



E-Bulletin

Ontario Lawn Bowls Association
No. 33, May 2017

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E-Bulletin is published monthly from March through November. A winter update is published as necessary.

Suggestions for articles and notices are welcome. Contact: Jan Bauer: 19can@persona.ca

News, Updates & "From Facebook to You"

OLBA and Sponsorships

Ron Charles, OLBA Sponsorship Chair

Why doesn't the OLBA get sponsors for events? This question has been asked many times. Acquiring sponsors involves a lot of preparation and planning. As Chair of the newly formed Sponsorship Committee, I will try to explain what we have been doing over the past months to get sponsors.

The objective of the Committee is to get sponsors for the Provincial Championships for the purposes of covering their costs and to build a fund to assist teams travelling to the Nationals. It would appear that this should be relatively easy since most clubs have been successful in getting sponsors for their tournaments and events but there are many challenges when looking for provincial sponsors.

The main challenge is the competition for dollars. There are countless charities and causes looking for funding that have a great impact for people in need and funders want to show their social responsibility by supporting them. Many funders look for youth activities to support as well. Getting support for a recreational sport versus these types of organizations is a daunting task. Even when a sport is considered by a funder, it must have a high level of exposure so there is a tendency toward higher profile sports like soccer, tennis, hockey and baseball. Lawn bowling is not a sport on the radar of many.

The Committee developed criteria for the type of business we would approach that includes, a good corporate image, multiple Ontario locations and ones providing products or services likely used by bowlers or lawn bowling clubs. To avoid image stereotyping, funeral homes and retirement residences were excluded. Three sponsorship packages were established with varying levels of benefits to be offered. Over 100 businesses with corporate funding programs were examined and more than 30 were approached for the 2017 Provincials, with no success.

The plan is to continue to approach potential sponsors but, as an organization, we need to enhance the image of lawn bowling and increase membership to give it a higher profile. This can be done by making the sport more entertaining for those currently unfamiliar with it. Promotion of our programs for Youth and Player Development would show the sport is developing players to compete at national and world levels. These are the types of things that would make lawn bowling more attractive to sponsors.

Bowlers, if you have any questions, ideas or suggestions, please feel free to email them to me at charles@olba.ca.

Update from the Championship Committee

Tom Roth, Chair, Championship Committee

There are some major changes to the Championships for 2017 with the OLBA Board requiring the Championship Committee to have a balanced budget. To achieve this the entry fees at both District and Provincial levels have increased and some costs were cut out of the Championships. There are also some major changes to the Conditions of Play for 2017 (listed below). Players **will be required** to sign, at District level, a statement that they have read and understand the Ontario Conditions of Play and the OLBA Code of Conduct, both found on the OLBA website, olba.ca.

Major changes to the Conditions of Play for 2017

- 1) Sponsorship: Teams can place any size and number of logos on their team uniforms. These must be approved by the Championship Committee. Send a copy of the logos to the Championship Chair (roth@olba.ca). Winners going to the Nationals must adhere to BCB Conditions of Play.
- 2) Trial Ends: You will now be able to use the same number of bowls for trial ends as you would use in the game. Two bowls for fours, 3 bowls for triples, 4 bowls for pairs and singles.
- 3) Re-spot rule: There will no longer be re-played ends with the jack going over the bank or off the rink. When this happens, the jack will be placed at the 2-meter mark on the center line and the end will continue.
- 4) Time limits: There is now a three-hour time limit on all games. There will be a signal to start the game and when the time limit is up. Ends started before the time limit is up will be played to completion.
- 5) Format at Provincials: Teams will draw a score card and be placed into one of four groups of four. There will be a round robin played within that group on day one. After play is completed on day 1, the top two teams from each group will play on day 2. On day 2, the first game will be an elimination game. Winners will then play and the winners from game two will play for gold; losers from game 2 will play for bronze.
- 6) Uniform awards: If you have received an Ontario uniform in the past three years of the current design you will not be eligible for a new one. There is no monetary reward for uniforms not given out.

Missing Provincial Plaques:

There are still some Provincial Championship Plaques that have not been located, namely the Men's Fours, Men's Triples and Women's Triples. If you have any information as to where these plaques are located please contact Tom Roth at roth@olba.ca.

