



A Frequently Published Newsletter of the
ONTARIO LAWN BOWLS ASSOCIATION
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E-BANTER



HAPPY NEW YEAR

The OLBA Board of Directors extends {belated} best wishes to all for a safe, happy, prosperous and good bowling new year.



←
New Sponsor

Register with Volo.ca for your chance to WIN
The Volo.ca Travel Website is now open to all OLBA members.
Go to their website (www.volo.ca) and register using the Company/
Access Code **OLBAmemberTravel** and your **Membership Number**, and
check out a host of special offers on vacation packages, cruises, air-
fare, hotels, car rentals and more. Plus, when you register for the first
time, you'll automatically earn one ballot into **The Great Click Away,
Giveaway Contest**, where you could **WIN 2 tickets** to any WestJet desti-
nation in North America.

YOU WIN!!! and OLBA WINS!!

OLBA E-BANTER EDITOR: Bob Machan [machan@olba.ca]



Janice Gibson/Emery, wife of Tom Emery, passed away on December 21, 2009.

Janice was formerly a member of **Willowdale** Lawn Bowling Club but had been a member of **Lambeth** Lawn Bowling Club in more recent years.



Thanks to a member of the Kitchener Lawn Bowling Club for drawing the following to our attention:

A website "**Lawn Bowls Coaching for Players & Coaches**"
www.ecoachbowls.com/coaching_tips.htm

Three main areas of information:

- *Mental Skills
- *Technique and Biomechanics
- *Practice and Playing Tips

From District 7: Dave Allen

I always have people asking me if I can find used bowls for them. Sometimes there are bowls for sale at a neighbouring club and we never hear about it. I have found and sold bowls on eBay, but for many folks this is too much of a hassle or they have never used eBay (Bowls that I have bought were only here in Ontario and the seller agreed to wait until I was in their area to pick-up, so I didn't have to pay shipping.) The other day I tried the Kijiji site and found 4 sets (and 2 of them were right here in Waterloo).

On our District 7 website <<http://tiny.cc/District7>> I have a page for Classified Ads. I was wondering if it would be worthwhile to let the membership know that they would be welcome to send me bowls related items that I would post on that site. There is a contact email on the page. I don't think it would be a very time consuming service and it would perhaps generate several visits to our site (which I could use to impress our sponsors next year when I ask for a renewal).

From Peterborough Lawn Bowling Club

Due to the construction of a new club house on the current 'Green 1', playing surface for 2010 will be reduced to 2 greens. GET YOUR ENTRIES IN EARLY for tournaments as fewer 'spaces' will be available

BURLINGTON LAWN BOWLING CLUB MAKES NEWS IN SCOTLAND

The following article is taken from the
“Scottish Banner: North American Edition”: January 2010

LAWN BOWLERS SALUTE ROBBIE BURNS

How appropriate that the Burlington Lawn Bowlers in Ontario go all out to celebrate Robbie Burns Day, for Burns enjoyed the game of Bowls, and refers to it frequently in his writings. If you listen close to the brogues on many bowling greens there's more to it than that. A bowling green is a great meeting place for those with roots in the UK , and those that wish they had

Many of the Burlington club members take advantage of our world-class greens to entertain their visiting relatives and friends from across the pond. Ian Smith's visiting brother Bill from the town of Nairn in Scotland and Denis Rosendale's sister Brenda from England are just a couple of our “frequent flyers”. They are so well known to members we consider them part of us.

Now you may be asking yourself, “What has Robbie Burns Day to do with lawn bowlers? This is January and I always thought Lawn Bowling was strictly a summer sport.” Not true in this Canadian club. When the weather turns cold, and the greens are put to bed for the winter, we just move the game indoors. We have three new short mats, and close to 100 indoor players allowing the game to go on three times a day. With one or two exceptions the indoor league is made up of our more senior members who enjoy the social aspect of friendly competition, with of course a tea break between games.

It may seem a little selfish, but some “old timers” dread the day when the Canadian public really discover the game. They picture bowling alleys deserted, golf courses neglected and tennis courts empty, while waiting lines form at the bowling green ; and there will be no Royal Decree to once again restrict this game to the favoured few. In Burlington , their dread is coming true. In 2009, Bowls Canada honoured the Burlington Lawn Bowling Club with the Drakes Pride Award for having the most net gain in membership in the nation, with North Vancouver and Stanley Park in Calgary coming second and third respectively.

The indoor leagues also enjoy Christmas celebrations, New Years Day's pot luck, our Dream Team competition, and club championships. The biggie though is our Robbie Burns Day, when we dig out our tartans, don our kilts, and pretend we are all at least “a wee bit” Scottish, while we break bread and enjoy the Burns salute to the Haggis (sans the haggis itself). Us pretenders, have to draw the line somewhere.

For more information on Lawn Bowling in Burlington call 905-634-9289, or for other clubs in Ontario, go to www.OLBA.ca

RESERVE THIS DATE!

Saturday, April 24

Spring OLBA Membership Meeting / Two members from each club needed!