



Monthly Newsletter

April, 2015

Santa Anita Hosts Another Successful Southwest Open

April 11—April 16, 2015, Arcadia, CA

Every year the Santa Anita Bowling Green Club in Arcadia, California hosts the Southwest Open. It is a daunting task, especially for a small club. Bowlers start arriving earlier in the week to practice and a member of the club has to open the facility and close it up when they are done. Once the tournament starts, set-up of all four greens begins at 7 a.m., along with coffee and breakfast prep.

That's just the start of the day. Club members serve as runners, make sure water is available and prepare lunch for approximately 400 bowlers, for five full days. Then, it's time to put everything away and clean up the greens and kitchen, and hopefully be done by 7 p.m.

President Steve Dowd and board members Bob Hauerwaas, David Cheung, and Mow Yi Chan as well as Any Chan, Marion Hauerwaas, Mary Carroll, Stanley Leventhal and Steve Parise worked tirelessly every day. Gene Plunkett was on hand throughout the tournament to take photos.



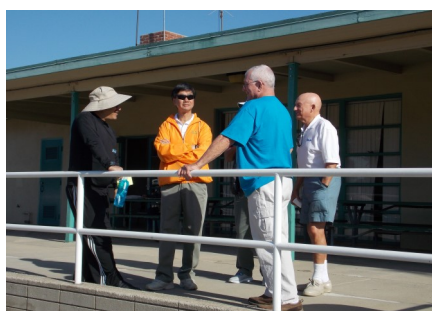
Joanne Kluck & Angie Peet, both from PIMD get points for style!



Jim Olson gives the men their starting instructions.



Heather Stewart gives the women their starting instructions



From Santa Anita: Stanley Leventhal, David Cheung, Steve Dowd, Bob Hauerwaas



Vern Edwards waits to be called as umpire.



Time to measure.

Santa Anita Hosts Another Successful Southwest Open

A complete list of all the winners can be found here at [SW Open](#)

Champions



First Place Winners in Women's Fours
(L-R) Heather Stewart, Maryna Hyland, Betsy Lauryssen, Jan Hargraves.



First Place Winners in Men's Fours
(L-R) Alan Ngo, Kay Tong, Marinko Tudor, and Shuman Chan



First Place Winner in Women's Pairs
Lorraine Hitchcock (L) and Mary Ann Beath

Max Cavender & Lyall Adams won First Place in the Men's Pairs, but no photo available.



First Place Winner in Men's Singles - Steve Bezanson



Women's Singles Winner & Bowler of the Tournament!
Dee McSparren on the right with pairs partner Reggie Banares



Men's Bowler of the Tournament - Neil Furman





2015

- April 11-16 Southwest Division Open, Santa Anita LBC, CA
- July 11 Central Division Open Pairs, Milwaukee LBC, WI
- July 25-30 Pacific Inter-Mountain Division Open, Rossmoor LBC, CA
- August 8 Central Division Open Singles, Milwaukee, LBC, WI
- August 22-27 Northeast Division Open, Williamsburg LBC, VA
- Sept. 26– Oct. 3 US Open, Orange County & Long Beach CA
- October 5-10 Huntsman Senior Games, St. George, UT
- October 15-20 National Championships, Long Beach, CA

2016

- Nov. 12-19 US Open, Sarasota LBC & Local Clubs

Resources

- [World Bowls](#) Official site of World Bowls
- [Inside Bowls](#) The official world magazine
- [Bowls USA](#) Official site of Bowls USA
- [US Open](#) Official site of U.S. Open of Lawn Bowls
- [Golden Bias](#) Official site of the Golden Bias Club
- [PBA](#) Official site of Professional Bowlers Association



GOT QUESTIONS..... ABOUT BOWLS USA?

You can find the Bowls USA officers and councilors that represent the different divisions on the [Bowls USA](#) website on this page: [About Bowls USA](#).

Contact your division councilor with any questions or concerns you may have.

Coming Soon

Bowls USA Artist-in-Residence, Robb Pawlak, who designed the masthead for the Bowls USA Newsletter is currently working on division headers to be used on the Bowls USA website and the newsletter.

Each colorful header will have the division name as well as a slogan. However, he needs the different divisions to send him their slogan. If you don't have one, the division directors need to come up with something! Send it to Robb and he'll make it happen!

He would like to have them completed by the end of summer, so get crackin'!



Oh Canada!

For all you Canadians now reading the Bowls USA Newsletter—Welcome! You can have it delivered to your very own e-mail box, free of charge!

Send your e-mail address to editor@bowlsusa.us



Want to Enjoy Some Back Issues?

