over the whole green. By taking note of the variations in levels it is possible to decide whether they would affect the draw or not.

The Levels to the nearest 1 or 2 mm must be taken at 2.5m centres.

1.7.2 Acceptance for SA competitions

1 All clubs applying for consideration for a SA competition must submit a level profile not older than 2yrs of their greens with their application to the District.

2 These profiles to be submitted to the SA Bowls Greens Committee prior to them visiting the District.

3 **Any club not submitting a profile conforming with 1.7.1.(above) will not be considered for the competition.**

1.7.3 Scoring a Level Profile –

Note

1 **Variations between the readings on the perimeter and the first row inside are not considered in the scoring. These readings will be used when assessing the “run-off”.**

2 Although greens used for International events should not have a variation of more than 3 mm over 2.5 m it is accepted that this measurement would normally apply to a green speed in excess of 14.0 secs / 27 m. South African greens are normally slower and a variation of 4.00 mm over 2.5 mm would not influence the run of the bowl. –

1.7.4 Points for levels are awarded as follows:

Level profiles older than 2yrs - Deduct 10points

On a 36m green recording at 2.5m apart will give 225 readings. A variation of 4mm over 2.5mm is acceptable. Take all points above or below 4mm.

Example: 42 readings above or below 4mm regardless of heights.

225 minus 42 = 183 good readings.

183 divided by 225 =81% = 30 points.

The same method can be used to determine points on a 38m or 40m green as well where recordings are 2.0m apart.

The following table can be used to allocate points:

50%	= 15pts	61 to 62	= 21pts	71 to 72	= 26pts
51 to 52	= 16pts	63 to 64	= 22pts	73 to 74	= 27pts
53 to 54	= 17pts	65 to 66	= 23pts	75 to 76	= 28pts
55 to 56	= 18pts	67 to 68	= 24pts	77 to 78	= 29pts
57 to 58	= 19pts	69 to 70	= 25pts	79% plus	= 30pts
59 to 60	=20pts				

Strings that are strung diagonally across a green will give an indication of how level a green is. Strings at each corner to be approximately 2m from the edge and very tightly stretched. A wedge can be used to measure any variations.

This method can be used by Districts to get an indication of how level a green is. This will also assist in determining a greenkeepers ability to manage foreign grass when present.

1.7.5 District or Club Competitions

If Level Profiles are available when greens are inspected for District competitions the above schedule will apply.

Sometimes a District Greens Committee might be called upon to assess a green where there is no profile or the profile is more than 2 years old.

No Profile or an unacceptable profile - **Deduct 20 points**

SECTION C

Section C deals with the speed of the green and the consistency of the draw.

No points are awarded but the inspector is expected to express his opinion re the acceptability of the speed for a particular event and whether the draw is consistent and predictable in terms of weight and width.

1.0 SPEED

The speed of a green is universally accepted as the time (in seconds) a bowl takes to run 27.0 m

1.1 South African Norms

In South African conditions the following descriptions are recognised –

- Too Slow - Running at less than 11.5 secs over 27.0m
- Acceptable - Running between 11.5 – 14 .0 secs over 27 m
- Too Fast - Running at more than 14.0 secs over 27.0m

1 Too Slow – The effort required to propel the bowl the full distance across the green would be such that accuracy in delivering the bowl along a pre-determined line might be compromised.

2 Acceptable – This is the range in which the player can comfortably deliver a bowl along the desired line.

3 Too Fast – Under South African conditions it would be almost impossible to achieve, and maintain, a green consistently running at speeds in excess of 14.0 secs over 27.0m. Such a green would be the exception rather than the norm as the speed of the green increases beyond 14.0 secs variations in the levels of more than 3.5 mm over 2.5 m would be unacceptable and in the windy conditions usually found along the coast precision drawing to the jack would be a lottery.

In addition, the average South African greenkeeper is not equipped to produce and maintain such a green.

1.2 Determination of Speed

1 By noting the distance a bowls jack will run off a standard small stimpmeter as supplied by Bowls SA and noting the time the jack takes to cover that distance.

