

# SLBC NEWS



10 June 2026

This weekly update is sent to members of the St Lucia Bowling Club. To contribute Club news or general bowls items of interest to Club members, please email them to the Editor, Pamela Miller – [pamela.miller1@bigpond.com](mailto:pamela.miller1@bigpond.com)

## BDBA MEN'S SENIOR PENNANT – Semifinal

Last Friday, the Division 3 Men's Senior Pennants side played their Semifinal against Windsor at Ferny Grove. The Ferny Grove green was as anticipated – quite quick with gusty winds. A further complication was the notorious “Bermuda Triangle” being the last two metres from the T to the ditch where any bowl with a little speed just ran “downhill” into the sand.

While the expectations were high, things looked bleak after the first sets were completed as St Lucia lost two of those sets and drew the third. This meant that it was essential for the Saints to turn things around by winning the second sets to force tiebreakers in two of the matches.

Craig's team (Ken Harvey, Tony Burton and Craig Francis) had a tight first set and had to settle for a 9-9 draw. With a spot in the Final at stake, the troops rallied to win 7 of the 9 ends in the second set, collecting that 11-6 to be victorious.

Mark's team (Dicky Ng, Warren Garnham and Mark Benson) began slowly losing the first set 6-14. They played much better bowls in the second set to easily win 13-3 and force a tiebreaker. The tiebreaker was close with the end being decided by an umpire's measure. Alas, it went in favour of Windsor.

The scene for the match was set with one game each and the decider down to Bruce Holwell's team. No pressure at all, guys! 😊 Bruce's team with Antony Flint and Trevor Catt met a strong Windsor side and lost the first set 5-12. The second set was much closer with the teams tied going into the last end which the Saints won to take the second set 8-7.

The tiebreaker which followed will be remembered for a long time by those who saw it. With the Saints holding two shots, Trevor played a bowl with a little extra weight which smartly trailed the jack into the ditch with his toucher being only inches away also in the ditch. An unbeatable bowl!

The Saints are into the Final on Friday against West Toowong which will be played at Windsor. I have promised our Editor (Pamela Miller) that I shall work on a Churchillian-like speech to deliver prior to the Final, perhaps one based on “This was their finest hour”. Fingers and toes crossed!

- Craig Francis, Team Manager

## MEN'S TRIPLES

Two exciting games were played on Saturday. In a hard-fought match, Team Salway (Paul Kenny, Rob Wormwell) led Team Francis (Col Bertwistle, Tony Burton) 17-14 after the 18<sup>th</sup> end. Team Francis narrowed the gap to two points heading into the last end where they successfully moved the jack to score a six, winning the match 22-18.

In another close game, Team Buchbach (Patrick Bailey, Bruce Holwell) led for most of the match until Team Catt (Paul Keane, Max Grey) took the lead on the 17<sup>th</sup> end, ultimately winning 15-13. Fine matches on both rinks!

## CHAMPION OF CLUB MIXED PAIRS

Last Wednesday, three closely contested quarter-final games took place with the following results:

- Antony Flint/Leslee Mackay def. Doug Buchbach/Narelle Sutton: 17–14
- Lois Bradley/Rob Hoskin def. Craig Francis/Pam Richardson: 18–16
- Rob Wormwell/Bev King def. Peter Jordan/Suzanne Jordan: 21–20

These results set the stage for two highly anticipated semifinal games on Saturday 13 June:

- Max Grey/Erin Grey vs. Antony Flint/Leslee Mackay
- Lois Bradley/Rob Hoskin vs. Rob Wormwell/Bev King

## PATRON'S TRIPLES

This annual one-day competition is scheduled for Wednesday 22 July. As this is a club-selected event, all members are invited to register via the "Register for Bowls" page on the SLBC website. The selectors will announce the teams closer to the date. Nibbles will be provided after the games.

- Pam Salway, Bowls Captain

## PENNANT SEASON 2026

### Pennants Practice and Training

The 2026 Pennants Season starts on Saturday 4 July and runs for 7 weeks until Saturday 15 August plus two more weeks of finals (if we make them).

