



TO THE POINT

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1. BLAAIBORD (“FLIP BORD”) OPERATEURS

Die blaaibordoperateur is 'n integrale lid van die tegniese span wat die merker help in 'n enkelspel..

Dit is 'n individuele persoon wat onbaatsugtig hul eie tyd en vaardighede aanbied om by 'n toernooi dienste te lewer. Dit is 'n vrywillige werk en somtyds ook 'n ondankbare diens wat vir liefde van die sport gelewer word. Meer toegeeflikheid en erkenning van hierdie onbaatsugtige opoffering en diens deur Toernooibeamptes en spelers is genoeg beloning vir 'n merker en sal ook as aansporing dien om hierdie diens te lewer.

HOEKOM BENODIG ONS BLAAIBORD OPERATEURS?

a) Vanuit die toeskouers se oogpunt:

- i) Die spel gedurende die toernooi sal meer interessant wees vir die toeskouers
- ii) Die toeskouers sal nie net die afgelewerde balle sien en nie maar ook die punte en die aantal skofte wat reeds gespeel is.
- iii) Die toeskouers sal die vordering van die spel kan sien asook die belangrikheid van die speel van skote op die gegewe tyd om die spel te wen of te verloor

b) Vanuit die spelers se oogpunt:

- i) Hul het 'n maklike verwysing na die huidige telling.
- ii) Hul kan konsentreer op hul spel en taktiek om te weet wat hul moet doen in die hoeveelheid skofte om die spel te wen. In enkelspel kan daar meer as 21 skofte gespeel word.

c) Vanuit die merker se oogpunt:

i) Die blaaibord is 'n konstante verwysing vir die merker om te verseker dat die telkaart korrek is.

d) Vanuit die tegniesebeampte se oogpunt :

- i) Om die vordering van die spel te sien asook koördinering met telbord en die skoonmaak van die bord indien meer as 21 skofte gespeel word
- ii) Paraat wees om dan voorbereidings te tref vir die volgende spel indien dit op daardie spesefieke baan gespeel gaan word .

DIE ORGANISEERDERS KAN DIE BLAAIBORD OPERATEUR BYSTAAN DEUR NA DIE VOLGENDE ASPEKTE OM TE SIEN

- a) Te reel vir sitplek en skadu – wedstryde word in die son gespeel en kan uitputtend wees en onnodige beweging kan spelers afekteer.
- b) Hulle moet voortdurend op speler en merker konsentreer en daar moet genoegsame voorsiening gemaak word vir water.

2. Foot Faulting

At the S A Masters during February this year one or two people were called for Foot Faulting. This caused a bit of a storm in a tea cup as there were those who told the Technical Officials that they were being pedantic and over officious. When the Inter Districts came around a different lot of Technical Officials called these same players for foot faulting and a number of Videos were taken to back up their decisions. The NTOSC decided to refer the situation to the World Bowls Laws Committee for their ruling and the

following ruling was posted on the World Bowls Web Site

During play at the recent South Africa Masters, a player stood two metres behind the mat and took two steps forward onto the mat and delivered a bowl, all in one continuous action. The umpire warned the player that they were foot-faulting, as they were not standing on the mat before commencing delivery of their bowl

This matter was brought forward to the LC by the Bowls South Africa National Standing Committee Technical Officials (NSCTO), seeking confirmation that the official's interpretation of the laws was correct.

Laws of the Sport

Law 7.1 states that "Before delivery a player must be standing on the mat with all or part of at least one foot on the mat." Law 7.3 states that "Any player not meeting the terms of this law is committing a foot-fault, and law 8 will apply."

Law 8 describes the procedures to be taken by an umpire who decides that a player has not met the terms of law 7. "The umpire must, on the first occasion, warn the player in the presence of the skip and advise the coach when they are present that a warning has been given." On all subsequent occasions, the player's delivered bowl is stopped and declared dead.

Laws Committee (LC) Clarification

The LC agrees that the player in question was foot-faulting, and that the actions taken by the umpire were appropriate and correct.

The LC agrees that the player in question commenced their delivery from a position behind the mat where neither foot was in contact with the mat. The LC also concurs with the opinion of the NSCTO that the intent of Law 7.1 is to prevent any player from running or stepping forward onto the

mat in a continuous motion in order to accelerate their delivery.

The NTOSC was thus correct in their ruling that these persons were in fact foot faulting and have requested the District Standing Committees where these persons reside to take steps to help these people to correct their stance on the Mat. Perhaps in conjunction with the Coaches.

3.ITO Accreditation

The NTOSC have been (with the approval of the President of BSA, Mr Rob Forbes) in contact with Mr Roger Black who is in charge of the Accreditation of ITO's for World Bowls, in connection with Accreditation for a number of Level 3 Umpires who wish to be considered for this Accreditation, and in particular for Jeanette Williams, the only ITO in Africa, to be reaccredited.