2018 Championships

There will be more changes coming to the 2018 Provincial Championships. It is the current Board's objective to have all dates, venues, format and Conditions of Play completed before the OLBA Fall

meeting. The Championship Committee is looking for input for the running of these Championships while keeping in mind a balanced budget, addressing the walk-throughs, the number of "B" teams that play and changes to the National Championships. We need more participation at the district level in all districts. We are open to and requesting suggestions from any player in Ontario as to what they would like to see regarding play for 2018. If you have any input, please email Tom Roth at roth@olba.ca.

We also need to get venues in place for 2018 very soon. If your club is willing to host any Provincial event in the 2018 season do not hesitate to contact Tom Roth at roth@olba.ca to get your club on the list of possible sites. The Host Club Guidelines are on the OLBA website, olba.ca.

Be A Score Reporter

Jerry Michaels, OLBA webmaster

If you attend an OLBA championship event and would like to report scores or the results of games, you can quickly do so by using our @olbascores Twitter account with your phone or computer.

This Twitter feed (which you see below) will appear on our OLBA website home page once we are in our championship season. Anyone will then be able to see your scores.

When you tweet your scores, you will be limited to Twitter's 140 characters. Feel free to do more than one tweet to properly report:

- the name of the event
- teams and their scores

You will need to know the password for @olbascores so that you can log in and do your tweeting. Please send an email request to: web@olba.ca to obtain the password.

2017 Championship Results

As they become available (often on the same day as the event), the results of each championship event will be posted onto that championship event's web page.

Here are quick links to each championship event page:

- [Singles](#)
- [Pairs](#)
- [Triples](#)
- [Fours](#)
- [Mixed Pairs](#)
- [Novice Pairs](#)
- [Senior Triples](#)
- [Indoor Singles](#)
- [Youth Singles](#)

Contact Jerry Michaels at web@olba.ca

2017 Conditions of Play

Application of 2017 Conditions of Play

Jason Currie, Chair, Officiating Committee

(The following information was circulated to umpires via Facebook and is on the Umpires page on the OLBA web site. It is included here to assist members who do not follow Facebook or are not umpires)

I have been receiving questions from people regarding the application of the OLBA Conditions of Play to their club events. The Conditions are only mandatory for district playdowns and provincial championships. Club championships and tournaments hosted by clubs can be organized however you want. Want to play sets? Go for it. Jack Attack? No problem. Sides competition between clubs? Power play ends? There are no rules requiring that tournaments be three games in one day. I would encourage clubs to look at the variations that have been tried out in different places and try something new.

The Conditions were drafted with a focus on developing competitive players for provincial and national competition. They mirror how the game is played at the highest levels. Many of these elements may not make sense for recreational or district tournament bowlers. If they don't make sense in your club or for bowlers who come to your tournaments, please feel free to do something different.

Clubs can choose to use all or part of the OLBA Conditions but they aren't required to.

So, if your club is hosting a district tournament and you don't want to use re-spots or time limits, that's fine. If you want to play six 5-end games of 2-bowl pairs, knock your socks off.

Movement of Players

Nick Watkins, Chair, National Officiating Committee

I received a question concerning bowlers who walk down the green to view the head during an end. The issue should be viewed as a potential possession of the rink violation, which is addressed in laws 12 and 13 in the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, Crystal Mark Third Edition.

When a team has possession of the rink, there is nothing that prevents a player from visiting the head before they deliver their bowl, unless there are restrictions on the movement of players, included in the Conditions of Play, that state otherwise. A bowler does not have to follow their bowl if they wish to view the head before playing their next shot.

