

Quick Guide to Measuring & Score Cards

Measuring:

- When an End has finished during a game it is sometime necessary to measure for a winning shot or shots, if you and the opponent cannot agree.
- Make sure the last bowl has been delivered before counting or disturbing the head. The skip delivering the last bowl shall pick up the mat indicating the end is finished.

Preparing for a Measure.

- Confirm with the opponent which bowls are to be measured.
- Remove all bowls which are not to be included in the measure, to make measurement easier.
- Ask the all other players to stand well clear of the head (preferably a few metres behind the head or beside the ditch), except your opposite number from the opponent team.

Physical Position.

Adopt a position in which:

- You are comfortable
- You are balanced
- Your head is over the line of the measure
- You can see the contact points at both ends of the measure without overstretching

(Source: <http://www.etobicokelawnbowling.com/instructions-for-new-vice-skips.html>)

1. Measurements shall be made from the nearest point of the jack and the bowl. Always measure from the jack to the bowl.
2. Callipers are used when the space between the jack and the bowl does not permit the flexible measure being used. Use the callipers from the top down.
3. At the completion of the end, the two vices count the shots. If your team is shot, the opposing vice removes the shot bowl or bowls agreed upon, placing the bowls away from the head on a towel. If measuring is required for the balance of the shots, this is done by the opposing vice who has already removed the shot bowls.
4. When an end is completed and a measure is immediately required to determine the shot bowl, either vice may measure, but must measure to their own bowl first and then to the opponent's bowl.
5. Where one bowl of Team A is in contention with two bowls of Team B, measure to the bowl of Team A first, then measure the other two bowls.
6. If bowls are more than an arm's length apart ask the opposing vice to assist by holding the measure against the jack.
7. **The skip is in charge of the game at all times** and may question the measure or the count before the head is raked.
8. Once the head is disturbed after the count has been decided, the end is considered played and cannot be disputed, even if the skip has neglected to play the last bowl.

Measurement Equipment

Measuring

From time to time it becomes necessary to make a measure for shot bowl or the number of shots. We have various measurement devices in bowls to make the appropriate measure; these are box string measure, callipers, feeler gauge and long string measure. Beginners should equip themselves with a box string measure and chalk. The other equipment can be borrowed where needed.

Measurement Equipment

Box String Measure

There are many different models on the market and you will use the measure that you feel most comfortable with. Metal Tapes can be used but are not ideal. We recommend a String Measure such as the one shown. These are suitable for measures of between 20cm and 3 metres. It is worth keeping two measures in your kit in case you need a spare. Some measures also include a small calliper for close bowls.



Callipers

Spring Callipers are available in a range of sizes but the most suitable sizes for Umpires kits are 8 to 12-inch versions. Ensure that you obtain the external versions. Good quality engineers callipers will last a long time and are worth the extra investment. They can be used for measures of 2cm to 30cm. Avoid using the small callipers attached to a String or Tape measure, as they are difficult to control. Keep two or three different sizes.



Wedges

Wedges can be purchased from Bowls suppliers, made from off cuts of wood or made from Erasers. Rubber wedges have better holding power especially on indoor carpets. Aim to keep at least 4 wedges in your kit but you can never have too many. A set of small round rubber wedges and jack wedges are available and are excellent for awkward spaces.



30 metre tape

A nylon or metal long tape is essential for measuring rinks and jack lengths etc. A retractable 30m metal tape is commercially available and is one of the most popular types. A nylon version is ideal in wet weather as it will not rust.



Long String

A simple string measure as shown is cheap and effective for measures up to 5 metres. A chalk plumb line can be purchased and the string substituted for fishing tracer or other non-stretchable cord. A string of at least 40 metres will double up as a boundary line if needed and will cope with the longest measure you are likely to encounter.

Set Square

A combination square containing a small level, as in the photo; will be ideal for the awkward occasions when jack or bowls are in the ditch. A Carpenters Set Square will be sufficient for most kits.



Feeler Gauges

A small set of feeler gauges will be sufficient for a basic Umpires Kit. Remember that the largest width you can measure with feeler gauges must be greater than the smallest width you can measure with your Callipers. It is worth investing in good engineers set and looking after them.



Chalk

Always carry some chalk for checking Bowls and for marking touchers during singles. A chalk puffer is recommended but be aware that some indoor clubs do not allow their use.



White Strips

Pieces of white card or plastic approximately 2cm x 15cm will be ideal for sliding under very close bowls before commencing a feeler gauge or close calliper measure.

Score cards

In a team game the skip is responsible for filling in the scorecard details of player's names, rink number, competition name, start time. The skip is responsible for the recording on the scorecard, but they may delegate the responsibility to another team member. In a singles game the Marker is responsible for filling in the scorecard (see separate information sheet for responsibilities of the Marker).

The score card is filled in after each end is played, noting downing shots for and against and a running total. It is normal etiquette to not write a zero (0) on the scorecard, instead it is replaced with a dash (-). At the end of the game write the total scored for and against in the box at the bottom. Sign the scorecard yourself and get your opposite opponent to sign as well. You can also record the time the game ended.

Example:

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Date		Rink No	
1. 2. 2001		4.	
v.		v.	
1. P. Watson	1. M. Berry		
2. J. Smith	2. A. Farby		
3. K. Pritchard	3. W. Brown		
5. C. Wood	5. E. Proud		

Points	Total	End	Points	Total
2	2	1	-	-
1	3	2	-	-
-	3	3	2	2
1	4	4	-	2
-	4	5	3	5
5	9	6	-	5
-	9	7	2	7
-	9	8	1	8
-	9	9	1	9
2	11	10	-	9
-	11	11	1	10
-	11	12	1	11
4	15	13	-	11
2	17	14	-	11
1	18	15	-	11
-	18	16	2	13
1	19	17	-	13
-	19	18	2	15
-	19	19	1	16
3	22	20	-	16
-	22	21	4	20