

Cobourg Lawn Bowling Club



**October 2022
Newsletter**



Editor's Notes

As the season ends it's a time to not only look back at what happened in September but to reflect on the whole season, and what a season it has been. Who would have predicted that our recruitment campaign would be as successful as it was? That was the stand out feature on the non playing side and it was rewarding to see so many new bowlers playing jitneys regularly and competing in various tournaments. On the playing side, there was lots to celebrate at District, Provincial and National levels. Although we finished our season with a BBQ and jitney on October 1st the jitneys will continue for another week on an informal basis. Planning for next season is already underway and although I won't be publishing a monthly newsletter during the winter months there will be periodic ones to update you on plans for 2023. I hope you have found the newsletters informative and, as always, I welcome contributions and feedback. *Bill Arthur*

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday September 21st

The club holds two general membership meetings every year, one in the spring and one in the fall. These meetings are required by our constitution and provide an opportunity for members to receive reports from the directors, approve changes to the constitution and elect the Executive Committee members.

The attendance at this meeting was very disappointing but we were able to squeak by with the necessary quorum. Thank you to those who came out. Of particular mention from this meeting was the recognition given to certain members for their work on behalf of the club. Helen Beaton, our Membership Convenor, was given an OLBA Certificate of Appreciation along with free membership for 2023 for all the work she did this year with the new members. In addition to attending

the many coaching sessions getting waivers signed, Helen put a lot of time in getting membership forms



looked after, fees collected, reporting to OLBA, having name tags made, etc.

Two other members were also granted free membership for 2023, our groundskeepers Mike Hendren and Carl Ferguson. Our greens have been in excellent shape this year thanks to their hard work.

Unfortunately this year we didn't have the helpers we usually have so these two men have done the lion's share of the greens work. Thank you,

Helen, Mike and Carl!

Members in attendance were asked to complete a volunteer interest form. For those not at the meeting, we handed out a form at the closing event on October 1st. We will be developing a data base of volunteers and over the winter we will be following up electronically with those who have not yet submitted a form indicating tasks they are interested in helping out with. The approved nomination report will be posted on the website at some point. We still have two vacancies on the Executive Committee, one for Director and one for Communications and Marketing Officer. The two members of the EC not returning to that role, Bill Arthur and SharylAnn Milligan were thanked for their work.

Although not continuing on the EC next year both will be active in a number of ways and we appreciate all that they have done and will continue to do.

Carol Dewey, President

OpenTournaments

We wrapped up our open



tournament season with a mixed pairs 242 on Labour Day followed by an open pairs three

days later. The best placed Cobourg team in those two events was Nan Hendren and Carl Ferguson in the mixed pairs.

Canadian Mixed Pairs

Baylee van Steijn and Jake Masterson (Peterborough) competed in the Canadian mixed pairs championships in Windsor between September 15-18. Having won silver in the Ontario championships they were competing as the Ontario B team. They did not quite make it into the top two positions but claimed the bronze medal by comprehensively beating the Ontario A team.



Ontario Triples

On September 3-4th Al Purcell, Bill Arthur and Berkeley Emmons (Pickering) were the District 14 representatives in the Ontario triples



championships. After a flawless first day they topped their round robin group and qualified for the quarter finals on day 2. Despite being behind in both quarter and semi finals they staged comebacks to qualify for the final. Their luck deserted them in that game and they had to be satisfied with the silver medal.

Monday Night League

The Monday Night League wrapped up the 2022 season on September 19th with a game of 4,3,2,1 followed by refreshments and awards.

Members present were randomly divided into teams of three or four for the first four ends then regrouped for the second and third rounds based on their finishing position in the preceding round. There was some serious competition and lots of social interaction. While the results of the activity were tabulated, members enjoyed some refreshments on the deck.

Prizes were awarded based on points generated during the season and the final event. Sheri Perkins topped the league followed by John Hawryszko, Bob Bates, Dianne Hawryszko, Jan Skillen, John Saunders, Mike Hendren and Mary Salter. There were eight draw prizes also given out. In addition to the prizes and draws, the MNL donated one hundred dollars to the club. Thanks everyone for a fun time. Looking forward to 2023!

Carol Dewey and Sarah Van Steijn

Quiz Time

Last month I asked:

"What happens if the jack is driven against the face of the bank (ie the ditchboard) and rebounds onto the rink of play?"

The answer was not, as someone suggested, "Tell Ben to stop it and go home"

The correct answer is that the jack remains where it comes to rest (as long as it is in the rink boundary)

The question this month is:

If a bowl falls on to the jack after your opponent has bowled, is it a toucher?

The answer is at the end of the Newsletter.

New Dress Codes for 2023

Ladies



Men



Bowlers in Bloom

This was our last club tournament of the season and there was a great turn-out for it. We played three different games. The first was normal jitney rules but each team had two power play ends where they could double the score. In game 2 the jack could be placed anywhere over the hog line as long as it was in the rink

boundary and there was a time limit of 75 minutes on the game. In the third game there were extra points for touchers and the lead with the closest bowl to the jack. Some teams soon worked out that it didn't matter whether or not you won the end as you could score more points with touchers and lead bowls.

Congratulations to the winning team of Tom Bevan, Louisa Arthur and Christine Thickson. Donna Longman substituted for Christine in game 2.



