



# Newsletter

March, 2014

## Sarasota Hosts Scottish and Canadian Bowlers for Commonwealth Games Selection

The Sarasota Lawn Bowling Club in Sarasota, Florida hosted 65 bowlers, as well as selectors and coaches, from Canada and Scotland hoping to be selected for the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, Scotland.

The 2014 Commonwealth Games, officially the XX Commonwealth Games, will be held in Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom over 11 days of competition from July 23 to August 3, 2014. A unique, world-class event, it is held every four years and is often referred to as the 'Friendly Games'. There will be 6,500 athletes from 70 countries competing in 17 sports, one of which is lawn bowling, over the 11 day period.

Sarasota was chosen as a site for the selections because their grass greens run at about the same speed as those in Glasgow in August. Five men and five women from each country will be selected to play singles, pairs and fours. The selections will be announced later this month.

The Sarasota club invited the neighboring clubs of Sun City, Maple Leaf, Lakeland, Clearwater, Sun 'N Fun and Top of the World to watch and hosted a BBQ and band one evening.



Sarasota Lawn Bowling Club, Sarasota, Florida



Kevin Jones of Canada, World Champion



Scottish Women's Team

L-R: Caroline Brown, Lynn Stein, Claire Johnstone, Michelle Cooper, Margaret Latham, Lauren Baillie, Becky Craig, Lorraine Molloy.



Scottish Men's Team

L-R: Thomas Mann, Stewart Anderson,\* Alex Marshall\*  
Darren Burnett\*, David Peacock, Neil Spiers

\* Denotes World Champions

## Community Outreach

### *Beverly Hills Lawn Bowling Club Hosts Family and Friends Day*

On Sunday, February 9, the Beverly Hills Lawn Bowling Club held their first “Family and Friends” day. President of BHLBC, Bill Wolff, said “ It was a great success. Nearly 50 people showed up. It was a real ‘fun day’ and everyone enjoyed their first time playing lawn bowls. From the beginners who attended we will select the teams for the Mayor’s tournament on March 16.” Along with bowling lessons, refreshments were served.



### **2014 US Open**

**September 14<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> 2014**

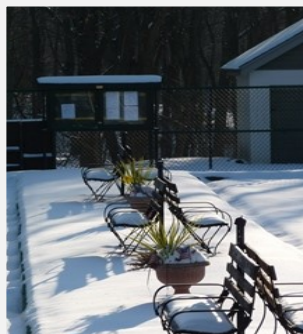
Robert Palser from England, having competed in 2013 US Open, sent this message to the US Open committee:

“Without doubt a most wonderful trip, the welcome and friendliness of the Americans in particular and all in general (teams from Australia, Canada, Holland, New Zealand, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Thailand) was brilliant, with great spirit and a very well organized US Open 2013 event.”

So, consider bowling in the US Open this year, registration commences April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Link to the 2014 US Open is: <http://usopenlawnbowls.com>

### **Frick Park, Pittsburgh, PA, in winter.**





## News From Around the Country



### Northeast Division

Frick Park Lawn Bowling Club in Pittsburgh, PA, will hold the first ever “Hank Luba Games” on Saturday, June 14, 2014, in honor of the club’s late member, coach and friend. Hank’s wife Eileen Luba, a former club president, is organizing the event .

“This will be a fun day of open bowling, so no experience is necessary. Hank always wanted people to try the game. So in that spirit, we’re opening up the greens to the community,” said Eileen.



### Southeast Division

The Southeast Division championships will be held at Clearwater, FL., March 1– March 7, 2014

After a dozen years, the West Coast League (previously the Grass League) pennant has come back to Sun City Center, in Sun City, FL. Over four Wednesdays in January, four men’s and four ladies’ teams compete against a like number for teams from Sarasota and Lakeland ladies’ and men’s triples, all vying for the coveted pennant. At the end of January, and after playing 96 games, Sun City Center had won 41, Sarasota 35 and Lakeland 20.



For the last five years the Delray Beach Lawn Bowling Club in Florida, where the average temperature during any given match is about 83 degrees, has been getting a North Pole visitor in December. Joe Zupo (club member) visits the rinks often with an elf helper. “Hey, Santa, When are my new aqua lawn bowls going to be in your bag?”

Barry Brown, Club President





## Central Division

Lakeview Lawn Bowling Club of Mitchell, South Dakota, is heading into its 4th season of lawn bowling this year. We have been pleased with the attendance at the green with a use count of 1,353 in 2011, 1,642 in 2012, and 1,704 in 2013. Our goal is to continually increase the usage with local and out-of-town bowlers. Our hours of operation have been from 5:30 P.M. to sunset, 7 days a week with morning and afternoon lawn bowling available by appointment with Rod Titze.

"We especially invite any/all of you to stop in Mitchell and roll some ends as our guests whenever you travel through South Dakota," said Rod. "We are located right along I-90 and 65 miles from I-29. As you near Mitchell, call me at 605.996.0367 for directions and a bowling time. See y'all this summer!"

