



TO THE POINT

Issue 1/2018

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1. THE OBJECTIVES OF "TO THE POINT"

"To the Point" is a communicative quarterly article issued under the aegis of Bowls South Africa and written on their behalf by the members of the National Standing Committee - Technical Officials. It is sent to all Bowls Club Secretaries and is available on the Bowls South Africa web site.

The basic objectives of "To the Point" are:

- a) To stay in communication with bowlers on legal matters of interest.
- b) To make mention of some lesser known and/or misunderstood laws of the Sport of Bowls.
- c) To explain and clarify, in a pleasing way any misinterpretations of specific laws as those laws apply to the Sport of Bowls
- d) To stimulate an interest among bowlers that will assist in improving their knowledge and enjoyment of the game by knowing what is permissible and "What should not be done".
- e) To train willing bowlers to become competent Markers and Technical Officials by conducting Outcomes Based Courses approved by the Department of Training and Education under the South African Qualification Authority Act of 1995. To attain this objective courses are conducted by suitably qualified Technical Officials in the Districts.

2. NEW COURSE MATERIAL

The National Technical Officials Standing Committee is in the process of updating the course Material for all the courses to bring them into line with International Standards.

A new Course is to be introduced for Advanced Markers. This Course is for Markers who do not wish to become Umpires but would like to Mark at a Higher level Level 1 Umpires who do not wish to upgrade to a Level 2 Umpire are also able to do this course.

The new Course Material will be circulated to Districts Standing Committees later this year.

3. RECOGNISING A STROKE

A neurologist has quoted that if he can get to a stroke victim within 3 minutes, he can totally reverse the effects – **totally**. He said the secret was getting a stroke recognised, diagnosed, and getting the patient medically cared for within 3 hours, which is tough.

Sometimes the symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify and unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer severe brain damage when people nearby fail to recognise the symptoms of a stroke.

S Ask the person to **S** mile.

T Ask the person to **T** alk

R Ask the person to **R** aise both arms.

If the person has trouble with any one of these tasks, get them to hospital **IMMEDIATELY**

Another sign of a stroke is this:

Ask the person to stick out their tongue. If the tongue is crooked or if it goes to one side, it is an indication of a stroke.

4. THE ADVANTAGES OF KNOWING THE LAWS

During a Level 3 course one of the group exercises was that each group worked through the law book and compiled a list of all the advantages a team has over a team who does not know the laws. Each group came up with an unbelievably long list, including:

- a) Giving away the mat after you won the toss.
- b) The marking of touchers.
- c) All the options a skip (team) has after a bowl or the jack is displaced during play, either by their own player, an opponent or a neutral person or object.

If you are a qualified Technical Official it is worth your while to update your knowledge. If

you are not a qualified Technical Official you should consider attending the next course presented in your district.

How is it possible for a person take part in and enjoy a sport if they do not know the rules of that sport?

It is unbelievable how many district players do have a law book, but is it the current edition?

5. BOWLS SHOES

Most bowlers are acutely aware of the steady rate of inflation being experienced and with this in mind people look for acceptable alternatives. Bowls shoes is often a factor in this direction. Bowls South Africa's Domestic Regulations and Conditions of Play describe the requirements for bowls shoes for both men and women:

Players, umpires and Markers shall wear conventional shoes or sports shoes which have a continuous smooth sole, with a channel rise in the middle of the sole, as long as the sole is clearly in one piece and the heel area does not sit a different height to the front of the shoe. To assist with traction the sole can have indented grooves up to 2 mm (thickness of a matchstick), but no protuberances. The width of the rear part of the shoe shall be at least 50% of the widest part of the sole. Conventional sandals are acceptable providing that they have a back strap. The National Authority reserves the right to allow or disallow the use of specific colours and brands of footwear.

Having digested all of that, the writer was asked to assess a specific brand, a very comfortable and durable shoe. No names and no pack drill. The upper part of the shoe is totally acceptable. The only problem not permitting this type of shoe to be worn on a bowling green is the design of the sole.

The indented grooves are too deep, of a "V" shape making the sole unsuitable. Added to this there are protuberances from the ridges at the bottom of the sole. These factors do not bode well for the green.

As stated at the start, people are very aware of the steady rate of inflation being experienced and this also impacts on the maintenance cost of the green. In this regard, the sole of a bowls shoe should cause the minimum amount of wear and tear to the surface of the green.

It is however very strange to stand alongside a green and see all the bright coloured shoes players are wearing.

6. QUESTION

Senario; The team winning the toss, plays the first end of the trial ends and decide where they want the jack. They decided on a short jack.

The opposition then placed a second jack on the 2 meter mark for the skip to play to. (Pairs Game)

The question is, is it allowed?

The opposing skip reasoning was because one can play with bowls from 2 or more sets of bowls during Trial ends one can use a second jack.? And place a second mat at his own distance?

Answer:

It is not allowed as the law does not allow play to two jacks.

Law 5.1.5 Each player can use any combination of bowls taken from different sets of bowls

Law 5.1.6 The opponents of the team which started the first trial end must start the second trial end.

Law 5.1.7 The team which starts the trial end must place the mat, deliver the Jack and place the Jack on the centre line of the rink at the distance they choose from the mat line. (The distance must not be changed during the course of the trial end)

Two trial ends are played so that each team can practice to the length the prefer.

7. QUESTION

The lead in a pairs game places the mat incorrectly - a meter to the left of the centre line (the rinks had been moved and previous lines were visible). All 8 bowls are delivered. When the skips go to the mat to deliver their bowls they realise the mat is not on the centre line. The skips decided to replay the end. What is the correct ruling?

Answer

Law 6.2.3 If the mat is off the centre line it must be moved to that line.

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Copies of this newsletter will be circulated to
all District Secretaries and are available on
the Bowls SA web site.