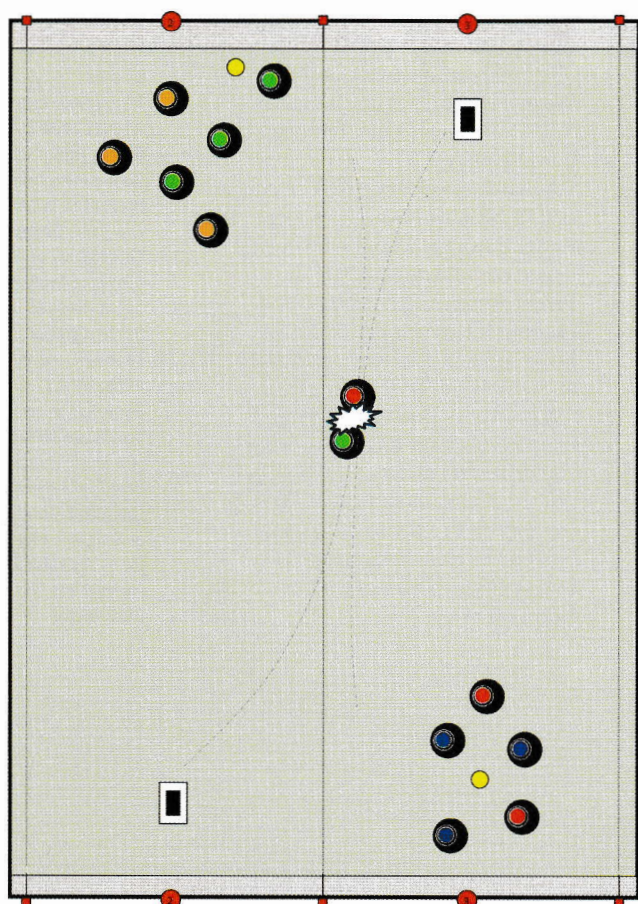




CRASH, *Bang*, Wallop

Now that the indoor season in the northern hemisphere is well underway, it is inevitable that we get questions relating to bowls from adjacent rinks colliding with each other. The majority of times these situations

are resolved amicably and efficiently by all involved. Just occasionally, when the most precious shot in the game is disrupted, things can get a little tense. So let me guide you through some of the scenarios and the correct way to resolve them.



COLLISION SITUATION ONE

A lead on rink two and a lead playing in the opposite direction on rink three, deliver their bowls on a wide line and half-way up the rink they collide. Happens a lot, right? Actually, this is one of the easiest scenarios to resolve.

First, we define both the objects that collided. Either one of those bowls has strayed onto the neighbouring rink and therefore is a neutral object. "Definition C.24.2.1 a jack, bowl or other object not belonging to any player on the rink of play."

