

Some General Q and As

Note: reference to 'number 3s' should be read as 'number 2s' for triples play.

Where can you place the mat?

The mat is placed on the centre line with its front edge no less than 2 metres from the rear ditch or up to 25 metres from the front ditch. There are markers on the sides of the green showing these measurements.

What is the minimum length a jack must be delivered?

The jack must travel a minimum of 23 metres from the front of the mat.

What happens if the lead rolls the jack into the ditch, or out of the rink or doesn't cover 23 metres?

The jack will be returned and the opposing team have the option of moving the mat before delivering the jack.

Play will then resume as usual, with the original lead delivering the first bowl.

What happens if the jack is delivered incorrectly for a second time?

The skips will position the jack 2 metres from the front ditch using the 2 metre rod.

The original lead places the mat, ensuring that it is straight and centred, and delivers the first bowl.

What happens if a jack is hit and travels beyond the side boundaries of the rink.?

The end is considered to be a 'dead end' and is usually replayed from the original end unless the skips decide to use the target end.

Should any other team members examine the head during play?

No. It is the sole responsibility of the number 3 to examine the head and advise the skip.

Should other team members assist with measuring and determining the outcome of the end?

No. Other team members should concentrate on their own roles and stay back from the head whilst the number 3s are deciding who has won the end and what the score is.

How do you measure between a jack in the ditch and a bowl on the green?

The measuring string is reversed (unless the jack is too close to the front of the ditch).

The point of the casing is placed against the bowl and the other end of the string placed against the jack.

What happens if a jack hits the wall of the ditch and bounces back on to the green.

The jack stays where it has come to rest on the green and play continues.

Can team members question directions given by the skip?

Yes, but the skip's decision is final.

When should a toucher be marked with chalk?

A delivered bowl that touches the jack must be marked by a member of the team, or the marker, as soon as it comes to rest.

However, the toucher can be marked up until the next bowl comes to rest, after that it becomes a non-toucher as described in Law 15.3

In singles, who should challenge the minimum length of the jack?

The marker is responsible for making sure that the jack is at least 23 metres from the mat line, after it has been centred.

What distance does a bowl have to travel to be taken as a legal delivery?

A bowl must travel **at least 14 metres** from the mat before it can be declared a **delivered bowl**.

If a delivered bowl comes to rest at a distance of less than 14 metres, as measured in a straight line from the centre of the mat line, it is **not a legal delivery** and is treated as a **dead bowl** and may be removed from the rink.

If a player delivers another players bowl and it touches the jack, is the bowl that replaces it treated as a toucher?

Yes. When the correct bowl is carried to the head and replaces the offending bowl it is marked as if it touched the jack.

Some general considerations.

In order to ensure that the mat is placed centrally, it is advised that the lead turns around and faces the rink number as the mat is moved into position.

To ensure that the game progresses smoothly, be ready with your bowl when it is your turn.

Take your time on the mat, but do not delay. Vacate the mat once your bowl comes to rest or, if it is a toucher, once it has been chalked.

When a bowl is delivered, one of your feet must be on, or over, the mat as the bowl leaves your hand.

As you change ends, walked fairly swiftly up the middle of your rink and assume a position behind the head. Do not loiter looking at the shot count.

When standing at the head you should be positioned at least a metre behind the jack, when possible and, when the next person is on the mat, **keep very still**, with no arm waving or changing position.

Any general chat should be conducted at a low level.

The major green sizings.

