

Suggested Rules for Triples Play under Covid

These rules are being evolved to allow the best practice of safe play.

Version 1 - As tried out 20/7.

Trial game was with Joyce M, Joyce W, Eric, John H, John S, Wendy.

Team A and Team B both have a mat and jack at each end.

Team A – white mat and yellow jack. Only Lead A may actually handle either of these.

Team B – blue mat, white jack. Only Lead B may actually handle either of these.

Jacks are normally kept at the side of the rink, not handled, but rolled with the foot into and out of play.

Other rules: no touchers – so no chalking. Bowls going in the ditch remain there until play is over for that end. Only a bowl's owner may pick it out of the ditch. A skip's bowl in the ditch stays there till the teams cross over next end, when the skip can remove it.

If the jack is knocked into the ditch it is a dead end.

No measuring – sporting agreement!

Example of play:

Team A have the mat.

End 1: Lead A sets their (white) mat, which is centred as usual by Skip A. Skip A rolls their (yellow) jack on to the rink and into position using the feet. The jack is centred as usual by Lead A in position on the mat.

Play as normal. When players cross over, Lead A remains behind until the end of the end in order to remove the mat to the bank, then proceeds up the rink.

Score is agreed and noted on score card(s), no scoreboard.

Any bowls in the ditch are retrieved by their owners only. The jack is rolled to the side, off the rink, using the feet. A jack in the ditch is picked out by the relevant lead and placed to the side, off the rink.

Play proceeds. Let's say Team B won the end. Lead B sets their (blue) mat. Skip B centres it. Skip B rolls their (white) jack into play from the side of the rink. Lead B centres.

Play as normal. Lead B remains behind when teams cross. At the end of the end Lead B removes the mat on to the bank and proceeds up the rink.

And so on....