

Oak Bay Lawn Bowling Club

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Club website: www.bowlsoakbay.ca

FROM THE PRESIDENT

We are now two weeks past the mid-point of the season -- a time perhaps to pause and reflect on what's been happening and what is in the offing for the remaining two months of summer play. A spot of rain is a propitious sign, as the saying goes in Hong Kong (which incidentally has been something of a lawn-bowling powerhouse, having won gold medals at the Commonwealth Games in its previous incarnation as a British Crown Colony). And so the wet weather at our Open House, on Opening Day and on Victoria Day did not dampen spirits -- on the contrary, it presaged good things to come. The Club has since had a good measure of success in inter-club competition, and is placed near the top, if not at the top, of the Bowls South Island Cameron Cup table. We have had one of the best intakes of new bowlers in the Club's history, and together with a good number of experienced players who have joined this year, the Club is now the biggest on the Island in terms of active playing members. Media coverage of Club competitions has been excellent, with the Mayors' Centennial Challenge in particular attracting wide print and TV reporting.

The fund-raising campaign for the Carnarvon House Expansion Project has been going extremely well. Tenders for the project were to have closed on July 31st, but some contractors have asked for clarification of a few points at the last minute. Tenders will now close on August 3rd. Assuming that we receive an acceptable tender, the project's time-line will remain essentially unchanged. Work should start shortly after Labor Day and construction should be completed by February/March next year.

As we go through the second half of the season, we can look forward to continued good results on the greens from our representatives in inter-club competitions. But what has been most heartening is the enthusiasm with which our new bowlers have embraced the game. They participate actively not only in open draws but also in Club competitions, and are acquitting themselves superbly -- a testament to their spirit, dedication and the hard work put in at the beginning of the season by our coaches. All this augurs well for the future.

Good bowling, all!

Harnam Grewal

Etiquette (A Gentle Reminder)

Members will be aware that proper etiquette on the green is an essential part of the game that we all enjoy playing. To ensure that we do enjoy it to the fullest extent members are requested to observe the rules of etiquette and basic courtesies at all times. That will help to ensure that everyone comes away from the green feeling that they have enjoyed the game no matter how competitive it may have been.

"The Sandman" By Keith Floyd

As indicated elsewhere, Keith Floyd has made copies of his book available to members for a donation to the building fund of \$10 per copy. This book was given as one of the prizes at Canada Day and evoked much interest. Should you wish a copy for yourself, your kids or your friends please contact Mary or Barry Browning.

The Club has two new Lawn Bowling Coaches.

On June 30th Brian Redding and Dolores Troyer completed the NCCP level #1 Course.

The Bill Van Druten Sportsmanship and Service Award

The Bill Van Druten Sportsmanship and Service Award was established six years ago to recognize true sportsmanship and outstanding service to the Club on the part of a member on the basis of voting by the membership at large. This is done at the time of the AGM, with members being invited to vote for a member whom they consider to be deserving of the award. In the recent past, the number of members who have taken the trouble to cast their vote has been disappointingly low. The Executive would like to see a more robust response this year and wishes to alert members to the existence of the award in the hope that many more will take the time and trouble to cast their vote when requested to do so in the lead-up to the AGM in October. The inscription on the plaque reads: "In recognition of a club citizen who displays true qualities of sportsmanship on and off the green and contributes to the welfare of the club."

The recipients to date are Fred McLeod, Shel Rowell, Lorraine Neumair, Phil Bissell, Prim Wood and Murray Robertson

Fund Raising

The thermometers in Carnarvon House and on our web site show our approach to our fund raising target of the \$25,000, which is needed for our kitchen up-grade. As we have been attempting to reach our target only since early April and the thermometers show that we are well over halfway there, this is gratifying, but we are not finished.

