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## **CARPET BOWLING RULES**

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All participants must be at least 55 years of age by December 31 of the year of the games.

### **AGE CATEGORIES / EVENTS**

<b>AGE</b>	<b>EVENTS</b>	<b>NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS PER PROVINCE/TERRITORY</b>
55+	Open Team of 4	2 Teams
70+	Open Team of 4	2 Teams
<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS PER PROVINCE/TERRITORY = 16</b>		

### **GENERAL INFORMATION:**

1. Teams will consist of four players, any combination of men and women.
2. Bowls will be 4 inch indoor biased carpet bowls.
3. Carpet will be 30 feet by 6 feet.
4. Standings for a tournament will be based on Wins/Ties/Losses. A win shall count as 2 points, a tie as 1 point and a loss as 0 points.
5. Tournament play for a national final will be a round-robin event. If two teams are tied after round robin play, four extra ends (or more if necessary) will be played until the tie is broken. If a three way tie exists, the aggregate points scored against each team shall be divided into the aggregate points it has scored.
6. Bowls moved inadvertently before being measured will be put back in place. The thirds will be responsible for measuring. Dead bowls will be removed. All measurements will be supervised by the event official.
7. If a player bowls an opponent's bowl by mistake, he or she will replace it with one of their own, once the bowl has come to rest.
8. Penalties will apply for knocking the jack off the carpet. The points will be added to the score of the opposing team and the end will be counted as an end played, except the eighth end should be replayed if the jack is knocked off. Penalties are listed further on in these rules.

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## MODIFIED RULES FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES:

We have in mind persons who because of accidents or other ailments are unable to deliver their bowls in a standing position. Such persons should be permitted to deliver the bowls in a position which best suits them, whether sitting in wheel chairs, ordinary chairs or stools; even to resting their knee, if kneeling, or knees on the floor. Front wheels and legs of chairs, and the person's knee must be immediately behind the toe-line, otherwise standard rules and commonsense prevail.

## EQUIPMENT

The diagram shows the plan of the carpet with the delivery rectangles, each of which is 24 inches by 20 inches by 9 inches. To protect the carpet while the bowls are being delivered, the footer at the delivery end must be covered by a mat which may extend behind the carpet. White lines parallel to the ends of the carpet and at a distance of 10 feet from each end are drawn across the carpet. Slippers or soft-soled shoes, without heels, should be worn. Equipment is to be supplied by the Host Committee.

## A GAME

A game will consist of eight (8) ends. If the total number of points is equal at the conclusion of a match, the result will be a tie. If a winner is required, an extra end will be played and the opponents will toss as for the beginning of a game. If during the playing of an extra end the jack is knocked off the carpet, the penalty will be incurred and the end is not replayed. Control of the carpet passes to the opposing side as soon as the preceding bowl has come to rest.

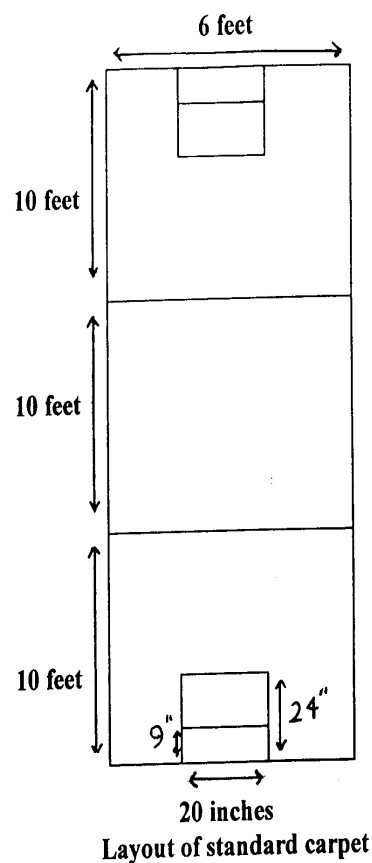
## THE PLAYERS

In a fours game, each plays two bowls, the leaders their two alternately, then similarly with the seconds, the thirds and the skippers.