Want to revisit an issue that had your article or photo? Well, now you can because webmaster Jim Semanek has posted all the 2014 Bowls USA Newsletters here: [Bowls USA Newsletter](#)

2015 National Championships Players

The Competition Includes 16 Single Players and 32 Pairs Players Winners will be listed as their Division Play-Downs conclude.				
DIVISION	WOMEN'S SINGLES	WOMEN'S PAIRS	MEN'S SINGLES	MEN'S PAIRS
Central	August 15 th – 16 th	July 18 th & 19 th	August 15 th – 16 th	July 18 th & 19 th
Northeast	August 8 th – 10 th	June 27 th – 29 th	August 8 th – 10 th	June 27 th – 29 th
Northwest	August 22 nd – 29 th	July 25 th – 29 th	August 22 nd – 29 th	July 25 th – 29 th
PIMD	July 18 th & 19 th	June 20 th , 21 st & 27 th & 28 th	July 11 th & 12 th , 18 th & 19 th	June 20 th , 21 st & 27 th & 28 th
South Central	Regina Banares Sun City, AZ	Myra Wood – Skip Sun City, AZ Lorraine Hitchcock – Lead Sun City, AZ	Ron Rollick Sun City Grand, AZ	Rodger Green – Skip Sun City, AZ Grant Summers – Lead Sun City, AZ
Southeast	April 20 th – 25 th	April 20 th – 25 th	April 20 th – 25 th	April 20 th – 25 th
Southwest ****	July 11 th & 12 th , 18 th & 19 th	June 13 th , 14 th 20 th & 21 st	June 13 th , 14 th 20 th & 21 st	July 11 th & 12 th , 18 th & 19 th
South-west ////	July 11 th & 12 th , 18 th & 19 th	June 13 th , 14 th 20 th & 21 st	June 13 th , 14 th 20 th & 21 st	July 11 th & 12 th , 18 th & 19 th

Bowls USA National Championships

Will be held in Long Beach, CA

October 15-20, 2015

US Professional Bowls Association

March 28-31, 2015

Submitted by Frank Souza, US PBA Representative

The US PBA holds Qualifying Events every year to have US representatives for four Championship Events in Scotland and England.

In March of 2015, Qualifying Events were completed at the Fairway Lawn Bowls Club, Sun City, Arizona. The winners will represent United States in the following events.

Carol Poto from Laguna Beach, CA won the Scottish International Open qualifier and will represent US in Perth, Scotland. Carol was in top form winning against very formidable opponents. Her first match was against Betsy Laurysen, originally from South Africa; next was last year's winner in this event Neil Furman; then Steve Smith; and in the finals against Ron Rollick who will be representing the South Central Division, Arizona in the US Singles Championships.

Max Cavender won the Co-operative Funeral care International Open qualifier, Blackpool. Max displayed his bowling skills from the very first match against Charles Herbert, winning a 2 – 1 tie breaker. His other opponents were Dr. Cheryl Barkovich and Robert Behncke. Max's final match was very exciting against the world's 19th ranked bowler, Neil Furman. In the third end tie breaker Max declared to burn the end but instead drove the jack into the ditch eliminating Neil from this event.

In the match for the World Singles, Neil Furman was not to be denied in claiming another title to represent the US in this event. In the finals his opponent was Dr. Cheryl Barkovich who had quite an impressive run to the finals by defeating Darrell Jones, Max Cavender, winner of the Funeral Care International Open, Blackpool and Dan LeMessurier. In the first set of the finals Cheryl gave Neil a bit of a scare as she tied Neil Furman 7 – 7 but lost her touch in the second set giving Neil the victory.

Neil and Mary Ann Beath won the Pairs by defeating Ron Rollick and Max Cavender by a score of 10 – 5, 8 – 7. Mary Ann is no stranger to International Competition as she plays for Team Canada but has residence in Arizona.

Cont.

My goals for 2016 are to bring our membership up and I have started collecting dues for 2016. I am also working with Bowls USA to help with the recruitment of new members. Our members are also doing their part and hopefully our membership will grow.

My tentative schedule for 2016 Qualifying Events will be April 2 through the 5th with the 6th as a backup date. This was approved by President John McKenzie of the Fairway LBC in Sun City, Arizona.

In closing, I want to thank President John McKenzie, members of the Fairway Lawn Bowls Club and the Recreation Center of Sun City for the hospitality extended to us and for giving up their green for the four days we held our Qualifiers. I had a lot of help from many bowlers and because of this we had a successful tournament

2016 PBA Membership Dues

US PBA Representative, Frank Souza is now accepting membership dues for the 2016 year. He is collecting dues early to have the membership count to qualify to stage the 2016 Qualifiers. Venue for the 2016 US PBA Qualifying Events will be Fairway LBC, Sun City, AZ, April 2-6, 2016. Anyone needing membership applications can contact Frank at 623.388.6160 or at frslb1up@cox.net.