Some eighty-five members of our two hundred and three have donated and made pledges of further donations to a total of almost \$11,000. Others have added in ways other than a simple donation. Faith Magwood has already raised some \$1,500 by the sale of lunches and hot dogs; Lawrie Matheson raised \$300 by the sale of her beautiful gift cards, and our competitions, draws for baskets, spiders, etc. are accounting for another \$700 or so. Keith Floyd has given us copies of his book for use as prizes and also to sell for a donation of \$10. Prim and her kitchen staffs have supported us well above and beyond the call of duty and funds (at the discretion of the executive) will flow from her sales. Then there was the wonderful result at the garage sale which raised nearly \$2,200. All this on top of some seed money in this account when we started fund raising means that we are close to having \$17,000 available to date. Wonderful! BUT we still have a way to go.

We are still planning an off site dinner and silent auction in September - watch for details shortly.

I have been asked how the cookbook is coming. Unfortunately we still have too few recipes submitted to make this a viable operation. We wanted 300 to 350 but only have half that number to date. It is not dead but even if the recipes do come in we have missed the optimal time to have it printed and will have to wait until next year. That is no reason why recipes should not still be submitted, however. It can still happen with your help.

I ask that those members who have put off donating to date consider doing so now. While sums donated have ranged in size from \$25 to \$1000, most have been at about \$100 per member. Any donation of any size, however, is helpful. The club is growing and our programs will be more extensive, more comfortable and more enjoyable. We will have more room, better facilities, a much-enhanced short mat program, an efficient and environmentally safer tool, equipment and storage facility, and all members will benefit. You will share in the benefits; will you have helped us meet the financial commitment?

A recent decision of the executive was that the inscribed glass blocks recording donations will be placed in the north wall of the renovated Carnarvon House. To qualify for an inscription each donation must be \$100 or greater and in the name of one member. As a result of a suggestion made by a member the executive has approved the sale of glass bricks as memorials to past members no longer with us. A brick purchased for \$100 will bear the name of the deceased member with the addition of the words "In Memorium". Should any current or past member wish to remember someone in this fashion they should contact Barry Browning.

FLASH!

Recent donations have brought our total collected and pledged to \$18,308.00. Great work everyone!

Barry Browning

CAN YOU HELP?

I have mislaid a green fabric bowling bag with tan trim containing size 3 bowls that have a thistle decal,

When: end of May

Where: Anderson House on floor under locker #309.

Nancy Newton 592-0529

The final Tea Day for the season would take place on September 16th. This date will also be our “Awards Day”. For this year only all members will be asked to empty their locker on or before 16 September, and either retain their key or leave it at own risk over their tag. The lockers are to be emptied in order that they may be used to store dishes and other small items from Carnarvon House during the renovation period.

Lake Hill LBC – 75th Anniversary. A plaque to commemorate their anniversary has been procured and Joan Firkins will ensure that a suitable presentation to Lake Hill LBC takes place.

The AGM will take place on Wednesday, 11 October. As Carnarvon House will be unavailable, various alternative options have been considered. The most promising is to use the facilities of the Oak Bay Beach Hotel. Joan Firkins will determine the cost and availability to rent a suitably sized room for the 11th of October, commencing at 5:00 pm

Once upon a time.....

During a recent game of pairs a husband named “Naranja” and his wife “Amarillo” played opposite each other as Seconds. It came to pass that Naranja, being the scallywag he was, decided to place the mat right up at the hog line. He was more daring than skilful however and promptly delivered the jack into the ditch. Amarillo immediately moved the mat back to a point two metres from the back ditch and was directed by her skip to deliver a long jack. Amarillo knew that if she delivered the jack into the ditch it would now automatically be set at the two metre mark so she confidently drove it down the rink slamming it into the ditch. Surely her skip would be pleased? Wrong! Amarillo then watched in horror as Naranja, having regained the mat, simply marched it back to the hog line. The end was thus played with the shortest possible jack and the look on Naranja’s face was that of the cat who just ate the canary. ☺ *Laws of the Sport of Bowls 3rd Edition, Rule 20B*

Visit by Victoria LBC on 18 August. A normal Friday evening social draw, consisting of a 12 end game, will take place. Teams will be drawn from a mix of Victoria and Oak Bay players. Following the game a social will be held in Carnarvon House.