Teams will toss and the winner of the toss will have the choice of the set of bowls to use, and will have the option of directing the opponent to bowl the jack and the first bowl or electing to do so himself. Each succeeding end will be started by the winner of the previous end at which a score was recorded. In deciding the winner of an end, penalty scores must not be considered. The first to play at an end that results in a tie (no score), a dead end, or a penalty, will again play first.

The "skipper" will have sole control of his players and the skippers will be the sole judges of all disputed points, except on measuring (done by the thirds).

If they are unable to agree, the dispute will be settled by the umpire. In the fours game, the third will be the measurer and the second will be the scorer. The Skipper is the director of the head except when bowling, then the third is the director of the head.



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# CARPET BOWLING RULES

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## LOCATION OF PLAYERS

The directors of the head stand at the jack end of the carpet. All players, except the skippers, must remain at the delivery end until the skippers are due to bowl, and they will then change ends.

All players except those controlling play, will stand or be seated beyond the end of the carpet at the delivery end or beyond the end of the carpet at the jack end if the players have changed ends. The skippers, after having changed ends will remain beyond the end of the carpet at the delivery end. The player controlling play for the team that has possession of the carpet may stand behind the carpet at the jack end or along either side of the carpet provided they remain less than 15 feet from the end of the carpet at the jack end. The player controlling play for the team that does not have possession of the carpet must stand beyond the end of the carpet at the jack end.

## BOWLING THE JACK

If the jack, when bowled, runs off the carpet either at the ends or the sides, or if no part of it reaches the line 20 feet from the delivery end of the carpet, it will be sent back for the opponent to bowl it. After each leader has had one unsatisfactory throw, the jack will be placed approximately 24 feet from the delivery end of the carpet and in the centre of the carpet. The opponent's throwing of the jack will not affect the order of playing of the bowls. If the jack, when bowled, comes to rest on the carpet between the line 20 feet from the delivery end and the front of the rectangle at the jack end, it will be placed at the centre of the carpet at a point opposite that at which it came to rest. If the jack, when bowled, comes to rest on the carpet at a point further from the delivery end than the front line of the rectangle at the jack end, it will be centred at the front of this rectangle. If at any time the jack is shifted by play and rebounds so that it comes to rest less than 15 feet from the delivery end of the carpet, the end will be dead and will be replayed.

## DELIVERING THE BOWL

At the moment of delivery, a player must have at least part of one foot within, and on the footer. No portion of either foot may be on, or over, any portion of the carpet except the footer area. Any portion of either foot which is not on the footer must be outside the carpet. At the moment of releasing the bowl, a player must have the hand delivering the bowl within the boundaries of the delivery rectangle. The bowl need not contact the carpet before passing outside the delivery rectangle. The bowl must pass wholly over the front line of the delivery rectangle. It is permissible to deliver a bowl in such a way that the natural bias does not operate except that a bowl may not be delivered disc-over-disc. A bowl which comes to rest less than 10 feet from the delivery end of the carpet, or outside the boundaries of the carpet, is dead and will be removed. If a player bowls an opponent's bowl by mistake, it will, when it has come to rest, be replaced by one of his own bowls.

**DELIVERING THE JACK:** The rules that govern the delivery of a bowl as to the footer and the delivery rectangle, will also apply to the delivery of the jack. If a player infringes these rules, the jack will be considered as improperly delivered.

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## CARPET BOWLING RULES

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**JACK IN COURSE:** If a jack in course is obstructed or deflected by a neutral object or neutral person or by an umpire, opponent, or a member of the opposing team, it will be redelivered by the same player. If it is obstructed or deflected by a member of the players own team, it will be redelivered by the Lead of the opposing team.

**MOVEMENT OF JACK:** If a jack is diverted from its course while in motion on the carpet as the result of play, or displaced while at rest on the carpet by one of the players, the opposing Skipper will restore the jack to its former position or allow it to remain where it rests and play the end to a finish, or declare the end dead.

**BOWL IMPROPERLY DELIVERED:** Should a player deliver a bowl not in accordance with earlier provisions of these laws, the umpire may after having given a warning, have the bowl stopped and declared dead. If the bowl has come to rest and has not disturbed the head, the bowl will also be declared dead. If the bowl has disturbed the head, the opponent will have the option of either re-setting head; leaving the head as altered; or declaring the end dead.

