



# UNDERSTANDING THE DISPLACEMENT LAWS

## ACTIVITY

LAW 37 BOWL DISPLACEMENT

LAW 38 JACK DISPLACEMENT

The 'Displacement laws' are probably the most difficult laws to understand for new and existing umpires. This activity should assist umpires in their endeavours to fully understand these laws.

There are three parts to the activity:

- Definitions connected to Laws 37 and 38
- How Laws 37 and 38 are devised and structured
- Interpreting the Laws

### Activity 1: DEFINITIONS

Write a Law and Law Number from the law book to match these definitions.

	DESCRIPTION	DEFINITION
1	The section of the green on which a game is played	
2	A jack or bowl which is moved in a way that is not approved within the Laws of the Sport of Bowls	
3	A person who is not a player on the rink of play. This includes the marker and the umpire	
4	A jack or bowl from its delivery until it comes to rest, no matter how many times (for a bowl) it comes into contact with the jack or other bowls before it comes to rest or becomes dead.	
5	The position of a jack or bowl at rest within the rink of play before it is displaced. If a law says that a jack or bowl must be put back to its former position, the person replacing the jack or bowl in this way must decide where that position is. If this person cannot accurately identify the former position, they must put the jack or bowl as near as possible to its former position.	
6	The surface of the bank from the surface of the ditch up to the top of any surround or edging.	
7	A jack bowl or other object not belonging to a player on the rink of play. A line jack or bowl belonging to a player on a neighbouring rink. A dead bowl that is at rest and has not been removed from the rink of play.	
8	Altering the position of a jack or bowl in the head	
9	The section of the green between two adjacent side boundaries, the corresponding sections of the end ditches and the corresponding faces of the banks on which a game is played.	
10	A jack or bowl that is moving during play after being at rest as part of the head	

***To understand the displacement laws, umpires must have a very clear understanding of these definitions.***

## ACTIVITY 2: THE STRUCTURE OF LAWS 37 AND 38.

Focus will be predominantly on:

- Law 37.1 - 'Displacement of a bowl by another player'
- Law 37.3 - 'Displacement of a bowl by a neutral person or neutral object'
- Law 38.1 - 'Displacement of a jack by another player'
- Law 38.3 - 'Displacement of a jack by a neutral person or neutral object'

1. List the subheadings under Law 37 'Bowl Displacement'.

e.g. 37.1	

2. What are the three differences between the subheadings in Law 37, 'Bowl Displacement' and the subheadings under Law 38, 'Jack Displacement'.


3. List the four subheadings under Law 37.1 'Bowls Displacement by another player' and 37.3 'Bowl displacement by a neutral person or neutral object'.


4. What is the significant detail in 37.1 and 37.2 AND 38.1 and 38.2

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**ACTIVITY 3: QUESTIONS - INTERPRETING DISPLACEMENT LAWS** LAW 37 and LAW 38

1	A running bowl played on rink 2 hits one of the other bowls on rink 2 causing that other bowl to enter rink 3. On entering rink 3 it collides with a bowl at rest in the head before anyone can stop it. What must happen on rink 3?
2	A player, while walking about the head, accidentally moves a bowl which is at rest on the green. What must happen to the displaced bowl?
3	Player 'A' plays a running bowl which misses the jack but comes into contact with a group of bowls at the back of the head. The running bowl rebounds from the bank and collides with one of the bowls which is still travelling across the green. What must happen to the bowl which was still moving?
4	Player 'A' drives at the jack in an attempt to kill the end. The bowl strikes the jack which then comes into contact with an opponent's foot. What must happen?
5	What happens if a player displaces the jack when it is at rest – either on the green or in the ditch?
6	During a Fours game both teams are standing close to the head. The skip of team 'A' plays a firing shot which causes a bowl to hit the feet of another member of team 'A'. What must happen?
7	What action must be taken if a bowl strikes the foot-rest on a wheelchair player's chair while it is positioned behind the head.
8	What happens when the jack at rest on the rink is displaced by a bowl which has been played on an adjoining rink?
9	When measuring, skip 'A' accidentally moves a bowl with the end of the measuring tape. What must happen?
10	A jack in its original course is deflected by a member of the team which delivered the jack. What must happen?
11	What must happen if a bowl in its original course strikes the foot of a member of the team who delivered the bowl?
12	Player 'A' drives at a bowl in an attempt to remove it from the head. The player's bowl strikes the target bowl – the target bowl then hits the marker on the foot. What must happen?

