

COBOURG LAWN BOWLING CLUB



September 2021



Editor's Notes

Another month has quickly gone by and suddenly we are looking at the end of the season.

As long as the weather holds we will continue playing until September 18th and then, hopefully, we will be back to normal in 2022. Congratulations to Fran Marsh who correctly identified the August mystery photo as the Craft Food House on Division Street. Fran also told me that it used to be the Salvation Army Church. In a packed issue this month we have news of our challenge match against Lindsay, another club tournament and an open tournament. Our roving reporter, Bob Bates, also brings us news of success for Cobourg members playing away from Cobourg.

The Lindsay Challenge Match

On Sunday August 8th six triples teams travelled to Lindsay to take up a challenge from that club. We played two ten end games. So, how did we do? Not too bad is the answer. The top team was Carl Ferguson, Ann Tough and Donna Ball and second best team was Baylee van Steijn, Peter Sturat-Sheppard and Melanie Duras. A Lindsay team was third.



The morning session was not very successful with only two Cobourg teams winning but the afternoon session was much better with Cobourg winning four and tying one.



For some of the Cobourg members it was their first experience of playing away from Cobourg and that meant getting used to different greens which was probably

why we did better in the afternoon. The greens were a good speed but they did have their own characteristics!

It was good to renew some old acquaintances and to have some competitive bowling against different people. COVID protocols were in place and I think everyone felt that they were in a safe environment.

To round off a good day for Cobourg Melanie Duras and Mary Salter were first and second in the 50/50 draw. And we enjoyed the ice cream bars after the game.

Oh, I forgot to mention. We had fun and at the end of the day that's what it's all about. I think this line from Big Spender sums up lawn bowling (and maybe a few other things!)

"Wouldn't you like to have fun, fun fun?"

How's about a few laughs, laughs, laughs?

I can show you a good time"

Cover page is courtesy of Keith Olan from Lindsay.

Club Tournament

Every year the short mat club sponsors a club tournament known as the Windmill Tournament. I'm not going to explain why it is called that. If you want to know ask a short mat bowler. This year it was sponsored by Gordon Insurance as they had a sponsorship credit with us from 2020 and it was held on Saturday August 14th. We played 3x 8 end games and it was 2 bowl triples.

There were 6 triples teams and once again many of our new bowlers were playing on a beautiful day for bowling.

The teams skipped by Ralph Hewitt and Carol Dewey won their first two games with identical scores of 14 points and played off in the third game for the trophy. Carol's team ran out 9-2 winners to finish with 3 wins and 23 points. Playing with Carol were Bruce Becker and Sheri Perkins but Bruce had to retire after the first game and the only available substitute was Bill Arthur.



The second place team was Carl Ferguson, Vince Tamburello and Pat Andersen with 2 wins and 22 points. Ralph Hewitt, Melanie Duras and Terry Dyche were third with 2 wins and 16 points.

Dates for your Calendar

Last day of bowling - Saturday September 18th

Garage sale - September 25th

Fall General Meeting - October 5th This will be a virtual meeting by Zoom

Further details about the Garage Sale and Fall meeting will be sent to you nearer the time

Facebook

You may have noticed that we have a new correspondent posting on the club Facebook page, Victoria Park. I'd like to welcome Victoria to our communications team. Victoria tells me she won't be accepting any friend requests though. She wishes to keep a low profile and protect her privacy.

The Bowlers' own language - how to translate

"Good weight!" = lousy line

"Good line" = lousy weight

"Good back bowl" = you were lucky you didn't put it in the ditch

"That's in their way" = that's in my way

"That could be useful up there" = that bowl is closer to you than it is to the jack

"Get it next time" = you sure didn't get it this time

"He's surprisingly good" = you're surprised he ever makes a shot



"There's nothing wrong with saying hard luck!
Just learn to do it without the snigger."

