

Tips for All Pennant Players

LEADS - Key word: **OBSERVANT**

1. Never attack a close opposition shot - take good green to make the head wider.
2. Be prepared, though, to attack your own first bowl if it is 'Jack level' otherwise your opponent(s) may make use of it instead.
3. If conditions are changing (change of wind, temperature, speed of green) you should be the first to notice it - and quietly pass it on to your team mates.
4. Do not let your opponents dictate the pace of play.

SECONDS - Key word: **SUPPORTIVE**

1. Double your efforts if the lead or third is struggling. Take 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 shot.
3. Look upon 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 and 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 your skip has called for. Your genuine attempt 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 upon 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/her (or yourself) rather than a difficulty or a problem.
2. ALWAYS think ahead. Concentration is living one bowl into the future (whether it is 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.