



Ashtead Bowls Club

Groundsheet Positioning for PROTECTION of THE GREEN

Notices placed adjacent to the Mats and Jacks store will indicate when the Green Ranger makes it mandatory to use Groundsheets.

When no such notice is in force, then it is up to the players on a rink to determine the need for Groundsheets based upon conditions on the green and the ability of the players to deliver the bowl without damage to the green. This may also become apparent during play.

This is a collective responsibility of all bowling members especially more senior bowlers to ensure that we manage this approach to protect our green.

To provide for a legal delivery (see Bowls Law 6) the 'Mat Line' (the front edge of the mat) needs to be set at least 2 metres from the rear ditch. Under 'wet' conditions it is suggested that you choose to place the mat (line) and its associated groundsheet even further up the green to be **between 2 metres and up to 4 metres** from the back ditch.

This 'advanced' mat position will provide more room for players 'behind' the playing delivery mat and will therefore help reduce localised compaction caused by players standing or breaking or damaging the green edge.

The front edge of the playing delivery mat should be placed so that it covers the groundsheet by a small amount – say 5cms to avoid making a trip hazard.

Place the groundsheet with its longer side and nails aligned with the rink. If players continue to land their bowls beyond the Groundsheet, thus damaging the green, then they will be asked to cease bowling and will be referred to the coaching members of the club to assist in achieving correction of their delivery actions.

