A ball is bowled underarm to a batter who attempts to hit the ball into a zone that will maximise points.

**What you need**
- One paddle bat and sponge ball for each group of 6
- Sufficient cones to mark out a playing area as shown

**What to do**
- Players take positions – one batter, one bowler and 4 fielders.
- The bowler bounces the ball or throws underarm to the batter.
- Fielders return the ball to the bowler each time.
- 5 hits are allowed before the players rotate.

**Scoring**
- The batter hits the ball, aiming for a zone that will maximise points as shown in the illustration (left).
- No points if the ball is caught on the full.

**Change it**
1. After each hit, allow the batter to score bonus points by running to a marker as shown.
2. Arrange players into 2 teams (e.g. 4 v 4) – add runs to obtain a team score.
3. Allow cooperative bowling from a team-mate.

**Learning Intention**
*In the zone* supports students to develop fielding and shot placement skills.
In the zone

Coaching

- Batting skills may vary within the group – conduct one-on-one batting skills ‘clinics’ off to the side as required.
- ‘Freeze-frame’ good examples of play – use players as role models to repeat an activity or tell the group what they were thinking.
- Ask the group how they can ensure all players are included.

Game rules

Easier for batter – ball is bowled with a bounce.

- Identify specific target areas where points are scored, or count double.
- Work in pairs – one player hits and the other runs.
- For a visually impaired runner, use a guide runner or caller.

Equipment

- A selection of bats of different sizes helps to tailor the game to individual needs.
- Harder for fielders – use a faster ball.
- Use different striking implements, e.g. bat, teeball bat or tee.

Playing area

- Run to a set point to earn a bonus point – one point is awarded if the batter reaches the cone before the ball is thrown to a fielder at the cone.
- Use different target zones.

Safety

- Position the bowler a safe distance from the batter – out of hitting direction is a good option.
- 2 or more players fielding a ball need to be aware of each other and to call ‘mine’.
- Restricting players to a fielding zone is a way to restrict movement on the field.
- Ensure sufficient space between groups.

ASK THE PLAYERS

Batters

- ‘What type of shot will help you score high points – along the ground, in the air, a hard hit well timed?’
- ‘Where is the best space to place the ball to score most points?’

Fielders

- ‘What are the consequences of fielding in the 2-point zone?’
- ‘If the batter is scoring freely, what options do you have for reducing the score?’
- ‘How can fielders help each other to get the ball to the fielder at the cone?’