



Santa Cruz Lawn Bowls Newsletter

April 2013

I will be on the east coast until April 10 but can always be reached via email. Please call David or Jerry with all complaints!:) Our schedule begins to pick up a bit in April. Please add our calendar dates below to your schedules. Welcome to new members Greta Gibson, Faan Liu, Sandi Nielsen, Cheri Boulware, Maryann Stewart and Aggie Margerum. They are all playing in training game settings and proving themselves to be very strong players. Glad to have you with us. We have a Quarterly meeting scheduled after the draw on Thursday, April 25- about 2:30. We need to hear your voice in order to create the club you want. Snacks will be available. Note in the calendar section that we have been given permission to have a BBQ in the garden area. The city will be evaluating the event to see if we may be able to do it again. San Jose will be visiting and we will celebrate Renee's birthday. We will invite First Alarm and city reps so please try to attend. We have been able to get our tournaments posted in the visitor's guide- good advertisement for us and the city.

Clothing Order: We have many new members who may be interested in obtaining club logo shirts. Some of our previous shirts may be beginning to wear out. Jerry will be placing an order around May 1. You can order one of the sample shirts hanging in the club house (about \$25) or bring in your own red shirt to have embroidered (about \$8). If you bring in your own shirt be sure you have your name on it. Contact Jerry for more details.



Calendar: All events at the clubhouse unless noted.

April 19, Friday, 9:30 - **Work Day.** Lunch will be provided. Green will be brushed; ditches groomed and clubhouse cleaned. Many hands make light work. Please come to help if you can. We can find a job that fits.

April 20, Saturday, 11:00 San Jose visits for lunch and 12:30 draw game - and celebration of Renee Sayer's 100th birthday. Hamburger BBQ with all the trimmings. Inaugural cook out of the garden area. Request \$5 donation from members to help defer cost. (Rain date: April 27, 11:00)

April 25, Thursday, 2:45 - Quarterly meeting. Poker Bowls Finale. Must be present to collect prizes.

April 28, Sunday, 11:00- "Meet our Dual Member Lunch and Game" \$10 for full members, free for dual. Chicken enchilada casserole, refried beans, salad, dessert

Thanks: Thanks to Earl Rosebraugh for working on the ditches; to Gil Morse for managing \$1 jar in my absence

Goals 2013:

Personnel

1. To have a roster of 65 members.
2. To increase competitive event participation- Note that on the calendar we have 3 special "FunRaisers" scheduled on the third Thursdays of May (Rolling into Spring), June (Solstice Challenge) and July (Power Play Pairs). These will be a variety of new games in an "introduction to competition" style followed by more substantial snacks than our usual Thursday fare. We hope that putting these events on Thursday makes it more convenient and the variety of formats will truly be funraising!

Facility

To have area in front of rake shed paved.

Finances

To increase green fund by \$5000

Dual Members: We sincerely appreciate your support. I hope many of you can join us for the lunch and game on Sunday, April 28 at 11:00. Lunch will

be at 11:30. Draw time 12:30. You are welcome to bring a guest.(No cost to you or your guest). Please let me know by Thursday, April 25, if you will be attending. Remember that the Paradox Hotel offers discount to lawn bowlers if you wish to spend the evening. Via phone (831-475-7100) ask for “Santa Cruz Bowls Society Corporate Rates” or on line enter attendee code “SCBOWLS” to receive the discounted rate.



From Al's Cafe: OK, here's a trivia question for you all: where do hamburgers come from? If you guessed Hamburg, you're halfway to the correct answer. *Sehr gut*. But, Hamburg—a beautiful city by the way, with more miles of canals than Venice—is known for *Frikadellen*, which is a hamburger without the bun. The bun is what makes it a hamburger—and, believe it or not, lawnbowling played a vital role in the marriage of the two.

