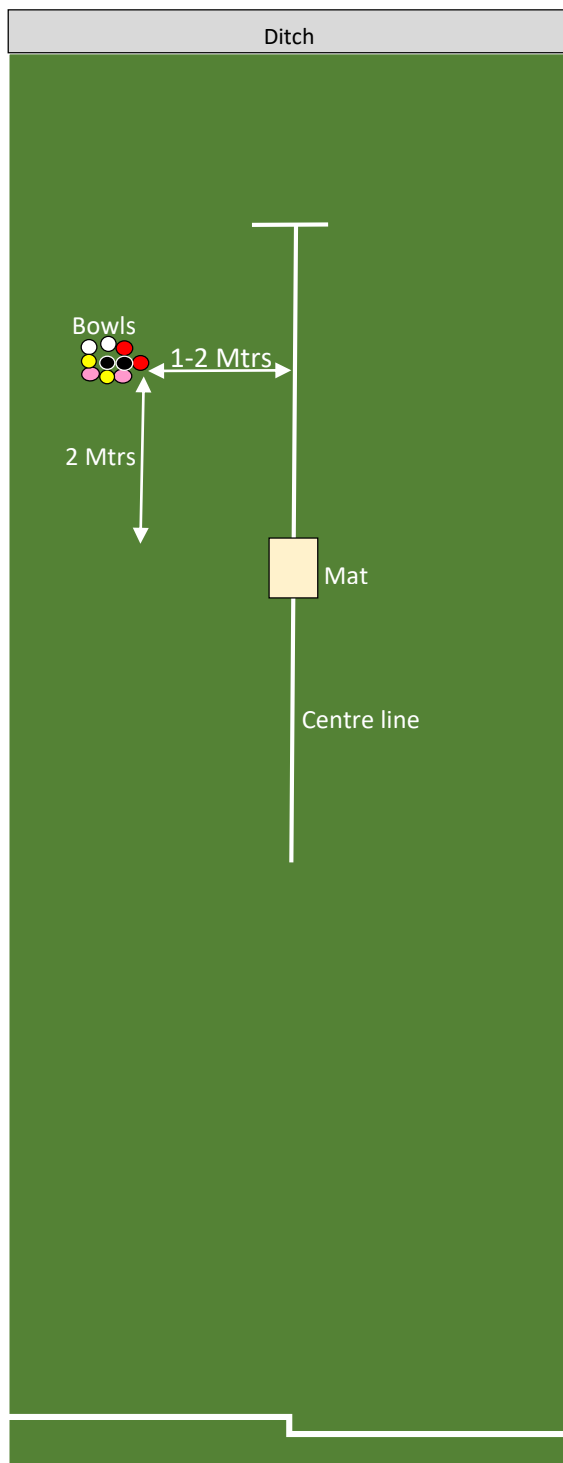


## SAFETY AROUND THE GREEN

### Collecting and Locating loose bowls at the mat end



All too often we see bowls at the mat end of the rink scattered all over the place and a perfect situation for someone to step backwards onto a bowl and end up in hospital!

So let us all get into the safety habit of pushing all of the bowls together into one location behind the mat and out of the way

Over the years the ladies have been excellent in this regard and it's time we men took a leaf out of their book.

**The place for loose bowls is:**

- 2 metres back from the mat
- 1-2 metres to the side of the centre line
- At the right hand side when looking up the rink, as per the illustration.

We are all well aware and encouraged to always step forward off the mat with our anchor foot after releasing the bowl and bringing it up to the front foot. From that position you should watch the bowl travelling up the rink.

Be aware that the law of the game requires a bowler to be behind the mat when the bowl comes to rest.

**So this means you can take a careful step backwards from in front of the mat, then turning to ensure there is nothing in your way before moving back at least a metre!**

For those who can still recall your initial coaching, you were advised never to step backwards when on the rink!