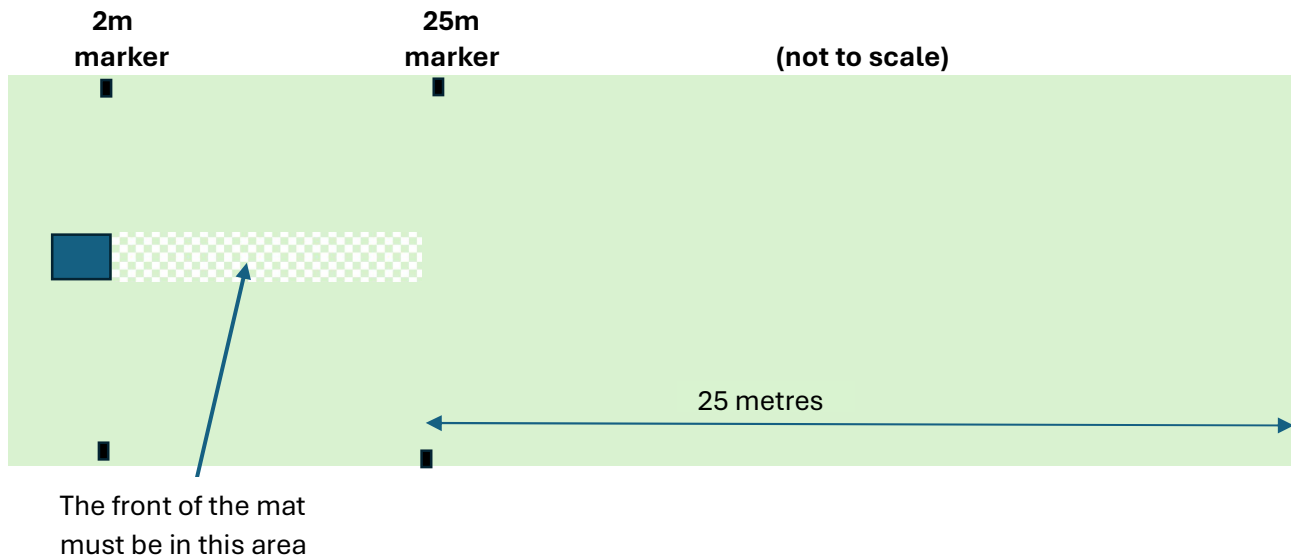
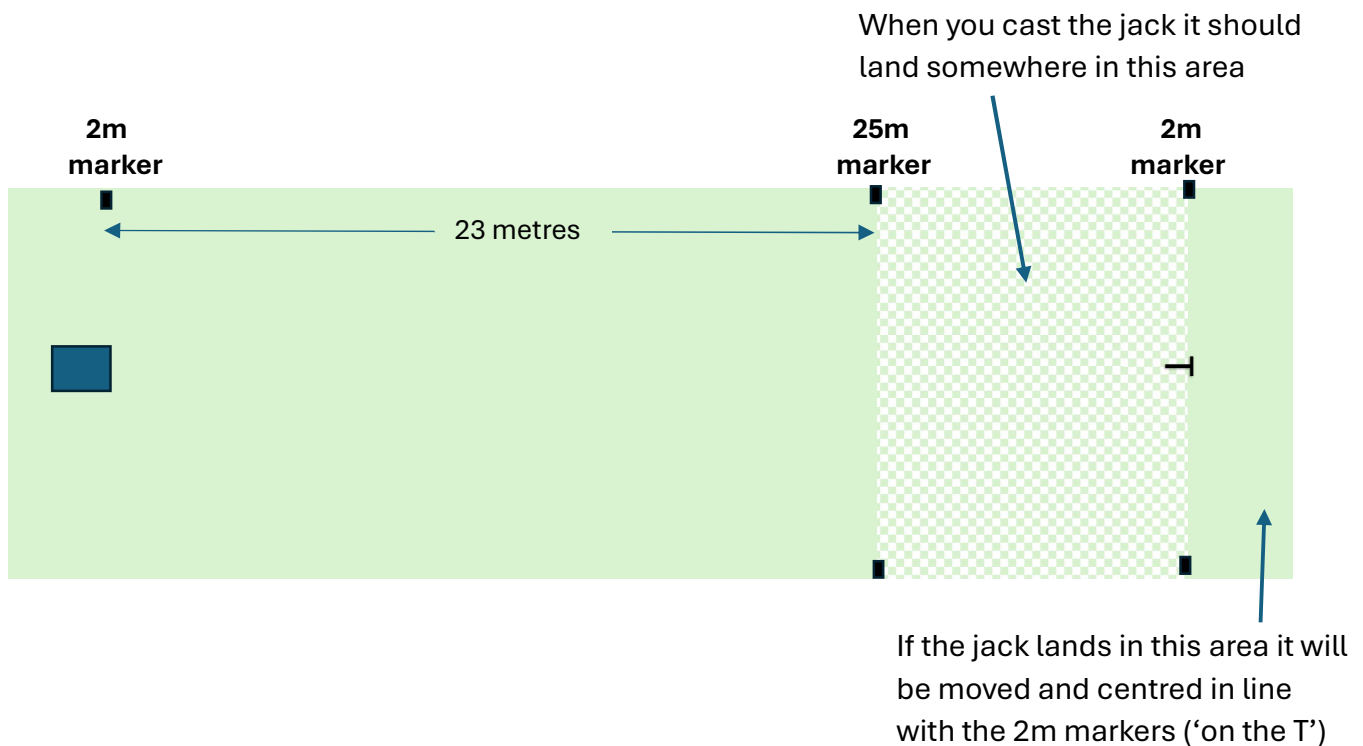


How far up is the mat?

