

New Zealand Umpire Bowls Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



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SAMPLE

Questions

SAMPLE

- 1. What is the maximum permitted height for the slope of a bank in relation to the green?**
 - A. 20 degrees**
 - B. 30 degrees**
 - C. 35 degrees**
 - D. 45 degrees**
- 2. What should happen if a toucher hits the bank and disturbs the head?**
 - A. Reset the head and replay the shot**
 - B. The head remains disturbed and the game continues**
 - C. The disturbed head must be measured**
 - D. Ignore the disturbance, as it was a live bowl**
- 3. During a Fours game, is it permissible for the skip to instruct their third while standing near the mat line?**
 - A. No, they must stay behind the head**
 - B. Yes, that is allowed**
 - C. Only if the head is completed**
 - D. Yes, but only if they are touching the mat**
- 4. Which of the following is essential equipment for umpires to carry out their duties?**
 - A. Digital scoreboards**
 - B. Portable first aid kits**
 - C. Tape measure at least 25 metres long**
 - D. Electronic measuring devices only**
- 5. What is the consequence of a player using two different types of bowls during a game?**
 - A. A minor infraction**
 - B. No consequence**
 - C. A disqualification from the game**
 - D. An automatic loss of points**

- 6. If a running bowl displaces a jack after hitting a non-toucher, what should happen?**
- A. The jack should remain where it is**
 - B. The opponent should replace the jack**
 - C. The non-toucher should stay on the rink**
 - D. The player must play their next bowl from the same position**
- 7. What constitutes an "end" in Fours bowling?**
- A. The delivery of the jack and all bowls played in one direction**
 - B. The final outcome of a game after all ends have been played**
 - C. Only the scoring of shots after all bowls are played**
 - D. The time taken for players to complete their throws**
- 8. If a bowl falls into a new position during the measuring process, what should be done?**
- A. The bowl should be moved back to its original position**
 - B. The measuring process should stop**
 - C. The bowl should remain in the new position**
 - D. The player's score should be re-evaluated**
- 9. What is the umpire's responsibility regarding spectators during a match?**
- A. Allow spectators to stand anywhere around the rink**
 - B. Ensure they do not disturb the players and remain clear of the greens**
 - C. Encourage interaction between players and spectators**
 - D. Ask spectators to leave if they cheer too loudly**
- 10. What is the minimum length required for a bowling green?**
- A. 20 metres**
 - B. 25 metres**
 - C. 31 metres**
 - D. 40 metres**

Answers

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1. C
2. D
3. B
4. C
5. C
6. B
7. A
8. C
9. B
10. C

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Explanations

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1. What is the maximum permitted height for the slope of a bank in relation to the green?

- A. 20 degrees**
- B. 30 degrees**
- C. 35 degrees**
- D. 45 degrees**

The maximum permitted height for the slope of a bank in relation to the green is regulated to ensure safety and the integrity of the playing surface in bowls. A slope of 35 degrees is the standard established to provide a balance between maintaining a manageable bank incline for players and ensuring that the bank supports the green effectively without causing disruptions or hazards. Slopes that exceed this angle could lead to challenging play conditions as well as increased risks for bowlers in terms of slipping or losing footing. Meanwhile, slopes that are too steep might not adequately support the green, leading to potential damage from erosion or wear. While lower angles such as 20 or 30 degrees may seem more manageable, they are below the regulatory maximum and do not fully utilize the guidelines set for optimal bank height and safety. Thus, 35 degrees is the appropriate angle, incorporating considerations for both the playability of the green and the safety of the players.