MacCoubrey Open Triples

On Saturday August 21st we held our first open tournament in almost two years

It was great to renew old acquaintances and there was a special feeling about the tournament after all that time. The tournament was open triples and was sponsored by MacCoubrey Funeral Homes. A big thanks to them for their continued support.

Because of COVID protocols we were restricted to 12 teams. On a very hot day we played three 12 end games. In addition to three Cobourg teams there were teams from Agincourt, Cosburn Park, Pickering, Whitby, Lindsay, Campbellford and Belleville. Despite some good performances the Cobourg teams did not get the rub of the green on the day; one finished with 2 wins, one with one win and one with no wins. A Cobourg member, Martin Foxhall was in the prize money although he was part of a Pickering entry.

Winners (3 wins) were Lorne Schiele, John MacKenzie and Berkeley Emmons from Pickering, Runners up (also with 3 wins) were Rick Barnard, Syd Godin and George Boersma from Campbellford. In third place with 2 wins were Martin Foxhall, Nicky Chamois and Hazel Joffe.

Congratulations to Bob Bates for organizing and running such a successful tournament.

Short Mat Bowling

The season starts on Tuesday October 5th and will run until April 28 2022. There will be a break for Christmas and New Year. The Canadian Short Mat Bowls Championships are scheduled for the week commencing November 15th so the regular club bowling will be cancelled that week.

Current short mat bowlers will receive more details from Donna Longman in due course. Any lawn bowlers who are interested in playing short mat should contact Donna Longman. Email longman.rd@gmail.com We play with regular size bowls and you can borrow club bowls for the winter for a small rental fee.

Club Bowls

COVID protocols allowed members exclusive use of club bowls during the season. If you have been using club bowls please return them to the storage cupboard no later than September 18th.

Club Closing

As previously mentioned we will close on Saturday September 18th. You must empty your locker on or before that date and remove any other personal belongings that are in the clubhouse.

Photo Quiz

For a change here is a photo which has not been distorted but do you know where it is?



Jitney Results

The updated standings as at August 31 are as follows:

Mary Salter	218
Carol Dewey	210
Tom Bevan	177
Bill Arthur	155
Ken Bevan	154

From the archives - This article was written for the club's 80th anniversary in 1987

This year marks the eightieth year of the existence of the Cobourg Lawn Bowling Club which came into being on Monday April 29th 1907 when an Executive was formed at a meeting of interested persons in the Town Council Chambers in Victoria Hall. The actual steps in its evolution are given below as gleaned from the Cobourg World of that year.

In May of the next year (1908) the ladies were invited to join at a fee of eight dollars and bowls were supplied. Twenty one did so. They were allowed to bowl every morning and afternoon unless a tournament was being played. Mr J W Bickle was President this year. Skips were elected at a general meeting and rinks (i.e teams of four) were selected. In the same year (1908) a league was set up to include Bowmanville, Cobourg, Colborne, Oshawa and Port Hope. Later Whitby took the place of Colborne.

In 1909 the season opened on June 21st. The ladies section, at a meeting in the library chose Miss Eyre as President. Their play consisted of singles and rinks. Next year Cobourg men lost the finals in the Lakeshore League to Bowmanville. This league was so organised that four rinks played at home and four away on each of the scheduled days. The membership must have declined as the hope was expressed that they put up a clubhouse when membership reached sixty. Although the Town Council in 1914 granted the club more land to square off the lot, no clubhouse was built until 1925 when a small square building was erected at a cost of \$1500 shared between the tennis and bowling clubs. When a tournament was played a marquee was set up between the clubhouse and the east fence to allow accommodation for serving refreshments. In 1937, at a cost of \$2500 an addition was added eastward, thus doubling the capacity of the building.