However, once a player has delivered their bowl, they have two choices: (a) either remain at the mat end, or (2) follow their bowl down the rink. Once their bowl has come to rest, their team no longer has possession of the rink (other than allowing time to mark a toucher

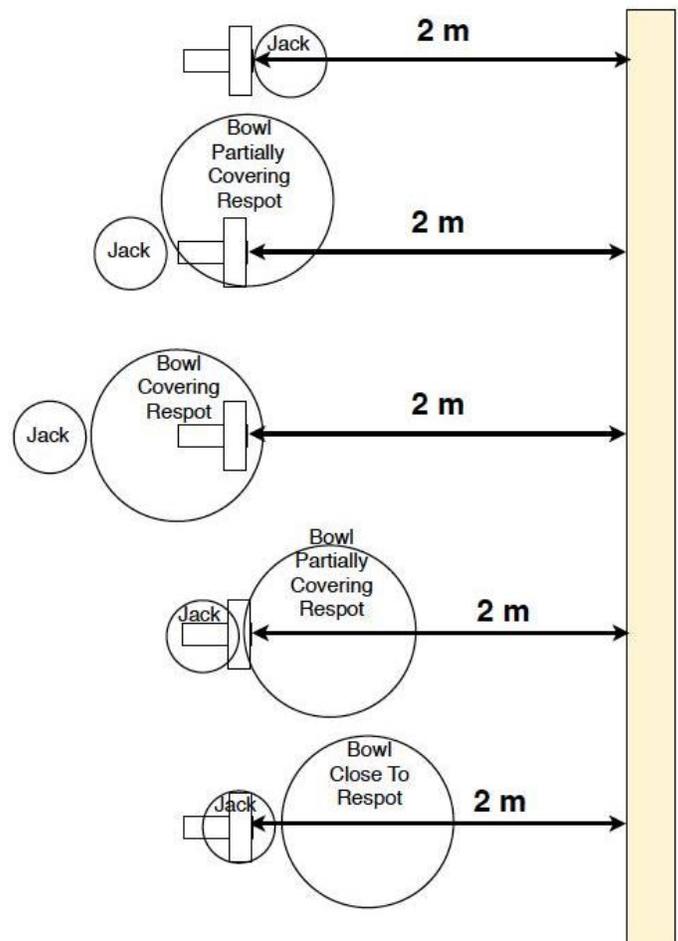
as soon as it has come to rest). Any player who has followed their bowl down the rink must be behind the jack and away from the head once possession of the rink has transferred to the opposing team.

Some bowlers who follow their bowl down the rink will step sideways onto a vacant adjacent rink (or adjacent to the ditch on an outside rink), and stand there after their bowl has come to rest. This may annoy or distract their opponent when they are in the process of delivering their next bowl, and this is a possession of the rink violation, which can be addressed by the umpire, as stated in law 13.3.

Re-spotting the Jack

(The illustration below was provided by Dave Allen on Facebook. It is included here to assist members who do not follow Facebook or are not umpires)

Rule 24.b of the Conditions of Play for 2017 states: If the re-spot position is partly or completely covered by a bowl, the jack must be placed as close as possible to the covered spot, between and in line with that spot and the corresponding spot at the opposite end of the rink, without touching a bowl.



Greenskeeping Seminar

The Greens Seminar that Burlington LBC so graciously hosted on April 29th was a huge success. The event was attended by 55 people representing 28 clubs and 6 parks and recreation employees from 3 different cities. All were welcome and we were pleased to see city employees in attendance.

James Uffelman from OSC Turf gave a fantastic presentation that was very easy to follow and extremely informative. [Download his presentation, "Fertilizer - Best Management Practices"](#).



Introduction: Sidewinder 101

[Take a look at more photos of this great event.](#)

If any clubs have any questions or concerns on greens management let us know and we will be glad to help. Contact Steve St. Pierre: stpierre@olba.ca

If we all work together on this we can improve the consistency of our greens all across Ontario. And don't be shy about asking neighbouring clubs for advice or help for that matter. If we all work together it makes the load a lot lighter.

Club Websites: Don't Have One?

The majority of Ontario lawn bowling clubs has a WWW. presence, whether it is a website or a Facebook page. Bring your club into the digital age. [Read these notes about creating a website for your club for free.](#) If you need more advice and help contact Jerry Michaels: web@olba.ca

Membership: Recruitment

Ralph Ellis (downloaded from Facebook posting)

Good news from several clubs.

