

# COBOURG LAWN BOWLING CLUB

*Returning for the 115<sup>th</sup> year*



**Special Pre-Season  
Edition**



## Editor's Notes

Alfred Lord Tennyson wrote that "In the Spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love". In my case it's more "an old man's thoughts turn to lawn bowling"! I have tournaments booked, entries made to Provincial Championships and am looking forward to sunny days at the club.

Your Executive Committee has been busy through the winter planning for what we all hope will be the first normal season since 2019. It will be a big season for us as we re-group after Covid and try to get membership back to where it was in 2019.

Bill Arthur

### Important Dates for your calendar

Spring Meeting - May 4<sup>th</sup> at 6.30pm (virtual meeting)

Yard Sale -Saturday May 7th

Club clean-up day - Sunday May 8th

Club opening day - Saturday May 14th

### A message from the President

I'm sure by now many of you have had enough of winter and are looking forward to warmer, sunnier days and a return to the bowling greens. Although I have been fortunate enough to be in the sunny south this year, I too look forward to the return to lawn bowling and renewal of "friendships by the lake".

The Executive Committee has been meeting monthly and much has been accomplished in the off season. Thanks to the work of Mike Place, Bill Arthur, Bob Bates, Terry Dyche and Peter Stuart-Sheppard and the EC grant applications were completed, and, so far one successful result as is reported in this Newsletter. On behalf of the club, I thank all those who were instrumental in completing these applications.

The club is in good hands but needs the ongoing support of you, the members. We look forward to your return and the return of those who have been reluctant to play during Covid. We continue to reach out for new members to enjoy what may be the best secret in Town.

See you in May

Carol Dewey

### Executive Committee

There is a vacancy for a Director on the EC. If you are interested in filling this post please contact club president, Carol Dewey.

## Youth Bowling

After many years of coaching and mentoring young bowlers, Sharyl Ann Milligan is stepping down from her post. Youth bowlers are the future of the sport and we are keen to continue to develop a strong youth section. The EC is looking at the best way to organise youth bowling in the future and is looking for members who can help. Youths meet on Monday and Wednesday afternoons in July and August. If you can help in any way please let Carol Dewey know.

## Yearbook

We told you in the December Newsletter that the EC had decided not to publish a Yearbook in future. All the information that used to go in the Yearbook will be available on the club website. A paper copy of the calendar will be available for those who want one.

## Seniors Community Grant

Also in December we told you that we had received a grant of \$4,750 from the Ontario Trillium Fund. The grant was for IT equipment that has enabled us to produce a promotional video about the club to help with recruitment. The equipment will also be used for coaching club members on a one to one basis and in club coaching clinics. We have bought a laptop, monitor, projector and iPad plus some video editing software. We have also been able to buy some new club bowls.

## Club Website

The grant has also enabled us to upgrade the club website from a free version to a more professional version which has more functionality.

This has allowed us to remove the weebly branding from the website and from the domain name. The new domain is simply

[www.cobourglawnbowlingclub.ca](http://www.cobourglawnbowlingclub.ca)

Part of the new functionality is that we can create a members only section on the website. This is under development at present but this part of the website will be password protected and you will be able to access it with your own id and password. We will let you have more details in due course.

You will recall that we always published a list of members and contact details in the Yearbook and we intend to publish those details on the members only section of the website. It is hoped that most members will be happy to have their phone number and email address included, given the password protection. **However, if you do not want your contact details included please advise Bill Arthur.**

## **Membership Fees**

Despite the financial pressures of the last two years and the fact that the OLBA/Bowls Canada affiliation fees have increased to \$35, the EC has decided to leave the club fees at the 2019 level. So a season bowling will remain at \$175 and the new bowler fee at \$140.

## **Membership**

Lots of you have not bowled since 2019 and that is understandable given what has happened over the last two years. You may have gotten out of the habit and are not bothered about resuming bowling but just think about how much you enjoyed meeting friends and bowling. There are between 30 and 40 members who have not bowled since 2019 and we would love to see you back again. So get your bowls out in May and "return to bowls".

## **Grants**

During the winter we applied for a New Horizons for Seniors Grant to replace all the ditchboards around the greens. We also applied for an Ontario Trillium Resilient Communities Grant which is to help organisations recover from the pandemic. If successful this will enable us to mount a major advertising campaign for new members. We should hear whether or not we have been successful in the next month.

## **Promotional Video**

In the next week or so we will be publishing a club promotional video on YouTube and will advise you by email when it is available. This is just one strand in our efforts to recover from Covid and start to build our membership back to what it was in 2019. There will be details on our website, Facebook and Twitter. We will let you have more details of how you can help spread the word when the video is published.

## **Social Media**

Did you know that you don't have to have an account with Twitter and Facebook to see club posts? By clicking on the appropriate icon on the Home Page of the club website you can view posts. Without an account you cannot comment though.

## **Get ready for the new season**

Dan Millgan (aka The Delivery Doctor) has recently published a series of videos covering all aspects of delivering a bowl, from grip to follow through. Get yourself ready for the new season by checking out his videos.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/TheDeliveryDoctor>

## **Photo Quiz**



We can't have a Newsletter without a photo quiz. This one is slightly different though. Can you identify these people from a not very good photograph

recently published in the local media.

## **And now for something completely different**

I guess you all know that when you Google something Google tracks you and then targets you with adverts. One way of avoiding this is to use DuckDuckGo. This browser does not track you and leaves no trace of your searches. It is available as an App on your phone or tablet and can be downloaded as an extension on a regular browser such as Chrome. Check it out at

<https://duckduckgo.com/about>

*(Ed: I have been using it for some time now and can recommend it for privacy)*

I hate to leave empty space so to fill it here is a joke from a famous British Comedy writer, Barry Cryer, who passed away recently.

A lady sees a fine looking parrot in a pet shop window for only £5 so decides to buy it.

"Well, I must confess, it was brought up in a brothel," says the shopkeeper. "And, to put it politely, it has quite an extensive vocabulary."

"Never mind," says the woman. "At that price, I'll take it."

So she takes the parrot home, puts its cage in the living room and takes the cover off.

"New place - very nice," says the parrot.

Then the woman's two daughters walk in.

"New place, new girls - very nice," says the parrot.

Then the woman's husband walks in, and the parrot says, "Oh hello, Keith!"