The story goes like this: In 1945, when Germany surrendered, it was quickly divided into an east and west zone—the east under control of the USSR and the west under joint custody of Britain, France and the good ol' USA. The city of Berlin was similarly divided. So far, so good. Now, Berlin was a fair sized city—what was left of it, anyway—but a heck of a lot smaller than the rest of Germany. So, when the allies took control of their respective zones within it, they often, for administrative and security reasons, came into contact with one another. The French, being French though, kept pretty much to themselves, maintaining their intrinsic sense of *savoir faire*. The Brits and the Yanks, however, got along famously. And one of the activities they took pleasure in was lawnbowling. The game had been played for centuries in England, of course, but, while not unknown, it had a fragile foothold in the U.S.

During one occasion—notable only in that it bears on our story—British and American personnel engaged in a close tournament that concluded with a narrow, first-time victory for the Yanks. The deal was that whichever team lost had to supply lunch to the victors. They brought bubble and squeak—in other words, leftover veggies cooked in a parry. Accompanying this dish were plain white rolls. Needless to say, the Americans were under impressed—“What is this ****?” being one of the more polite queries. They demanded real meat. So, the hapless Brits scratched their heads and came up with the idea to go to the nearest *Frikadellen* stand as a replacement. When they presented it to the Yanks, it met

with more approval, but the Americans, contrary to local custom, insisted on eating them sandwiched between the rolls. Everyone was happy with the result. *Frikadellen* had another name, which was Hamburg steak, and it was this name, along with the assemblage of meat patties and rolls—later specialized buns—that stuck when our boys returned home. And thus, the hamburger was born. And, yet again lawnbowling played an indispensable role.

So, in celebration of this historic event, and to commemorate the birthday of our own Renee as well as in welcome to our visitors from San Jose, **on Saturday, April 20** we will host a hamburger barbecue before the noon draw. The fee is **five dollars** a pop, which includes potato salad and a soft drink. What a deal! See you all there!

Membership: Our Groupon promotion resulted in 12 membership packages (3 or 6 mos for 2 or 4 people) being purchased. I haven't received the full breakdown yet but will let you know. We have our June and July classes posted in the Parks and Rec bulletin and will also post in the autumn catalog. Have been working with Google Ad Words campaign. I am impressed with how helpful they have been in creating and optimizing our ads. We started with a run of 30 days but I will be recommending to the board that we continue for another 30. Cost is minimal and they are doing all the work.

Improving your game: Submitted by Glen Johnson from "A to Zen of Lawn Bowling": Whenever you go out on the green to practice, you should have a goal to achieve. Be sure of what you are going out there for, and practice on your own unless you're with someone practising the same thing you are, and with the same purposeful approach.

Stance and Delivery:

If you want to groove a delivery, you don't need a jack - in fact a jack can be distracting. You don't want to think about weight, you only want to ensure the bowl goes away smoothly. So play four bowls on the forehand, leaving the weight up to Rupert [intuition], then four bowls on the backhand. Keep practising, taking the same green line, until your bowls are grouped inside a 6m (1.9ft) circle. When you can do this, you've grooved a consistent delivery. The more you practise it, the more instinctive it'll become, until it reaches the stage when, like driving a car, you no longer have to think about it.

Taking Green

Concentrate on a mark (again, you don't need a jack) and deliver bowls along the line, being aware of foot and body placement, stillness of the head and, above all, making sure you're following through. You'll know you've got it right when all bowls finish in the same vertical line. Groove the action until you no longer have to think about it.

To be continued...

PBA: I have been told by Frank Souza, U.S. Professional Bowls Association, that they will be returning to Santa Cruz for the American Qualifiers August 3-7. If you would like to play in the tournament and meet some of America's finest bowlers, the application form is attached. If you are returning to PBA and have not paid your renewal dues yet, please send the application form and the annual subscription fee of \$110 to:

Frank Souza

US PBA Representative
10343 W. Bayside Rd.
Sun City, AZ 85351-2725



This will be great advertising for our club and an opportunity to see and work with some outstanding bowls players and a lot of fun. We are working to create some opportunities for you to meet and socialize with our guests.