

PLAYING THE GAME. The game has several recognised formats, generally:-

Number of players	Number of woods each	Number of ends
Team of 4 or Rinks	2	21
Team of 3 or Triples	3	18
Pairs	4	Usually 21
Singles	4	First player to 21
2 Wood Singles	2	21 ends

DUTIES OF BOWLERS IN RINKS OR FOURS

Number 1 or lead. –Observant

Places, then centres the mat, then delivers and centres the jack.

Bowls first and third wood of the end alternating with opposition lead. Draws to the jack.

Either gathers bowls or places mat at start of next end.

Number 2 or second. Supportive, Capable

Maintains scorecard, conferring with opposite number. Bowls to where the skip directs.

Number 3. Confident, Versatile

2nd in charge so needs to have a good shot repertoire to play shots as instructed, and also may need to advise the skip as situation changes. Chalks touchers. Agrees the result of an end with their opposite number, signalling to the skip, measuring if required.

The Skip. Positive, Encouraging

Natural leader & tactician. Introduces his/her team. Calls for shots to be attempted by the team whether drawing into the head, or placing strategic woods. He will signal to the lead where he wants the mat and jack. An experienced skip will take into consideration the strengths and weaknesses of his team and encourages them, knowing how their bowls behave.

DUTIES IN TRIPLES

Number 1 . As for fours, the advantage of having a third bowl means the skip may ask for it to be placed tactically.

Number 2 combines role of 2 & 3 in fours, and hands the responsibility for scoring to the skip.

Skip. As for rinks + score card.

DUTIES IN PAIRS

Number 1. Combines duties of lead, 2 & 3

Skip. Tactical decisions + scorecard.

SINGLES

Decisions are all yours, you will usually have a marker or scorer. You can go and look at a head before you bowl, or follow your bowl, but you should be ahead of it before it stops.

New bowlers usually start at the 'front end' of a team playing at 1 or 2 in a rink, or at 1 in a triple

2019-2020 playing the game. Page in coaching guide gives more detail