

Santa Cruz Lawn Bowls Newsletter

March 2017

Our first Jackpot of \$8 was split between Leslie and John Lyons on January 28 who won by the drawn 4 point spread. Congratulations to John and Leslie. The jackpot amount was reset so our current (end of February) Thursday jackpot stands a \$6. Carne and Peter did an outstanding job for the Valentine's party. The winners of the "Hearts on the Green" tournament was the team of Dave Sievert and Dick Brundle. Congratulations to them both. Our next event is March 16, our St Patrick's Day tournament/social with Nancy Rideout and Lyn Houser as co-chairs. Please sign up on the front table so we can get a head count as we prepare. I can promise some traditional Irish soda bread among the delightful snacks. Gary recently did a check of Masters Traditional Games website. If you are considering new bowls current price for Drakes Pride is \$256 for black or brown, \$331 for colored. Not a bad price if you are looking for new bowls. Off-the shelf bowls usually arrive within a week of ordering. Remember the past months' focus points to gently place bowls on the green and all players kick bowls to the center line at the conclusion of an end. We welcome Ben James, our own snowbird, who will be visiting through March. Glad you are back.

Thanks: To Leslie for sponsoring the March jackpot; to Peter Clarke, Rod and Pete Blacklock for coaching during January's Open Bowling Sunday; to Carne and Peter for the wonderful Valentine's Day social; to all who attended the Valentines' Day special event; for Earl, Glen, Pete and Doris for green maintenance

Calendar: All events at the clubhouse unless noted. All Draws at 12:30

No Jackpot Thursday on March 16.

Thursday, March 16, St Patrick's Day

Celebration. Draw at 12:30

Be sure to wear green!

Snacks at 2:30 Guests welcome

Chairperson: Nancy Rideout, Lyn Houser

Please be willing to help when asked



Sunday, March 26, 12:30-2:30 Open Bowling We will need some coaches. Please let me know if you can help.

For St. Patrick's Day we are going to use the same variation game that we used in February. There will be four special ends: #3 long bowls removed, #6 short bowls removed, #9 reverse order of play and #12, power play end (double points). Now that you have played the game, you will be better prepared for the special ends and will be able to employ more strategy. Prizes for the team winning by the biggest point differential.

Some additional rules for lawn bowling: I have seen these before but they are still funny.....

1. If you holler "overs!" before the bowl passes the hog line, you get to throw the bowl over, unless of course, you are on the jack. In which case, you can renege on the "overs".
2. In a tournament, when your team is about down more than 10 in the 8th or 9th end, you can invoke the rule "Team Bowling the fastest Wins the Game", and your team still has a chance.
3. After an opposing team wins four ends in a row, they must bowl the next 4 ends blindfolded. If they continue to score, their shoelaces will be tied together for 2 ends.
4. When you are blocked from drawing to the jack you know you can't make the shot, but another member of your team can, invoke the "Designated Bowler" rule.
5. After you have 2 wrong bias bowls in one game, you may say "Kings X" and take those bowls over.

Focal Point: “Four Fantastic Fixes” for a better delivery

(from Skills Improvement Bulletin issued by the Southwest Division.)

1. Focus on your aiming point; not the target
2. Follow through until your arm is horizontal
3. Scrutinize the first 10 feet of your delivery to determine if an adjustment of your aiming line is necessary
4. Feel the energy your body expends on each delivery so you can adjust the weight applied to your next shot.

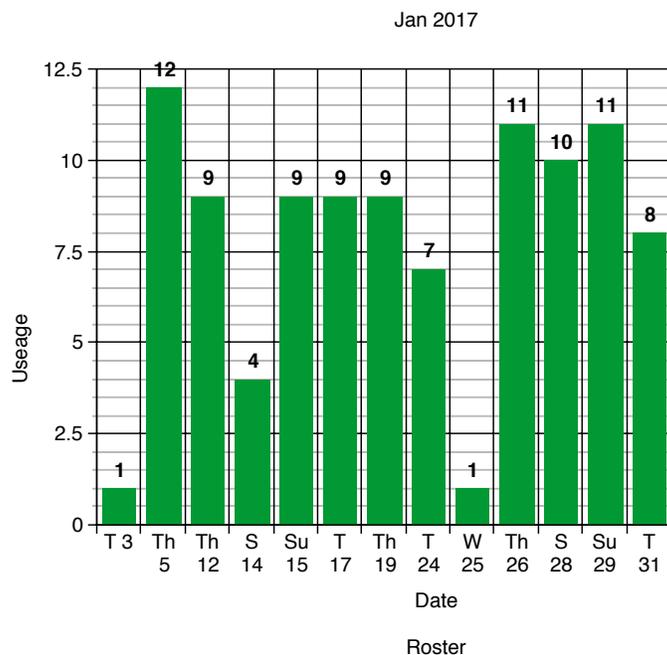
Goals 2017:

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

Facilities: To have all members participate in clubhouse garden and green maintenance

Finance: To add \$3000 to green replacement fund

Attendance: Total for January sign-ins was 101 giving an average draw attendance of 5. If we take out the 6 rain days, our draws averaged 11. Rain is going to have the same impact, or even more of an impact, on February but spring will be here soon.