Obviously with the Corona 19 Virus all International Bowls Tournaments have been cancelled for this year, and in this vein obviously all Accreditations for ITOS as well. However, we have been informed that any Level 3 Technical Official who wishes to be considered for this accreditation may download the application form from the World Bowls Web Site, under Umpires Development and complete it.

Once these forms have been completed they must be forwarded to the NTOSC member responsible for their District who will then approve the application which will then be sent to the Convener of the NTOSC who will counter sign it and send it to BSA for submission to World Bowls. Clearly we cannot send these in, in dribs and drabs so they will be kept until a few have been received before they are sent to World Bowls. We would like to suggest that anyone wanting to apply for this Accreditation send their forms in to their respective NTOSC representative by the end of September this year for submission to World Bowls.

4. Law 17.2.5 Bowl dead or alive (on World Bowls Website)

A request was received from the CEO of World Bowls for an interpretation relating to law 17.2.5 and whether a non-toucher bowl, resting on live bowls or the jack in the ditch, is a live bowl. We were informed that this issue had been referred to the National Officiating Committee of a MNA, and that the NOC had ruled that the bowl was dead, but the issue was still being questioned at a Technical Official level.

Basis of Inquiry

Law 17.2.5 states “A bowl is not dead if it comes to rest on top of the jack or any bowls that are at rest within the boundaries of the rink.”

The rink and its boundaries are defined within the Laws, starting with these two terms –

C.27-1 – Rink – the section of the green on which a game is played.

C.27.2 – Rink of play – the section of the green and the corresponding sections of the end ditches on which a game is played.

The inquiry contends that the ditch is within the boundaries of the rink, therefore any bowl which comes to rest on top of any live bowls or jack in the ditch is still live.

The National Officiating Committee decision is that a bowl sitting on live bowls or the jack in the ditch is dead unless it is a toucher.

Laws Committee Decision

The Laws Committee agrees with the National Officiating Committee decision that the bowl in question is dead.

Law 17.1 is explicit in its intention and states, in 17.1.1, that a bowl is a dead bowl if “it is not a toucher and comes to rest in the ditch;”

Law 17.2.4 allows for a toucher to come to rest on top of the jack or another toucher at rest in the ditch.

It is the Committee’s view that law 17.2.5 explicitly relates to the **rink** (the section of the green on which a game is played) and does not include the ditch, which is a part of the **rink of play**. The prior law 17.2.4 applies to the ditch.

The Committee has also considered law 17.2.2, which also refers to a bowl coming to rest “within the boundaries of the rink” as not being a dead bowl. Further, law 16.1.3 allows for a non-toucher to come to rest in contact with live bowls and the jack in the ditch, as long a part of that non-toucher remains in contact with the rink.

This inquiry raises some issues regarding definitions that need to be looked at when the Laws of the Sport are next reviewed, but the Committee is unanimous in its decision that the only bowls that can be considered in play in the ditch must be touchers.

The Committee also considers that law 17.2.5 should be looked at again at the time of the next Law review. The likelihood of any bowl coming to rest on the top of the jack or any bowls at rest on the rink is remote, in the Committee’s view, which brings into question the relevance of the law.

4. Covid19

BSA have been petitioning the necessary Government Departments to allow Bowling Clubs to re-open with little success. While we all wish we could be back on the Bowling Greens we are obliged to conform to Government regulations and stay at home. We all feel frustrated and most of us have severe Cabin Fever but we must be mindful of the fact that most of us are over 60 years old and therefore considered to be at a higher risk to contract this dreaded Virus. Sadly, a number of the smaller clubs are at risk of having to close due to lack of income, but I am sure that once we receive the green light to go back to our

wonderful sport, all efforts will be made by all Bowlers to support and assist those clubs who are suffering the most.

5. Return to Play - Bowls South Africa

With a view to the eventual resumption of play at our bowls clubs Bowls South Africa (BSA) would like to put in place a document that details protocols that we believe will satisfy health and safety protocols that are compliant to generally accepted standards which, we believe, allow clubs to operate within an environment that minimises risk to Covid-19 exposure.

All decisions regarding the conditions under which clubs may resume activities will be strictly in line with those as prescribed by the relevant authorities. Please also note these recommendations are applicable to the greens and such clubhouse areas as are needed for sanitation purposes. Recommendations for controls in the bar should follow the guidelines as recommended by the relevant authorities as and when sale of alcohol is allowed for on-premise consumption.