13	The marker, in the process of measuring, accidentally moves the jack with the end of the measuring tape. What must happen?
14	What must happen if a bowl in its original course strikes an opponent's foot and then goes on to disturb the head?
15	As the result of a firing shot played on rink 2, the jack comes to rest on rink 2 but very close to the boundary between rinks 2 and 3. A bowl delivered on rink 3, travelling in its original course and on a correct bias, looks as though it is going to come into contact with the jack. Can a player lift the jack to allow the bowl to pass?
16	A jack in its original course is deflected by the marker. What must happen?
17	A bowl delivered on rink 3, while in its original course and running on a correct bias, collides with a bowl which is at rest on rink 2. What must happen?
18	A bowl in its original course comes into contact with several bowls in the head before coming into contact with one of the player's feet. What must happen?
19	A player plays a running bowl which hits a non-toucher which was at rest in the same rink. The bowl which has been hit rebounds from the bank and displaces the jack which is at rest. What must happen?
20	What must happen if a bowl in its original course is accidentally stopped by an opponent's foot before it reaches the head?
21	Player 'A' drives at the jack in an attempt to kill the end. The bowl strikes the jack which then hits the marker on the leg. What must happen?
22	Player 'A' drives and hits the jack which rebounds off the bank on to the rink of play, hits a player and disturbs the head. What happens?

## Activity 1: ANSWERS - DEFINITIONS -

Find a definition in the law book to match these descriptions

	DESCRIPTION	DEFINITION
1	The section of the green on which a game is played	C.28.1 Rink
2	A jack or bowl which is moved in a way that is not approved within the Laws of the Sport of Bowls	C.4 Displaced jack or bowl
3	A person who is not a player on the rink of play. This includes the marker and the umpire	C.24.1 Neutral person
4	A jack or bowl from its delivery until it comes to rest, no matter how many times (for a bowl) it comes into contact with the jack or other bowls before it comes to rest or becomes dead.	C.15 Jack or bowl in its original course
5	The position of a jack or bowl at rest within the rink of play before it is displaced. If a law says that a jack or bowl must be put back to its former position, the person replacing the jack or bowl in this way must decide where that position is. If this person cannot accurately identify the former position, they must put the jack or bowl as near as possible to its former position.	C.11 Former position
6	The surface of the bank from the surface of the ditch up to the top of any surround or edging.	C.9 Face of the bank
7	A jack bowl or other object not belonging to a player on the rink of play. A line jack or bowl belonging to a player on a neighbouring rink. A dead bowl that is at rest and has not been removed from the rink of play.	C.24.2 Neutral object
8	Altering the position of a jack or bowl in the head	C.5 Disturbing the head
9	The section of the green between two adjacent side boundaries, the corresponding sections of the end ditches and the corresponding faces of the banks on which a game is played.	C.28.2 Rink of play
10	A jack or bowl that is moving during play after being at rest as part of the head	C.16 Jack or bowl in motion

## ACTIVITY 2: ANSWERS - THE STRUCTURE OF LAWS 37 AND 38

1. List the subheadings under Law 37 'Bowl Displacement'.

e.g.37.1	<i>Bowl displacement by another player</i>
	<i>Bowl displacement by a disabled player's equipment or assistant</i>
	<i>Bowl displacement by a neutral person or a neutral object</i>
	<i>Bowl displacement when being marked as a toucher or during measuring</i>
	<i>Bowl displacement by a rebounding non-toucher</i>
	<i>Bowl displacement by a bowl from a neighbouring rink</i>
	<i>Bowl displacement by a dead bowl</i>

2. What are the three differences between the subheadings in Law 37, 'Bowl Displacement' and the subheadings under Law 38, 'Jack Displacement'.

<i>Jack displacement during measuring – NOT when being marked as a toucher</i>
<i>Jack displacement by a non-toucher – NOT a rebounding non-toucher</i>
<i>There isn't a heading – Jack displacement by a dead bowl</i>

3. List the four subheadings under Law 37.1 'Bowls Displacement by another player' and 37.3 'Bowl displacement by a neutral person or neutral object'.

<i>Displacement of a bowl or jack in its original course which has not disturbed the head before it is displaced</i>
<i>Displacement of a bowl or jack in its original course which has disturbed the head before it is displaced</i>
<i>Displacement of a bowl or jack in motion</i>
<i>Displacement of a bowl or jack at rest</i>

4. What is the significant point in 37.1 and 37.2 AND 38.1 and 38.2

<i>The disabled player's equipment or assistant is treated as a player for all purposes under 37.1 and 38.1</i>
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## ACTIVITY 3: ANSWERS - INTERPRETING DISPLACEMENT LAWS -