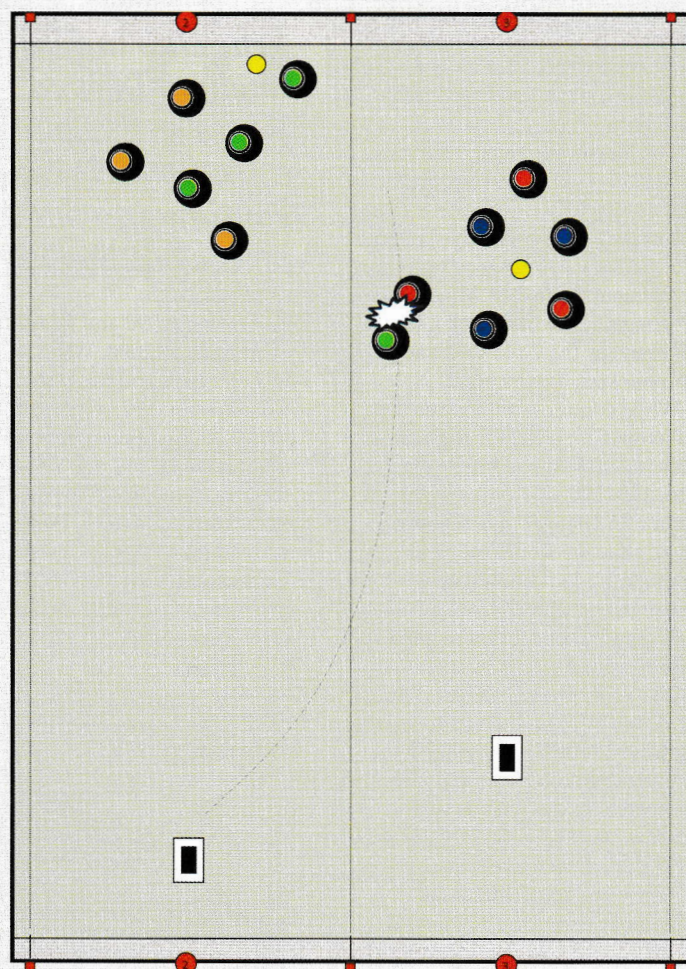
They are both on their original course "Definition C.15 bowl in its original course: a bowl from its delivery until it comes to rest, no matter how many times it

comes into contact with the jack or other bowls before it comes to rest or becomes dead."

They have been displaced and so we turn to the Displacement Laws to discover how to salvage the situation.

37.3.1.1 If the bowl is displaced within the boundaries of the rink of play by a neutral person or neutral object and it has not disturbed the head after it is displaced, the bowl must be replayed.

So, collision situation one is solved by simply collecting the two bowls and replaying them. It may be a good idea to politely agree as to who will deliver first to avoid another collision.



COLLISION SITUATION TWO

Let's make this a little more complicated but actually still common.

The third on rink two plays a wide bowl to get to a jack in the far corner of the rink near the ditch. On rink three, the players are minding their own business and their head is a few metres past the minimum distance – a short end.

The third's bowl looks to be a good weight to do the job and is certainly on the correct bias, but it is heading directly towards the head on rink three. Everyone rushes towards the imminent collision, start picking bowls up and stopping bowls; chaos reigns. Now this is when we get asked

the question. What should we have done?

There is a specific law for this scenario, still within the group of Displacement Laws.

37.6 Bowl displacement by a bowl from a neighbouring rink
37.6.1 If a bowl at rest on the rink is in danger of being moved by a bowl from a neighbouring rink, any player at the head must choose whether to:

37.6.1.1 lift the bowl at rest to allow the other bowl to pass and then replace it, as long as this action would not influence the outcome of the head; or

37.6.1.2 stop the bowl from the neighbouring rink.

37.6.3 If a bowl that has been stopped was in its original course and was delivered on a bias that would have taken it back into its own rink, it must be replayed.

Let's break this down. The red bowl on rink three is in danger of being moved by the green bowl from the neighbouring rink. Any player from rink three has the choice to lift the red bowl and replace it when the green bowl has passed, or stop the green bowl.

Personally, I would ALWAYS advise stopping the bowl from the neighbouring rink, the green one. Yes, I know there is a choice, but how do you know that lifting one of the bowls in the head and replacing it is not going to affect the shot count? What if that lifted bowl ends up in a calliper measure?

Now, Law 37.6.3 is the interesting one which causes debate. "If the bowl was in its original course and was on a bias that would have taken it back to its own rink." How do we know if it was going to make it back to its own rink? It may have been too heavy and ended up in the ditch? None of that matters, what is important here is that it was on the CORRECT BIAS. If it was, then the bowl simply gets replayed.

For those of you that play the Indoor game, enjoy the season and I hope you progress well in competitions or other games that you may play. Remember, strange situations can pop out at you at any time when on the rink and, whilst many are resolved amicably to the satisfaction of both parties, some can result in a bit of friction. Carry a law book in your bowls bag, download a copy onto your phone, keep one behind the bar or in the umpire's kit in the club. You never know when it will come in handy, and it may diffuse a tricky situation.

