

Approved Measuring Equipment

UMPIRE INFORMATION SHEET






JANUARY 2024



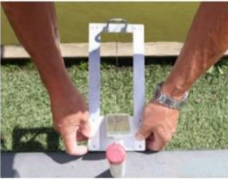
This Umpire Information Sheet outlines the approved measuring equipment umpires must use during events in New Zealand. This is captured in two parts:

- Measuring equipment which all umpires must use for carrying out umpiring duties (Law 54).
- Additional equipment approved by Bowls New Zealand for carrying out umpiring duties (Law 54.9)

There is an acknowledgement that measuring equipment may differ aesthetically and across brands however the concept and function should align with the approved equipment requirements addressed in this document.

Measuring equipment all umpires must use for carrying out umpiring duties

	Flexible Measure <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Description: Box measure with a string and pointer. Metal tapes are not ideal for umpiring duties.• Use: Measuring between 20cm and 3 metres.• Availability: Readily available from bowls manufacturers and retailers. Available in a variety of sizes and styles.
	String Measure <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Description: Measure with at least 5 metres of string.• Use: Measuring which is beyond the range of a flexible measure or when bowls or the jack is in the ditch.• Availability: Simple string measures can be made with a thin non-stretch string or can be purchased from bowls manufacturers. String lines can also be purchased from hardware retailers.
	Tape Measure (at least 25 metres long) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Description: Nylon or metal tape with metric measurements.• Use: Measuring green distances, jack lengths and short bowls• Availability: A retractable 30 metre tape is readily available from hardware retailers. Metal retractable tapes are available from bowls manufacturers.
	Callipers <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Description: Adjustable internal/inside metal or plastic calliper. The screw/spring adjustable style is preferred with the 20/30cm size being the most suitable.• Use: Measuring distances between 1-30cm.• Availability: Available in different sizes from hardware and engineering retailers.
	Feeler Gauges <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Description: Metal strips of differing thicknesses. Ensure the combined thickness of the strips is at least 1cm. White strips of plastic should be used with Feeler Gauges.• Use: Measuring distances up to 1 cm.• Availability: Available from hardware and engineering retailers.

	<p>Wedges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description: Wedges made from rubber, plastic, metal, or wood. Ideally, umpires should carry 4-6 wedges. • Use: Support leaning bowls from falling during the measuring process. Umpires may use 'collar' wedges around the jack to prevent movement. • Availability: Homemade wedges are acceptable. Wedges can also be purchased from bowls manufacturers and retailers. Available in a variety of sizes and styles.
 	<p>Equipment to decide if a jack or bowl is within the side boundary</p> <p>Boundary Scope</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description: Freestanding device with a scope. • Use: Determining if a jack or bowl in the ditch or on the boundary is dead or live. • Availability: Homemade scopes are acceptable. Scopes can also be purchased from Bowls manufactures. <p>Boundary Liner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Description: Handheld device with a mirror and line. • Use: Determining if a jack or bowl in the ditch or on the boundary is dead or live. • Availability: Homemade liners are acceptable. Liners can also be purchased from local manufacturers (details available from BNZUC).

Additional approved measuring equipment for carrying out umpiring duties

Bowls New Zealand may approve additional measuring equipment for carrying out umpiring duties for use during domestic play.

Approval Process: A sample of the measuring equipment and accompanying information can be submitted for approval to the Bowls New Zealand Umpires Committee (BNZUC). The BNZUC will then undertake a practical assessment to determine its use for umpiring duties. This may involve using the proposed equipment during identified events to determine its operational use and effectiveness. Measuring equipment will only be approved if it is determined that it is effective and accurate for use during umpiring duties. If measuring equipment is approved, this will be notified to all Centres and Umpire Groups once approval has been granted.

All proposals to approve additional equipment should be emailed to umpires@bowlsnewzealand.co.nz

Approved Equipment: There is currently no additional equipment approved for carrying out umpire duties.

Equipment Under Consideration *[Note: This equipment is not approved for general use by umpires]*

- The Bowls Line Laser Measure is currently being considered by the BNZUC for approval. This device is used in other Member National Authorities and there is some domestic interest in using laser measures for umpiring duties. The laser measure is an alternative to the Flexible Measure and the String Measure.