



TO THE POINT

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1. BOWLS LIFTERS

According to the Law, bowls lifters become part of the player using them and are therefore not Neutral Objects on the rink of play.

Unfortunately most players using these lifters do not place them on the bank fully beyond the face of the bank, and they are often left standing or lying on the green. They then become a danger to other players who trip over them or get caught up on them and players have often fallen over them and hurt themselves. They are often "forgotten" at the mat end and play is delayed while their owners have to walk back to the mat end to collect them before the next end commences thus delaying the game.

While the Laws of the Sport of Bowls makes allowances for players with Disabilities to use "aids" to assist them. The use of Bowls lifters is becoming a problem in that players are not being considerate or careful enough with them. Often Skips or Thirds are seen directing play with the lifter. Recently, a skip directing play with the lifter, moved the Jack and merely told one of his team mates to "just put it back for me"! The second picked up the Jack and put it where he thought it had been. The opposing players objected and said that he had not placed it its original position and the Skip in question told them that he had the right to put it back where he thought it had been. His argument was that it had been accidentally moved by his lifter and that no-one was responsible for the illegal

action and put the bowl back to its former position.

A few ends later, the same team were playing a short end and the offending lifter was left on the green at the mat end, close to the boundary of the rink. A bowl from the rink next door, on its original course, ran into the lifter and the players on that rink of play picked the bowl up and put it on the bank and complained to the player to whom the lifter belonged about leaving the lifter on the green. Now, in this case the lifter was a Neutral agency and that bowl should have been replayed. Lifters are a hazard during thunder storms too as they become conductors of lightning and should be left on the bank when players are called off the green during such storms, however, this is often not done.

My question is. Should these lifters be allowed on the greens and if so, should there be specific rules on the correct use of them.

2. After playing a few ends in a game, the players realise the centre line marks are not in the centre of the rink! They appeal to the umpire. What should the umpire do?



Dotted line is the chalk marks the green keeper put down but the true centre is the thin line. The rink markers on the bank were in the correct position. This error was caused by the green keeper using the wrong mark on the ditch board to align the string with.

Answer: Stop the game until green keeper can correct the situation and then allow play to continue but perhaps if the umpire had checked the green before play started this might not have happened!

3. Team Managers Responsibilities

It is critical to the performance of a side or team that the Manager is conversant with the laws but also the Conditions of Play and the Modus Operandi for that specific tournament. Both these documents contain information that could influence the outcome of a match or the final result. An example of this is the significance of the team declaration form used when a side format of play is used, such as at the inter district championships. This form, which is completed by the Manager, is submitted to the Event Committee thirty minutes prior to the start of each round. It dictates who will be playing in which position and on what rink and cannot be changed once it has been submitted, except for the use of a reserve or substitute should an individual player be unable to continue playing for a reason acceptable to the Event Committee. Should any change be made it will result in the side forfeiting all the points for the match to the opponents, who will receive the average positive shots for from the other sides in the section.

Question: Can that player resume play during that match should they recover
Answer: Yes, but they must play in their former position.

4. Conditions of play for a District for all games played in ROUND ROBIN format. Read as follows:

Only the first 2 burnt ends will be replayed. Any other ends will be re-spotted on the 2 meter mark.

Scenario:

Team A burnt 2 ends that was replayed.

On the last end team B burnt the end.

The jack must now be respotted to the 2 meter mark.

Team B is now complaining that THEY only burnt 1 end.

Solution/suggestions

1. By entering a competition you've already agreed to conditions of play.
2. During the game 2 ends were burnt irrespective of which team did it.

So therefor the teams must be aware of it - thus according to conditions of play the Jack must be re- spotted to the 2 meter mark.

My Question

1. What is the reason for only allowing 2 burnt ends?
2. Will it not be fair to say "only 2 burnt ends PER TEAM?"
3. If the reason is to save time why not re- spot burnt ends to 2 meter mark right from the start of the game?
 1. Conditions of play must be thoroughly done in line with laws of the game, fairness and sportsmanship.
 2. Players/Teams/Clubs MUST READ AND KNOW THE CONDITIONS OF PLAY WHEN THEY ENTER FOR COMPETITIONS.
 3. By knowing your rules and conditions of play a lot of unpleasant incidents will not happen

5. In the January issue of To the Point we highlighted the Duties of the Umpire and yet we still get complaints from Players about Umpires being non-biased or showing bias towards one team over the others.

It is most unprofessional and certainly not what Umpires are all about, and cannot be allowed..

It was reported to me that an Umpire during a recent league game, stood on

the bank where his team was playing on and was heard to pass remarks like “great shot John” and “Wow that’s a match winning draw Ronny” when his club mates played a good shot.

This is totally wrong and the Umpire should be severely disciplined. However the person who reported the matter refused to divulge the Umpires name or name the club where he played.

Please Umpires this kind of behaviour is not on. **Umpires (and Markers) are to remain unbiased at all times!!!**

6. In a competition Skip A delivers his first bowl draws the shot, third of Team A excited goes down and starts measuring for shot now 2 up in last end of game. Before shots are conceded or removed from head 3rd of Team B stops 3rd of Team A. Skip of Team B informs Skip of Team A he can no longer deliver his remaining bowl and Skip of Team B can deliver both remaining bowls. Skip B delivers and moves jack for 3 and draws another with last bowl and wins the competition. Ship A queries the situation with the umpire. What would your decision be ?

Refer law 23.3

No measuring (that is, the use of equipment, such as that described in law 54, placed between the jack and bowls to decide which bowls are shot) will be allowed before the process of deciding the number of shots scored starts (as described in law 49.

If a player measures before the process of deciding the number of shots scored starts, the defaulting team will lose the right to play any bowls remaining to be played in that end and the non-defaulting team will deliver their remaining bowls to complete the end.

Just a query :

Playing a league match the opposition team has a disabled wheelchair bowler Team B. Team A places mat onmetemark

disabled player says mat must be placed 3 meter up, by request and informs this is in the Laws.

To answer this query, the 3m is a recommendation from Disabled Bowls SA but is not a Law (as Laws can only be changed by World Bowls) when playing with disabled players to allow space for bowls and wheel-chairs behind the mat. However, if the other Lead wants to place the mat 2m, they are entitled to do so!

MEMBERS BSATOSC



Bob Standon was not yet on our Committee when this photo was taken but the situation will be rectified at the earliest possible opportunity.

Comments may be E-mailed to any of the Committee Members.

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