

Shots of the game.

Most players learn the shots by experience but very few actually know how they achieve them other than to bowl a little faster or a little slower. Some shots require just drawing weight, some with just a yard/metre of weight and only two with more weight than these. To put these into groups:-

Drawing Weight

Draw, Positional Draw, Rest Shot and Blocker

Yard/metre on shot

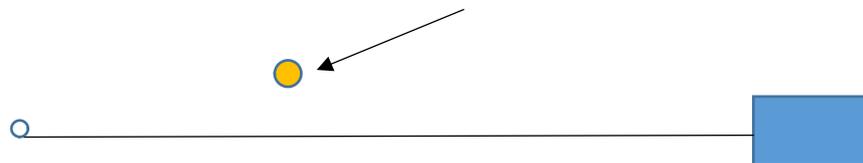
Push and stay (Wrest out), Trail the Jack and Whick shot

More than a Yard/Metre on shot

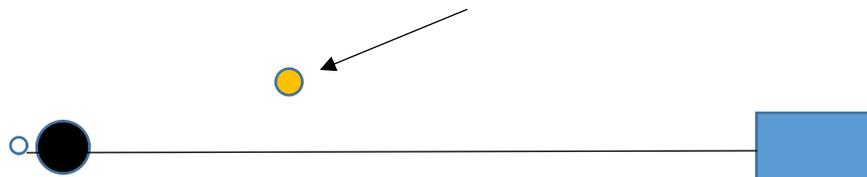
Follow through and Firing Shot (Drive)

All shots must go through the shoulder of the green which occurs at the 3/5th distance between the front of the mat and the Jack. No matter what distance you are bowling or what type of bowls you own the 3/5th distance applies. Depending on the shot you are playing the shoulder area may differ. On occasions, just a bowls width sometimes more than a bowls width.

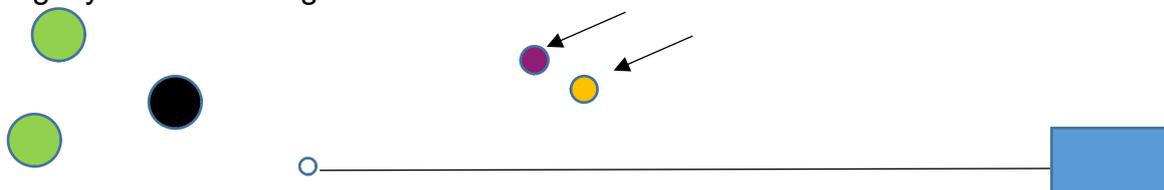
The diagram shows the 3/5th distance (shoulder of the green)



Draw Shot:- A draw shot is any bowl using a drawing weight which comes to rest on/near the centre of the rink and near to the jack. The diagram shows the bowl doing this

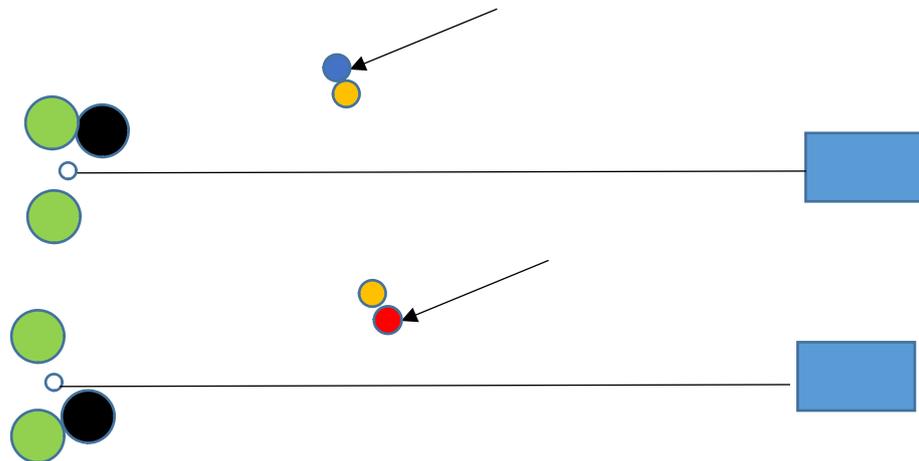


Positional Draw:- This is a draw to anywhere off the centre line. This shot is normally played as a covering shot. The diagram shows the shoulder ● for the normal draw to the Jack and the shoulder for this particular shot. ● Notice it is slightly wider and longer.