An invitation from PBA: In past years, Jerry, Glen, Leslie and I, have participated in PBA tournaments. Many of you have met the US head of PBA, Frank Souza, when the tournament was played in Santa Cruz 3 years ago. They are looking for support and you could compete if you travel to Laguna Woods in August. From PBA...

Greetings fellow bowlers:

The Professional Bowlers Association (PBA) presents an amazing opportunity to represent the USA without having to go thru the tough selection process.

Great news, the PBA is coming to Southern California, thus making it easy for Southwest bowlers to participate.

For those of you who are not familiar with the PBA, it is an organization that puts on qualifying tournaments in countries around the world, to see who will represent that country at four different tournaments held every year in Europe. To qualify all you have to do is win one of the four tournaments that will be held this August (19th thru 24th) at Laguna Woods. Right now Laguna Woods is in negotiations to install two new artificial greens and we are hopeful that they will be complete in time for the tournaments.

Having played recently at Laguna Woods the back green is running at about 15 ½ seconds and although a new green will be great, even if it is not complete in time, we will still have a great tournament.

You can enter one or all four tournaments. There are three singles and one pairs. This is open to men and women. If you are a great lady bowler, get out there and beat the men, make a name for yourself. Carol Poto did just that and had a nice vacation in Europe as a reward.

If you win the singles (in two of the tournaments) there is money paid to you when you complete your match in Europe, win or lose (about \$750). These days that will cover round trip air fair to London, with money left over.

I have had the good fortune to play in Wales, Scotland & twice in England in the PBA and I can tell you it is an exciting adventure. If you win the Potters Singles or Pairs you get to stay at a 5 Star Resort, room and food on the PBA while you are competing. You also get a shot at beating one of the top 16 in the

World and gain World Ranking. Right now our very own Neil Furman is ranked # 17 in the World and moving up.

Frank Souza is the head of the PBA in the USA and he has dedicated himself to making the tournaments successful and fun. This year we have arranged catered lunches at the 19th Hole Restaurant and discounts on hotels for those coming from afar. The tournaments are open to anyone in the USA.

The way Frank runs the tournaments is very good, we are usually able to complete one tournament a day, so the action is quick and exciting.

Please help support the PBA and yourself by joining in on the fun by contacting Frank Souza at frslb1up@cox.net, or calling him at [1 \(623\) 388-6160](tel:1(623)388-6160). The fee for new members to join is \$200, but that covers your entry in all four tournaments. For returning members the renewal fees are only \$110. Frank's address for sending in membership requests is 10343 W. Bayside Rd. Sun City AZ 85351.

The PBA is a rare opportunity to compete against other great bowlers, to win and represent your country overseas. Don't miss out sign up today.

To be able to keep the tournament in Southern California (and the USA) it is important that we have the requisite number of members, so please join as soon as possible and submit an application today. All you have to do is fill out the application and send a check made payable to Frank Souza.

Frank has to report to headquarters in Europe soon that we have the requisite number of players. This reporting requirement makes the tournaments a little different than usual tournaments where you sign up the month before, due to this requirement we ask you to please join now.

Supporting the PBA, not only is a great opportunity for competitive minded bowlers, but also helps bowls in general in the USA. As the steady erosion of our clubs and membership numbers decline, it is important that we fully support those institutions that will help us increase awareness of bowls in the USA.

Oh yes, by the way, if you would like to see the World Bowls Tour and the World Bowls Indoor Championships in action, just go on You Tube to watch the excitement. Most of the games are televised on You Tube. Here's a link to a great game where Neil Furman beat one of the top 16 in the World a few weeks ago. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FxfNhII12mA>

Looking forward to seeing you at the PBA Qualifiers and thank you for supporting Bowls in the USA and the PBA. Feel free to call Frank or me with any questions. My number is [310-780-6927](tel:310-780-6927).

Cheers!

Phil DUNN
President SWLBA

