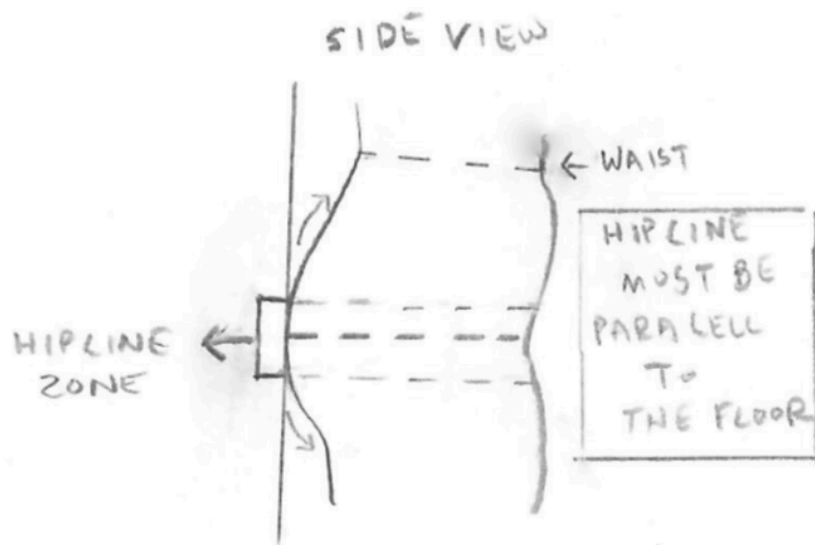


TEAM TIP: Does your bowl-in-a-box reveal a hipline that is 'in the zone'?

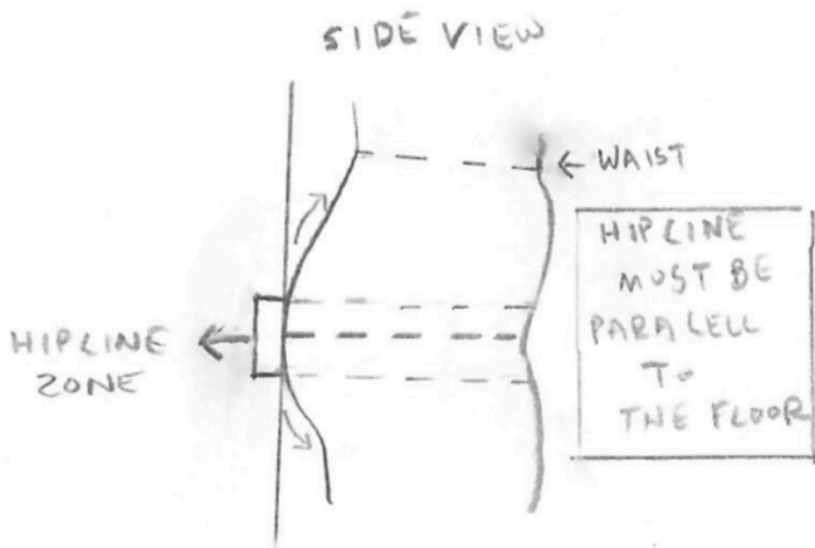
As I mentioned in **TEAM TIP Extra Skirt Block Prep**, you can simply redraw a hipline that is too low or too high. Via several of your classmates inquiries, I am now realizing that it is difficult to observe whether or not you would benefit from this tweak until *after* you've created your bowl-in-a-box.

Hipline zone: While hipline placement doesn't really matter for skirts, my pants drafting systems are all about connecting the tried-and-true skirt block (which you perfected during Skirt Skills) to the tried-and-true bowl (which you perfected by following Angela's TEAM TIP about trying on a cardboard cut-out). In Smarty Pants block drafting steps, **we mostly use the skirt block to create the trouser/jeans-fit above the hipline and the bowl-in-a-box to create the trouser/jeans-fit below the hipline.** If your bowl's hipline isn't including the fullest part of your bum (or reeeeeeealllly close to it), this will likely be the source for a lot of discrepancy/confusion/frustration when following the trouser and jeans drafting steps, as it may divide the upper and lower portions of the body and/or draft in unintended ways.



Hipline Zone

This graphic and the *italicized text* are from the Skirt Skills Measuring Guide.



“The full hip circumference is where you’ll add your hip elastic. The most important job of the hip line / hip elastic is to be parallel to the floor! Think of it more of a ‘horizontal balance line’ than anything else.

To decide where to add this important “horizontal balance line”, look at yourself (or a photo

of yourself) from the side. There will be a section of your bum that is relatively flat and/ or protrudes the most before curving up to your waist or down to your legs. Anywhere in this area is a great place for your hip line / hip elastic. If your thighs are fuller than your bum, you could move the elastic to the lower portion of this zone but don’t place it underneath the curve of your bum.”