Willowdale had 42 people sign up for coaching. Richmond Hill has 24 people in Rock and Bowl in their very first year. Heritage had 12 in Rock and Bowl at last count. James Gardens has 9 and we are working our way up to 12 if possible. Leaside of course has the ludicrously successful number of 49 which is just amazing, a sign of how they have built their program over the last few years.

Rock and Bowl numbers are separate from other recruiting as well. James Gardens has 13 trial members set up aside from Rock and Bowl. We will keep pushing.

Clubs will always hit some barriers. At James Gardens, we did not expect resistance from paid staff at Weston and St. George's Country clubs because of the potential for people bowling cutting down on greens fees for golf. High Park Club has been the source of sign-ups for us.

How are your clubs doing?

Smaller clubs have fewer volunteers but if a 25-member club increases by just 10 members, it takes the pressure off and gets them more volunteers to grow for the next year.

Doubling your club's membership in 3 to 5 years is not impossible. We have several programs - Rock and Bowl, trial memberships, lawn bowling demonstrations and speaking to service clubs that can have a serious impact on your club's membership. When these new people start sitting on your club's board of directors, maybe you can take the occasional year to just bowl rather than sitting on your executive year after year. Put the effort in for 3 years and change your club forever.

We can tailor these programs to suit your club and your area. Interested? Contact Thomas Wu, wu@olba.ca or Ralph Ellis, ralphellis1979@gmail.com



**Celebrate!
National
Bowls Day
June 3, 2017**

Register your event with Bowls Canada for a chance to win a prize package provided by MVP sports.

Around the Province

Richmond Hill LBC

Local MPP Reza Moridi and Loreta Pavese, a volunteer with the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF), recently stopped by the Richmond Hill Lawn Bowling Club to learn more about the bright ideas being generated thanks to a \$6,500 Seed grant. Funds from the grant were used to hire a consultant to review the Club's lighting needs while considering that any system needed to be configured to responsibly protect neighbouring homes from being disturbed by the lights.

"It's always a pleasure to meet with members of the Richmond Hill Lawn Bowling Club and hear how your Seed grant to study various energy-efficient lighting systems has put your future in a 'brighter light'. Local organizations, like yours, have helped create the kind of stronger, more inclusive community, in which we all want to live. I am hopeful that such grants from the Ontario Trillium Foundation will support the continued growth of our valued community clubs." – Reza Moridi, MPP for Richmond Hill

For some time, the Club realized there was a need to provide more playing time for members and be more energy efficient. It felt that doing a feasibility study before moving forward was the best way to address this. And now that the consultant's report is completed, it has put out a tender for quotes, knowing what was needed to best suit its situation.

The Richmond Hill club was formed in 1918 and has shown a steady growth in membership over the past five years. A new lighting system will allow the club to accommodate even more members with additional evening bowling sessions and leagues.

As an agency of the Government of Ontario, the Ontario Trillium Foundation (OTF) is one of Canada's largest granting foundations. With a budget of over \$136 million, OTF awards grants to some 1,000 projects every year to build healthy and vibrant Ontario communities (otf.ca).

For more information, please contact:

Name: Terry Knight, President
Richmond Hill Lawn Bowling Club
Phone 416-239-3718, ext 1
Email rh.lawnbowling@gmail.com

Muskoka Lawn Bowling Club

Grand Opening

Saturday July 8, 2017

1:00 to 4:00 PM

Everyone Welcome!

More News from Muskoka LBC

The Muskoka Lawn Bowling Club is using a \$500 community grant from the Town of Bracebridge to build an equipment shed for their new facility.

The Club also received a \$25,000 grant from the Government of Canada's 'New Horizon for Seniors' program. The grant will allow the club to purchase senior-friendly equipment such as smaller and lighter bowls, bowl lifters and bowl pushers (similar to the stick used in curling). The grant will also support an 'Introduction to Lawn Bowling' program for older adults in July.

Partnering with the Town of Bracebridge's Recreation Department the program is specifically for older adults and will be on Mondays and Wednesdays, July 10, 12, 17, and 19, from 10AM to 12PM, for \$60 at the new facility located on the grounds of the Muskoka Highlands Golf Links at 1036 South Monck Drive in Bracebridge.

