
Approved Domestic Regulations

Use of Bowling Delivery Aids

Bowls Canada Boulingrin recognizes that the primary purpose of a bowling delivery aid is to enable a person with a physical disability to play the sport of bowls. We must also ensure that bowlers do not damage the playing surface while using a bowling delivery aid on the green. This regulation covers the domestic use of a delivery aid (e.g. support, bowling arm, etc.) for delivering a jack and a bowl, as permitted under laws 41.5 and 41.8 of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

Any bowler may use a bowling delivery aid for delivery of the jack and their bowls. For all Canadian Championships, and for provincial playdowns leading towards a national championship, use of these devices is subject to inspection by officials and approval of each specific bowling delivery aid. Devices such as bowling arms that are produced by a recognized manufacturer, and used with no customized modifications, will typically be approved. Manufacturers are encouraged to provide a sample device for testing by BCB to assist with the approval process.

Approved May 2014 / Amended April 2015 / Amended May 2022

Minimum Jack Length Regulation

Law 10.5 of the new Laws of the Sport of Bowls, Crystal Mark 3rd Edition, 2015 gives National Authorities the discretion to change the minimum jack length from 23 m to 21 m.

In March 2011, after careful consideration, Bowls Canada Boulingrin, the National Authority for Canada, decided to change the minimum jack length from 23 metres to 21 metres for all play in Canada. This decision leads to a number of other changes to distances set out in the Laws, as further detailed in laws 10.5.1 and 10.5.3, and will necessitate changes to the positioning of "hog line markers" at clubs across the country.

For safety reasons in particular, an exemption will apply for the Pacific Indoor Bowls Club and the Qualicum Indoor venue, which may continue to use a minimum jack length of 23 m.

Approved March 2011 / Amended April 2015

Use of Groundsheets

For outdoors play, portable groundsheets do not need to be fastened to the green, and may be temporarily removed upon completion of an end. The groundsheet may be placed at a different position at the start of each end, unless otherwise directed by the Controlling

Body or greenkeeper, but always at least 2 metres from the rear ditch and at least 23 metres from the front ditch. The groundsheets must remain in use until the end of the game or until the Controlling Body decides that they are no longer needed.

Approved April 2015

Skips Duties Regarding the Score Card

Skips can transfer the duties of marking the score card described in law 40.1.7 to another member of the team. However, they must make sure that these duties are transferred to players whose positions, in order of play, are the same in each team. If the skips cannot agree on who should keep the score card, then the skips in both teams must keep the score card as described in law 40.1.7.

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Use of Approved Footwear

Shoes must be flat-soled with no separation between the front sole and heel (i.e. flat from toe to heel). Walking shoes and sports shoes are acceptable; sandals with a heel strap are also acceptable, as long as the back strap is firmly fitted when worn. Flat-soled wedge shoes (i.e. shoes that increase in height from toe to heel) are not acceptable. The width of any heel must be at least 50% of the widest part of the sole.

The sole may possess a shallow tread pattern or indented grooves to improve traction, without damaging the green. A channel in the centre of the sole is acceptable; protuberances that extend out from the sole are not acceptable. Edges around the sole, and around any channel, need to be rounded.

Brand name bowling shoes that are listed as approved on a current list, published by a member national authority, are generally acceptable. Shoes that have been re-soled to ensure that they comply with the laws of the sport are also generally acceptable. Nevertheless, Bowls Canada Boulingrin reserves the right to disallow any specific shoe.

Umpires must use their best judgment and not unduly eliminate members from play unless they have a shoe that would clearly damage the green. Common sense must prevail.

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