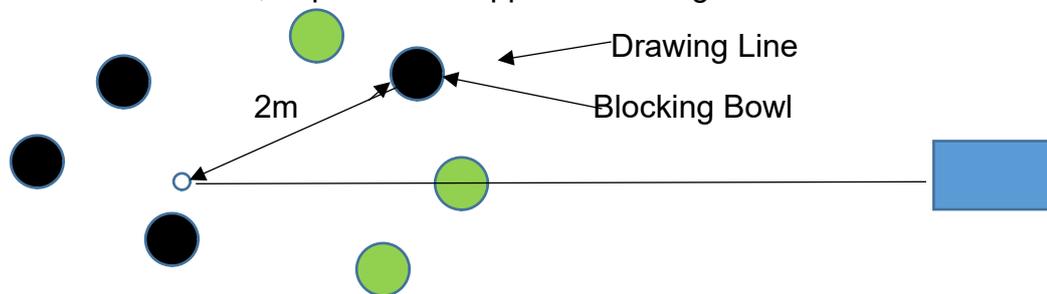


Rest Shot:- Is a shot where the bowl comes to rest against another bowl

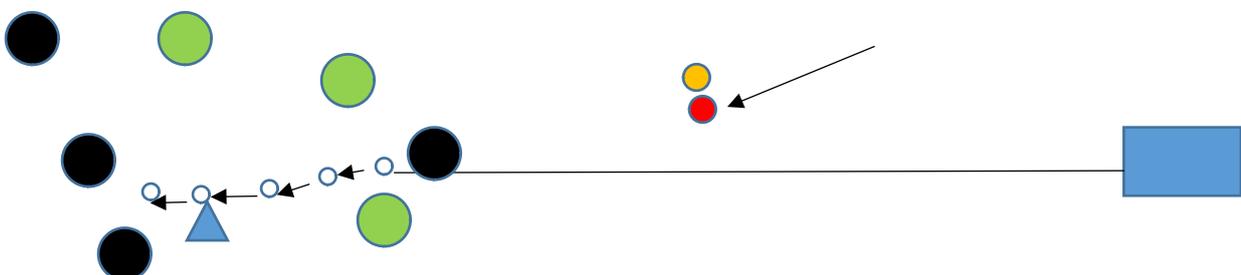
The diagrams show the normal shoulder for the draw  The shoulder for a draw to a bowl outside of the centre line  and a draw across the head to a bowl on the left of the centre line. 



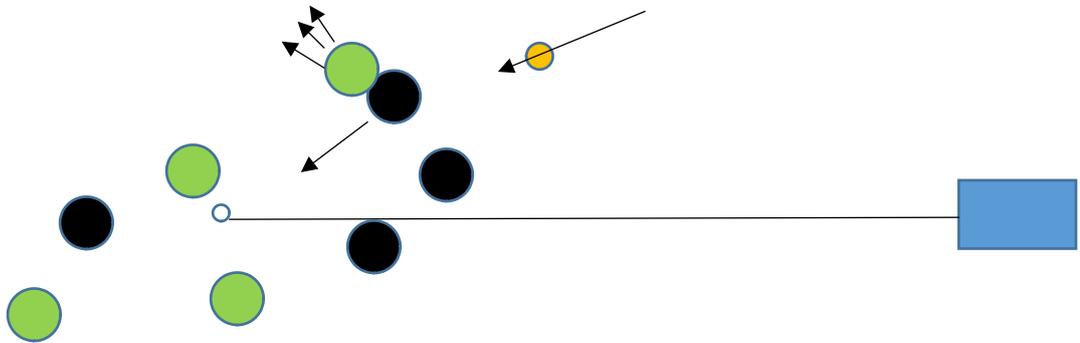
Block Shot:- A block shot is normally played on the drawing line to stop approx 2 yards/metres from the Jack, to prevent an opponent having a clear draw to the Jack.



Trail the Jack:- This shot is normally played when you want to move the Jack towards your own woods. The drawing shoulder is shown  and the shoulder for this shot is a bowl tighter  The Jack is on the centre line and what you are doing, is drawing to a mark  approx 1m behind the left hand side bowl. Because you are bowling with the Yard/metre of weight your drawing bowl holds up and in doing so picks up the Jack(missing the left hand bowl) and trails the Jack back towards your receiving bowls.



