

BERKSHIRE BOWLS COACHING SCHEME

Coaching Part 2 — Week 3

Drawing Around Obstacles and Player Communication

Session length	60 minutes	Coach	
Date		Player group	
SESSION PURPOSE			
Build on Week 2 aiming-line work by selecting a useful route and finish in a more complex head, then communicating the intended option clearly.			
LEARNING OUTCOMES		EQUIPMENT & PREPARATION	
• Identify more than one route. • Nominate the hand and intended finish. • Use Bowl 2 to correct or repeat Bowl 1. • Give concise factual information.		• Mats, jacks and matched bowls. • Four object bowls per set-up. • Square and Diamond exercise sheets. • Set a short-to-medium jack length and practise both hands.	

Session Plan

Time	Activity	Coach delivery
0–5	Welcome	Explain: identify the useful finish first, then choose hand and line.
5–12	Delivery recap	Two bowls on each hand. Correct delivery faults as they arise.
12–30	Mini-Lesson 1: Square	Discuss options; player nominates preferred draw or wrest-out, then delivers two bowls.
30–48	Mini-Lesson 2: Diamond	Jack obscured; use side bowls as length guides. Practise both hands.
48–56	Communication	State situation, required result, hand and target/finish. Give one factual message after delivery.
56–60	Review	Which option was safest? What did Bowl 1 show? What changed for Bowl 2?

COACHING PART 2 — WEEK 3

Coach Delivery Notes

Square, Diamond and Player Communication

Mini-Lesson 1 — Square

Purpose	Evaluate routes where four bowls are placed approximately 3 metres apart in a square, with the jack in the centre and the front bowls partly blocking the normal draw.
Player task	Opposition holds four. Nominate draw or wrest-out; deliver two consecutive bowls.
Coach observes	Option, adjusted line, positive length and Bowl 2 correction.
Progress when	Reduce spacing, increase distance or use diagonal ownership variation.

Mini-Lesson 2 — Diamond

Purpose	Use surrounding bowls as references in a diamond approximately 3 metres apart, with the front bowl obscuring the jack and the side bowls showing the required length.
Player task	Nominate hand and finish; use draw or wrest-out weight only; deliver two bowls.

BERKSHIRE BOWLS COACHING SCHEME

Coach observes	Use of side-bowl length guides, positive weight and chosen route.
Progress when	Narrow or offset the diamond, increase distance or compare both hands first.

Knowledge Focus — Communication Sequence

1. State the situation. 2. State the required result. 3. Confirm the hand. 4. Name the target bowl or intended finishing area. 5. After delivery, give one factual message.

Common Observations and Brief Corrections

Observation	Coach response
Aims only at the jack	Identify the nearest bowl to beat and a useful finishing point.
Clips the front bowl	Widen the line or select the alternative hand.
Changes line and weight together	Keep one successful element; change only the main cause.
Communication is vague	Require one short fact: hand, target and required result.

Progression and Adaptation

Make it easier	Increase spacing, shorten the jack and begin on the preferred hand.
Standard	Use the normal Square and Diamond layouts, practise both hands and require the option and finish to be stated.
Make it harder	Reduce or offset spacing, increase distance or require comparison of both hands before choosing.

Game Application

One bowl left. The player names the preferred option before delivery and afterwards identifies whether line, length or shot choice determined the result. Role link: the player directing the head gives the instruction or factual information; others avoid competing advice unless asked. Scorecard introduction: briefly show where the end score and running total are recorded; full practice follows in the Week 10 guided game.

Success Indicators

- The player identifies more than one possible route and names the preferred hand.
- The player states a useful finishing area before delivery.
- The player uses visible bowls as references when the jack is hidden.
- Bowl 2 shows a purposeful correction or repeat.
- The player gives concise factual information without competing advice.

Review Questions

Which option was safest? What did Bowl 1 show? What changed for Bowl 2? Was the result mainly affected by line, length or shot choice?

Link to Week 4: develop this into reading and solving a small head.

GOLDEN RULE: Never miss an opportunity to correct a delivery or explain how the intended shot can be achieved.