

## Roles and Responsibility of the Seconds

- Wait behind the mat until your skip gives you directions.
- Always watch your bowls until they come to a stop.
- Have command of the draw shot with little or NO preference for either hand.
- Your job is to be the back-up for the lead especially if he has failed so almost all the second's shots will be draw shots. Remember that the object of each end is to have more bowls close to the jack than your opponents. Practice routines should therefore be mainly the draw shot at different lengths.
- Have a thorough understanding of the changes required in bowling line and weight for playing positional, trail or through the head shots and in particular for playing into short bowls to push them in for shot or through the head.
- Make sure you at least reach the head with all your bowls, even up to a metre behind. However, if asked for a firm shot, do not lose your bowl in the ditch. A bowl on the bank is useless but often better than a bowl that is much too short.
- A back bowl is insurance against movement of the jack so practice bowling position bowls, particularly to the edge of the ditch.
- Do not stand in the head when the thirds are determining the count.

## Roles and Responsibilities of the Thirds

- Do not pre-empt the shot to play. Wait behind the mat for the skip's instruction. Then step onto the mat. He may have a change of tactics in mind from what the lead and second delivered.
- Always watch your first bowl (at least) till it comes to a stop.
- Must be a good draw shot bowler and must be able to play a good firm shot or drive.
- Must be able to play through the head and in particular onto short bowls, either pushing them in for shot or through the head.
- Must take over the skip's role when the skip is playing their bowls.
- When changing ends, the winning third of the previous end should place the skip's bowl on the mat as a check on which skip is to bowl first.
- Know what a jack high bowl is and why the skip needs to know its exact position.
- Always be alert to any danger in the head. Call your skip to the head, rather than speaking out as this may alert your opponent to an opportunity he was unaware of.
- Must develop good understanding with the skip. Do not offer advice unless you are asked by your skip nor speak when crossing over unless spoken to and usually agree with the skip.
- Learn the team's bowls to be able to identify them in the head.
- Never stand in the head after your skip's bowl comes to rest. The possession of the rink has already passed to your opposition unless it is time to decide the result of the end. Stand behind the jack and to one side; never directly behind the jack.

- Be able to pick the shot or shots quickly when asked, and should always know who holds second and third shot. Indicate quickly if the skip asks the position. If unsure, call the skip to the head.
- Determine with opponent the result of an end or refer it to the umpire. Be able to measure correctly. Know how to use the measuring equipment (tape, string, and calipers).
- Inform the skip the result of each end by indicating the number of shots up or down.
- Remove dead bowls from the green or ditch before the next bowl is delivered. Help move bowls after the result of an end has been decided.
- When changing ends, the winning third of the previous end should place the skip's bowl on the mat as a check on which skip is to bowl first.
- Have a good team spirit, encouraging your team mates and never make critical comments about poor bowls or tactics.

Please note that the above lists may not be complete. Ask your bowls coach for a complete list or see what is posted in your club house.