*Not
Clipart*

US Professional Bowls Association

March 28-31, 2015



Carol Poto, Winner of Scottish Int'l Open and Ron Rollick, Runner-up



Dr. Cheryl Barkovich and Alice Birkinshaw



Neil Furman & Max Cavender, Winner of the Co-operative Funeral Care International Open qualifier, Blackpool.



Ron Rollick & Max Cavender, Runners-up in the World Pairs qualifier.



Neil Furman, Winner of the World Singles qualifier and Dr. Cheryl Barkovich, Runner-up



Bob Birkinshaw and Steve Smith

Congratulations!

Congratulations to the following bowlers who were selected to play for Team USA in the Asia/Pacific Championships !

November 24-December 6, 2015, New Zealand

Kim Heiser (SW)
Myra Wood (SC)
Janice Bell (NW)
Anne Nunes (SW)
Candy DeFazio (SW)
Neil Furman (SW)
Charlie Herbert (SW)
Aaron Zangl (SW)
Max Cavender (CE)
Scott Roberts (SW)



Umpire's Corner

By E.B. Parkell

GAMESMANSHIP AND T-SHIRTS

I've been thinking about "gamesmanship" quite a bit recently and it occurred to me that it really shouldn't be tolerated in our genteel sport of lawn bowling.

But what exactly is gamesmanship? I'm not entirely sure, but while browsing through the LOTSOB, it hit me.

If you could take the Code of Bowling Etiquette and turn it inside out like an old t-shirt and hang it up, I think you would find gamesmanship. It's just the *opposite* of what we should be doing on the green. Let's look at a few of the etiquette codes, from pages 76 and 77 of the LOTSOB. (You will find my "gamesmanship" comments in parenthesis.)

1. Be conversant with the Laws and observe them. (Nah, who needs laws?)
3. Be punctual and properly attired. (So what if I'm a little late, you'll wait for me. Wrong color? It looks close enough to me.)

Cont.

4. Stepping onto the mat from the left and exiting on the right. (Oops, didn't mean to back into you.)
5. Keep quiet and refrain from moving when players are on the mat. (If I want to yell over to a friend on a different rink, that's MY business. Close your ears if you don't want to hear.)
8. Stand still at the head when a player is on the mat. Movement is distracting. (Ah, come on. The skip was walking around when I was on the mat and besides; I was just going to the bench to get my water bottle.)
9. Wait for your skip's instructions. (1.) Hey, I know as much as my skip does. I've even been playing longer. (2.) Sometimes he wants me to do a back-hand shot and he **knows** I can't. (3.) They should have put ME in as skip instead of that loser.)
12. Never applaud lucky shots. (What do you mean, "lucky" shot? I **meant** to do that. I'm good.)
14. Do not say "thanks" for a bad shot that goes your way. (Now look, if my opponent moves the jack to my bowl, you'd better believe I'm going to say "thanks." If she doesn't like it, she should have been more careful with her shot.)
15. Learn to be a good marker. (Oh, please, I'm a lawn bowler, not a marker. I have too much to do to go out to the green and mark a game that I am not playing in. Of course, I want markers when I'M playing. But me mark? HA!)
16. Admit a "fluke" in good spirit. (Fluke? I meant to do that!!!)
17. Compliment a team member or opponent for a good shot. (I'll compliment my teammate, but let the opponent's skip compliment their good shot. Their "good shot" might have cost me the game.)
23. If you lose, be a good loser. Don't blame your loss on other people, the green, weather conditions, etc. (Seriously? (1) I would have won that game if it hadn't been for my lousy partner. He couldn't find the jack. No more "draw" games for me. (2) Having to play on an end rink was brutal. My opponent did ok, but the end rink was horrible. (3) It was too hot (or too cold.)
24. After each game, congratulate the winner. (Yeah, right!!!)
28. SKIPS SHOULD ALWAYS REMEMBER THAT THE PLAYERS ON THEIR TEAM ARE DOING THEIR BEST.

You might have noticed that with #28, I didn't put anything in parenthesis. That's because it's a favorite of mine. Someone recently said to me that a good skip nurtures players and helps them with their game. I find that MOST skips do exactly that. I wish they all did.

Around the Country

Northeast

WILBC Members Opening Day on the Green

Submitted by Clyde Haulman



George Washington, portrayed by Colonial Williamsburg's Ron Carnegie, using classic wooden bowls, purchased in London and brought to Virginia, opened the lawn bowling season of Williamsburg Inn Lawn Bowling Club on April 1, 2015.

