

Marking a Singles Game

Before the start of the game

- Have the score card, pen/pencil, chalk (preferably spray)
- Introduce yourself to the players
- Make sure you can identify each players bowls

Trial Ends

- During trial ends centre the jack where the player tells you.
- When a bowl comes to rest, move it to the back of the rink.
- If a bowl moves the jack, put the jack back to its original position.

Position on the Green

- Stand to one side of the rink as the player prepares to deliver the jack.
- When the jack comes to a stop, place it on the centre line.
- Stand so that no shadow is cast over the head.
- Stand close enough to the head so that you can mark touchers, answer questions or decide which bowl is shot.

During the Game

Start of an end

- Centre the jack using your hand.
- If the jack comes to rest less than 2 metres from the front ditch, centre it by placing the front of the jack on the 2m mark.

During an end

- Stand to one side of the rink, behind the jack and away from the head.
- Stand still when a player is preparing to deliver a bowl.
- If necessary, move to give the players a clear view of any bowls in the head.
- Pay attention to every bowl
- Answer any specific question about the state of the head.
- Mark all touchers with chalk.
- Remove chalk marks from non-touchers.
- Mark the position of the jack and any touchers that are live in the ditch.

Completing an End

- When the last bowl of an end comes to rest, don't move the jack or any of the bowls.
- When players have decided the result of an end, mark the scoreboard and then walk quickly to the other end of the rink
- At the start of the next end as the bowl is on its way up the green – fill in the score card & check the score board agrees with the card.

After the Game

- When the game is completed write on the score card the time the game finished and ask the players to check and sign it.
- Hand the score card to the umpire for checking

Dealing with Touchers

- If you think a delivered bowl will touch the jack – move to a position where you can clearly see if the bowl touches the jack or not.
- If the bowl touches the jack, mark the bowl with chalk as soon as it comes to rest.
- Put chalk marks on opposite sides of the bowl.
- If the bowl comes to rest in a position that marking it may cause it to move, say 'I'm nominating the last bowl as a toucher', instead of marking it. It is preferable to have a chalk spray so that you don't have to touch a bowl.
- If a toucher comes to rest in the ditch, place an indicator on the bank immediately in line with it.
- If a player forgets to remove a mark from a bowl before delivering it, and that bowl does not become a toucher, remove the mark as soon as the bowl comes to rest.

Dead Jack and Bowls

- Remove a dead bowl as soon as it comes to rest.
- If you can see that a bowl from a neighbouring rink is likely to move the jack or a bowl at rest on your rink, STOP THE BOWL BEFORE IT DOES.
- If you think a bowl from the rink of play is likely to continue beyond the side boundary – don't stop it until it has travelled wholly beyond the boundary line.
- If you think a bowl from the rink of play is going into the ditch don't stop it or catch it before it drops over the edge.
- Check with the player to confirm that the bowl is dead before removing it.

Driving Bowls

- When a drive bowl is being played, warn bowlers on neighbouring rinks if you can.
- As soon as the bowl has been delivered move quickly to the front of the head. Concentrate on the drive bowl to see whether it touches the jack and where it comes to rest.

Players Questions

- Always be ready to respond to players questions.
- Stand close enough to the head to get to it quickly.
- Make a mental note of the positions of key bowls already in the head.
- Concentrate on the player who is preparing to deliver their bowl.
- When answering players questions:
 - Only respond to the player who is in possession of the rink
 - Answer only the specific question you are asked
 - Look directly at the player and speak clearly
 - If you didn't understand the question, ask the player to repeat it.
 - Give a concise answer.
- When asked who is holding shot or about the position of a bowl:
 - Give the player enough information so that they understand the situation
 - Avoid the need for any follow-up questions to be asked.
 - If you are unsure who is holding shot, say that it's a measure.

Interacting with players or spectators

- Don't start a conversation with a player
- If a player starts talking to you while at the head:
 - Keep conversation to a minimum
 - Don't distract or annoy the opponent
 - Don't give the player advice.
- If spectators talk to you – politely tell them you are unable to talk to them until the game is over.

World Bowls has put together a series of videos about Markers Duties:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLRdQqs5xdMbHaRXu0ym19wpVop84CshTd>