2 By noting the distance and time a hand-delivered bowl will run from point of delivery of a bowl till it comes to rest.

1 The Small Stimpmeter –

- The small stimpmeter is placed in the centre of the green and run towards each corner (As indicated on the inspection sheet).
- Each “run” should be from the top of the stimpmeter.
- A “run” should be repeated if there is any doubt about the smoothness of the entry of the jack from the stimp on to the green.
- The distance run is measured from the foot of the stimp to the nearest point of the jack
- The average for the four runs is then calculated.

Note If the result of any one of the directions run does not conform with the average then that area of the green should be examined again to determine whether there are any variations in the texture of the mat.

Such a finding should be noted.

The inspector should be on the look-out for any other area on the green where the texture of the mat appears to be different (weak or thick area) and take a stimpmeter reading to confirm his suspicions. Such an inconsistency should, also, be noted.

- 2 Hand delivery A bowl is delivered by hand – a stop watch is used to measure the time from point of delivery of the bowl till it comes to rest and measuring the distance run.

Calculating the speed over 27.0 m

By using the equation $\sqrt{(T^2 \times 27) \div D}$: If T = Time and D = distance run the inspector can calculate how long that delivered bowl would have taken to run 27 m

Although this equation applies to both the stimpmeter “run” and hand delivered bowls it is usually sufficient just to determine how far the jack has run off the stimp without resorting to the equation.

A jack running 5.0 m off the stimp is deemed to be equivalent to a green running at 11.5 secs over 27.0m and a jack running 7.0 m off the stimp is deemed to be equivalent to a green running at 14.0secs over 27.0 m. The comments of the inspector would be -

- a jack running less than 5.0 m - Slow
- a jack running between 5.0 and 7.0m- Acceptable
- a jack running more than 7.0 m - Fast

1.3 The 27m Table

The 27m table depicted below allows the inspector to read off the speed of a green without having to resort to the equation.

	9.7-	10.2	10.7-	11.2-	11.7-	12.2-	12.7-	13.2-	13.7-	14.2-	14.7-	15.2-	15.7-	16.2-	
M	10.1	10.6	11.1	11.6	12.1	12.6	13.1	13.6	14.1	14.6	15.1	15.6	16.1	16.6	16.7
20	11.3	11.9	12.4	13.0	13.6	14.2	14.8	15.3	15.9	16.5	17.1	17.7	18.2	18.8	19.4
21	11.0	11.6	12.1	12.7	13.3	13.8	14.4	15.0	15.5	16.1	16.7	17.2	17.8	18.4	18.9
22	10.7	11.3	11.9	12.4	13.0	13.5	14.1	14.6	15.2	15.7	16.3	16.8	17.4	17.9	18.5
23	10.5	11.1	11.6	12.1	12.7	13.2	13.8	14.3	14.8	15.4	15.9	16.5	17.0	17.6	18.1
24	10.3	10.8	11.3	11.9	12.4	12.9	13.5	14.0	14.5	15.1	15.6	16.1	16.7	17.2	17.7
25	10.1	10.6	11.1	11.6	12.2	12.7	13.2	13.7	14.2	14.8	15.3	15.8	16.3	16.8	17.4
26	9.9	10.4	10.9	11.4	11.9	12.4	12.9	13.5	14.0	14.5	15.0	15.5	16.0	16.5	17.0
27	9.7	10.2	10.7	11.2	11.7	12.2	12.7	13.2	13.7	14.2	14.7	15.2	15.7	16.2	16.7
28	9.5	10.0	10.5	11.0	11.5	12.0	12.5	13.0	13.5	13.9	14.4	14.9	15.4	15.9	16.4
29	9.4	9.8	10.3	10.8	11.3	11.8	12.3	12.7	13.2	13.7	14.2	14.7	15.1	15.6	16.1
30	9.2	9.7	10.2	10.6	11.1	11.6	12.0	12.5	13.0	13.5	13.9	14.4	14.9	15.4	15.8
31	9.1	9.5	10.0	10.5	10.9	11.4	11.9	12.3	12.8	13.3	13.7	14.2	14.7	15.1	15.6
32	8.9	9.4	9.8	10.3	10.7	11.2	11.7	12.1	12.6	13.0	13.5	14.0	14.4	14.9	15.3
33	8.8	9.2	9.7	10.1	10.6	11.0	11.5	11.9	12.4	12.8	13.3	13.7	14.2	14.7	15.1

How to read the 27 m Table –

Example 1 A bowl takes 12.4 seconds to run 23.2 m
 Look down the Red Metre Column till you reach the 23m line
 Proceed sideways until you reach the Blue 11.8 -12.2 Sec Vertical Column .The figure in that square is 13.2 – That is the speed of that green over 27 m.