**MOVEMENT OF BOWLS:** If a bowl, while in motion or at rest on the carpet, is interfered with or displaced by one of the players, the opposing Skipper will have the option of:

1. Restoring the bowls as near as possible to its original position
2. Letting it remain where it rests
3. Declaring the bowl dead
4. Declaring the end dead

If a bowl in its original course is interfered with by a neutral person or object and it has not disturbed the head, it will be replayed. If it has disturbed the head, the two Skippers will agree on the replacement of the head. If they are not able to agree, the end will be declared dead.

If the head is disturbed by a neutral object or person, the two Skippers will agree as to the replacement of the head. If they are unable to agree, the end will be declared dead.

If a bowl or the jack is inadvertently moved while being measured it will be replaced by the opposing measurer. If the movement is caused by an umpire, the umpire will make the replacement.

### **MEASURING**

After all of the bowls have been played and come to rest, the measurers will decide the result. If the measuring is necessary, it may be carried out by either measurer. If the opposing measurer is not satisfied, he may then measure himself. If the measurers are not in agreement, they will call the umpire whose decision is final. One point is allowed for each bowl nearer the jack than the nearest bowl of the opponent. If the nearest opposing bowls are equidistant from the jack, the end is a tie and no score is recorded although it will count as an end.

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# CARPET BOWLING RULES

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## PENALTIES FOR TAKING THE JACK OFF THE CARPET

Leader.....	1 point
Second.....	2 points
Third.....	3 points
Skipper.....	4 points

The points will be added to the score of the opposing team, and the end will count as an end played.

Exception: The final end will be replayed if the jack is knocked off the mat and penalties will apply.

NOTE: In all cases, the team throwing the first in the end in which penalties were incurred, will throw first in the next end.

## DEFINITIONS

Bowl in Course or Jack in Course: a bowl or jack from the moment it is released from the hand until it comes to rest.

End: the playing of the jack and all the bowls of all the opponents in the same direction.

Head: the jack and such bowls as have come to rest on the carpet and are not dead.

Displaced as applied to a jack or bowl: disturbed by any agency that is not sanctioned by these laws.

## MEASURING CONDITIONS

The measurement will be made to the nearest point of each object. No measuring will be allowed until all the bowls in an end have come to rest. When the last bowl has come to rest, half a minute will elapse, if either team desires, before the shots are counted.

If a bowl requiring to be measured is resting on another bowl which prevents its measurement, the best available means will be taken to secure its position, whereupon the other bowl will be removed.

The same course will be followed where more than two bowls are involved, or where, in the course of measuring, a single bowl is in danger of falling or otherwise changing its position.

If a bowl is not stabilized and it changes its position on its own accord before being measured, its changed position will apply.

No bowl will be removed without first receiving the consent of the opposing measurer.

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*Nothing in these laws will be deemed to make it mandatory for the last player to play his last bowl in any end, but the player will declare to his opposing Skipper his intention to refrain from playing it before the commencement of determining the result of the end and this declaration will be irrevocable.*

### **PLAY IRREGULARITIES**

When a player has played before his turn, the opposing Skipper will have the right to stop the bowl in its course and it will be played in its proper turn; but in the event of the bowl so played having moved or displaced the jack or bowl, the opposing Skipper will have the option of allowing the end to remain as it is after the bowl so played comes to rest or having the end declared dead.

If the result of an end has been agreed upon, or the head has been touched in the agreed process of determining the result, then a player who forfeits or has omitted to play a bowl will forfeit the right to play it.

A player who has neglected to play a bowl in the proper sequence will forfeit the right to play such bowl, if a bowl has been played by each team before such mistake was discovered.

If, before the mistake is noticed, a bowl has been delivered in the reversed order, and the head has not been disturbed, the opponent will then play two successive bowls to restore the correct sequence. If the head has been disturbed, the opposing Skipper will have the option of allowing the end to remain as it is after the bowl so played had come to rest or having the end declared dead.

If a bowl, delivered out of the proper sequence, drives the jack off the carpet, the end will be declared dead and penalties will be assessed in accordance with earlier provisions of these laws.

No player or spectator will be permitted to interfere with a player in any way while a player is in the process of delivering his bowl.