2. What should happen if a toucher hits the bank and disturbs the head?

- A. Reset the head and replay the shot**
- B. The head remains disturbed and the game continues**
- C. The disturbed head must be measured**
- D. Ignore the disturbance, as it was a live bowl**

When a toucher makes contact with the bank and subsequently disturbs the head, the appropriate course of action is to ignore the disturbance because the bowl remains a live bowl. In the game of bowls, a toucher that hits the bank continues to play its role as a valid bowl. Since the bowl is still regarded as live, any disturbances it causes to the positioning of the other bowls does not warrant resetting or measuring the head immediately. The game can continue as the disturbed head is an inherent part of play following the impact of the toucher. This understanding is crucial in umpiring, as it allows for the continuity of the game without unnecessary interruptions or measurements that might disrupt the flow of play. In this case, the correct action aligns with the principle that live bowls retain their status regardless of any subsequent interactions with the head or other bowls.

3. During a Fours game, is it permissible for the skip to instruct their third while standing near the mat line?

- A. No, they must stay behind the head**
- B. Yes, that is allowed**
- C. Only if the head is completed**
- D. Yes, but only if they are touching the mat**

In the context of lawn bowls, the skip does have the flexibility to instruct their third while standing near the mat line. This is an important aspect of team dynamics during a game, as the skip often plays a crucial role in strategizing and guiding the actions of the team. The rules generally allow for communication between teammates at the head, and there is no specific prohibition against the skip standing near the mat line when providing instructions. This can be particularly beneficial for the skip, as it allows them to assess the situation on the green more closely while conveying their strategy or advice to their third. The other options present restrictions that are not aligned with the practical application of the rules. For instance, staying back behind the head at all times would limit the skip's ability to engage actively with their team and assess the game conditions, which could hinder team performance. The notion that the skip can only instruct their third when the head is completed is overly restrictive since ongoing communication and strategy adjustment are vital components of gameplay. Similarly, requiring the skip to touch the mat while instructing isn't necessary and imposes an unnecessary limitation on movement during play. Overall, the ability for the skip to instruct their third while standing near the mat line enhances tactical discussions and the team's overall effectiveness on

4. Which of the following is essential equipment for umpires to carry out their duties?

- A. Digital scoreboards**
- B. Portable first aid kits**
- C. Tape measure at least 25 metres long**
- D. Electronic measuring devices only**

The essential equipment for umpires in bowls, particularly a tape measure of at least 25 metres long, is crucial for their responsibilities. Umpires are frequently required to determine the distance between the nearest bowls and the jack, especially in close calls where the outcome can significantly affect game results. A tape measure of this length is standard because it provides the necessary range to measure distances accurately on the bowling green, which can be quite large. While other equipment like digital scoreboards or electronic measuring devices may enhance the officiating experience, they are not strictly necessary for an umpire to perform their fundamental duties. The portable first aid kit, although important for safety and emergencies, does not directly relate to the measuring and judgment aspects of umpiring during a match. Thus, the tape measure stands out as an indispensable tool in ensuring fair play and accurate scoring in the game of bowls.

5. What is the consequence of a player using two different types of bowls during a game?

- A. A minor infraction**
- B. No consequence**
- C. A disqualification from the game**
- D. An automatic loss of points**

Using two different types of bowls during a game is a violation of the rules governing the sport of lawn bowls. The regulations are in place to ensure fairness and uniformity within the game. When a player uses bowls that are different in design, material, or specifications, it creates a situation where the integrity of the game may be compromised. Such a breach results in a serious consequence, which in this context can lead to disqualification from the game. This means that the player would not only be removed from the current match but would also face implications regarding their standing in any competitions or events related to the sport. The rules are stringent to maintain a level playing field for all participants, ensuring that everyone competes under the same conditions. While some infractions in sports may be deemed minor or may lead to other penalties, using bowls that are not uniform goes against fundamental competitive principles, thus justifying the severe action of disqualification.

6. If a running bowl displaces a jack after hitting a non-toucher, what should happen?

- A. The jack should remain where it is**
- B. The opponent should replace the jack**
- C. The non-toucher should stay on the rink**
- D. The player must play their next bowl from the same position**

When a running bowl displaces the jack after hitting a non-toucher, the correct procedure is that the opponent should replace the jack. In lawn bowls, the integrity of the position of the jack is crucial for the continuity of the game. When a jack is moved due to interference caused by a bowl hitting a non-toucher, it is the responsibility of the opponent to restore the jack to its original position. This ensures that the game rules are upheld and that the play remains fair, maintaining the intended setup of the playing area. In this context, the other options are less valid: the jack cannot remain where it is because it has been displaced; the non-toucher, which is an inactive bowl and not part of the scoring, does not influence the position of the jack directly; and requiring the player to play their next bowl from the same position does not apply in this scenario where the jack's position has been altered. Therefore, having the opponent replace the jack is the appropriate action to take following this occurrence.