The Williamsburg Inn Lawn Bowling Club officially opened its bowling season April 1 on our lovely green located in downtown Williamsburg by the Williamsburg Inn and overlooking the beautiful Golden Horseshoe golf course. George Washington was on hand to deliver the first bowl. The season runs through October 31 including weekly inter-club draw programs, tournaments both local and regional, and hosting guests to Colonial Williamsburg and the Williamsburg area who might like to try their hand at lawn bowling.

Cont.

Northeast

Cont.

The Club currently has 60 members one of whom keeps the green each afternoon during the season to welcome visitors and to help those who wish to bowl, both experienced and novice bowlers. Last year visitors from all across the country and from around the world including Canada, Scotland, England, and South Africa enjoyed bowling on our green.

If visiting Williamsburg, please check out our club website at williamsburglawnbowling.org/. You may also contact us directly if you are in town and we will be very happy to host a friendly game of bowls. We have an abundance of club bowls available for your use and there is no charge for visiting



WILBC Members Opening Day



Opening Day on the Green

Southeast

Sun City Center LBC Open House a Success

Submitted by Garry Higgins

On Saturday, February 21, 2015, the Sun City Center Lawn Bowling Club hosted an Open House for the residents of the community. Over 60 people dropped in to give lawn bowling a try. 25 club members were on hand to show what lawn bowling is all about and serve a barbeque lunch. Over half of those in attendance, signed up for a week of free lessons with Diann Thomas, the Club's chief instructor.

Besides personally greeting everyone upon their arrival, Club President, Rick Czachor demonstrated a device that can be used by persons who have hip/knee complaints which restricts their ability to bend down to deliver the bowl in the conventional manner. These devices are known as "The Bowling Arm", the "Bionic Bowler Arm" and the "DHB arm". These arms are becoming increasingly more popular and as an aid for those who wish to continue to play the game that they enjoy so much.

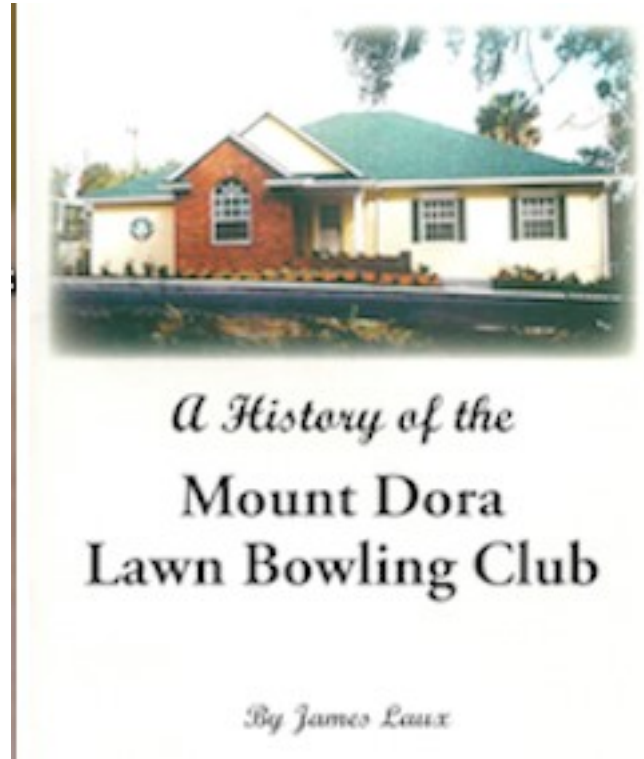
For more information about the Sun City Center Lawn Bowling Club and the sport of lawn bowling, visit www.suncitycenterlbc.com.



Southeast

Mount Dora LBC Celebrates Birthdays & Awards

Submitted by Beth Forbes



Nearly 100 members attended the April 11, 2015 Founder's Day celebration organized by the Board of Directors.

Jim Laux, former club historian, and author of "A History of Mount Dora Lawn Bowling", delivered a riveting history since our genesis in 1928.

New members were recognized as well as honorary members and past presidents.



The "Pill Bowler" of the Year went to the affable and beloved nonagenarian Frank Pavano.

Southeast

Southeast Playdowns Held at Pinehurst LBC

Submitted by Jackie Tucker



Winners: Al Pelliccio, skip, from Pinehurst and Sarasota LBC's, and Danial Jutti, lead, from Sarasota LBC.



Runner-up team: Jerry Healy, skip, and Bob Fladung, lead, both are from Sun City Center LBC.



Winners: Jackie Williamson, lead, Mount Dora LBC, and skip Christine Garbett, Lakeland, FL, LBC.

