

Positional Play

The duties of each bowler for both Outdoor and Indoor codes are outlined in Law 40 of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, Crystal Mark Third Edition (p38).

In addition to these defined duties, depending on the game format, each position has associated playing responsibilities and skill requirements. All bowlers should support and encourage each other. All bowlers should abide by the rules of the rink. Laws 11/13 (pages 18/19).

Purpose Understanding the roles and responsibilities associated with positional play in the various formats of the game.

Role	Activities	Practical Requirements
The Lead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place the mat legally <i>Law 6.1 (P.14)</i> • Be able to cast and centre the jack accurately. • Concentrate on using one side of the green to gain consistency (unless directed otherwise by the skip) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use different mat lengths • Be able to cast the jack to desired legal length. • Be able to ascertain which is the best side of the rink and use it • Be able to draw close to the jack, forehand and backhand • Be able to draw to a moved jack • Measure (in Pairs format)
The Two (Skip in Pairs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Refer to the requirement of the Skip under Law 40.1</i> • Wait for the skip's instruction before playing shots • Supplement or augment play as requested 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be able to play positional bowls as directed • Be able to play a range of shots • Measure (in Triples format)
The Three (Second in Triples)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must concentrate and know the position of all bowls • Give clear instructions to the skip if the head changes • Measure (be prepared to call the skip/umpire) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Have a full range of shots Be able to read a head • Communicate clearly • Measure accurately and competently

<p>The Skip <i>(Two in Pairs, Three in Triples, Four in Rinks)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Should be competent to play the full range of shots • Give clear instructions when in possession of the rink Be realistic in shot requests Be positive, encouraging, supportive and have the bowler's confidence • Be aware of the overall position in a team game Duties of the score, scorecard and board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know how to build and read a head • Have a full repertoire of shots • Be compatible in body language and verbal communication • Know/Understand the bowlers and their abilities • Be a bowler, a tactician and a leader • Display personal control and composure and play shots under pressure • Exchange information with the Three • Know when to attack and when to defend
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