

# Santa Cruz Lawn Bowls Newsletter

April 2017

We welcome new members Eli Cooper and Lisa Meyer. We also welcome Aumao on his return from Samoa. You are sure to see him on the green regularly. Several members have requested more competitive playing opportunity. The board has reviewed the matter and we will be offering a High Stakes Singles playing series. See more information below. A great St. Patrick's Day party hosted by Nancy Rideout and Lyn Houser! We had 19 bowlers on the green for a mini tournament won by Peter Clarke and Ben James and 30 people for the social portion. This month (April), we have our spring clean up. After our wet winter, we have a lot to do. (See notes below on our list from AJ Berry, Ltd., the green installation company.) Clean up Day will be on Friday, April 21, starting at 9:30. Lunch will be provided. If you can only come for 1 hour, your help will be appreciated. If you cannot make it at all, I have a list of jobs that need to be done posted on the white board. I met this month with Maggie Merrill, a landscaper with whom I worked on the Parks and Rec Commission. She has given us some good suggestions for planting for low maintenance and drought tolerance and has donated her services, labor, and plants toward our garden area. If you need some landscaping, I recommend Duncan Designs to thank Maggie for all she has done for us. You may have noticed the missing lock on the front door. The door handle lock has broken and is fairly expensive to repair. For the short term we will use the dead bolt lock only. We also have an issue with the belts on the brushing machine. Earl has ordered parts and we should have it repaired very soon so we can begin our regular brushing schedule. Please make every effort to attend the Thursday, April 6, Quarterly meeting for further details and updates.

**Calendar:** All events at the clubhouse unless noted.

All draws at 12:30

Sunday, April 2, through Saturday, April 8, Santa Cruz Challenge visitors

Thursday, April 6, 2:30 Quarterly meeting

Friday, April 21, Spring clean up Lunch will be provided. Hosted by Doris Stabinsky and Lois Alford

Sunday, April 23, Open Bowling

Planning ahead: Summer hours begin May 1



**Thanks:** To Glen for sponsoring April's jackpot; to Nancy and Lyn for hosting the St Patrick's Day social; to all who attended the St. Patrick's social; to Earl for work on the brushing machine; to Glen for ditch maintenance ; to Pete B for door knob research and repair; to Heidi for providing the Irish soda bread; to Carne and Peter for continuing work on membership; for the March clubhouse cleaners especially Dick and Jenny who had St. Patrick's cleanup

**Focal Point: Learning from Bad Shots** (Taken from Skills Improvement Bulletin issued by Southwest division,)

"There is something to be learned from every shot, even bad ones. But very little of it is available if you've got your backside pointed at the head, picking up your next bowl and wishing you were invisible.... Later in the game you may need to take the path [of an errant shot]. How your muscles felt during that blooper delivery could be exactly the range finding data you need to adjust your next shot....If you miss your aiming point, you might use those 11 seconds or so [ on the mat] and renew your resolve to stay focused next time. Every shot that stays on the rink has a chance to become useful. But getting angry and neglecting to observe a 'bad bowl' won't improve your team's chances of winning. So stay on the mat...and watch and learn something from every shot you deliver."

## **Goals 2017:**

Personnel: To have a net gain 10 members added to our January roster of 37 bringing our total membership to 47; to have 2800 games played. three new members to date averaging one a month. Good rate.