7. What constitutes an "end" in Fours bowling?

- A. The delivery of the jack and all bowls played in one direction**
- B. The final outcome of a game after all ends have been played**
- C. Only the scoring of shots after all bowls are played**
- D. The time taken for players to complete their throws**

An "end" in Fours bowling is defined as the delivery of the jack followed by all the bowls that are played in one direction. This means that an end represents a complete segment of play where teams deliver their bowls towards the jack, assessing their placement in relation to it. Understanding this definition is essential for anyone involved in the game, as it clarifies how the game is structured and how the scoring can be determined. Once all bowls have been delivered in that direction and the scores are assessed based on their proximity to the jack, that end concludes, and the teams will then play towards the opposite direction in the next end. The other options do not accurately capture the specific definition of an "end" in the context of Fours bowling. The final outcome of a game pertains to the culmination of all ends, which is broader than the singular concept of an end itself. Scoring is a result of the activity completed in an end but does not define the end itself. The mention of time taken for players to complete their throws is related to the pace of play but does not determine or reflect what comprises an end in bowls.

8. If a bowl falls into a new position during the measuring process, what should be done?

- A. The bowl should be moved back to its original position**
- B. The measuring process should stop**
- C. The bowl should remain in the new position**
- D. The player's score should be re-evaluated**

If a bowl falls into a new position during the measuring process, it should remain in that new position. This guideline is rooted in the principle that the integrity of the game is preserved by adhering to the most current state of play, meaning that once a bowl has moved, the new position accurately reflects the situation on the green. In practical terms, allowing the bowl to remain in its new location ensures that players and officials are measuring based on the correct and final placements of the bowls. Continuing to measure from an original position that no longer represents the actual state of the game would be misleading and could lead to disputes about the outcome. It's important to follow this protocol to maintain clear and fair gameplay, ensuring that all measuring accurately portrays the current positions of the bowls on the green, ultimately affecting how the score is determined and impacting subsequent play.

9. What is the umpire's responsibility regarding spectators during a match?

- A. Allow spectators to stand anywhere around the rink**
- B. Ensure they do not disturb the players and remain clear of the greens**
- C. Encourage interaction between players and spectators**
- D. Ask spectators to leave if they cheer too loudly**

The umpire's responsibility regarding spectators is to ensure they do not disturb the players and remain clear of the greens. This responsibility is crucial in maintaining the integrity and focus of the game. Spectators can inadvertently distract players, affecting their performance. By ensuring that spectators are positioned appropriately, the umpire helps to create an environment that allows for fair play and concentration. Allowing spectators to stand anywhere around the rink could lead to interruptions or distractions for the players, thus compromising the quality of the competition. Encouraging interaction between players and spectators could also lead to disruptions, detracting from the game. While managing crowd noise is important, asking spectators to leave for cheering too loudly might be excessive; it's more important to ensure they are generally respectful and considerate of the match atmosphere.

10. What is the minimum length required for a bowling green?

- A. 20 metres**
- B. 25 metres**
- C. 31 metres**
- D. 40 metres**

The minimum length required for a bowling green is 31 metres. This standard is set to ensure that the playing area accommodates the rules and dynamics of lawn bowls. A green of this length allows for fair play, providing sufficient space for various shots and strategies that players may employ during a game. Greens shorter than this minimum would not support the necessary range of shots and could impede competitive play, affecting the overall strategy and enjoyment of the game. Thus, 31 metres is essential for maintaining the integrity of the sport and ensuring that players can effectively demonstrate their skills.