Southeast

Playdowns cont.



Runner up: Martha Nilsen, lead, Pinhurst LBC, and Margo Pelliccio, skip, Sarasota & Pinehurst LBC.

The weather changed dramatically in Pinehurst on Saturday and the temperature changed to 51 degrees with continuous rain, and the winds blowing, but the bowling continued. The men had a two-way tie for first place and thus an additional game had to be played in the cold, windy weather. The game went 19-19 before Bud Ricucci managed to win the end with 2 points to end the game. The women's matches were played at the same time and Sandy Wall from Clearwater, FL won all five of her games to win the women's singles for the SE Division.



Runner –up Martha Nilsen is from Pinehurst LBC & has only been bowling for 10 months.



Winner Bud Ricucci

Central

Submitted by Steven Talkington, WPLBC President

WPLBC in Denver, Colorado, recently had our annual meeting and election of officers for 2015:

Steve Talkington –President
Stephen Maher- Vice President
Susanne Dell - Secretary
Ken Hopper - Treasurer
Jim Smrz - Chairman of the Green

We look forward to the 2015 season even though it was snowing during our meeting. We will start bowling again soon. The photo is Friday 4-18-15. The snow melted off on Saturday but it was too cold to bowl. We normally start with a pre-season (weather permitting) in April. "Springtime in the Rockies" is so true. May is when we really start to bowl. We bowl on Tuesdays at 6 pm and also Saturdays at 1pm until it warms up later in the Summer.

2014 was a big year for us. We gained many new members, improved our lawn and started to replace our ditch. The ditch replacement will be completed (hopefully) this summer. We had a great Karlberg Singles and Doubles tournament. The Ron Eccles Novice tournament was also a success.

2015 will also be a good year. Our plans for this year include the following: we anticipate many new members again this year; implementation of a teaching program for the entire club; replacement of the 1924 ditch; building 4 new wood rakes; and a new bowl storage system. Not bad for a club that had 3 members 6 years ago. We currently have 30 members. The condition of the green after winter is in the best it's been for many years.

Come by this year and visit. We would love to have you.



PIMD

From "Hoodline San Francisco Neighborhood News"

By Caitlin Harrington. Reprinted with her permission

America's Oldest Lawn Bowling Club Keeps Game Alive in Golden Gate Park



Dressed in traditional whites, members of the [San Francisco Lawn Bowling Club](#) gathered in Golden Gate Park for their monthly social last Tuesday. Several chatted outside and drew teams before heading into the historic 100-year-old clubhouse for lunch and birthday cake. "You can see it's a very social, friendly group," said Bill Ryan, head of the Greens committee and a club member for 25 years.

Founded in 1901, the San Francisco Lawn Bowling Club is America's oldest municipal lawn bowling club. Members use three greens on either side of Bowling Green Drive next to Sharon Meadow in Golden Gate Park. Greens are open to members Tuesdays through Sundays, and free public lessons are offered on Wednesdays at noon. White linens aren't required, but flat-soled shoes are a must. (The greens will be closed for [coring](#) April 16-30.)



PIMD

PIMD

Hoodline cont.

A Scottish fraternal organization called the St. Andrew's Society founded the SFLBC, which was initially known as the San Francisco Scottish Bowling Club. [Superintendent John McLaren](#), a Scottish native who designed and managed Golden Gate Park, laid out a bowling green in October of 1901. Notable members included [James "Sunny Jim" Rolph](#), who later became San Francisco mayor and governor of California.

Lawn bowling, a sport with ancient origins, has been played for hundreds of years in the United Kingdom. The world's oldest club was founded in 1299 in England, and Scotland is home to the modern organized game.

"It's a combination of a sport and a game," said Ryan. "It takes a certain amount of skill, and yet there's a certain amount of strategy." Controlling the trajectory of the weighted bowl is the key to success. "The bowl's curve," said Ryan, is "what makes the skill of the game." Despite appearing spherical, bowls are slightly smaller on one side, which causes them to arc as they lose momentum.

The object of the game is to get bowls as close as possible to the jack, a small white ball thrown out at the beginning of play. A point is scored for the closest bowl and additional points are given for each bowl closer than the opponent's nearest. The game may be played in singles, doubles, triples, or quads, with triples most common at the SFLBC.



Bowling greens in Golden Gate Park are 120 feet on each side and are divided into eight rinks, which means eight games can be played at a time. Keeping the greens at a high level is "a lot of work," said Ryan. They're mowed regularly, dethatched at intervals and irrigated as needed. Water used to irrigate the park is mostly recycled and non-potable, so the drought hasn't yet affected the greens.