Rod Titze, Lakeview Lawn Bowling Club

---

## Pacific Inter-Mountain Division

### Still Going Strong...



William "Bill" Campbell

Like a fine-tuned watch, San Francisco lawn bowler William "Bill" Campbell keeps on ticking, or bowling, as the case may be. Bill has been a member of the San Francisco LBC, the oldest public lawn bowling club in the nation, since 1964. In 2013, Bill was fittingly elected to the Bowls USA "Hall of Fame" for his significant contributions to the sport. Over 30 years ago he was a member of the US Men's Triples team and during that time won virtually every club championship and honor available. For well over 20 years, he's introduced and taught lawn bowling to more than 1,500 men and women. Bill recently "retired" as the club's senior instructor, except when he's needed. Once or twice a week he still bowls on the San Francisco greens and continues to be a fierce competitor!

George Scapato, SFLBC

---

## Southwest Division



### Men's USA 2014 Tiger Bowls Team

L-R: Leonard Wasserman, Aaron Zangle, Merton Isaacman and Phil Luth.

The team will play in the Tiger Bowls Invitation in Hong Kong March 15-16, and China Open in Zhengzhou, Henan, China, March 17-22.

## Southwest Division



Walt Disney Championship Trophy

The Walt Disney Championship Trophy resides at the Beverly Hills Lawn Bowling Club in Beverly Hills, CA, where Disney was a longtime member. Created by the Walt Disney Company, the nearly four-foot trophy features Mickey Mouse at the very top, a replica of Walt's Presidential Medal of Freedom, a set of his personal bowls, and the names of every winner of the annual Disney tournament since 1970. This year's 44th Disney rolls on the 3-day Memorial Day weekend, May 24-26, 2014.

Joe Siegman, BHLBC

## Upcoming International Lawn Bowling Events

**Tiger Bowls Invitation:** Hong Kong, March 15-16, 2014

**China Open:** Zhengzhou, Henan, China, March 17-22, 2014

**Teams Representing the US:**

Women's Team (SWD) Cheryl Barkovich, Margi Rambo, Linda Roberts & Candy DeFazio

Men's Team (SWD) Mert Isaacman, Phil Luth, Leonard Wasserman & Aaron Zangle

**World Cup Singles:** Warilla Bowls and Recreation Club, NSW, Australia, April 8-16, 2014

Team USA Representatives:

Dee MSparren and Neil Furman (both SWD)

**2nd Bowls Dutch International Open:** Haarlem, Holland, May 4-19, 2014

Two Teams made up from bowlers across the country are:

Richard Broad (NW), Russ Leonard (NW) Janice Bell (NW) and Kim Heiser (SW)

Phil Dunn (SW), John Johnson (NW), Anna Witt ( C ) and Brenda Wright (SW)

# About the Greens

## Helpful Maintenance Hints for Performance Greens

Amador Matinez , Oxnard, CA

At this time of year clubs are struggling with: slow greens, levelness, bowl deviation, smoothness, insect infestations, moss buildup, fungal, bare spots, compaction, weeds and worst of all irrigation management.

Slow green: thatch buildup is a major contributor to slow green's speed. Verti-cutting removes thatch and prevents buildup.

Levelness, bowl deviation, smoothness; bumpy surface caused by undulations and thatch on the surface of the green will deflect a delivered bowl from its intended target. Frequent verti-cutting will remove the thatch and level the playing field maintaining it at recommended tolerance levels.

Insect infestation; flying insects lay their eggs on the surface of the turf. Regular verti-cutting disturbs the eggs and prevents them from hatching, controlling insects and bird damage.

Moss and fungal; caused by over irrigation and compaction. Standing water remains on the surface giving way to infestations. Regular aeration and strict management of irrigation is a must.

Compaction is the main cause of bare spots. This is more noticeable around the perimeter of the greens. Aeration relieves soil compaction, providing nutrients to the root system.

Weeds; broad-leaf weeds such as Pearlwort infest coastal greens this time of year. Apply selective broad-leaf herbicide to control this weed. Speed-Zone Southern is the one herbicide I recommend. It kills all broad-leaf weeds without damage to the Bent grass. Poe-annua is a narrow-leaf weed. A non-selective herbicide is needed to kill this weed, however, non-selective herbicide will also kill the Bentgrass.



Los Angeles County Parks and Recreation Department recently purchased a new Smithco Tournament Roller for use at the Santa Anita Bowling Green Club in Arcadia, Ca. The roller is designed to be used exclusively on lawn bowling greens, golf course greens and grass tennis courts. It utilizes two 8" rollers to achieve a "billiard table" surface. Both 8" rollers are driven and both are used for steering. Santa Anita will host approximately 400 bowlers during the South West Division Open, March 29 to April 3, 2014.

## TIPS FOR SHOT SELECTION, TACTICS & PLAYING SHOTS

**1:SIMPLICITY:** The easier shot is usually the right shot to play.

**2:SCOREBOARD GUIDANCE:** The scoreboard sometimes dictates that the conservative or alternatively – the gambling shot, is the one to play

**3:STRENGTH AND WEAKNESS:** Play to your own strength and your opponent's weakness. Your best guide is your own team's performance on that day, as well as that of your opponents.

