



TO THE POINT

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Editor J Williams

1.RESIGNATION

It is with a very heavy heart that I have to report of Bob Standen. It is indeed a sad day when such an experienced and efficient member of a Standing Committee stands down. We have begged and pleaded with both Bob but he has decided to call it a day. We wish you all the best for whatever you have planned for the future, and will miss your knowledge and camaraderie very much. You were such an integral part of our Standing Committee.

2. DRESS CODE

While the dress code is not part of the duties of the Umpire, I do feel that mention should be made on this forum of the untidy attire that some people wear to play bowls. While we are told to encourage new bowlers to join the sport I do feel that a certain modicum of neatness should be applied.

3. LAW ON POSSESSION OF THE RINK

A player who walks up to the head following their bowl must be behind the head before their bowl comes to rest

We need to start with Law 12: Position of players,
Laws 12.1.2.2 behind the jack and away from the head if they are members of the team which are not in possession the rink, so this is where a player must be when their bowl comes to rest.

Also Law 13 Possession of the rink....
Law 13.2 As soon as each bowl comes to rest, possession of the rink will transfer to

the opposing player or team after allowing time for marking a toucher as soon as it comes to rest. So if a player follows their bowl to the head they must be behind the head before their bowl comes to rest

Otherwise they will contravene Law 13 Possession of the rink for which there is a penalty!

Law 13.3 states: If the umpire, either by their own observation or on appeal by one of the skips or opponents in Singles, decides that the players in possession of the rink are being interfered with, annoyed or distracted in any way by their opponents.

Then the Laws 13.3.1 deals with the penalty if a player persists in this behaviour after being warned. So if a player is being interfered with, annoyed or distracted by an opponent contravening this Law they in Singles, or their skip in other formats, can appeal to the umpire who is required to take action.

4.TOSSING FOR OPENING PLAY

During the recent inter Districts the following incident took place

Side A won the toss and elected to take the mat.

The other skip of team A asked if she could rather to do the card and the skip of team B had no objection against it and they played the game.

In the second round, Side A again won the toss and elected to take the mat. The other skip of team A again wanted to complete the card but the Skip of team B refused. She said that if skip A wanted to do the card they must give the mat away. The other skip of team A refused to give the mat away.

Law 5.2 .1 The coaches in a side game (or, in their absence, representative of the sides), skips in a team game or opponents in Singles must toss a coin.

5.2.2 The winner of the toss must choose whether to

5.2.2.1 place the mat and then deliver the jack and the first bowl, or

5.2.2.2 tell the opposing player to place the mat and deliver the jack and the first bowl (the opposing player cannot refuse)

5.2.3 The option chosen by the coach or representative who wins the toss in a side game will apply to all teams or Singles (or a combination of teams and Singles players) who make up the side

5. LAW 19

During a trips game the jack came to rest in a hollow in the bank on top of a toucher in the ditch,

The 2nd in the trips voiced his opinion that the jack was dead where-after the opposing skip disputed the matter and the skip requested an umpire's ruling.

The umpires ruling was that the jack is dead despite the jack coming to rest on the toucher within the ditch and thus supported the 2nd's opinion.

Law 19.2

A jack is dead if it comes to rest in any hollow in the face of the bank.

6. Leaving the Green

During a Singles game played on a very hot day Player A drank a lot water and as the players had already played 11 ends and the score was 6 – 5, player A asked her opponent if she could take a bathroom break. Player B objected and said that it was hot and she wanted to get the game finished.

Law 33.1 No player must delay play by leaving the rink of play or their team unless the opponent agrees, and then only for no more than 10 minutes.

6. PROPPING

When Umpires are trained we teach them to prop any leaning bowls and then the Jack before measuring. When Candidates are being assessed, they all prop religiously but the moment they are let loose onto the Bowling green to Umpire they seem to forget that they need to Prop!

We prop for a reason. The reason is so that we do not move the Jack or the bowl during the process of measuring. I know that rumour has it that we don't need to prop anymore but that is only a RUMOUR!

Those of us who watch a lot on International Bowls on Facebook or TV have noticed that the Umpires do not prop the Jack. This is a ruling for INTERNATIONAL UMPIRES only. The leaning bowls still get propped. Once you achieve your International status you can stop propping the Jack as then you will be proficient enough in measuring so as not to move the Jack. Until such time please use your props.

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