In 1912, the Women's Golden Gate Lawn Bowling club was formed, and in 1913 a second green was completed, designated the women's green (now called Green #2). A third green was built in 1928, and in 1976, the women's club merged with the SFLBC, which now holds single-sex and mixed tournaments. The greens [reopened last November](#) after closing for renovations funded by a 2008 Parks bond grant program.

"This is a good game for women," said longtime bowler Bill Campbell. "The fact that your opponent's a foot taller than you and outweighs you by 75 pounds doesn't really mean that much." Campbell is the club's longest-standing member, having joined in 1964. He's traveled the country extensively for bowl tournaments and was inducted into the USA Bowls Hall of Fame in 2013.

Although the club skews older, members encourage younger people to join. With approximately 100 members ranging in age from their 20s through their 90s, "it's a game you can play for many years," said Campbell. "You can play into your advanced years, which is beneficial."

Many members visit the park for casual games, while others are locally and nationally competitive, going up against other Bay Area teams from Oakland, Palo Alto and Walnut Creek. When we visited, a few members had just returned from the Southwest Division Open in Arcadia, CA, and last year, an SFLBC member represented the club in the national championship.

"You can play at any level you want, whether it's social, club, tournaments, or at a national level," said Ryan. "If you're a serious bowler, you can bowl all over the country."

In 1915, SFLBC members each contributed \$500 for the construction of an Edwardian style clubhouse, nicknamed "the house that Jack built," after McLaren. Along with the three greens, the clubhouse is now registered as San Francisco City Landmark #181.

If you're interested in checking out lawn bowling for yourself, mark your calendar for May, when the greens will reopen and the [free Wednesday lessons](#) will resume.

PIMD

Southwest Open



PIMD had 20 participants at the Southwest Open

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Young Bowlers Program a Huge Success

Submitted by Ann Brillhart



Berkeley Lawn Bowling Club initiated its first *Young Bowlers Program* earlier this month. Twenty-three sixth graders (and one brave teacher) from The Berkeley School were introduced to lawn bowling. Club coaches set up four games of Triples and were on hand to help with bowl delivery, to explain rules and strategy, and to ensure everyone had a great time. The student's Physical Education teacher was on the green giving encouragement and watching their progress. The students were very enthusiastic and completely involved in the games. No slackers in this group! All the kids were awarded gold medals by their coaches. The Club plans to continue the relationship with The Berkeley School in the coming months as part of the School's regular phys ed program. Who knows, maybe a future national champion is in the making?

PIMD

Ladies Day



Submitted by Ginger Harris

Ladies, lawn bowling, lunch, laughter and LOTS of fun! Palo Alto LBC has one "Ladies Day" a month. All skill levels are welcome at this supportive, instructive (if requested), and purely social bowling activity. Women from all of our Bay Area clubs are invited - a wonderful way to get to know each other and build our bowling community. It is a time to bring a friend who just might like to try out the game in a no pressure setting. We rotate days each month so all of our busy volunteers, grandchild sitters, hikers and reading tutors can get in on the fun every month or so. Any question that begins with, "Can we....." is answered with a resounding "Ladies' Rules!! We can do whatever we want today!" The goal is to get ladies out on the green to ENJOY the exercise, develop skills and build confidence. This is an activity that we all look forward to. Try it! You'll like it!

Northwest

Submitted by Jenny Mears

Successful Bowls USA Coaching Course at JPLBC

Jefferson Park Lawn Bowling Club had a very well-received coaching program in early April. This program was part of the course for coaches recently promoted by Bowls USA in order to bring the instructions to new bowlers under one umbrella. Ten people were trained to be coaches by David Cameron, an accredited coach from Australia. These coaches then met to discuss how to best share their new knowledge with the club, including providing assistance at our upcoming Intro to Lawn Bowling course in May. Following the coaching course, David taught a one-day skills clinic to interested JPLBC members. Cont.

Northwest

Cont.

David is continuing his tour of the United States at various venues up and down the west coast. The hopes for the future are that he will expand the courses to the clubs in the east and the north. Congratulations to all who participated and qualified!

JPLBC member at 2015 World Cup Indoor Singles

Jefferson Park Lawn Bowling Club is proud that one of our members, Alexis Vanden Bos, represented Team USA at the World Cup Indoor Singles at Warilla Bowls and Recreation Club, one of the largest bowling clubs in Australia. Alexis attended the tournament last year, in the hopes of eventually being able to play there some day. After her outstanding showing at the 2014 US Open, placing second in Women's Singles, Alexis was chosen to be the representative for Team USA. She competed against competitors from 20 countries around the world, defeating players from Fiji and Hong Kong to place 5th in her section. Congratulations, Alexis!