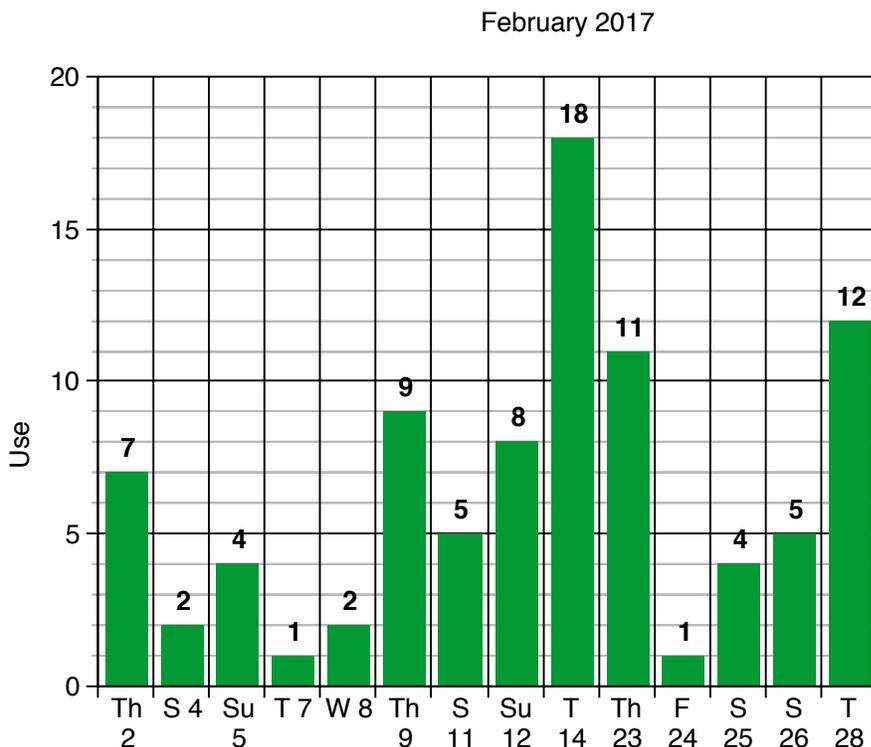
Facilities: To have all members participate in clubhouse garden and green maintenance. We are making food progress with different people taking host duties for our various social events

Finance: To add \$3000 to green replacement fund. More likely that we can add \$5000 !



**Santa Cruz Single Sweepstakes:** As mentioned above, some players have requested more competitive playing opportunities. Additionally, one of our goals is to have more games played on the green so this is a “two birds with one stone” opportunity. The format will be 16-end singles played during non-draw hours beginning on April 6, and ending October 5. There is a \$25 registration fee with a minimum of 8 participants required. Please sign up on front table. May 1 will be the go/no go date. If we do not have the minimum 8 players, entrance fees will be refunded. First place will be at least \$100; second place, \$50 and third, \$25. Winner will be decided by most points accumulated. Tally and score cards will be kept in the clubhouse. Full conditions of play will be posted in the club house.

**Attendance:** Rain continued to affect our February attendance. We had 8 draw games rained out. Our big day was the Valentine’s Day social. Sign ins for the month stood at 89 giving an average draw game of 5. March is looking much better now that the weather is better.



**Green Longevity:** We had a very informative visit from Dave Aaron of AJ Berry, Ltd., the Australian company who installed our green. They are working in San Jose on a massive project to completely rebuild their green. Andrew Eisenberg, Steve Schoenfeld, Glen and Pete B also attended. Good news and bad news. The green shows very little sign of wear but we have quite a bit of work to do. Dave took notes to send back to Berry, Ltd., with my comments in italics

1. Out of control mold on the riverside edge of the green under the cork oaks. Can be improved by repeated deep brushings. If the city can recommend any mold control solutions, we should check with AJ Berry as to possible effect on fiber before application. *We need to brush more frequently at least for a short while. We cannot hurt the green by brushing. Dave recommended that we start with a moderate brushing and then go a bit deeper each time to break up the mold. The green surface should look as fluffy as the carpet on the plinth. Please let me know if you can help Earl. We will brush every 2 weeks for 3 months then monthly for 3 months and should be back on track by fall.*
2. Ditch levels need to be lowered; too much sand in the ditch. Levels changed in part due to burrowing animals and to flooding. Flood drains in the corners of the green ditch are filled with soil and no longer effective. Lowering ditch levels and clearing drains will prevent water and mud from backing on to the green and also help prevent growth of mold *We can remove excess material from the ditches but not sure how to remove soil from drains. Am checking with city on this. We have the river and hotel side ditches in good shape. I will be asking for volunteers to be responsible for maintaining one side ditch for 3 months.*
3. Recommend we place 6" shade cloth/gutter guard/barrier on outer bottom of fencing to protect green from debris blowing in. *As I thought about this, most of the debris falls from overhead rather than blowing in through the fence. Installing a barrier will make it more difficult to blow the debris back out. Will talk to city about this.*
4. Door to machine shed too narrow necessitating removal of part of door jamb to get machine out of storage. In order to widen, electric conduit needs to be moved and door rebuilt *Andrew took photos and is submitting work order. This should be done soon.*

**Help wanted:** 3 volunteers to commit to cleaning and maintaining ditch on one side of the green ( I will take the river side - the worst side! ) for 3 months. You will be recognized with a small sign like the highway clean up volunteer program. This section of ditch maintained by..... (We will address this at Quarterly meeting)