

SLBC NEWS



24 April 2024

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

MEN'S SECTION

Men's B Singles

Three second round games were played on Wednesday and one on Tuesday this week.

John Stack led for virtually the whole game in his match against Stephen James to have a convincing 25-11 victory after 24 ends. Stephen has been in good form but John is bowling particularly well. Interestingly, the highest score on any end was a two which indicates that the match was close.

The second game saw Fulvio Toniotti defeat Roland Baudet 24-10 in 19 ends. Despite the final score, Roland was competitive in the first half with the score 11-9 in Fulvio's favour after 12 ends. Scoring nine shots in the last four ends sealed the game for Fulvio. The scene is now set for an epic semi-final between Fulvio and John Stack.

Vaughan Thomas and Doug Phipps played a very close game with the lead changing throughout. Eventually, Vaughan won 25-23 after 30 ends. No more than two points separated them over the last eight ends with Vaughan scoring three on the last end to close out the game and progress to the second semi-final.

Men's Fours

The first semifinal was between Peter Longland (S), Brian Vandersee (replacing Col Bertwistle), Dicky Ng and Robin Town who took on Tim Salway (S), Max Grey, Antony Flint and John Stack. Peter's team started as strong favourites and played to form coming out on top 33-12 having led all the way, winning all but seven ends.

The second semifinal was between Craig Francis (S), Terry Martin, Fulvio Toniotti and Tony Burton up against Ian Thomas (S), Doug Phipps, Rob Malcolm and Graham Legg. Again, the game pretty much went to script with Craig's team winning 32-11 with the opposition winning five ends.

As anticipated, the final next week will be between the two strongest teams on paper and it should be a good, close match.

- Graham Legg, Games Manager

Division 3 Men's Senior Pennants

Friday was the third round of the Senior Men's Pennants and saw us facing off against West Toowong at our Club in a classic match. SLBC were keen to avenge their defeat in the Summer Competition Final but knew they would be in for a tough game.

All games were fiercely contested with Craig Francis' team of Ken Harvey and Tony Burton winning both sets convincingly and overall, 31-9. Unfortunately, Fulvio Toniotti's team of Vaughan Thomas and Bruce Holwell were up against West Toowong's lead team and lost both sets narrowly and overall, 14-18. Robin Town's team of Terry Martin and Peter Jordan won both sets 9-7 (overall 18-14). The second was decided by less than 2mm on the umpires' measure.

The win consolidated the SLBC team at the top of the ladder and they are in a strong position to defend the flag won last year. This week, the match is against New Farm at Everton Park.

- Vaughan Thomas & Bruce Holwell Team Managers

WOMEN'S SECTION

BDBA Autumn Pennants

It was off to Everton Park last Friday, playing under the covers on the synthetic green. Teams were Pam Richardson (S), Julie Hawley, Rachel Chiang; Lois Bradley (S), Suzanne Jordan, Robyn Pang; and Pam Salway (S), Josie Caltabiano, Margaret Miller. We took on the opponents, Chermside Blue who were the only team to have defeated our ladies in the rounds and, unfortunately, also proved they were the stronger team in the final.

Pam S's team are still trying to forget the game but Pam R and Lois's teams won their way to tie-break, sudden death ends. It was a nail-biting ending with Lois finishing strongly to win their tie-break. One bowl to go for the Saints in Pam R's team and it needed to move a Chermside front toucher. Pam R gave it a good attempt but those front touchers are always hard to shift. Overall, it was a 1-2 defeat for the Saints.

Thanks must go firstly to all the players, not just the ones who played in the finals, but all the reserves too, for performing extremely well through the season. It was wonderful to receive messages of support and to see so many supporters at our games. Having those well wishes always gives a boost to the teams, so thank you too.

Until next season – over and out, but here is a photo to cherish.

– Pam Salway, Women's Bowls Captain



Ladies Pairs Championship



The Ladies Pairs final was played on Saturday between Julie Hawley (S) and Robyn Pang against Nikki Geran (S) and Pam Salway.

The weather was looking ominous and the rule books were being consulted. “What if we got rained off?” That didn’t happen as the BOM performed in its usual manner with the expected 1 pm rain not turning up until late evening.