More hipline zone tips:

The front of the bowl and the volume of the body/belly have already been taken care of by the Cylinder. To have the most successful hipline placement for pants drafting, you are **not** looking for your fullest body volume/measurement, you are looking only along that CB line to find the fullest bit of *your backside*. Concentrate your efforts on that CB line, ignoring the front or the belly or other bits of fullness.

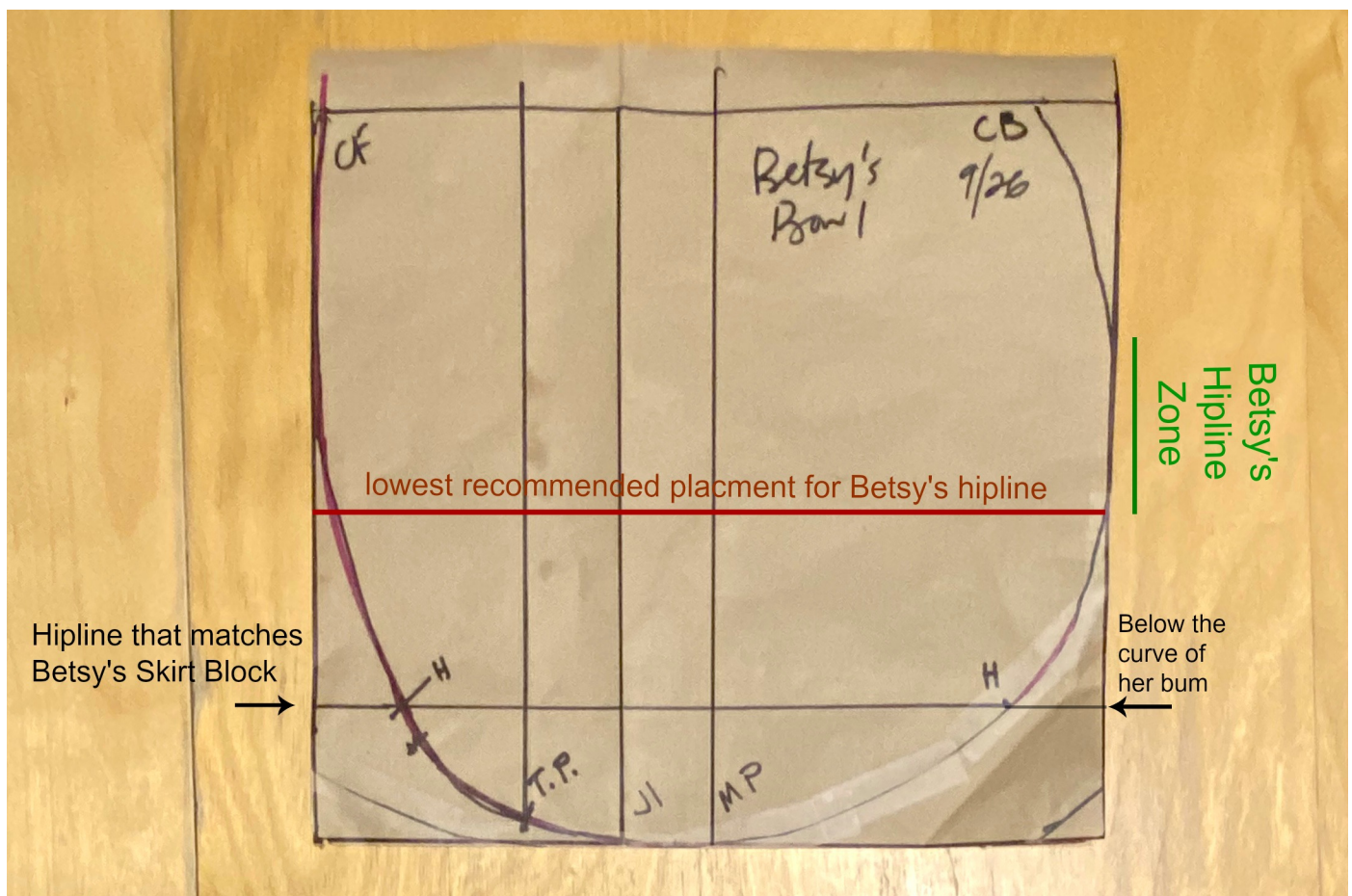
These instructions may not correspond with where/how conventional/standard methods will place a hipline. Remember, in my classes, we do not reference convention/standards.