**4:BEATING TOUCHERS:** In singles, pairs, triples and fours, the best response to a front toucher is to get one close to cut down a possible big count but to increase your shot options on subsequent bowls. There are a variety of possibilities for using a close bowl in front, at the side or behind the jack.

**5:DITCH DRAWING:** With the jack in the ditch, don't draw close to the ditch with you last bowl, just draw to a point past your opponent's nearest bowl.

**6:OPPOSING THOUGHT:** That shot your opponents don't want you to play is usually the shot that you are looking for. So put yourself in their shoes and think from their point of view.

**7:LATE STAGES:** Late in the game, particularly on the last end, in a straight choice between a “dead draw” and a firing shot inside with shot against, chose the weight shot. There are usually more options for a favorable outcome to occur.

**8:WHICH HAND:** If both hands are equally true, choose the tighter hand, because in percentage terms, it should be easier to play.

Submitted by Heather Stewart from 2007 “Bowls Australia”.



# Stop the Presses!

We have some very exciting news about up-coming editions of BowlsUSA Newsletter!

Stephen Forrest, highly regarded Canadian bowls coach and author of four books on bowling and training, including “4 Steps to Success,” has agreed to write an article for the next three newsletters (possibly more if they are well received).

“I would like to offer my services, to write a regular article titled “4 Steps to Success” for the newsletter, on subjects that BowlsUSA can select, with editorial guidance on the technical or competitive level that you are trying to reach in your members.” Forrest said. “While the articles would be based on the books and include some material from the books, they would expand on or complement the books,” he continued.

Look for his first article in the April BowlsUSA Newsletter!



## From the President

Welcome to our second newsletter!

The American Lawn Bowls Association, A.L.B.A. was founded on July 27, 1915, by an enthusiastic group of bowlers from Buffalo, Boston and Brooklyn, meeting at the Lafayette Hotel in Brooklyn. Almost 100 years ago!

Milestones such as this upcoming centennial give us an opportunity to reminisce about the history and growth of our association, such as:

- The game was played exclusively and mostly by men.
- Initially there were only two divisions, the Eastern and the Western Division
- Today we recognize seven divisions, namely Central, Northwest, Pacific Inter-Mountain, South Central, Southeast and Southwest Divisions.
- The American Women’s Lawn Bowls Association, A.W.L.B.A. was formed in 1970.
- The men and women’s associations merged in 2000 to become the United States Lawn Bowls Association, U.S.L.B.A.
- In 2012, we adopted the name Bowls USA.

It is exciting to be able to recognize this milestone of our association, and to remind bowlers of the rich history of this sport. For example, did you know that the oldest active club in the country, still at the same site, is San Francisco Lawn Bowling Club which was set up in 1901 by a Scottish native? I am positive that many of you have other interesting historical items and colorful memories of your club that you could share.

From the response received to our initial newsletter e-mailed in January, the majority of recipients were pleased about our new newsletter. However, please remember the success of this newsletter will depend on contributions and suggestions from you, the members. I hope to hear from you and welcome your feedback, suggestions and input for future issues.

Good bowling to you all,

Heather Stewart

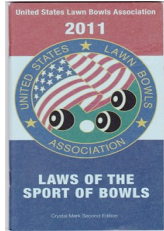
heatherstewart@bowlsusa.us



## Ump Stumpers

Bart asks: "Is it ok for the skip to be at the head after all the bowls have been delivered? This would be for observation only."

Think you know the answer? Let us know and we will have an answer in the next newsletter (hopefully!).



Worldwide lawn bowling rules and regulations are established by [World Bowls](http://www.worldbowls.org). Bowls USA is a member of this group. Official rules (Laws of the Sport of Bowls) are posted on the World Bowls website. Each county may add requirements that do not violate the Laws. The Official Rules and the U.S. Domestic Regulations are included in the 2011 pamphlet shown. Bowls USA members are entitled to receive their own copy of the rules from their club representative.

## From the Editor

A big thank you to everyone who sent me articles and photos! I have tried very hard to balance the submissions so that all divisions are fairly represented. If you don't see anything from your division it's because I didn't receive anything. Take the initiative and send me something. As Heather and I keep saying, "It's your newsletter and only as good as the information you send us."

All that being said, I thought I should set some guidelines for submissions.

- Please have submissions in by the 10th of the month.
- Photos are best as jpg.
- For articles, follow the guidelines of Who, What, Where, When & Why.
- Length of articles— this is rather subjective. It can be short, a paragraph or two may be all that is necessary. However, if you send a lengthy submission, some non-essential information may need to be cut. Whenever possible I will include the entire article and credit will be given with a by-line.
- Articles that are time-sensitive will be given preference over those that are not. I will make every effort to publish the article in a later newsletter as space allows.

Getting this newsletter out is much easier now that I can use Publisher and mail as an attachment! I look forward to receiving your submissions for the April newsletter.



## And Finally.....

Australian cartoonist, Ron Atkinson, has given us permission to reprint his lawn bowling cartoons, "Roll Up".

Enjoy and happy bowling!

Cheri Cabot  
editor@bowlsusa.us