

THE MARKER'S DUTIES

The following information is excerpted from the *Laws of the Sport of Bowls*. See law 42, pages 33 – 34, *The Marker's Duties* for more information.

1. Etiquette for a marker:

- a. Remain totally impartial
- b. Give your constant attention to the game, players and adjacent rinks of the game you are marking
- c. Do not engage the players or other markers in conversation during the game
- d. Do not leave the rink/bank at any time during the game

2. Equipment needed:

- a. Scorecard and pencil
- b. String measure
- c. Chalk, spray chalk preferred – used to mark “toucher”
- d. Towel – to remove chalk marks from touchers on the previous end
- e. Set of wedges
- f. Umpire kit – contains a set of wedges to support bowls on a slant when measuring, long tape measure, calipers, mirror

3. Before play begins:

- a. Introduce yourself to the bowlers
 - i. Ask where they prefer you to stand (e.g., on the bank, to the side of the rink)
- b. Identify the logos of each player's bowls
- c. Ask the bowlers if they want you to keep score
 - i. The bowler are required to complete their own scorecards but may want to keep track of the score as a backup

4. Trial ends:

- a. Be sure the mat is centered
- b. Center the jack
- c. Do not stop or catch the jack or any bowl which is about to enter the ditch
- d. Move the bowl to the pile once it has come to rest
- e. Provide information on distance from the jack when the bowler is **next** on the mat
 - i. Once the bowl comes to rest, the bowler no longer has possession of the mat

5. Beginning an end:

- a. Be sure the mat centered
- b. Center the jack
 - i. When the jack is being delivered, stand to the side of the rink or centered at the ditch
- c. Markers are required to question a jack that may be too short
 - i. the jack must come to rest at least 21 meters from the front edge of the mat

- d. Spot the jack 2 meters from the ditch if it comes to rest between the 2-meter mark and the ditch
 - i. Place the jack between the two chalk marks of the 2-meter mark

6. During the end:

- a. If the bowler wants you to stand in the rink
 - i. Stand still when a bowler is on the mat unless the bowler asks you for information that requires you to move
 - ii. Stand toward the edge of the rink without blocking boundary markers
 - iii. Stay at least 6' from the jack
- b. If the bowler wants you to stand on the bank, stand in the center of the center and remain still
- c. Do not stop or catch the jack or any bowl which is about to enter the ditch
- d. Immediately mark touchers. Bowlers are required to wait to give you time to mark a toucher
 - i. Take care not to move or displace the bowl (spray chalk is preferable)
- e. Do not remove any bowl from the green unless asked to do so by the players
- f. Place dead bowls on the bank, preferably on the mat
- g. For "touchers" that enter the ditch and are in-bounds
 - i. Mark the bowl with chalk
 - ii. Draw a circle around the bowl in the ditch and hang an orange marker on the edge of the bank to show the bowl's position
- h. Without disturbing play, Inform adjacent rinks of an imminent running shot

7. Providing information to the bowlers:

- a. Use hand signals whenever possible
- b. Do not inspect the head and give information unless requested to do so by a player
- c. Do **not** give any information **unless** asked (do not volunteer information)
- d. Be sure the information you give is accurate! Inaccurate information can break a game
 - i. When a player who is holding shot, signal "It's a measure," unless it is **very** obvious which bowl is closest to the jack
- e. If a bowler asks if he or she is holding shot, give only that information
 - i. Unless asked for the count, do not tell the bowler how many points he or she is holding
- f. Stop any bowl from a neighboring rink that enters your rink

8. When the end has been completed

- a. Do not measure unless asked to do so
 - i. Do not question, or indicate in any way, that you do not agree with the players measure. It is their game and their responsibility to accurately measure.
 - ii. If the players dispute the measure, the marker must call an umpire

- b. Do not move any bowl or the jack until the players have agreed to the score for that end
- c. Bring the rake to bowl farthest from the jack but do not rake or move any bowls or the jack
- d. Once at the other end of the rink, remove the mat from the rink if the bowlers have not already done so

9. At the end of the game

- a. If you are keeping score, mark the final score on the scorecard
- b. Be sure the players names, correct scores, and signatures have been recorded on their scorecards
 - i. It is the players responsibility to give their scorecards to the appropriate tournament official.