

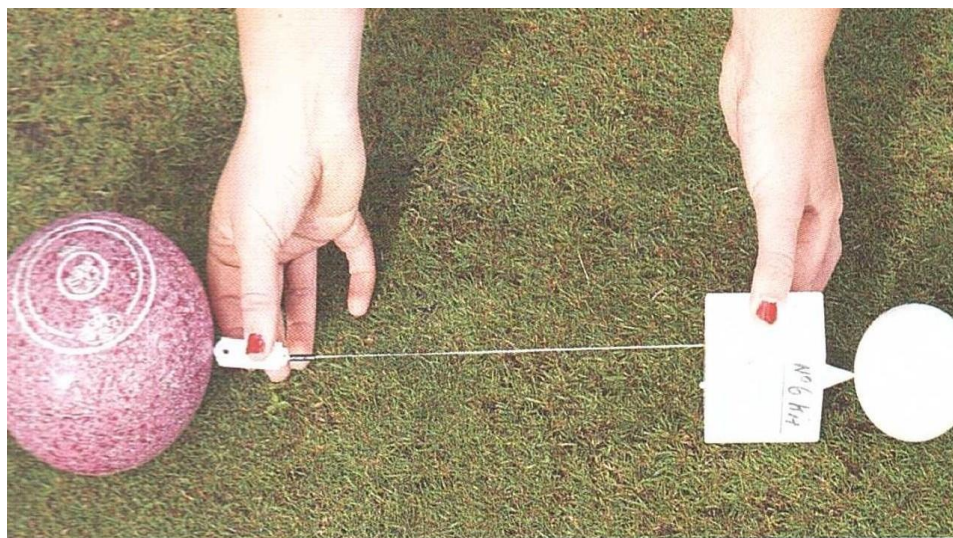
THE ART OF MEASURING

Measuring is a skill that is extremely important in the Game of Lawn Bowls. We have all seen it being done in either social or competition games. When we cannot reach a decision, we call for the Umpire to make the decision for us, by using other equipment which is available to him/her.

Listed below are some suggestions which should make it easier to reach your decision.

- 1 If any bowl is likely to fall, chock it by using wedges before starting any measuring (unless the 30 second Law [23.1] has been invoked; then the chocking and the measuring starts at the expiration of the 30 seconds). Remember, if a bowl does fall before the measuring process commences, **IT IS MEASURED FROM ITS NEW POSITION.**
- 2 ALWAYS position yourself to measure at **90 degrees to the imaginary line between the jack and bowl** (see *diagram 1* below), even if you need to move for the other measure or measures. DO NOT measure in a straight line from you to the bowl to the jack.
- 3 It is wiser to measure the “flat” bowl first, before measuring the “standing or leaning bowl”. Remember that your opponent has the right to reposition any bowl that you move during the measuring process, refer Law 37.4.1
- 4 2 bowl measures are simple – it is either bowl A or B. Where 3 bowls are involved (2A & 1B), measure the single bowl first, then proceed to measure the remaining 2. Where 4 or more bowls are involved, you must select one player’s/team’s bowls and measure them to decide which of those bowls is the closest. You then use this distance to measure the other player’s/team’s bowls to find the shot bowl or bowls.

Diagram 1



Communicating the number of shots

Once the shot/s has/have been **agreed by BOTH** players at the head, the result must be communicated to the skip at the mat end of the rink. This communication MUST BE CLEAR to the skip.

The player for the team **winning the end**, signals the shots scored by tapping his **head or shoulder**, once for each shot scored. The player for the team **losing the end**, signals the shots scored by tapping his **thigh**, once for each shot lost.

This is the preferred method of signalling because there is no margin for error. It is clear to both skips.

Holding fingers up or down is not recommended, as it is very difficult to see them at a distance.

John Douglas
Chairman of Umpires