



Coaching Hints No 2.

Winter season

The winter season is a good time to reflect and plan for the coming summer season.

Here's the second hint to help you along your way on your bowling journey.

Research your bowl and find out its bias.

Every brand of bowls has its own bias line. Often this is a selling point for the manufacturer. Generally, a bowl will track the same line every time. Poor delivery, incorrect weight, green speed and weather conditions might affect it but will not alter its basic line.

<https://www.thesportofbowls.co.uk/bowls-articles/article-3-bias/>

For a new bowler (and sometimes a more experienced one) a question often asked is "What type of bowl should I use/buy?"

There is no absolute answer. Probably the best advice would be to try out as many brands as you can. Think about what you want from the game of bowls. Are you purely social? Do you want to be competitive? Is price a consideration? Does a mate recommend his brand?

A big consideration is to find a bowl that sits comfortably in your hand. Regardless of brand, bias or bowl weight it must become part of your hand and be easy to hold and deliver.

T Frankland winter 2020

Once you have that, you can get the size that fits your hand, the colour, logo and the type of bowl within a brand.

Now you are starting to look at different bias lines within a brand. A bowl's bias is designed to come into action anywhere from half to two thirds along the bowling line. They will leave the hand the same and keep a similar line for the first part of its journey.

e.g. Taylor Vector, Taylor Redline, Taylor Redline SR, Taylor SRV and Taylor GTR all have different bias lines but have the same "Taylor" feel.

Brands to look at include; Henselite (Dreamline XG), Taylor (Redline SR, Vector VS), Aero (Dynamic, Optima).

Check out these suppliers for different brands of bowls and information about each one.

<https://www.hunterbowls.co.nz/>

<http://www.henselite.co.nz/products/bowls-range/bowls/dreamline-xg>

New bowls are not a cheap item, so think carefully before you buy. Sometimes you can find second hand bowls on Trade Me. Always remember that they are being sold for a reason. It pays to ask the seller why they are selling. Price wise you can save dollars if you buy wisely.

TRY before you buy. The club has Aero bowls you can test. Club coaches use all three brands and can give you good advice and instruction to help your decision making.