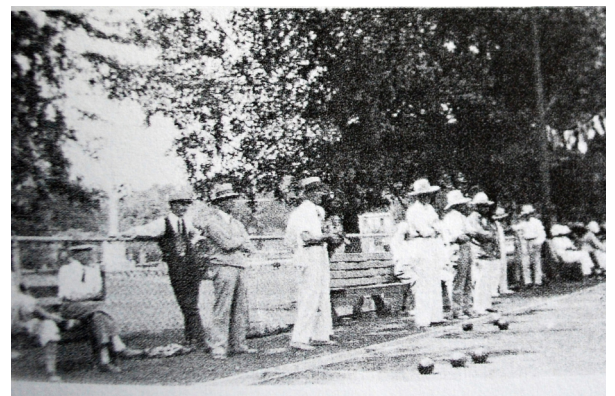
Since that time there have been continuous improvements to the club..The original gas lights were replaced by electricity and these have twice been updated; an automatic sprinkler system for the greens has been installed; the greens themselves have been improved until now they are among the best in Ontario. Membership has fluctuated from a low of 20 (plus their ladies) to the 1986 season's 68 men, 80 ladies, 3 life, 20 veranda and one junior. We would like to increase this last category considerably. The men acknowledge that they owe a great deal to the ladies for their financial support and their efficient handling of the refreshments for local tournaments and other club events.



Over the years there have been countless prizes and awards by both men and women in play at local, District, Zone, Provincial levels and even higher. One member, Victor Foxhall, was winner of three gold medals at the National Summer Games in 1969; another, Dan Milligan, won the Provincial singles in 1981 and was on the team winning silver medals at the 1986 Commonwealth Games.

A junior, Keith Knapper and his partner, won the silver at the 1980 Ontario summer games. Helen Cane, in 1975, won the silver at the Ontario summer games. She and Marg Wilcox in 1976 were the Ontario Pairs Champions.

Now in this sesquicentennial year, as well as having their own 80th anniversary, the Cobourg Lawn Bowling Club will have a special Sesquicentennial event this summer and is happy to participate in celebrating Cobourg's own Sesquicentennial Anniversary.



Something for new bowlers - hand signals

(And a reminder for experienced bowlers)

When you start to bowl we don't spend too much time on the laws of the game - the aim is to get you bowling as quickly as possible. You have probably picked up some of the hand signals we use but here is a link to a video on that subject. It was made by an English bowler and some of the signals he uses may not be quite the same. Nonetheless it is a quick guide to hand signals. Lasts 10 minutes.

<https://youtu.be/0kTNQ0QSm5Q>

Family Bowling

On Friday August 20th we hosted a family of six who wanted to learn about lawn bowling and to have a fun family afternoon game. After teaching them the basics and after they had rolled a few bowls we had two skills games and followed that with a six end triples game. There was great family competition and lots of laughs. The family made a donation to the club for hosting them.

If you would like to hold a family event or know of anyone that this would be of interest to, please speak to one of the Executive Committee. Events like this could result in future new members.

OLBA Back to Bowls tournament U25

Baylee van Steijn was at Oakville on August 27/28 for this tournament. She won 3 of her 4 round robin games before beating Curtis Wartman 21-20 in the final. Congratulations. Baylee is pictured relaxing after her win. Talk about being laid back! Photo credit Jennifer Aziz.



Cobourg Members on the Tournament Trail.

By Bob Bates

Lawn Bowls tournaments, like many other activities during this Covid era, were nonexistent for a year & a half. Once Covid restrictions were eased a bit this July many clubs started hosting Open tournaments again. Most of these events are being held at Toronto area clubs or west of Toronto so Cobourg bowlers have to travel a bit if they wish to participate.

The trip was well worth it for **Cobourg's Martin Foxhall** when he travelled to **Burlington on Aug 13** for the OBA Singles Tournament. It was the 132nd running of this event . . . possibly the oldest continuously run lawn bowls tournament in the world.

8 of the last 10 winners have been Canadian Champions . . . and one that wasn't (Frank Dinardo) had to beat the infamous Ryan Bester to win the gold. Among the 40 entrants were 7 returning winners. So it was no small feat when Martin outlasted the other players to win this years event and the \$600 first prize.



