

Duties and Responsibilities of Each Bowler by Position

LEAD:

The Lead must learn where and how to set the mat.

The Lead must learn to deliver the jack close to the spot directed by the Skip. The Lead must be able to centre the jack using easily understood hand signals to the Skip.

The Lead must learn to perform a draw shot, using both the forehand and backhand delivery, to long, medium and short jacks. The Lead should learn how to deliver a block shot or a position shot (for example at a strategic location behind the jack).

The Lead must at all times respect the leadership of the skip and attempt to deliver the jack or shot requested by the Skip.

The Lead must have a general knowledge of the Laws of the Game.

SECOND:

The duty of the Second consists essentially of trying to complete the work of the Lead. The Second will draw to the jack most of the time, but always following the direction of the Skip. A Second should be able to deliver shots for position or blocking or other shots requested by the Skip.

A Second should begin to practice shots other than the draw shot, for example, moving up a bowl in the head by hitting that bowl.

A Second should know how to measure and have a good knowledge of the Rules of the Game.

THIRD/VICE-SKIP

The Third must be able to deliver any shot requested by the Skip – the draw, the raising of a team mate's bowl, moving the jack, a "wick", or a takeout shot. The Skip may call upon the Third to draw to the jack, "take out" a certain bowl, place a back bowl in a strategic area, block with a short bowl, tap up a bowl or wick in.

The Third takes the Skip's place when the Skip bowls in order to assist by informing the Skip of any changes in the head. Stand still at least one metre behind the jack. When the opposing team has the mat move well away from the Head so the opposing Third may communicate easily with his Skip.

The Third gives no directions to the Skip unless the head changes or the Skip asks for directions. The Third should notify the Skip at once of any change in the head and warn of any danger. Do not advise the skip on his next shot unless asked to do so by the Skip.

The Third is responsible for measuring so the Third should always carry a tape, chalk and a cloth on which to place "counting bowls". A Third must be able to measure accurately when there is any doubt as to who has the shot. The Third will give nothing away in measuring and will always check the opponent's findings as to scoring shots. The Skips will make the final decision if there is contention between the Thirds.

A Third should have a clear understanding of all of the Laws of the Game.

SKIP:

The Skip has sole charge of the team and should have a thorough knowledge of the game and the ability to carry out all shots required and to lead the team. A Skip needs both technical expertise and the temperament and personality to lead others.

The Skip must assess the capabilities of the team's own players and those of the opponents and formulate strategy based on this assessment.

The Skip needs to have mastered all types of shots. The Skip must have knowledge of standard signals and ensure that team members know the signals and use them. Good communication at all times is key.

The Skip, with the opposing Skip, will decide all disputed points. When Skips do not agree an Umpire shall decide the issue.

The Skip should be respectful at all times with all team members, while still being in charge. The Skip shall set an example in actions towards opponents and officials.

Generally the Skip will maintain the score card during a game.

The Skip shall have a very high degree of knowledge of the Laws of the Game.