Example 2 A bowl takes 14.3 seconds to run 30.5 m
 Look down the Metre Column till you reach the 30m line go sideways towards the right until you reach the 13– 14.2 second column .
 The figure in that square is 13.5 - That is the speed of that green over 27 m

Note The above table only covers the distances run by hand delivery.

Equivalent Distances off a small stimpmeter to Seconds over 27.0m

3.50 – 3.85m =	10.00 secs	6.20 – 6.60m =	13.50 secs
3.85 – 4.20m =	10.50 secs	6.60 – 7.00m =	14.00 secs
4.20 – 4.60m =	11.00 secs	7.00 – 7.50m =	14.50 secs
4.60 – 5.00m =	11.50 secs	7.50 – 8.00m =	15.00 secs
5.00 – 5.40m =	12.00 secs	8.00 – 8.40m =	15.50 secs
5.40 – 5.80m =	12.50 secs	8.40 – 8.80m =	16.00 secs
5.80 – 6.20m =	13.00 secs	8.80 – 9.15m =	16.5 secs

2.0 THE DRAW AND WEIGHT

Determining whether there are any inconsistencies in the draw and weight is the most difficult of all the assessments an inspector will do when inspecting a green.

At the same time it is probably the one which affects the players most. All the players expect is consistency and predictability in the draw.

Whatever method is used to determine the draw there would never be sufficient time to test the draw for every possible position of the jack.

2.1 Factors influencing the Draw and Weight

- The Bowl - Manufacturers have since 1968 been allowed to manipulate the bias within certain prescribed limits. When testing a green all the bowls used must have the same bias.
- Speed – The width of the draw is directly related to the speed of the green - The faster the green the wider the draw.
- Nap 95% of the grasses used on South African greens have a tendency to “follow the sun” i.e the leaves will point to the north-east in the morning and north-west in the afternoon. The leaves will tend to ‘push’ the bowl towards north e.g. a bowl delivered from the west towards the east will have a wider draw on the forearm than the backhand.
The severity of the “push” will depend on the rigidity of the leaves which varies with the cultivar.

Other Considerations –

These lie within the ambit of good greens management.

- Levels - Any variation in the levels of more than 4.00 mm over 2.5 m will influence the draw and the weight.
- Variations in the texture of the Grass Two Possibilities
 - A green with more than one variety of grass – As each variety has its own texture so will the mat be thicker or thinner and thus influence the consistency of the run and draw.
 - A green where the Green keeper has not maintained the mat at a constant thickness. e.g. Weak or bare areas on the green will allow the bowl to run more freely and widen the draw over those areas.
- Wind and Rain - A strong wind would influence the run of the bowl and give either an exaggerated or a diminished draw. Rain would slow down the green. In which case the inspector must make allowances.

2.2 Assessing the Draw

Visual Assessment - Delivering bowls and taking note of the draw and weight
Two members of the inspection team will deliver bowls on the forearm and backhand on Rinks 1,3, and 5 in one direction and Rinks 2,4,and 6 in the other direction.
The inspectors should observe the run of the bowl paying special attention to -the extent of the draw

- any obvious deviations in the draw
- smoothness
- distance run

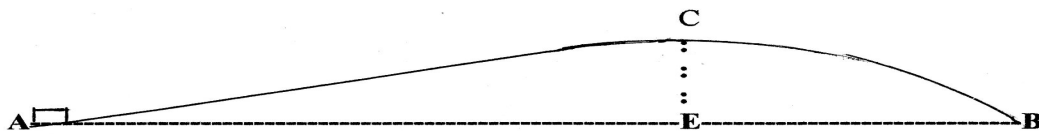
If any of the rinks not tested should show evidence of uneven patches then these should also be tested.

If, as a result of the assessment the inspector is of the opinion that one or more of the rinks showed inconsistencies then these should be examined again.

Measuring the Draw - Normally there would not be enough time actually to measure the draw but there might be instances where a measurement might be necessary.

