

BOWLS SURREY NEWSLETTER

Issue 7/2022

It's the end of July and all of the County competitions have been completed and a clever few are off to Leamington in August or September. I hope all of your Club competitions are also in full flow. The nights are drawing in and leagues are coming to an end ... can you believe we are closer to the end of the 2022 season than we are to the beginning. Good luck for the rest of your season. Charlotte

Middleton Cup

Beat the Sussex Men and made it to the National Quarter Final where sadly they were beaten by the men from Berkshire.

Johns Trophy

Beat Sussex Ladies and then beat Kent in the National Quarter Final. Their next game is at Leamington on 28th AUGUST at 9.30am.

Supporters are welcome.

Walker Cup

Won their game against the Berkshire Ladies but lost in the next round against Kent.

Balcomb Trophy

The squad lost to Berkshire in the first round.

Questions for an Umpire

I have been out and about a lot in the past month and have been asked many many questions. A lot of them have to do with Markers and what they should and shouldn't be doing so I have included a second page and a full list of the Markers duties. If you play singles, or are a marker or if you just happen to mark in your club please READ the law in full.

I was playing a singles and the Marker kept asking how far up the mat was to see if the jack was at 23 metres. I told them to stop asking as surely it is down to us the players to decide.

NO - it is one of the markers duties to ask and to check if the jack is a legal length. The marker was correct to ask if the jack looks short.

Question - The marker accidentally moves the jack while measuring. What should happen?

Law 38.4.1 If the jack is displaced by the equipment being used by the marker during measuring, the marker must put the jack back to a position agreed by the opponents. If the opponents cannot agree, the marker must put the jack back to its former position.

This one happened!

Singles Semi Finals and all 6 rinks are being used. Rink 3 player fires and hits the head, the jack goes towards the head on rink 2. The jack hits a bowl that is at rest in the head of rink 2 moving it sideways, then the jack bounced back and hit a bowl that had been delivered by the player on rink 2 and that was still on its original course. What should happen?

Well to start with the marker should have been paying attention and should have attempted to stop any damage to the head on rink 2. However that didnt happen. The umpire was called (luckily they had watched the whole thing and knew what had happened).

2 displacement laws come into play here - the bowl at rest and the bowl that had just been delivered.

37.3.4.1 If a bowl at rest is displaced by a neutral person or neutral object and it has not disturbed the head after it is displaced, the skips or opponents in Singles must agree on the former position of the bowl. If they cannot agree, they must declare the end dead. 37.3.2.2 If the bowl (on its original course) is displaced by a neutral object or neutral person and it has not disturbed the head, the skips or opponents in Singles must agree where the bowl would have come to rest. If they cannot agree, they must declare the end dead.

There was no agreement in this case even though one player was holding 3 shots and it looked like a 4th was coming in before all of this happened. Sadly the end had to be declared dead. If the marker had just stopped the jack then none of this would have happened. Markers - Protect your head.

Question - I was playing a singles game. I delivered the jack into the ditch, the marker returned the jack and told my opponent they could move the mat. When i complained he said 'she is new and doesn't know? Should he have done this?

Answer - NO! The marker should not be 'coaching' the players. Some aspects of the game should be learnt before the start of the competition. Harsh but True! However the marker was right that the mat could be moved - they just should not have communicated this to the players unless asked.

Question - Player 1 puts the jack in the ditch when delivering it. The jack is returned by the marker and Player 2 delivers the jack. They also misdeliver it - What happens next?

Law 10. The Jack now gets positioned by the marker on the full length position using the 2 meter stick. Player 1 now places the mat where they want (as long as it is legal).

I was playing an away game and my opponent kept walking back to the mat behind me and was only half way back while I was on the mat. I asked the marker to say something but they just said 'that's how he plays'. What should I have done.

The marker should have mentioned to the player that they were breaking the 'Possession law' and asked the player to ensure that they were either behind the mat or behind the head when they were not in possession.

42 The marker's duties

42.1 In the absence of an umpire, the marker must:

42.1.1 **make sure that all aspects of play are carried out in line with the Laws of the Sport of Bowls;**

42.1.2 make sure, before the game starts, that:

42.1.2.1 all bowls have a clearly visible, valid World Bowls Stamp imprinted on them;

42.1.2.2 the rink of play is the correct width in line with law 49.1 by measuring it; and

42.1.2.3 the pegs or discs on the side banks in the direction of play are the correct distances in line with law 49.12 by measuring them.

42.2 The marker must:

42.2.1 centre the jack;

42.2.2 **make sure that the jack is at least 23 metres from the mat line after it has been centred;**

42.2.3 place a jack that comes to rest less than 2 metres from the front ditch as described in law 9.2;

42.2.4 stand to one side of the rink, behind the jack and away from the head;

42.2.5 answer any specific question about the state of the head which is asked by the player in possession of the rink;

42.2.6 when asked, tell or show the player in possession of the rink the position of the jack;

42.2.7 when asked, tell or show the player in possession of the rink which bowl or bowls the marker considers to be shot;

42.2.8 when authorised by the Controlling Body, signal to players and spectators (using the appropriate number and colour of shot indicators or some other suitable method) which player's bowl or bowls the marker considers to be shot;

42.2.9 mark all touchers with chalk and remove the chalk marks from nontouchers as soon as they come to rest;

42.2.10 **stop any bowl that is from a neighbouring rink and could move a jack or bowl that is at rest;**

42.2.11 if both players agree, remove all dead bowls from the rink of play;

42.2.12 mark the position of a jack and any touchers which are in the ditch as described in laws 14.4 and 18.2;

42.2.13 not move, or cause to be moved, either the jack or any bowls until the players have agreed the number of shots scored; and

42.2.14 measure any disputed shot or shots when asked to do so by either player. If the players are not satisfied with the marker's decision, the marker must ask the umpire to do the measuring. If the Controlling Body has not appointed an umpire, the marker must choose a competent neutral person to act as the umpire. The umpire's decision is final.

42.3 When each end has been completed, the marker must:

42.3.1 record the score on the score card;

42.3.2 if scoreboards are not being used, tell the players the running totals of the scores; and

42.3.3 remove from the rink the mat used during the previous end, if necessary.

42.4 When the game has been completed, the marker must make sure that the score card:

42.4.1 **contains the names and signatures of the players;**

42.4.2 **contains the time at which the game was completed;** and

42.4.3 is dealt with in line with the Conditions of Play.