Domestic Regulations

DR1. Use of Portable Groundsheets

Law 6.1.5.6 allows Member National Authorities to determine the requirements for using portable groundsheets (for outdoor play only). For domestic play in Canada, the Controlling Body can decide to use portable groundsheets either before the start of play or at any time during play. The umpire, either by their own observation or on appeal by one of the skips or opponents in Singles, may also make the decision to use portable groundsheets on any rink.

At the start of an end, the rear edge of the portable groundsheet must be placed at least 2 metres from the rear ditch and at least 23 metres from the front ditch. The groundsheet may be placed at a different position, within this range, at the start of each end, unless otherwise directed by the Controlling Body or greenkeeper. Upon completion of an end, either team or opponent in Singles can temporarily remove the groundsheet at the head end from the rink. Opponents are expected to assist with the removal and/or replacement of the groundsheet in the spirit of true sportsmanship.

Portable groundsheets must remain in use until the end of the game or until the Controlling Body decides that they are no longer needed.

DR2. Minimum Jack Length

Law 10.5 allows Member National Authorities to change the minimum jack length distance from 23 metres to 21 metres. For domestic play in Canada, the following distances are changed for outdoor greens (indoor greens are exempted, primarily for safety reasons):

Change from 23 metres to 21 metres:	The minimum distance for a delivered jack in laws 10.1.3 and 42.2.3 and appendix B.4.2 [D];
Change from 20 metres to 18 metres	 The minimum distance for a jack which is moved by a bowl in play or a rebounding jack in laws 19.1.3, 56.5.2.4 and appendix B.4.2 [C];
Change from 25 metres to 23 metres:	 The minimum distance of the mat line from the front ditch in law 6.1.1 and appendix B.4.2 [F]; The positioning of markings on the side banks in relation to the end ditches in law 49.12 and appendix B.4.1; The finishing point of a marked centre line in relation to the end ditches in law 49.13 and appendix B.2.1; The minimum distance of the rear edge of a groundsheet from the front ditch in Definition C.12.

DR3. Skips Duties Regarding the Score Card

Law 40.1.9 allows Member National Authorities to transfer the skip's duties of marking the score card, as described in law 40.1.7, to another member of the team. For domestic play in Canada, the skip of each team in Pairs, Triples and Fours must be responsible for keeping and completing the score card. However, both skips can transfer their duties described in law 40.1.7 to another member of their team, by mutual agreement, and only if these duties are transferred to players whose positions, in order of play, are the same in each team.

If a situation arises where the skips cannot agree on who keeps the score card, and one skip abdicates all responsibility for keeping their score card, the use of a scoreboard will be permitted. Law 40.1.8 allows Member National Authorities to decide the procedures for using a scoreboard instead of one of the score cards. For domestic play in Canada, when one skip does not keep the score card, arrangements can be made to use a scoreboard, which must be updated by members of that skip's team. If the two skips disagree with the score during the game, the score card which is being kept by the opposing skip will be regarded as the official recorded score.

DR4. Use of Bowling Delivery Aids

Law 41.8 allows Member National Authorities to approve the use of artificial devices for delivering the jack or a bowl. Law 41.5 allows the use of a support or an artificial device (or both) when delivering the jack or a bowl or when walking on the green. 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.

For domestic play in Canada, any bowler may use a bowling delivery aid (e.g. support, bowling arm, etc.) for delivery of the jack and their bowls. Bowlers may use a device which is produced by a recognized manufacturer, for use in lawn bowls, with no customized modifications and as approved by Bowls Canada Boulingrin.

For further information and types of aids that can be used, refer to the BCB policy on the use of bowling delivery aids.

DR5. Use of Approved Footwear

Appendix A.2.2 allows Member National Authorities to approve specific colours for footwear and the types of sole for footwear worn by players, umpires and markers on the green.

For further information, refer to the Bowls Canada Boulingrin policy on the approval of footwear.