Hipline Zone

Examples of bowls with too-high or too-low hiplines:

Betsy's too-low hipline:

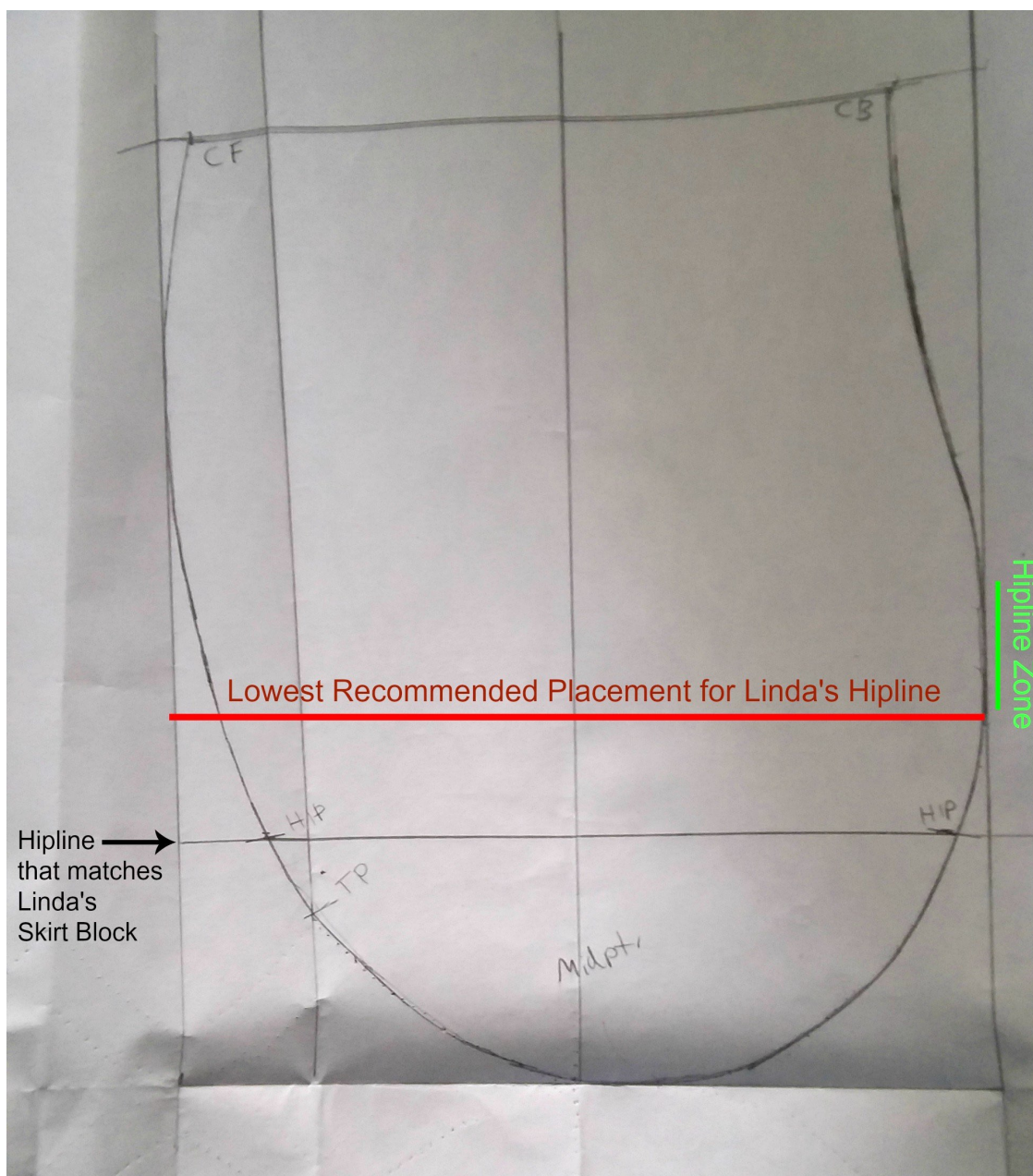
Betsy's bowl-fit was confirmed by trying it on and revising it (via Anglea's cardboard cut-out TEAM TIP). She also confirmed that the hipline on her bowl matched the hipline on her skirt block. It wasn't until she created her bowl-in-a-box that we were able to very clearly observe that her skirt's hipline was placed below the fullest part of her backside. Moving the hipline on her bowl up into 'her hipline zone' and then using that info to move the hipline of her skirt block up to match the same position will keep Betsy's skirt-fit and crotch-fit properly separated when following all the trouser and jeans drafting steps in her future!