To add to **Mark Your Calendar, Dates to Remember**

Jefferson Park Lawn Bowling Club Tournaments:

July 11th Kay Ramsey Open Pairs Tournament

August 8th Ben Bromley Open Singles Tournament

More information at www.seattlebowls.org



David Cameron coaches JPLBC members at the skills clinic at Jefferson Park Lawn Bowling Club

Northwest

A Good Problem to Have in Portland

Submitted by Pam Edwards

This month Portland LBC was able to replace all the plinth and backboards at its' green.

While that may not seem like a big deal to many, in 2012 the club had just 8 members and was facing extinction.

Figuring they had nothing to lose, a Barefoot Bowls league was started in 2013 and gained 34 league bowlers by the end of last summer. Use by the growing leagues brought a "good" but daunting problem to the club; the plinth and backboards were rotting into the ground.

Last fall a terrific park superintendent recognized their plight and committed to help improve the facility, so PLBC seized the opportunity and started fundraising last November. Many individual donors and every club in the Northwest Division answered their call for financial assistance.

With some clever engineering they were able to retrofit the entire green with new plinth and back boards. The construction and installation required 100 member hours and another 50 man hours from a prison crew provided through Portland Parks & Recreation.

Portland is now ready to add yet another BFB league as they start the 2015 season anticipating another year of growth.



The Portland LBC work crew taking a break from putting in new plinth and backboards.

Southwest

Neil McInnis



Long-time bowler, Neil McGinnis, center with black jacket with white chevron, is surrounded by admirers at the SW Open.

Royalty on the Green

Submitted by Bill Reidy

This is a true story of one man's wonderful life on the bowling green... His life on the green started about the same time as the first United States Championships in this country in 1957... At that time he was a young man just starting to learn the game of bowls far away down-under on the gold coast of Australia... No one knew it at the time, but he would play a dominant role in American bowls... After three years of learning the game he was born to play, and perfecting his skills, he moved to Scotland during the summer of 1960, and continued perfecting his finesse game there....

In 1966 he left Glasgow with his wife Agnes, then on to Edinburgh, and the new world... After bringing his passion for the game to the U.S. he displayed such a profound love for the game of bowls. The rest is history, Neil's love for the sport would live with him every day for the rest of his life...

I have researched some of that history and discovered that few have found as profound an interest and love for the game as the all time leader of American bowls has... Though some have qualified in more U.S. Championships, none have captured more gold medals than Mr. Neil Mc Innes, nine time A.L.B.A. & U.S. gold medal Champion...

Cont.

Southwest

Cont.

Only an elite handful like him have dominated American bowls...

Even today, I am sure he would say that "Theirs still game in the old man today." He believes that if young men, like he once was, step forward with the same passion, then they can become champions, not because of their athletic skills, but through their practice, hard work, and love for the game... He feels this great game will survive for future generations to discover for themselves...

This is just a snippet of this extraordinary man's accomplishments. Neil Mc Innes has been more then just accomplishments to me, he has been someone to look up to... and he has made me a better bowler... His life is a wonderful story of competitive bowls, playing the game he loved so much...



Neil McInnis with his good friend Liam Courtney.

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Lake Hodges LBC Has a New Website!

Check it out here: [North Country Lawn Bowling](#)

Or here: [Lake Hodges Bowls Club](#)

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"Running solely on caffeine and Chutzpah"

By Curiocitie

From Six Words

Southwest



Alhambra Bowls Club

ABC was Well Represented at 2015 Southwest Open

Submitted by Sean McMorris

Alhambra Bowls Club did very well at the 2015 Southwest Open. Nine ABC members participated in Open play : **Kay Tong, Houdini Ho, Alan Ngo, Sean McMorris, James Chang, Bill Reidy, Frank Duarte, Joe Yu and Herman Lee.** Furthermore, **Vern Edwards** worked as an official umpire at the Open event.

Members from ABC finished in the following places in three separate events:

Rinks (fours):

1st Place Championship Flight : Kay Tong & Alan Ngo

2nd Place Championship Flight: Sean McMorris

Pairs:

1st Place Fourth Flight: Kay Tong

2nd Place Sixth Flight: Sean McMorris

2nd Place Seventh Flight: Houdini Ho, Joe Yy, Herman Lee

Singles:

2nd Place Fourth Flight: Sean McMorris



Alan Ngo & Kay Tong left and center of ABC on the Winning Championship Fours team.

Southwest



Sean McMorris, on the left, of ABC on the 2nd Place Championship Fours Team.

