



Santa Cruz Lawn Bowls Newsletter

August 2012

If you haven't yet been able to attend one of the Saturday morning breakfasts, Allan will again be cooking on July 28, 8:30-9:00. He has expanded his menu to include crepes! Graham Evans has graciously invited club members to bowl on his green on Friday afternoons at 4:00. Please let Ken Brideau or Graham know if you are going to bowl so gate can be opened. We have set the Jaws tournament for Friday, September 28, 1:00, at Carmel. Mark your calendar now and plan on participating. We will have sign up sheets in advance to arrange car pools. This month we welcome new junior member James Vallett, Graham Evans' grandson.

Calendar: All events at the clubhouse unless noted.

Aug 1, Wednesday, Big Board Challenge begins (details below)

Aug 7, Tuesday, Off-site lunch

Aug. 14, Tuesday, Holmby Hills visits

Aug. 31, Friday, Evening bowls followed by pizza 4:30

Note: Draw pairs tournament has been moved to Saturday and Sunday, September 1 -2. Club singles championship will be held Saturday and Sunday, September 22-23

Thanks: Thanks to Gary Luttringer for his work on club bowls inventory and donation of gardening books; to John Lyons for taking care of our shopping list needs; to Sara Mikles for preparing emergency plan for insurance application; to Dave Sievert for graphic design on court yard flyer; to Glen Johnson, Allan Lonnberg, John Curwen, Evie McGrath, Gil Morse, Jerry Louis, Earl Rosebraugh and Coral Singer for helping with green maintenance; to Sara Mikles for working on garden plans; to the family of Dorothy Ceccini for donation of bowls.

Goals:

Personnel

1. To increase membership to 65 full members. We sold 57 memberships through Groupon and we are still waiting to hear from some of them. We have 60 members on our roster so we are almost at our goal.
2. To provide increased training opportunities. We have had Monday mornings scheduled in February and March with a variety of competitive formats; monthly visits to San Jose, Santa Clara and Carmel in January, February and March. The club rodeo was held in May as an introduction to competitive pairs. The Big Board challenge will be held August through December 1. See below for details. A request has been made to create a practice circuit which we will try to have available for August as you prepare for the club tournaments.
3. To host another club for visitation. Holmby Hills will be here August 14. DONE

Facility

1. To pursue purchase of better brushing machine to improve green maintenance. With the generous help of the city, we have purchased a Vertitop Walk Behind from Turf Industrials in Santa Clara. Our machine is scheduled to arrive in early August. Self-propelled, with automatic sand sifting, and a 36' brushing surface, this should make the job of brushing the green much more efficient. DONE
2. To obtain pricing and source for table replacement. Six portable tables purchased. DONE
3. To purchase additional set of bowls, size 2 or 3 for club inventory. We have also received the donation of Dorothy Ceccini's bowls (size 1) from her family. DONE.

Finances

1. To increase green fund by \$5000

Being a better bowler: Coach's tips from John Hickson of Palo Alto

Lawn Bowls club:

"Once you learn the basics of lawn bowling, the greatest influence on your game is psychological-dealing with pressure and keeping your mind and body under control. Here are a few tips to help you overcome those nerves.

Calmness: When you feel under pressure, step off the mat, take a couple of deep breaths and compose yourself so you become calm and relaxed. Any tenseness in the muscles will affect your control of the bowl, both with line and weight.

Concentration: Concentrate only on the shot you plan to play and ignore distractions. Forget about your last shot or that you didn't bowl well the day before Stay in the present; the past is irrelevant

Commitment: Commit to the shot you are going to play Visualize the bowl running its course and finishing exactly where you intended it to go. You will be surprised how effective this can be."

Dual Members: We thoroughly enjoyed your visit in April and look forward to seeing you again soon. Start planning now to join us for a Dual Duel on Sunday, September 30, at 12:30. We will have teams of dual members against Santa Cruz Home club members. Following the game we will have the drawing for the lunch for 2 dual members at the HIndquarter.

Fence: Construction on our fence is scheduled to begin the last week of July. Sara, Allan, Ann and Gil have offered to work on the garden plans. Work has already begun on removing the small tables and marking irrigation lines. Hope Services guests have also offered to help with gardening. We have also been in touch with the UCSC arboretum and the California native plant society. The city will provide us with new concrete tables in the near future. In the mean time, we have aquired portable tables which can be set up as we need them. Consider bringing your lunch and spending some extra time at the green before or after the draw. We will have the “courtyard” open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00-1:00 and are initially inviting court house workers to have lunch at the tables. We will need coaches available for those who may wish to bowl. Please consider volunteering for “courtyard coach” once a month.

Big Board Challenge (BBC): We are implementing the Big Board Challenge tournament which will run August 1 through December 1. All members are invited to play with a \$5 enrollment fee. There will be a “floating handicap” system to provide for equitable matches between new and experienced players. Matches must be played during non-draw times. Every time you play a match please record the date, your opponent and your score on the cards provided. Win or lose, you get to select a square on the big board; if you win the match, you get to claim a second square. A prize will be given for playing the most people, and aquiring the most squares, as well as prizes for random squares on the grid. The more squares you have the better your chances. Prizes will be awarded at the Christmas party on December 16. Sign up will start at the July 21 quarterly meeting and will continue through the length of the tournament. Full conditions of play and starting handicaps are posted on the front table.