Hipline Zone

Linda's too-low hipline:

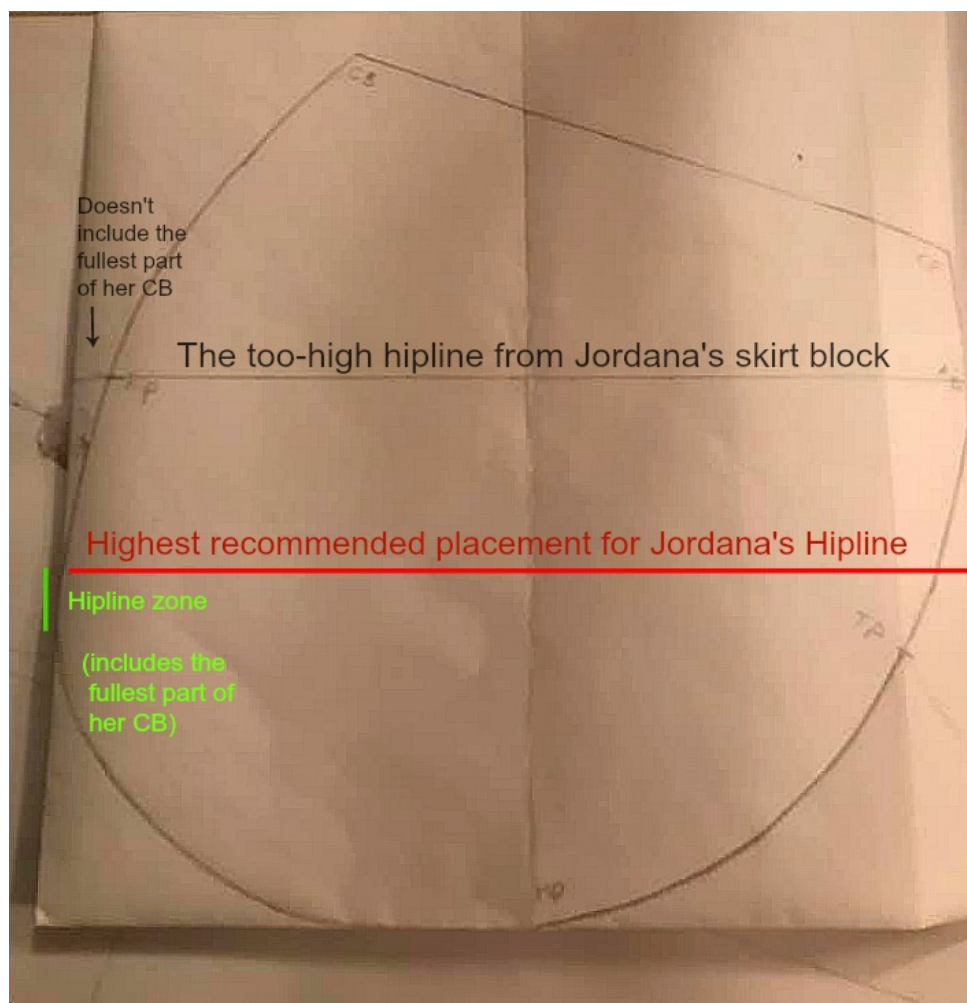
Like Betsy, Linda confirmed her skirt block fit and her bowl fit and that the two matched each other. When viewing her bowl-in-a-box, we were able to see that her hipline placement was also underneath the curve of her bum. Moving it up into 'the zone' should make the drafting steps easier for her. The redline shows the lowest zone placement, but she could also move it up anywhere within the green area that shows her body curve touching her Center Back guide line.



Hipline Zone

Jordana's too-high hipline:

Originally, Jordana chose her skirt hipline placement based on her fullest circumference measurement, which included her belly. For most bodies (including Jordana's), the fullest part of the belly is on a higher plane than the fullest part of the backside. Since our front volume/belly is taken care of by our Cylinder, it is not necessary (and could be counter-productive) to include the belly in with the hipline. While hipline placement doesn't matter much at all for skirts (if it fits, it fits!), moving her hipline downward into 'the zone' to include the fullest part of her backside, (which can be clearly observed along her bowl-in-a-box's CB guideline) will allow Jordana more success when following my Smarty Pants drafting steps.



(Jordana's 'tilted waistline' can also clearly be observed. *Pretty cool, huh?*)

Hipline Zone

Revising a too-low or too-high hipline:

As you may remember from Skirt Skills, the hipline is more of a 'horizontal balance line' than anything else. Its #1 most important job is to be parallel to the floor. Its #2 most important job is to include the fullest part of your buttocks. If your bowl-in-a-box reveals that your hipline is too low or high to include the fullest part of your backside- **no worries, there's a simple fix!**

Since the hipline is mostly about being level (and you've already triple checked that yours is level/parallel to the floor), **its placement can be improved by simply redrawing/moving it straight up or down into the 'hipline zone' on the bowl, and then using that information to redraw/move the exact same amount on your skirt block for a perfect match.** This move will not change the fit of your skirt or bowl at all. It will simply get your 'horizontal balance lines' in the best place for you to follow the pants drafting steps with more success.

Does your bowl-in-a-box reveal a hipline that is 'in the zone'?

Does my description of how/why to move it make sense?

Let me know if you have any other tips or questions!