ABC Wins Valley League 2015

Alhambra Bowls Club won Valley League for the Southwest Division's Central District 2015. As such, ABC will represent the Central District at the Waterbury Tournament in October where the winners of league play from all seven districts in the Southwest Division compete for the top prize. Ten ABC members participated this year in Valley League play. Congratulations ABC!



Valley League Champions



Southwest

Friendly Valley Tournament a Success

Submitted by Jack Quinn

Fourteen teams from nine different clubs participated in the 2015 Mix/Match Doubles Tournament at Friendly Valley in Santa Clarita on Saturday 18 April. Teams from Alhambra, Friendly Valley, Hermosa Beach, Long Beach, Holmby Park, Oxnard, Santa Barbara, Santa Monica, and Sun City took part.



Group photo at Friendly Valley - 18 April 2015

Photo by Ron Cox

It started as a cool morning, but soon progressed into quite a warm afternoon. The participants enjoyed the breakfast and lunch provided by Carol Cox and her able assistants.



Players in action

Photo by Ron Cox

Southwest

The rankings at the conclusion of four games are as follows:

- #1: Marty Bierman & Corey Vose (Santa Monica)
- #2: Amador Martinez & Armand Escalente (Oxnard)
- #3: Rudy Uribe & Catherine Uribe (Holmby Park)
- #4: Jim Lundy & Debbie Tennant (Holmby Park)

A technique, other than the one specified in the Southwest Lawn Bowls Association Blue Book, was applied by the Friendly Valley scorekeeper for the + points calculations to arrive at the given rankings. On the following day, because of some concerns that had been expressed by some participants regarding this methodology, our scorekeeper re-ran the analysis with the +points criteria as specified in the Blue Book. He reported that there was no affect on the four rankings. However, the Blue Book criteria will be applied in the future.

The tournament was under the direction of Friendly Valley LBC president, Judy Brothers, and was financially supported by the Kellar-Davis Real Estate Corporation, under the direction of Ellie Lacy & James T. Frank.

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Oxnard— Joslyn LBC Host Triples

The Amador Marinez Triples tournament was held at Oxnard-Joslyn LBC on April 26.



First place winners: (L-R) Stanley Bloom, Liam Courtney and Joe Siegman.

From the Editor.....

As we step into our second year with Bowls USA Newsletter, I thought it time to qualify what our purpose is and to give you my bona fides as an editor.

First, and foremost, it is a newsletter. Not the New York Times or Wall Street Journal. It is meant to be a “neighborhood” newsletter engaging bowlers across the country; shining a light on all divisions. It is meant to be entertaining and informative with articles from the smallest to the largest clubs, including social and tournament bowlers alike.

As for me being Editor, I did not ask for, or apply for, the “job”, I was asked to do it. I do not get paid. I do not have a staff. Conservatively, I spend about 24 hours a month on the newsletter, from answering and sorting through e-mails, sifting through submissions, asking and searching for additional information, editing, organizing, designing layout and proofing before it is “put to bed”. Fortunately, I have recruited my son, Sean, to do a final proof for me before I send it out. That does not include answering all the e-mails I get right after the newsletter comes out. Most are positive, but there are always some “challenging” ones. I answer all very politely.

Regarding my bona fides; although I am a retired teacher, there has always been journalism/writing in the background. I began my college career in journalism before switching to education. For the last 10 years I have been a freelance writer and private tutor, helping high school and university students write papers. I have been hired to write everything from speeches to business letters, as well as newspaper articles, and for three years was a political columnist for an online magazine. Several of my articles were reproduced in other publications. For the last five years I have found my niche writing for real estate agents, both residential and commercial. I have recently taken writing and editing classes at UCLA for my own edification and skills improvement.

As editor, I handle the “what” and the “where”. The “what” entails what goes into the newsletter, determining if it is appropriate or if there is room, and if so, edit for length, grammar and spelling. The “where” is the layout of the newsletter, determining where articles and photos should be placed. Both take a great deal of time.

After the newsletter is sent out, as I mentioned earlier, I receive e-mails. Most are positive and I am deeply grateful for the support. Others are complaints, from the legitimate (misspelled name or information in the wrong place) to the slightly bizarre (“where is my receipt?”), to the outright complainers (“I don’t like clipart.”). For the legitimate, I apologize profusely; for the bizarre, I politely explain that I can’t help them, but try to direct them to someone who can; and for the naysayers, well, I say this, I do get some leeway and a little fun (part of my “payment”), and if you do not like the newsletter you have two choices: take over the job or stop reading the newsletter.

I anticipate e-mails regarding this editorial, but it is all part of the “job”.

Good bowling to you,

Cheri Cabot

Editor, Bowls USA Newsletter