Wilf Stender won the prize for the best dressed bowler.



A history of lawn bowls

Ex President and club member Jim Gordon died in October 2021 and his daughter donated some wooden bowls to the club. This prompted Donna Longman to write this short history about bowls.

1400 - 1510: EARLY BOWLS

From the early 15th century, bowls were made of wood, usually yew, ash, oak, holly or boxwood. Nobody knows exactly when the era of wooden lignum-vitae bowls began, but the island of San Domingo in the West Indies (where lignum-vitae comes from) was discovered by Columbus on December 3rd, 1492, so we know that there were no lignum-vitae bowls in England at that time.

One particular variety of lignum-vitae, the blue flowering Guaiacum Officinale, is said to be the hardest and densest wood in the world. With a density of three-and-a-half ounces to the cubic inch, it sinks in water.

Lignum-vitae was introduced in Europe by the Spaniards in 1508 and likely found its way to England via Sir Frances Drake. Drake had equipped his ship, *The Pasha*, with bowls and quoits. Most probably, the bowls were made of lignum-vitae and crafted by his ship's carpenters while waiting in the harbour at Plymouth. Shavings obtained from turning the wood into bowls were carefully gathered and sold to druggists. The essential oils from the wood supposedly had health benefits and so lignum-vitae was known as the ***Tree of Life***.

Don't plan on planting one in your back yard, unless you are patient, as the tree takes hundreds of years to mature.

The bias was not introduced until 1522.

Bowls at this time were also known as "woodies" or "woods" and you just might still hear an 'old-timer' call them that! (Ed - they are still referred to as "woods" in northern England)

1918

W.D. Hensell develops along with Dunlop Rubber Co., the world's first vulcanite (hard rubber) lawn bowls. By 1924, Australia no longer imports lignum-vitae bowls and begins to export vulcanite bowls.

1930

First Plastic Bowl produced by W.D. Hensell, and in 1931, the first "Henselite" Bowl was introduced. By 1937 the first unidisc plastic bowl was produced.

In the same year, the first all white plastic jack was produced.

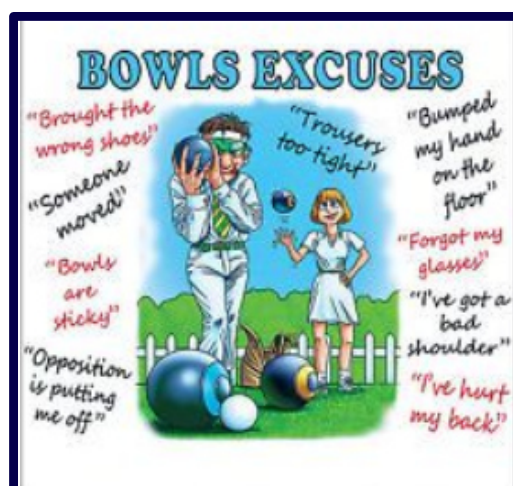
The World Bowls Board, now World Bowls Ltd, had a meeting in 2000 and agreed that coloured bowls were allowed. Prior to that decision only Black or Brown bowls could be used.

Donna Longman

Ed - If you want to know more about how bowls are made check out this video and if you are ever in Glasgow you can arrange a visit to the Taylor

factory to see how the bowls are made.

<https://youtu.be/AgsXeoJUeos>



Other tournament news

Peter Stuart- Sheppard and Bill McCollam (Stouffville) were the winners of the Willowdale open novice pairs.

The ladies team of Dianne Hawryszko, Nan Hendren and Kathleen Shirley were the winners of the ladies triples at Whitby. Congratulations to all of them.



New Horizons for Seniors

Last year we received a grant of \$25,000 from the New Horizons for Seniors Program (NHFSP). This is being used to replace all the ditchboards (back and plinth) and work on that will start in October. NHFSP is now inviting grant applications for next year and the club is intending to apply for a new lawnmower and some new club bowls. We will keep our fingers crossed for another successful application.

Final day BBQ and jitney

What a great turn out for our October 1st barbecue and jitney and thanks to our cook Sarah van Steijn. All eight rinks were in play with 46 members playing in the jitney. A suitable end to the season on a nice fall day.

2022 Roll of Honour

Canadian Championships

Mixed Pairs Bronze - Baylee van Steijn

Ontario Championships

Mixed Pairs Silver - Baylee van Steijn

Fours Silver - Martin Foxhall

Triples Silver - Al Purcell, Bill Arthur

Ontario Youths Silver - Jacob Hyatt

District 14 Champions

Novice Fours - Terry Dyche, Gail Cunningham, Sheri Perkins, Brent Perkins

Novice Singles - Peter Stuart-Sheppard

Ladies Seniors - Mary Salter, Carol Dewey, Mary Thibault

Men's Seniors - Bill Arthur, Bob Bates

Quiz Answer

A bowl in its original course which touches the jack, even though it comes to rest in the ditch within the boundaries of the rink of play, is a live bowl and is called a toucher. If a bowl in its original course does not touch the jack, it is called a non-toucher.

A bowl is also a toucher if, after having come to rest it falls and touches the jack before the next bowl is delivered; or in the case of the last bowl of an end, it falls and touches the jack within the period of 30 seconds