This year, St Lucia will field two sides – one in Second Division and the other in Fourth Division. Each side consists of three teams of fours so 24 players will be selected each week.

It is proposed that competitive social games will be arranged each week during Pennants to cater for those players who have nominated to play Pennants but are not selected for that particular week.

As the start of Pennants is now less than four weeks away, the Bowls Captain, Coaches and the Selectors have decided that Pennants trial games will be organised for the upcoming Wednesdays (17 and 24 June and 1 July) and Saturdays (13, 20 and 27 June 2026) whenever possible. It is recognised that some players will not be available on some of these days due to work, Club competitions, Champion of Champion commitments, District commitments, etc, but we shall do our best.

It has also been decided that some “Drills” and “Theory” sessions will be held and it would be appreciated if all Pennant players make an effort to attend. Of course, all players (not just Pennants players) are most welcome to come along to these sessions.

The first sessions will be held this coming Saturday 13 June before social play commences. An “On the Green” Drills session will start at 11:00am and go until about 11:40am. A Theory session in the clubhouse will follow from about 11:45am to 12:15pm when the cards are called for the afternoon’s play. The first Theory session to be run by Pam Salway will likely relate to how to read a head properly which will be of benefit for all.

Please try to join us and use the opportunity to improve your game and better enjoy your bowls.

- Craig Francis  
On behalf of our Bowls Captain, Coaches and Selectors

# Captain's Corner

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

Coming up during the next month or two:

- **5 June 2026 – Australian Open continues** – On the Gold Coast. Watch games by YouTube or Facebook – Bowls Australia streaming.
- **20 June 2026 – BDBA Men's & Women's CoCC Fours (Day 1)** – Ferny Grove for the men and Windsor for the women. Both the SLBC men's and women's champions have entered.
- **21 June 2026 – Senior Quad Challenge** – Craig Francis and Pam Salway will be part of the Brisbane team. Four districts competing – Brisbane, Cunningham, Gold Coast, Gateway. Games at Paradise Point Bowls Club.
- **27/28 June 2026 – BDBA Men's & Women's CoCC Pairs** - Both at Windsor. SLBC women's champions have entered.
- **30 June 2026 – BDBA General Meeting** – SLBC delegates will attend. Venue Windsor, 9:30 am
- **4 July 2026 to 29 August 2026 – Pennant Season** – SLBC is entered into Divisions 2 and 4. The format of play is Divisions 2 and 4 are three rinks of fours.
- **5 July 2026 – BDBA Men's & Women's CoCC Singles (Day 1)** - Both at Chermside
- **12 July 2026 – BDBA Men's & Women's CoCC Fours (Day 2)** – Ferny Grove for the men and Windsor for the women.
- **19 & 26 July 2026 – BDBA CoCC Mixed Pairs** – Chermside
- **22 July 2026 – SLBC's Patrons Triples** – Indicate your interest to be in a team by registering on the SLBC's website, "Register for Bowls" page. Scroll down to the bottom of that page to find the button.
- **23 July – 2 August 2026 – Commonwealth Games – Glasgow.**
- **12 August 2026 (Ekka Show Day) – Walter Taylor Shield** – vs West Toowong. More information coming soon.

- Pam Salway, Bowls Captain

**MEN'S SENIOR PENNANTS – FINAL**  
**Friday 12 June 2026**

**Div 3 – “Away” at Windsor against West Toowong at 10.00am**

Team 1

Ken Harvey  
Tony Burton  
Craig Francis (Skip)

Team 2

Dicky Ng  
Warren Garnham  
Mark Benson (Skip)

Team 3

Brian Vandersee  
Trevor Catt  
Bruce Howell (Skip)

**Manager:** Craig Francis (0402 154 346)

**Notes:**

1. The greens at Windsor are slightly quicker than the greens at St Lucia so be prepared.
2. Please contact the Manager ASAP if you are unavailable to play.
3. All players are to pay their green fees (\$20.00) in cash to their Skip prior to the start of the game.