



EBANTER Issue 08-02

What to do about bowling in the winter:

Frequently over the winter especially on frigid days like today (minus 9) I start to think about how nice it will be come May when I can get outside to my favourite sport. In the mean time, I have to content myself by going down to my local club and making do with our two indoor greens. I have spoken to many others around the province and learned that at many locations there is also some short mat bowling and in Barrie and Richmond Hill full indoor bowling. While it is not the same as getting outside in the fresh air and sunshine I have to admit the consistency of the greens indoors is a pleasant experience. But there are other things that can be done to prepare for the upcoming season. Keep yourself active and limber up for the spring. I spoke to a kinesiologist at the University of Toronto this morning and was told no matter what your level of fitness it is critical to move as much as possible.

Mall walking is a huge phenomenon here in Newmarket. If you go to the mall before the stores open there are dozens of people there just walking and enjoying a little exercise in a heated building.

Community Centers offer heated pools and according to experts, swimming is one of the best forms of exercise for people of any age.

Dancing is probably the most fun exercise I can think of. A night out and some good exercise at the same time! There are many places offering dance lessons for people like me who were born with two left feet.

For those clubs that are shut down for our long winter this is a time for planning. Are there any needed projects that can be done this time of year? Has your executive set up a plan to raise funds, apply for a trillium grant or a community grant?

Club Sponsorship:

This is also a good time to start looking and applying for local sponsorships. Hockey is already halfway through the season and soccer won't start for another few months. They are your biggest competition for those scarce sponsorship dollars. Get the jump on the youth organizations and start canvassing now. Be persistent.

Special Recognition:

Each Year the Ontario Lawn Bowling Association receives quite a few requests for special recognition plaques and certificates for the club's anniversaries as well as certificates etc. for the club members who have reached milestones in their clubs. I would like to recognize a few clubs for having special birthdays in 2007. Each of these clubs was presented with a plaque presented to them at a special occasion.

100 Years: Brampton, Dundalk, Cobourg, Georgetown, Norwich, Newmarket

95 Years: Lawrence Park and West Toronto

90 Years: Lambeth

80 Years: Whitby

75 Years: Beeton

Spring Meeting: The OLBA Spring Meeting will take place at the Newmarket Seniors Centre on April 19th 2008. A formal notice of the spring meeting will be mailed to all clubs in March.

To comment or suggest ideas (polite ones please) email the editor at cdixon@rogers.com
.....Chris Dixon