

PLAY YOUR ROLE

- ***The Lead-*** Your team mates will be buoyed by good lead bowls so you set the scene. Good lead bowls would range from One (1) foot in front of the jack to Two (2) feet behind, but ideally within one mat length (varying conditions may have an influence on this range). The Leads would hone their skills and efficiency by doing 40 Bowl tests and other draw shot drills at all lengths. Rolling the jack accurately should also be practised.
- ***The Two-*** You also require accurate drawing skills and more, so if the Lead bowls are not ideal your job is to 'get close'. Your Skip may want you to 'draw another' to add to the Leads good start. Alternatively, you may be asked to 'trail the jack' or cover a bowl behind, or wrest a jack high bowl. So your effective range may be Two (2) to Three (3) feet behind the jack from around 10 o'clock to 2 o'clock. Your training would be based around this. Training for position bowls is also important.
- ***The Three-*** So now the skill set ranges from the 'draw' to the 'drive'. You play a big part in your team's success by creating opportunities for your Skip when the situation is unfavourable. Adding shots or converting and being able to 'change the head' can be critical to the ends' results. Your other role is to support the Lead and Two and oversee the head for the Skip. Trailing jacks, the running shot, driving and position bowls should be included in your training.
- ***The Skip-*** Again, your armoury will include all the shots. You should be familiar with your teams' strengths and try to utilise these to gain the edge on your opposition. At the same time being aware of any opposition weakness that you could exploit. You should support and encourage your team with positive calls and actions.

I have tried to be brief and to the point so I hope there is something in there to help you with your game. I can expand on any of the points above via a one on one with anyone who may like some assistance, or in small groups (e.g. Leads and/or Two's etc.), so if you spot me around the Club please sing out.

Steve Graf, Club Coach