

TIPS FOR PENNANT BOWLERS.

LEADS:

Key Word: OBSERVANT

1. **NEVER** attack a close opposition shot bowl – take good green to make the head wider. This gives a wider target for your following team mates' bowls to use.
2. Be prepared though, to attack your own first bowl if it 'jack level'. Otherwise, your opponent(s) may make use of it instead.
3. If conditions change (change of wind, temperature, speed of green etc.) you should be the first to notice and quietly pass it on to your team mates.
4. Do not let your opponent dictate the pace of play.

SECONDS:

Key Word: SUPPORTIVE

1. Double your efforts if your leader or third is struggling. Take the responsibility of holding the team together until they pick up their game.
2. **NEVER** play two short bowls on an end. Make sure your first bowl reaches the head particularly when your team is holding the shot.
3. Look on your position as a most rewarding one – many great skips regard it as the most important position in the team.

THIRDS:

Key Word: CONFIDENT

1. A confident, smiling third is a 'team plus' and a worry to the opposition particularly when the pressure is on.
2. **NEVER** play a variation on the shot the skip has called for. Your genuine effort can educate your skip better than words will ever do.
3. You are in a unique position in the team to quietly encourage all of your team mates to play well around you. Look on that as one of your tasks during the game.

SKIPS:

Key word: POSITIVE

1. Know the shot your team mate (or you) needs to play. Treat it as an interesting challenge or opportunity for him (or you) rather than a difficulty or a problem.
2. **ALWAYS** think ahead. Concentration is living one bowl ahead whether it your bowl or theirs.
3. Speak **SLOWLY, LOUDLY** and **CLEARLY towards the other end**. It indicates that you are in control of the situation, both to your team and the opposition.