The procedure is as follows -

- i) A member of the inspection team delivers a bowl on the backhand towards an imaginary jack at **B**.
- ii) Another member of the team will take up position about 18 m from the mat along the projected line the bowl will run.
- iii) This member will study the run of the bowl and place a marker at the widest point (**C**)
- iv) When the bowl has come to rest the person delivering the bowl will line up an imaginary line from the point of delivery to where the bowl has come to rest (**AB**).
- v) The person who marked the widest part of the draw at point **C** will now measure the distance from point **C** to **AB** i.e line **CE**.
- vi) **CE** will be the "width of the draw"



The process is repeated on the forearm

2.3 By Observation

Because inspections are, sometimes, scheduled for a certain date and that inclement weather or other unforeseen circumstances make it impossible to test the draw the inspector will have to rely on a visual assessment of the draw.

The inspector should examine the rinks and make a note of any areas or patches, which might signify that, the resistance over those patches could be different from that of the surrounding areas.

He could also refer to his findings in the level profile, and run-off eg.

- (a) Variations in the resistance e.g. Bare or Weak Areas, Uneven Mat, foreign grass or "soft areas".
- (b) Discrepancies in the levels as indicated by the level profile.
- (c) Bumps or hollows.

It is now up to the inspector to decide whether such deficiencies on the green are severe enough to affect the consistency of the draw.

When a green is being inspected for a SA Tournament **it can only be assessed as the inspector sees it on that day** even if the weather conditions are unfavourable.

2.4. Inspections for SA Tournaments

Bowls SA allocates their tournaments well in advance and the District Greens Committee will have at least a year in which to prepare for the tournament.

The individual clubs will soon know whether they will be considered for the short list of clubs to host the tournament. They will have to plan their greens management

programme not only for the tournament itself but also for the inspection by Bowls SA Greens Standing Committee..

It is most annoying to the SA Inspection team to arrive at a club only to find that –

- a) They are working on the greens (Scarifying, verticutting or top-dressing)
- b) They are watering a green
- c) They have not mowed the greens or are just about to do so.

What it amounts to is that the green cannot really be assessed and the Inspectors have to rely on their own visual evaluation of the greens and their own assessment of the GKP.

It is accepted that there are many greens where it would be impossible to bring a green to it's peak for the inspection 6 weeks before the tournament and then to peak again for the duration of the tournament.

The Inspectors are normally experienced enough to make allowances for such a situation as long as the potential for improvement is obvious

GREENS EVALUATION REPORT SHEET

CLUB _____ . DATE _____ GREEN _____ .

INSPECTORS _____ . GREENKEEPER _____ .

WEATHER CONDITIONS _____ .

SUB SECTION - A - Legal Considerations

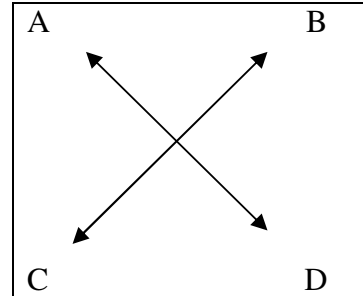
PEGS
BANKS
DITCHES
EQUIPMENT

SUB SECTION - B - Playing Surface

		POINTS	
1	Grass cover	20	
2	Compaction/Roots	10	
3	Pests	10	
4	Foreign Grass	10	
5	Appearance/ Smoothness	10	
6	Run Off	10	
7	Levels	30	
TOTAL		100	

SUB SECTION - C - STIMPMETER

Test Direction from center.



SPEED = >7.0m=Fast, 5.0 -7m= Acceptable, <4,6m= Slow

	DIST	COMMENTS
A		
B		
C		
D		
Average Speed		

Draw may be affected by Levels & Foreign Grass.

DRAW = Wide – Acceptable - Narrow

RINK	DIR	F/H	B/H
	N/S		
	N/S		
	N/S		
	S/N		
	S/N		
	S/N		
RINK	DIR	F/H	B/H
	E/W		
	E/W		
	E/W		
	W/E		
	W/E		
	W/E		

Comments.

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SECTION	PTS	TOTAL
SEC B	100	
GRADING		

A = 100 – 90 B = 89 – 75
C = 74 - 60 D = < 60