## LAW 37 and LAW 38

<b>1</b>	<p><i>If the displaced bowl has not disturbed the head, the skips must agree on the former position of the bowl.</i></p> <p><i>If the displaced bowl has disturbed the head, the skips must agree on the former position of the bowl and replace any part of the head disturbed after the displacement.</i></p> <p><i>In both situations if the skips cannot agree, the end must be declared dead.</i></p> <p><i>Law 37.3.4</i></p>
<b>2</b>	<p><i>If the displaced bowl has not disturbed the head, the opposing skip must put the bowl back to its former position. If the displaced bowl has disturbed the head, the opposing skip must put the bowl back to its former position and replace any part of the head disturbed after the displacement.</i></p> <p><i>Law 37.1.5</i></p>
<b>3</b>	<p><i>The skips or opponent in Singles must place the bowl where they believe it would have come to rest. If they cannot agree they must declare the end dead.</i></p> <p><i>Law 37.5.2</i></p>
<b>4</b>	<p><i>Player 'A' in (Singles) or player 'A's skip (in a team game) must choose whether to</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• Place the jack where the skip believes it would have come to rest and replace any part of the head disturbed by the displaced jack; or</i></li> <li><i>• Declare the end dead</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Law 38.1.2</i></p>
<b>5</b>	<p><i>The opposing skip must put the jack back to its former position.</i></p> <p><i>Law 38.1.3</i></p>
<b>6</b>	<p><i>The skip of team 'B' must choose whether to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• place the bowl where the skip believes it would have come to rest and replace any part of the head disturbed after the displacement: or</i></li> <li><i>• declare the end dead.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Law 37.1.4</i></p>
<b>7</b>	<p><i>The wheelchair must be treated as if it was the wheelchair player so the action would be the same as that taken when a bowl is displaced by another player.</i></p> <p><i>Law 37.2 and 37.1</i></p>
<b>8</b>	<p><i>The jack must be put back to its former position. If the skips cannot agree on the jack's former position, the end must be declared dead.</i></p> <p><i>Law 38.3.3</i></p>
<b>9</b>	<p><i>The opponent must put the bowl back to its former position.</i></p> <p><i>Law 37.4.1</i></p>
<b>10</b>	<p><i>The opposing lead must place the mat as described in Law 6.1.1 and redeliver the jack making sure it is centred but must not play first.</i></p> <p><i>Law 38.1.1</i></p>
<b>11</b>	<p><i>The opposing skip must declare the bowl dead and replace any part of the head that has been disturbed after the displacement.</i></p> <p><i>Law 37.1.1.1 and 37.1.1.2</i></p>
<b>12</b>	<p><i>The opponents must agree where the target bowl would have come to rest and how to replace any part of the head disturbed after the displacement. If they cannot agree, the end must be declared dead.</i></p> <p><i>Law 37.3.3 The marker is a neutral person.</i></p>
<b>13</b>	<p><i>The marker must put the jack back to a position agreed by the skips or opponents in Singles. If they cannot agree the marker must put the jack back to its former position.</i></p> <p><i>Law 38.4.2</i></p>
<b>14</b>	<p><i>The skip of the team that played the bowl must:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• replace the head and have the bowl replayed</i></li> <li><i>• replace the head and place the bowl where the skip believes it would have come to rest OR</i></li> <li><i>• declare the end dead</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Law 37.1.1.4</i></p>

<b>15</b>	<i>No. The player must stop the bowl. Law 38.6</i>
<b>16</b>	<i>The jack must be returned and redelivered by the same player. Law 38.3.1</i>
<b>17</b>	<p><i>The procedure on rink 3 must be:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• The bowl is to be replayed.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Law 37.3.1.3</i></p> <p><i>The procedure on rink 2 must be:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• The skips must agree as to the former position of the bowl and how to replace any part of the head disturbed after the displacement. If they cannot agree, the end must be declared dead.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Law 37.3.4.1 or 37.3.4.2</i></p>
<b>18</b>	<p><i>Any part of the head disturbed before the displacement must not be replaced. The opposing skip must replace any part of the head disturbed after the bowl was displaced and the skip must also choose whether to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• Place the bowl where the skip believes it would have come to rest, OR</i></li> <li><i>• Leave the bowl where it came to rest.</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Law 37.1.2.2 or 37.1.2.3</i></p>
<b>19</b>	<i>An opponent must put the jack back to its former position and remove the non-toucher from the rink. Law 38.5.2</i>
<b>20</b>	<p><i>The bowl was ACCIDENTLY stopped and not DELIBERATELY stopped The skip of the team that played the bowl must choose whether to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• have the bowl replayed</i></li> <li><i>• place the bowl where the skip believes it would have come to rest: OR</i></li> <li><i>• leave the bowl where it came to rest</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Law 37.1.1.3</i></p>
<b>21</b>	<i>The players must place the jack where they believe it would have come to rest. If they cannot agree on the jack's final position, the end must be declared dead. The marker is a neutral person. Law 38.3.2</i>
<b>22</b>	<p><i>Displacement of a jack in motion If a jack in motion is displaced by a player, the opposing skip or opponent in Singles can choose whether to:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• place the jack where they believe it would have come to rest and replace any part of the head disturbed by the displaced jack; OR</i></li> <li><i>• declare the end dead</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Law 38.1.2</i></p>