

Cobourg Lawn Bowling Club



**May 2023
Newsletter**

Editor's Notes

By the time you read this we will be less than two weeks away from our opening day, May 13th. This will be our 116th season. What are your goals/ambitions for this season? Maybe you just want to build on what you already know and improve so that you do better in jitneys and club tournaments? Maybe you want to play more competitively entering some opens or by entering playdowns? Whatever your ambitions we want you to enjoy your bowling and club coaches are ready to help you do that. I've written a bit more about that later in the Newsletter.

Bill Arthur

From the President

Spring has sprung! I went by the club the other day and there was the “dynamic duo” (aka Mike and Carl) working on the greens. How blessed we are to have such dedicated volunteers! Thank you to all those getting things in shape for our new season. JUST A REMINDER: GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING - Wednesday, May 3rd at Trinity United Church on Division St in the CE Centre. Full details are given in the next article. On the agenda will be two items requiring your response. One pertains to allowing proxies for quorum purposes and the other asks for your support in allowing alcoholic beverages at the club on special occasions. Looking forward to seeing everyone and to the start of another year of “friendship by the lake”.

Carol Dewey

Dates for your Calendar

May 3: Spring General Meeting. Trinity United Church.

6:30 pm: Fee payment, tournament sign up, Monday Night League sign up, volunteer sign up etc.

7:00 pm: Meeting. We'll be announcing new and exciting events and activities. Find out what we've got planned for the upcoming season. It's *your* club! Please attend.

May 6: Clean-Up Day at the Club. 9:00 am. Let's get the greens, grounds and clubhouse ready for the 2023 season. All volunteers welcome!

May 13: Opening Day! Potluck and a Jitney. Opening Day pot luck lunch at 12 noon. Opening Day jitney at 1 pm.

May 17, 24, 31: Wednesday evenings in May - practice, coaching, lessons available (7-9 pm).

Please see the **website calendar** for other important dates, **jitney times**, open tournaments, in-club tournaments.

Reminder on How To Pay Membership Fees

- Send eTransfer to "clbcmemb@gmail.com"
- Mail cheque to: Cobourg Lawn Bowling Club, PO Box 61, Cobourg ON K9A 4K2
- Bring cheque to Spring Meeting
- Bring cheque to club the first time you come to play and give to Treasurer or drop it in Treasurer's lock box.

Cheques should be made payable to Cobourg Lawn Bowling Club

Fees are the same as last year:

Returning Adult Members \$175, New Members \$130, Youth \$50, Students \$50, Social \$10

Lockers are \$10 and can be added to your membership payment.

Attention all novices - and that means most of you.



Who is a novice bowler? The answer is anyone who has been bowling for 5 years or less. However since 2020 was lost to Covid the Ontario Lawn Bowls Association (OLBA) extends this time limit by one year. That means anyone who joined in 2017 is still eligible to play in novice tournaments in 2023. There are three

events in which novice bowlers may want to think about entering.

The first is the Ontario Combo Fours. District 14 playdowns will be held on July 29th and 30th at a venue to be decided. The winners will play in the Ontario Championships which are being held in Pickering on August 26th and 27th. I won't go into the format of Novice Combo Fours but you can find out all about it from the Cobourg team that entered last year, Terry Dyche, Gail Cunningham, Sheri Perkins and Brent Perkins. There is an article about it in the September 2022 Newsletter.

Many of our novices entered the novice singles playdowns in Bobcaygeon last year and thoroughly enjoyed it. The venue for the District 14 playdowns is to be decided but will be held on September 2nd and 3rd. The Ontario Championship for men will be held in Tilbury and the ladies here in Cobourg on September 23rd and 24th.

There are also some open tournaments which are either for novices only or teams which must have at least one novice. You can find details of those in the OLBA tournament listings that Bob Bates talked about last month.

Louisa and I have been sponsoring a triples open tournament here in Cobourg for several years and have decided that to encourage novice bowlers into tournament play this year the tournament will be novices only. It will be held on Thursday August 10th and we would love to have lots of entries. Speak to Bob Bates or me for further details of that.

Bill Arthur

Bowls Canada Newsletter



Bowls Canada issues a weekly Newsletter entitled "This Week in Bowls" If you would like to subscribe and get a wider view of what is happening in the bowls community just follow the link below.

<https://bowlscanada.com/en/news-about-us/newsletters/>

Short Mat Bowling

The short mat season wrapped up on April 27th and what a great season it has been with increased membership, hosting the Canadian Nationals and with nine members travelling to Aberdeen for the world championships.