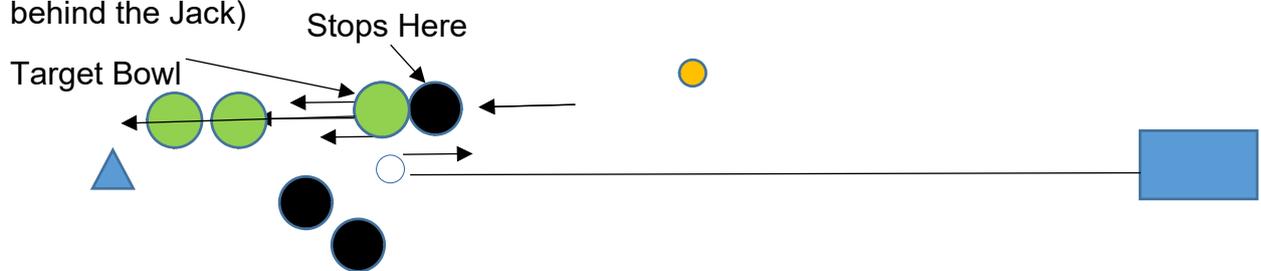
Whick Shot:- This is a shot where your bowl uses another bowl to get into the head to gain shot or disturb the Head or the Jack. The shoulder will depend on which bowl you are aiming to whick off.



Push and Stay:- To perform this shot, you need to know what happens to the target bowl, and what happens to the bowl you played. The diagram shows the target Bowl (green) and the bowl played (black). To play this shot, you play with a metre/yard of weight. The target bowl, when hit will move between 15cm (6") to 30cm (12"). The bowl that was played, when it hits the target bowl, will then reverse it's forward movement therefore stopping. The diagram shows this.

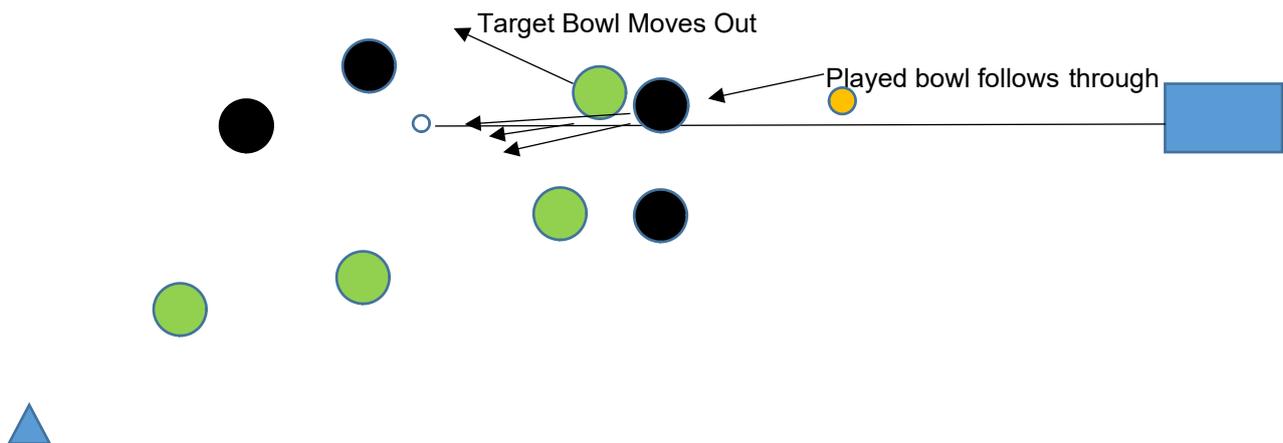


When playing this shot, the shoulder of the green will depend on where the target bowl lies. In this case we are targeting a bowl just to the right of the Jack. You need to draw to a mark (blue triangle) approx. 1 m behind the Jack. By playing through the normal shoulder the bowl will hold up and hit the target bowl. (If you were to remove the target bowl the played bowl should stop on the centre line approx 1yard/metre behind the Jack)



Please Note:- For every yard/metre of weight, that the played bowl is bowled, it will, following the reverse motion, (as explained above,) then move forward up to approximately 15cm (6") per metre/yard of weight played. I.e. If you play with 3 metre/yards of weight the played bowl will move between 0 and 45 cms (18") whilst the target bowl will move approximately between 45cm (18") to 90cms (3')

Follow through:- This shot is normally played, when it is difficult to get into the head. By hitting a short bowl with enough weight so that it goes out of the head and the played bowl follows through (see notes at Push and Stay)(This is why a Blocker Shot is placed 2 yards/metres from the Jack) To follow through 90cm (36") you will need approximately 6yards/metres of weight. For every yard/metre of weight you play the played bowl will follow through approx. 15cm (6") By hitting a target bowl 1yard/metre from the Jack your played bowl should stop somewhere near to the Jack. The shoulder will need to be tightened depending on the target bowl. You should be drawing to a point ▲ approx 6 yards/metres past the Jack and towards the outer side of the rink.



Firing Shot (Drive):- This is normally a shot, when everything else has failed. So much weight is required. The shoulder of the green is normally the target so that you are hitting the target before the bias kicks in. The drawing point is normally off the green.