Congratulations go to all players as the standard of the game was high. While Nikki and Pam came away as convincing winners, the determination and skill exhibited by both Julie and Robyn will be something to watch in coming months. Nikki and Pam will go on to represent SLBC in the District Champion of Champion Ladies Pairs later in the year.

Ladies Fours Championship

The first round was played on Tuesday and Judy Beal (S), Ros Mortensen, Gil Gilbert and Bev King defeated Margaret Miller (S), Coralie Ellis, Annette Hall and Yo Dodgson.

- Linda Bird, Games Manager

AN UMPIRING FIRST



Prior to last weekend, I had been an umpire for a few months and officiated twice. My umpiring experience consisted of wheeling the umpire’s toolbox out of the office, pointing out the rest rooms and walking around trying to look competent. No measures, nothing.

Last Friday, I was the umpire for the Senior Pennants competition at our Club. Six clubs were playing including the local derby between SLBC and West Toowong. I haven’t had to do a thing all morning until the last end with SLBC v West Toowong in the tiebreaker end, worth five points. Guess what? A measure for shot is needed to decide the game. I do my first ever umpire’s measure. Shot to St Lucia. Yes, I had signed the Bowls Qld Oath on completing the umpire’s course and was quite impartial.

– Graham Legg

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT – GREEN FEES

The Club has increased green fees just once in 10 years. That was in 2016 when fees were increased from \$12 to \$15. The green fees generate no profit for the Club. They only go some way to mitigate the cost of the greens contractor and greens maintenance.

While the contractor performs the work, the Club buys the machinery and pays for its maintenance, repair and fuel. In addition, all fertilizers, fungicides, etc used on the greens are the Club's costs. The Club grounds are continuously maintained through the generosity of the Monday Morning Crew but, of course, the associated machinery and other costs are paid by the Club. At the end of each year, the greens are renovated. This is a significant and additional cost to the Club.

The cost of the greens contractor is about to increase substantially. There are also heavy cost increases with both water and insurance.

A significant loss of income to the Club comes with the completion of the neighbouring building and the cessation of the lease with McNab Construction for their temporary office premises in the Club carpark. This arrangement has sustained the Club very well over the past three years.

The functions arm of the Club has grown to be a significant source of revenue but even that has been slowing somewhat due to the general economic conditions throughout Australia. The Club has secured some grants over time and continues to apply for grants but they have not been a generous source of income. The Club has absorbed ever-increasing costs of daily operations for some time now but it is simply not sustainable to continue in this way.

In the circumstances and after considerable deliberation, the Management Committee has decided to increase the green fees by \$5 for all games, taking effect on 1 May 2024. The Thursday games will cost \$15 and all other games will cost \$20.

Our Club is unique, with a beautiful clubhouse and grounds and a comfortable atmosphere. We may have to pay a little more than other clubs to avoid the poker machines, TABs and the like, but I trust you agree that it is worth it.

- Lloyd Edwards, President

[Declaring the Head – Who, How, What, When, Where and Why](#)

With pennants and other team matches underway as well as many new bowlers on the green, it is an appropriate time to discuss what is “declaring the head”. The *Law Book*, April 2023 edition, is a good place to begin.

Law 25 – Delivering the final bowl of an end

It is not compulsory for the last player to play in any end to deliver the final bowl of the end but the player must tell the opposing skip or opponent in Singles of the decision not to deliver the final bowl before the process of deciding the number of shots scored starts. This decision is final.

The Law lays down clearly that it is the **final bowl** of an end. No other player can choose not to deliver their bowl at any other time during an end.

The skip or Singles player is the only person to make that decision on the final bowl. It is suggested that the best way to make the decision is to lay the final bowl down on the mat and walk up the rink to view the head personally. Even though the teammate in charge of the head may have told the skip what the team’s position is currently as they see it, the recommendation is that the skip sees for themselves before making the decision on whether to bowl their last bowl or not.

The skip then informs his opposition that they are declaring the head and does not deliver the final bowl. Stating the decision makes it final. The measuring process can then begin at the head to determine the score for that end. Meanwhile, the skip may carry their bowl up to the head or hand it over to one of their team. There should be no “practice bowl” which could disturb the head and affect the count.

Copies of the *Laws of the Sport of Bowls* can be purchased at the bar. Having a correct understanding of how the game is to be played makes it even more enjoyable.