Tony Clement, MP for Parry Sound-Muskoka said: "I am pleased that the Muskoka Lawn Bowling Club has received this New Horizon funding. I am certain the injection of dollars for equipment upgrades and new program introduction will help boost the club's membership, and provide a more enriching experience for all bowlers. I know the club provides a valuable service to its members, many of them seniors. The physical fitness and social benefits offered are a great value to the community. I look forward to visiting the club soon, and wish the membership a successful season ahead.

Mayor Graydon Smith also congratulated the Muskoka Club and said: "This new facility is an important asset for our community. The Town is pleased to be working with the Muskoka Lawn Bowling Club to introduce older adults to a new, low-impact healthy sport that supports physical activity, quality of life, and social interaction... I look forward to trying the sport myself when the lawns open this summer."



Club Anniversaries



Congratulations to the following

*OLBA clubs which are celebrating anniversaries
or have reached milestone years in 2017.*

Cobourg - 110 years

Elora Rocks - 110 years

Georgetown - 110 years

Lambeth - 100 years

Whitby - 90 years

Beeton - 85 years

Health and Wellness

The following comments are unattributed but inspired.

A wise man once said: Lawn Bowling is a Form of Scottish Tai Chi. You balance your body; shift weight; take a gentle step forward while maintaining balance; you focus and relax at the same time; a kind of meditation in motion. That is why it is good for your brain.

As a matter of fact, a medical doctor in the Ottawa Area recommends lawn bowling for people who have experienced concussion ... a solid proof that lawn bowling is good for your brain.

You have fresh air, green grass, sunshine and a club house, just like playing golf ... but you get 90% discount as compared with the cost of playing Golf ... very affordable.

A Reprint from the October 2015 E-Bulletin

A 16-year-old boy who was suffering from a concussion joined the Kingston LBC as a member. He sustained the concussion during a minor league hockey game and suffered from severe migraines and an inability to focus on his studies at school. Being an active athlete he was searching for something he could participate in through the summer since he was forbidden from playing any contact sport. His grandparents and great-grandfather are members of the KLBC and encouraged him to give lawn bowling a try. His doctors approved of this idea and he was closely monitored throughout the summer by the Kingston Concussion Clinic. He picked up the sport very quickly and even participated in a few tournaments. The good news is that at the conclusion of the lawn bowling season the doctors and therapists at the clinic determined that progress, especially in the area of focus, had been made through his participation in the sport.

As a result of this, the Kingston Concussion Clinic has added the sport of lawn bowling to its list of approved sports for individuals suffering from concussions and promote lawn bowling through literature provided to them by the Kingston Club

All clubs are encouraged to contact clinics of this nature to see if they are prepared to provide the same opportunities as that offered by the local clinic in Kingston.

West Toronto Lawn Bowling Club

Baird Park, Humberside Avenue and Keele Street,
Toronto, Ontario

Kay Apted Strawberry Bowl

Wednesday, June 28, 2017 - 10:00 a.m. (Lunch Provided) 2 X 14 ends WP

Delmanor Mixed Trebles

Wednesday, August 23, 2017 - 10:00 a.m. (Lunch Provided) 2 X 14 ends MT

Sponsor: Delmanor Senior Communities <http://www.plantoday.ca/> 416-233-0725

DELMANOR
Prince Edward
Inspired Retirement Living
(416) 233-0725

Centennial Plus Five Open Pairs Tournament

Sunday, September 10, 2017 9:30 a.m. 3 X 12 ends OP

Sponsor: Sean Galbraith, <http://www.galbraithplanning.com> 416-732-5069

 **Galbraith & Associates**
small project urban planning services

Groundskeeper's Trophy

Sunday, July 30, 2017 - 9:30 a.m. 3 X 12 ends OP (1 Novice)

Sponsors: Smetaniuk Family

Entries to: Bela Szabo 416-604-0583. <mailto:belalawnbowls@hotmail.com>

Making Good

Communications glitches led to a number of challenges in putting together the 2017 Annual. Apologies to all who were affected.

The West Toronto ad was inadvertently omitted from the Annual. It is published here for the benefit of the Club and bowlers who are planning to participate in West Toronto's events.