Starting at 8am Martin won 4 straight games then had to endure a long rain delay when monsoon type rain flooded half of the greens. Then at 9pm, 13 hours after starting the day he won the championship match (2-9 end games) besting previous winner Charlie Lyle of Ancastor in the final game. Congratulations Martin!

Unfortunately my day ended early losing 2 games in a row after winning my first one. As Martin was hoisting the trophy I was already back in bed in Cobourg.

The next day **Cobourg's Baylee van Steijn & Peter Stuart - Sheppard** travelled to Cosburn Park in Toronto's east end for the Sophie's Mixed Pairs event.

Cosburn is a large club (180 members) with a lot of competitive players. This very popular event always has a full entry of good bowlers and this year was no different. Of course part of the attraction for this event is that Sophie's local bar is only a block from the club . . . and there is usually a well worn path made from the club to Sophies during the breaks in play.

As it was with all clubs this year there were Covid protocols in place. Players signed 2 waiver forms upon entering the grounds. No coffee, tea or food was served during the day. Clubhouse was only open for washroom use, etc.



After winning their first 2 games Peter & Baylee were matched against current Canadian Singles Champion Cathy Larking & her husband in game 3. The Cobourg duo were 2 down coming home but were sitting 2 in the head for the tie with one bowl to come. Most other games were finished and there was a bit of a crowd on the deck watching this last end. Most were aware that the tournament trophy hinged on this last bowl of the game. (Who says bowls isn't exciting to watch!)

Unfortunately the other skip was able to get close enough for 2nd shot and the Cobourg duo lost 15-14. Not all was bad news as their good score allowed them to win the High 2 game winner prize so they came back to Cobourg with more funds than they left with.

We were all a bit tired & sweaty at the end but it was a small price to pay to be able to get out & finally do some competitive bowling with friendly people from other clubs.

Cobourg Members on the Tournament Trail -Part 2

A couple of weeks after Peter & Baylee's successful sojourn to Cosburn Park the team of **Bill Arthur, Carl Ferguson & Bob Bates** made the journey there for the **Richard Bruton Fall Classic** open triples event (Aug 28).

We were lucky that there was a 24-hour reprieve from the extreme heat we had been suffering through. The first 2 games were played in very comfortable conditions (23C with a breeze) while the 3rd game was a bearable 26C (feeling like 34C). A full field included players from Kitchener & St Catherines.

It was an exciting day and every game had its own story.

Skipped by Bill our Cobourg trio got off to a great start in a low scoring affair beating Mary Lou Richards (in 10 of the 12 ends only 1 point was scored). Our team won 14-2 which earned Mary Lou the \$5 Tim's cards that Cosburn gives out to the lowest scoring team each game.

In game 2 Cobourg had a 4-point lead over a Kew Beach team heading into the last end . . . but when Bill was throwing his last bowl we were down 4 or 5 in the head. Bill came through with a great shot to limit them to a single point giving us a 9-6 victory. With 2 wins but only 23 points entering the 3rd game we figured we had to win the last game just to get in the money as there were already 2 teams ahead of us with 34 points.

Playing Mike Mogan from Cosburn we had a 12-6 lead heading in to the last end. A quick review of the scoreboard told us that both teams with 34 points had lost their last games and if we could get 1 more point we could win the tournament. It was a very close end but we squeezed out 1 more point to win 13-6. After some quick calculations by the draw master he announced that the 2 - 3 game winners had tied with 36 points each . . . and **the Cobourg trio were the winners** as they had only a total of 15 points scored against them over the 3 games.

At the end of a long day, we happily accepted our prizes (\$300, 3 bottles of wine, 3 Gold medals & the big trophy) and headed home. I think Bill slept most of the way.



That's about it for this month and I'm left with some empty space here! Maybe you could help make sure there is no empty space next month by writing something for the Newsletter. Doesn't have to be a lot, maybe just your thoughts on this season.

Good Bowling