

Understanding Line, Weight and Length



Line, weight and length work together to deliver the bowl to where you intend. Understanding how each element affects the path helps you choose better, repeatable shots.

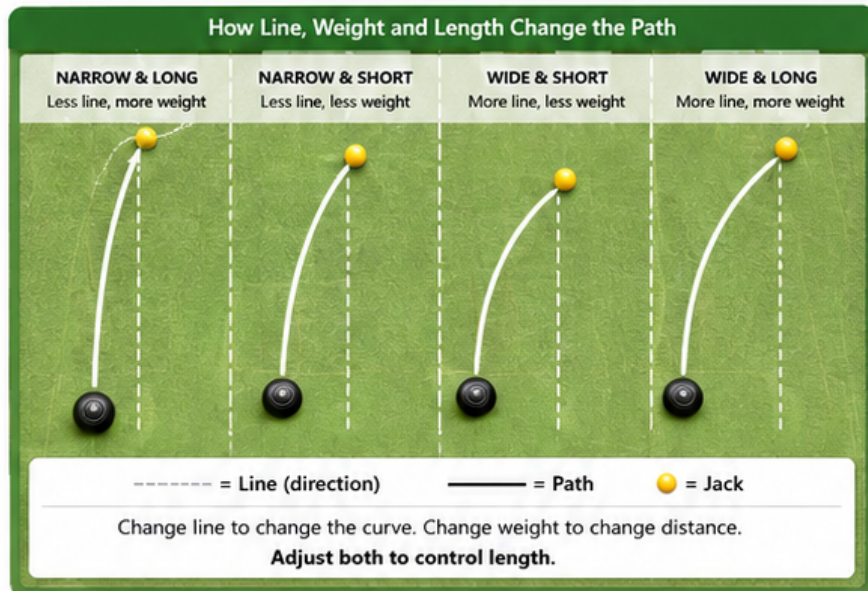


Why It Matters

Good line gets you in the right channel. The right weight controls how far you go. The right length ensures you finish in the target area.

When any one of these is off, you miss the target. When they work together, you create options and pressure on your opponent.

Skilled players read the green and visualise the path, then adjust line, weight and length to suit the situation.



Key Ideas

Use a simple check and adjust process to build consistency.



OBSERVE

Watch the result carefully.
Where did it finish?



STATE

Say what you saw.
Be specific.



ADJUST

Change one variable
at a time.



REVIEW

Check the outcome.
Repeat as needed.

Practical Example

You are drawing to the jack.

What you saw	What to question	Likely correction
	Not enough weight?	Add a touch more weight (same line)
	Long past weight?	Too much weight? (same line)
	Finishes inside (left of jack)	Not enough line? (same weight)
	Finishes outside (right of jack)	Move line narrower (same weight)

★ **Tip:** Change one thing at a time. This helps you learn what works.

Common Mistakes / Things to Watch

- ⚠ **Changing more than one thing at once:** makes it hard to learn.
- ⚠ **Ignoring the green:** slope and pace affect the path.
- ⚠ **Aiming at the jack:** aim to finish in the right area, not at the jack.
- ⚠ **Rushing your decision:** take a breath, read, then commit.
- ⚠ **Inconsistent stance or delivery:** small changes can change outcome.
- ⚠ **Not reviewing:** learn from every bowl, good or bad.



Try This

- Place the jack in different positions on the rink.
- Roll bowls with the same line but different weights.
- Roll bowls with the same weight but different lines.
- Record what you see and how you adjust.
- Repetition builds feel and confidence.



Summary / Key Takeaway

Line shapes the path. Weight controls distance. Length is the result.

Read the green, visualise the path, and adjust one variable at a time.

Control the path, control the result.



Related Public Resource

Explore more in this series:

- How to Read a Head
- Choosing the Right Shot
- Building Heads
- Game Sense and Strategy

Visit your club or association website to access these free resources.