Magic Bowls For Sale

Previous owner has filled them with magic and donated them to the club with the proceeds to be donated to the renovation fund.

Taylor Lignoid Size 4 Black

Suggested price \$100 or thereabouts

See Wendy Barry or Pat Thomas - The Grippo Girls

Now that Vancouver has won the chance to host the 2010 Winter Olympics these are some questions people the world over are asking!!!! Believe it or not these questions about Canada were posted on an International Tourism Website (frightening, isn't it!)

Q: I have never seen it warm on Canadian TV, so how do the plants grow?(UK)

A: We import all plants fully grown and then just sit around and watch them die.

Q: Will I be able to see Polar Bears in the street? (USA)

A: Depends on how much you've been drinking.

Q: I want to walk from Vancouver to Toronto-can I follow the Railroad tracks? (Sweden)

A: Sure, it's only Four thousand miles, take lots of water.

Q: Are there any ATM's (cash machines) in Canada? Can you send me a list of them in Toronto, Vancouver, Edmonton and Halifax? (UK)

A: What did your last slave die of?

Q: Can you give me some information about hippo racing in Canada? (USA)

A: A-fri-ca is the big triangle shaped continent south of Europe. Ca-na-da is that big country to your North...oh forget it. Sure, the hippo racing is every Tuesday night in Calgary. Come naked.

Q: Which direction is North in Canada? (USA)

A: Face south and then turn 180 degrees Contact us when you get here and we'll send the rest of the directions.

Q: Can you send me the Vienna Boys' Choir schedule? (USA)

A: Aus-tri-a is that quaint little country bordering Ger-man-y, which is...oh forget it. Sure, the Vienna Boys Choir plays every Tuesday night in Vancouver and in Calgary, straight after the hippo races. Come naked.

Q: Do you have perfume in Canada? (Germany)

A: No, WE don't stink.

Q: I have developed a new product that is the fountain of youth. Can you sell it in Canada? (USA)

A: Anywhere significant numbers of Americans gather.

Q: Do you celebrate Thanksgiving in Canada? (USA)

A: Only at Thanksgiving.

Q: Are there supermarkets in Toronto and is milk available all year round?(Germany)

A: No, we are a peaceful civilization of Vegan hunter/gatherers. Milk is illegal.

Q: I have a question about a famous animal in Canada, but I forget its name.

It's a kind of big horse with horns. (USA)

A: It's called a Moose. They are tall and very violent, eating the brains of anyone walking close to them. You can scare them off by spraying yourself with human urine before you go out walking.

Q: Will I be able to speak English most places I go? (USA)

A: Yes, but you will have to learn it first.

The House Committee

Thanks to all the volunteers for your hard work.

On Sept. 4th following the "Quaddie

Oak Bay Lawn Bowling Club Goes Country, at the Labour Day "Chilli" Dinner

Happy Hour 4:00PM Dinner/Entertainment 5:00PM tickets \$13.00.

Ten Volunteers are needed to make the Chili – the ingredients will be supplied along with the recipe. The Chili in general will not be made hot but for those who would like the HOT sauce you can add it from a bottle at your table. Please let Prim know if you can help – it is appreciated. The Theme will be – "The Club Goes Country". If members wish to dress country a neckerchief would work.

There is a large collection of hats and clothing in the Lost & Found box in the storage cupboard in Anderson House. These will be put on display in September and those not claimed will be sent to charity.

Prim Wood

Member Services

The total number of members in the Club as of the end of July is - 206. This is a nice increase from last year. Don't forget about the Friday night draw! Tags in by 6:45 – bring your visitors and friends. We take time to socialize after the game. The visitors have been very interesting especially the couple from Australia who bowled with us twice. Heather Battles introduced six of her friends from the University of Victoria's Rotaract Club to a game of bowls. They had a great time! On Friday night August 18th our Club has invited the Victoria Lawn Bowling Club to come to bowl and socialize with us after the game. Look for the sign up list.