At the start of an end, the *front of the mat* has to be level with or in front of the 2m markers but not less than 25m from the far end of the rink.

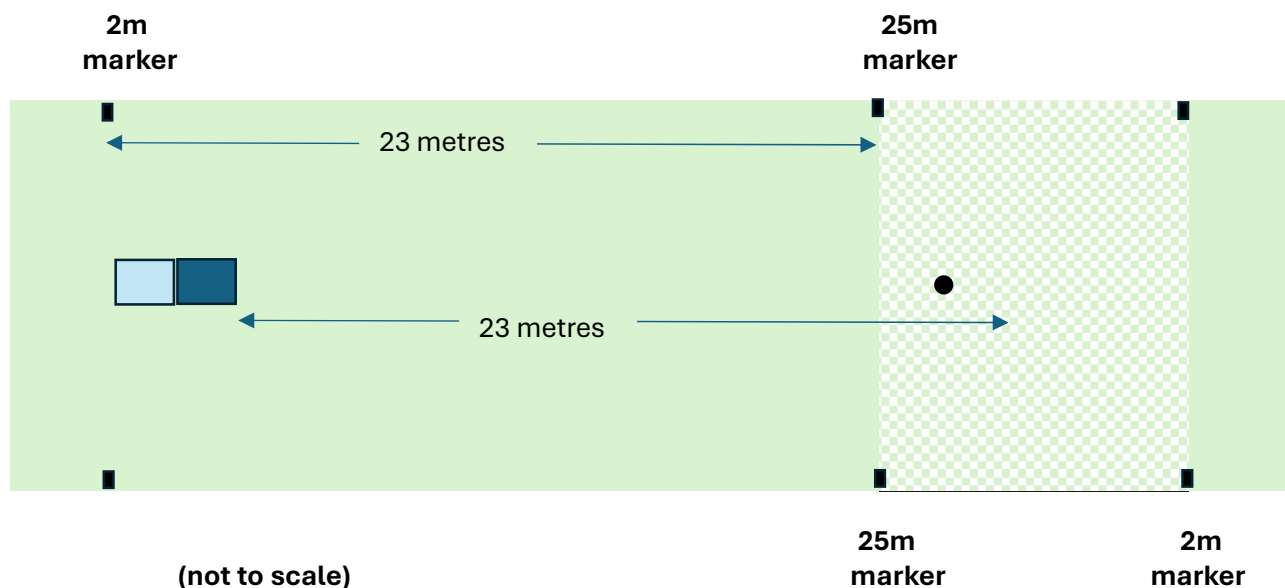


The *jack* has to be **at least 23 metres from the front of the mat** and not more than 2 metres from the end of the rink.



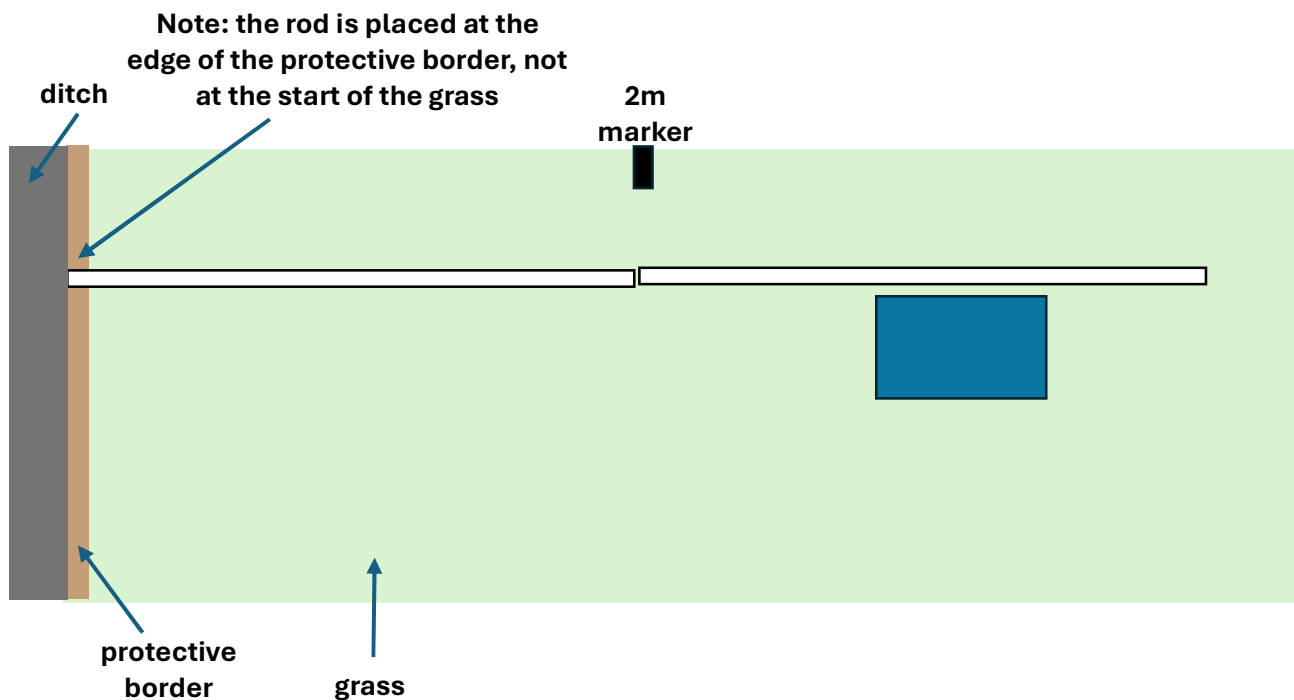
The question **How far up is the mat?** will be asked if the jack has landed close to being level with the 25m markers, or the mat has been placed closer to the limit of how far it can be moved up the rink.