During the season we award 3 points to each member of the winning team at every session, two points to those in the second team and one point to those in the third team



The top three players were Fran Marsh, Dave Jones and Vince Tamburello. Each received a Tim's card, a Cobourg Lawn Bowling Club pen and a Town of Cobourg pin.

Is this the oldest bowler in the world?

Looking good Tim.

Ed - taken out of context from Wikipedia!



No, It's not just me (see last month)



Just to prove I'm not the only one checking out lawn bowling when I'm away, here is one from Terry Bradshaw. Send me any photos from clubs you visit.

Ed



Our next grant application is for a sun umbrella for the roller to keep Carl Ferguson cool !



Coaching



This guy needs some coaching - just look at his follow through and how he has bounced the bowl! Yes folks that was me in 2013. A fairly common fault when first starting bowling. If only there had been someone to coach me. There wasn't though and I had to teach myself. Thankfully the club has moved on from those days and we are in a better position to help you identify your faults and improve your game. As I said in the editor's notes, no matter what your aspirations are we are here to

help you. It starts with the Welcome Back Wednesdays in May (see next article) but will continue with some coaching clinics during the season. If you would like some one to one coaching please contact Nan Hendren, Sarah van Steijn, Peter Stuart-Sheppard or me.

Bill Arthur

Welcome Back Wednesdays

Feeling a little rusty after the winter? Feel like some early season practice sessions or coaching might be helpful? New bowlers, do you feel like a 'refresher' session or two with one of our coaches might just remind you of some of those tips and techniques you learned last year? Do you want to bring a friend to try the game and maybe join you for a summer of bowling? Well then, we have an evening (or three!) set aside for you! Mark down Wednesdays May 17th, 24th, and 31st on your calendar. From 7 pm until 9 pm the club will be open for all of the above: practice, coaching, 'refresher' lessons, and free lessons for those wanting to 'give it a try'. Come out, see your friends, work on your game, have fun! Wednesday evenings will be wonderful this May!

Peter Stuart-Sheppard

Welcome Back Everyone!

Kitchen Help Wanted

— No Experience Required —

Once again I will be looking for volunteers for the kitchen! Give me a call if you are interested!

Hope to hear from you soon!!

Sarah van Steijn

For Sale

Steve Haslam, a past President, is leaving Cobourg to move nearer to his family. He has two club shirts for sale, a green one and a white one. They are size XL. If you are interested in buying one please contact Steve at stevepam7@gmail.com

From the Archives

As we get ready for opening day here is a look back at an article about our opening day in May 2017 from Northumberland Today. In those days when we had a daily newspaper a report was carried every week of the season on lawn bowling activities.

110th lawn bowling season gets rolling in Cobourg

Mayor Gil Brocanier got the Cobourg Lawn Bowling Club season underway Saturday, May 13.

The mayor was a guest of the club for a celebratory lunch and after that spoke about what a great achievement it was for a Cobourg sports club to be celebrating 110 years.

He spoke about the health benefits of lawn bowling, the social aspects of the sport and the joy it brings to non-bowlers who stop to watch as they walk through Victoria Park. He then formally opened the season by rolling the first bowl.

The rain that had been called for stayed away and after the opening ceremonies members enjoyed an opening day jitney which was won by the team of Carol Dewey, Vince Tamburello and Thelma Eastcott.

The first week of the season has been a very busy one with schools visiting to learn about the sport and on Thursday the club was scheduled to host the OSGA55+ District 12 lawn bowling tournament. And this Saturday, May 20

is the annual open house. People are encouraged to come and try out the sport and there will be a barbecue lunch available.

For those who are working their way through the ParticipAction 150 playlist this is also an opportunity to cross lawn bowling off their list. People who are not lawn bowlers are also welcome to visit and take a look inside the historic club house and check out the display about the club's history. The club will have information on display at the Farmers Market so whilst visiting the market there is an opportunity to visit and then head down to Victoria Park to find out more and 'Give it a Try.'

The holiday weekend will conclude with an Open Fours tournament sponsored by Lauria Hyundai and we will have reports of all these events for you next week.

More information about the club and lawn bowling in general can be found on the club website www.cobourglawnbowlingclub.weebly.com.



Cobourg Mayor Gil Brocanier rolled the first bowl of the season at the Cobourg Lawn Bowling Club as president Nan Hendren (left) and vice-president Carol Dewey (right) look on.

That's it for another month. As always I ask for your ideas, articles, photos etc etc that you would like included in the Newsletter. I look forward to seeing you (and lots of new members) on the greens this summer.

Good Bowling

Bill Arthur - Editor