

BERKSHIRE BOWLS COACHING SCHEME

Dead Ends and Dead Bowls

Know when the end stops, when play continues and when a bowl is removed

WHY THIS MATTERS

A dead end and a dead bowl are different situations. A dead end normally stops the whole end, while a dead bowl is removed and the end continues. Knowing the difference prevents confusion and scoring errors.

What Is a Dead End?

- A dead end occurs when the jack passes completely outside the side boundaries of the rink.
- It does not matter whether the jack is moved directly by a delivered bowl or after contact with another bowl.
- Once the end is declared dead, no score is recorded for that end.

What Happens Next?

Action	Normal outcome
Stop the end	No further bowls are delivered once the dead end is recognised.
Do not score	The end produces no shots for either side.
Replay the end	The end is replayed and does not count as one of the completed ends.
Direction of replay	The source material states that the end is normally replayed in the same direction unless the Skips agree otherwise.

Dead End or Jack in the Ditch?

Situation	Status	What happens
Jack in the ditch within the rink boundaries	Live	The end continues and the jack position is marked.
Jack completely outside a side boundary	Dead end	The end stops and is replayed under the applicable conditions.

When Is a Bowl Dead?

Dead-bowl situation	Player action
The bowl travels less than 14 metres from the front of the mat.	Remove it from the rink.
The bowl finishes in the ditch without having touched the jack.	Remove it from play.
The whole bowl comes to rest outside the side boundaries.	Remove it from play.
Another bowl drives it completely outside the side boundaries.	Remove it from play.

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What About a Toucher?

- A toucher may remain live in the ditch.
- A toucher becomes dead if it comes to rest completely outside the rink boundaries.
- A toucher also becomes dead if another bowl drives it completely beyond a side boundary.

Important Boundary Points

Point	Meaning
Part of the bowl remains within the rink	The bowl may still be live, even if it travelled outside and returned.
Whole bowl is outside the boundary	The bowl is dead.
Boundary thread	The source material states that it must not be lifted while a bowl is in motion.
Carried bowl	A bowl carried to the head does not become dead merely because it was carried.

A Simple Player Check

1 — JACK	2 — BOUNDARY	3 — STATUS	4 — ACTION
Has the jack remained inside the rink width?	Is the whole bowl or jack outside the side boundary?	Is this a dead end, dead bowl or live toucher?	Stop, remove or continue as required.

Player Self-Check

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| ☐ Can I explain the difference between a dead end and a dead bowl? | ☐ Do I know that a jack in the ditch can remain live? |
| ☐ Can I identify when the whole bowl is outside the rink? | ☐ Would I check the competition conditions before assuming the replay procedure? |

CONDITIONS OF PLAY: Some competitions use alternatives such as respotting the jack or treating the end differently. Always follow the current laws and the competition conditions for the match.

KEY POINT: Jack outside the side boundary means a dead end. A dead bowl is removed, but the end normally continues.