Here, the mat is approximately '2 mats up' from the 2m markers, so the jack should be at least '2 mats' beyond the 25m markers. (A mat is 60cm [approx. 2ft] long, so this jack should be at least 120cm/4ft beyond the 25m markers.)



This jack is approximately 'one mat' beyond the 25m markers and so has not travelled far enough. It is not legal and must be cast again, by the opposing Lead.

Some players use the 2-metre rod or stick to estimate the position of the mat.



The front of this mat is approximately $1\frac{3}{4}$ rod lengths from the ditch.

One rod is 2m, so $\frac{3}{4}$ of a rod is 1.5m.

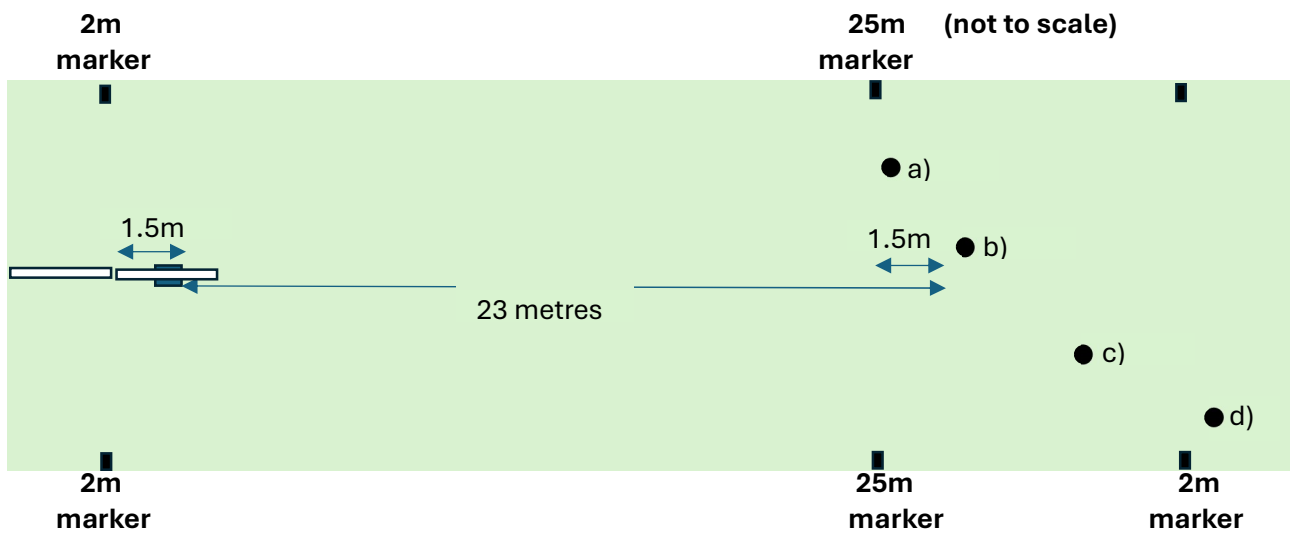
The front of the mat is 3.5m from the ditch.

Which of these jacks should be returned to be cast again?

The measurements are the distance beyond the 25m markers:

- a) 15cm b) 2m c) 4m d) 30cm beyond the 2m markers

The answer is, just jack a). Jack d) would be placed on the T but not returned.



Remember, the jack must be at least **23m** beyond the front of the mat. Jack a) is the only one not 1.5m ($\frac{3}{4}$ of a rod) beyond the 25m markers.

Estimating the distances is usually sufficient, but the only way to tell for sure is to get the long tape measure out, and *measure* the distance from the *front* of the mat to the jack.