Please feel free to pop any questions you may have through the season to us here at *Bowls International* and we will do our best to resolve them in future issues. Good bowling and enjoy your games.



The Island Perspective

WITH BOWLS JERSEY PRESIDENT GREG DAVIS

This month's theme is local friendships and nurturing them. Friendship is ultimately the bedrock of this sport, and cultivating friendships through bowls is something that should never be undervalued.

Usually, every year Jersey are able to welcome three or four different visiting teams or counties. We have a very close affinity to Craigentinny in Scotland who visit every two years (and a Jersey tour return in the in-between years) and this year we enjoyed the company once more of Northumberland who I was first introduced to at the very beginning of my presidency some nine years ago when Bob Miller bought the team over. The tour is now organised by Steve Miller, Bob's son, and many familiar faces come back year on year to sample the Jersey hospitality and our fantastic bowls facilities. These two are just examples of our friends who visit and is by no means an extensive list!

Jersey was well known for its tourism hey-days, but unfortunately travel prices have crept up and it has put some visiting teams off. There are however deals to be had, and we offer four different club facilities, enviable coastlines to view, tourist attractions to explore and even if I do say so myself, a gastronomic experience any visiting bowler would love! One meal even made editor Ceris's Instagram, so it can't have been half bad! Northumberland, as an example, play all the clubs over

here once then a 'combined' game against Bowls Jersey on the fifth day, and every member of the tour gets a day off to go exploring the Island to make a real break of it. It's a holiday and bowls trip all in one.

Going into 2025, Bowls Jersey recognise the need to encourage visiting teams and would love to work with any club or county who wish to bring a tour across in 2025.

You can get in touch with us using the 'Visiting Team' button on www.bowlsjersey.com, and we can help plan your tour and put you in touch with our hotel contacts so you can see what deals are around!

CLUB SAVED

But it wasn't just visiting teams we welcomed back to our shores. This year for the first time since COVID-19, we got to welcome our friends from Guernsey back to Jersey for the next instalment of the annual inter-insular. It was played this year at the historic JBC on Westmount Hill, fresh from being saved from the demolition ball as the new hospital plans have been adopted and a new lease has finally been signed. The JBC future now secured which is not just great news for the members – its great news for bowls in Jersey.

In the ladies' event, three rinks of triples are competed and, in the men's, three rinks of fours competed. We are optimistic to return the ladies to rinks when more competitive and cheaper inter-island travel returns – it would be cheaper to play the

fixture in the UK (for us in Jersey anyway!).

The ladies' contest saw Jersey's Ann Bisson's rink recover from 9-0 down against a triple featuring Sophie Rabey and Rose Ogier from Guernsey to see Jersey take the first session 2-1. The visitors were not to be outdone though in session two where they reversed the scoreline with a 2-1 victory which left the fixture evenly poised heading into the third and final session. With two games completed of the three, the scoreboard was still level as each island had recorded a win, but Jersey was trailing by three on the final end of the deciding rink. The front end grouped their woods perfectly to set up a four-foot trail, that was missed agonisingly close twice by skip Carolyne Staley and Guernsey claimed the Inter Insular title.

In the Men's, it was a very even contest. So even in fact, the first two sessions ended with a win, a loss and a draw a piece seeing the men also tied level heading into the deciding Sunday session. However, it was the Jersey men that found their feet and recorded wins across all three rinks to claim back the men's title from their Guernsey rivals. Jersey men blended eight new caps into their 12-man team, as well as welcoming back John Lowery who hadn't been seen in a Jersey shirt since World Bowls 2016! A massive shout-out to Josh Band, who at Glasgow 2014 was playing table tennis for Jersey, but has taken to bowls like a natural. Josh was one of the eight earning their first cap on

"The JBC future now secured which is not just great news for the members – its great news for bowls in Jersey"