CLUBHOUSE

- a. Clubhouses should, where possible, undertake a deep cleaning process of the areas that may be subject to use prior to the first return of players.
- b. Hand sanitisers must be available at all entrances. Players should carry their own sanitisers in the event that there is no availability at the club.
- c. Face masks covering the nose and mouth must be worn at all times.
- d. Spare unused face masks in a sealed container to be available for persons who arrive without their face mask.
- e. All toilets to have liquid hand soap dispensers and paper towels.

f. An emphasis must be placed on accepted social distancing protocols throughout the clubhouse.

g. Where possible it is recommended that advertising material enhancing the messages associated with good health and safety protocols should be prominently displayed in the clubs. (Electronic versions of these suggested posters will be made available so that they can be printed locally).

h. Body temperature measuring devices must be available and all persons entering the premises must be subject to check with this.

i. In order to facilitate follow up in the event of a person contracting Covid-19 a record must be kept of all people visiting the club. As membership details are available a name of the member will suffice. In the case of a visitor using the clubs greens then contact details must be obtained. No other visitors other than are allowed on the club premises.

j. Clubs will need to implement a booking system as no walk-ins will be permitted. Please note that through the BSA database there is a function that allows green space to be booked in time slots such as the club decides.

k. Only those persons who are going to play bowls may attend at the club no visitors or spectators are allowed.

l. No alcohol may be sold or consumed either in the clubhouse or on the green.

m. Access to the clubhouse will be limited to the toilet area.

GREENS

a. Sufficient quantities of hand sanitisers to be available at each green.

b. Mats and jacks must be disinfected before play starts and at the end of each session.

c. No scoreboards are to be used. If scoring is needed then one player must keep a scorecard.

d. To minimise contact with the jacks this should not be delivered in the normal manner but placed by foot by the person entitled to do so.

e. Appropriate social distancing protocols must be in place in accordance with the provisions allowed. Thus for example initially there might only be a maximum of four people will be allowed per rink and a vacant rink must be between each rink. These criteria will be adopted to meet allowances granted and should be changed to meet allowances as given. Once clarity is given on this matter these guidelines will be communicated to all concerned. Accepted physical distance between players is 1.5 meters.

f. No bowls equipment can be shared between players (e.g. bowls, cloths, measures etc.)

g. It is recommended that club bowls should not be used but if unavoidable then these must be disinfected prior to and after use.

h. Players are not to shake hands with each other.

i. No barefoot bowls will be allowed.

j. No water is to be provided at the green. Players must bring their own bottled water, or refreshment of their choice, to the green. This may not be shared with other players.

k. Players should practice safe hygiene at all times including sanitising hands before and after the conclusion of play.

l. Players should leave the premises as soon as practical after the end of their session. They must not loiter around for the purposes of having discussions.

All decisions about resumption of sport and recreation activities must take place with careful reference to the guidelines

and legislation as implemented by the National, Provincial or Municipal authorities and there

may be no participation outside of these regulations. Anyone seeking clarity on any of the legislation must do so through their appropriate governing authority.

All players are urged to apply all protocols that will significantly enhanced risk mitigation including those outlined above and to ensure such protocols are carried out throughout the time the club or its facilities are being used.

It is furthermore recommended, where possible, that each club appoint a suitably qualified person to act as

health and safety officer with specific reference to Covid-19 and its symptoms. This person need not necessarily be a member of the club but ideally should be a person who has experience in the medical industry.

It is understood that there may be further regulations issued by the National Government or its authorities and that this document must be read in conjunction with those regulations. At such time as these are issue

BSA will communicate on the matter to ensure clarity on uniformity on all matters pertinent to the management and control of Covid-19 is effectively implemented.

Do not attend OR participate in groups or practice alone if:

- You are feeling ill. Symptoms of the coronavirus can include fever (temperature of 37.8c as defined by the CDC), cough, difficulty breathing, and other symptoms as outlined by the CDC website.

- If you have been exposed to COVID-19 in the prior 14 days.

- If you are unsure about whether to attend or participate in practice due to possible symptoms OR exposure, it is

recommended you contact your health care provider.

PLEASE NOTE AND IS ONCE AGAIN EMPHASISED THAT THIS DOCUMENT SHOULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS PERMISSION TO RESUME PLAYING BOWLS BUT IS MERELY TO SERVE AS A MINIMUM GUIDELINE FOR CLUBS TO BE USED AS AND WHEN THE GOVERNMENT ISSUES SUCH

5. Laws Quiz on Facebook

The NTOSC have been working with the One Sport for All Face Book Page by posting Questions about the Laws of the Sport of Bowls and we are happy to see that many bowlers are actually participating in this quiz. HOWEVER, it has also brought to our attention the fact that many existing Technical Officials need to do a Refresher Course as they seem to have forgotten the Laws (or lost their Law Books). Clearly there is a lot of work for us to do once this Lock Down ends. Hopefully the questions posed on the Facebook page will encourage many non Umpires to do the course and learn all about the Laws of our beloved game.

In the mean time Stay Safe, hang in there, and wash your hands.



This photo will be replaced by photos of the existing Committee for the next edition of To the Point.



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