Winter Activities: Due to the expansion of Anderson House the winter activities will be restricted during the 2006/2007 seasons. If Carnarvon House does not have to be used for storage every effort will be made to have winter short mat play.

Lockers: Our last Tea Day will be Sat. September 16th. We are requesting that members empty their lockers on or before this day as Prim plans to store all the kitchen dishes (safely) in the lockers during the renovation.

Dolores Troyer



Thank you....

to all the men and women who signed up for Greenskeeping Teams this year. Please continue to support your Club in this vital area, and when circumstances require you to be absent please ensure that you have arranged for a replacement member. Our greens are the core of what our Club is all about. It's thanks to the few serving the many that we are able to play on such outstanding surfaces. Well done! John Nadin (Greens & Grounds) and Murray Robertson & Howard Turpin (Greenskeepers at Large)

Thoughts from a New Member

As a Novice bowler who participated in the recent tournament I would like to thank all the people who worked behind the scenes for their efforts that made this a roaring success. Bravo to Lois Young and her coaching staff for the excellent instruction given to all us new bowlers at the beginning of the season. Thanks to the Markers and Umpires who came out to train us in the game of singles and again at the Novice Tournament.

I was surprised at the number of spectators who came to watch the games. It was nice to hear all the words of encouragement. Thank you. I had a great time!

Good luck and good bowling to the **Novice Champions – Helen Kempster & Allan Lightfoot** - in the upcoming City Tournament. I will be cheering for you!

Gayle Wallach

Laws of the Game

The Law regarding giving the mat away has basically remained unchanged. Wording slightly different but intent the same.

Re. Burnt ends, the new Law is under RE-SPOTTING THE JACK and there are actually 7 sub-sections to it:

2.If the jack passes outside the side boundary on the right of the rink, it should be placed with the nearest point of the jack to the mat line at a spot on the rink which is 2 M from the front ditch and 1.5 M to the right of the centre line.

3.If the jack passes outside the boundary on the left 1.5 M to the left of the centre line.

4.If the jack passes over the face of the bank, it should be placed with the nearest point of the jack to the mat line at a spot on the rink, which is 2 M from the front ditch, and on the centre line.
Rebounding jacks that are less than 20 M from the mat line are set according to #2 & #3 above.

6.If the spots mentioned above are partly/completely covered, it is placed with the nearest point of the jack to the mat line at a spot which is 0.5 M further from the front ditch than the spot that has been covered. If that is covered again another 0.5 M further forward.

Fran McAdoo

Congratulations to the winners of the CutThroat competition:

A Event : Jack Lalonde

B Event: Eric Ballinger

C Event: Alan Hall

MENTAL HEALTH

During a visit to the Mental Asylum, a visitor asked the Director what the criterion was which defined whether or not a patient should be institutionalized.

"Well," said the Director, "we fill up a bathtub, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup, and a bucket to the patient and ask him or her to empty the bathtub." "Oh, I understand," said the visitor. "A normal person would use the bucket because it's bigger than the spoon or the teacup." "No," said the Director, "A normal person would pull the plug. Do you want a room on the first or second floor?"

Volunteering

The broadest, and maybe the most meaningful definition of volunteering: Doing more than you have to because you want to, in a cause you consider good.

-Ivan Scheier (from Building Staff/Volunteer Relations)

Submitted by Claudia Collier, Director, Volunteer Center of the YMCA, Mankato MN, USA

Past the beggar and the suffering walk he who asks, 'Why, oh God, do you not do something for these people?' To which God replied, 'I did do something, I made you.'

--old Sufi saying

Submitted by Mike Corbin, Volunteer Services Director, Lutheran Social Services of Michigan, Michigan, USA

Whatever you do may seem insignificant, but it is most important that you do it.

--M. Gandhi

Submitted by Douglas Eggleston, Director, Emergency Services - American Red Cross, VA – USA

Any Submissions or Corrections [mailto: ray.troyer@telus.net](mailto:ray.troyer@telus.net)