

SLBC NEWS



4 June 2025

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

INTERCLUB BOWLING NEWS

BDBA Men's Senior Pennants 2025

The team had a good win over New Farm with maximum points in the first semifinal match played on our home green. Robin Town, Darcy Barry and Doug Buchbach (S) won 22-12. Vaughan Thomas, Dicky Ng and Bruce Holwell (S) won 30-7. Ken Harvey, Tony Burton and Craig Francis won 24-12.

A special mention to Tony who was not well at the start of play but carried on, making sure the team had a win. I would like mention that Tim Salway answered the call as a replacement in case Tony had to retire. Thank you to Tony and Tim. The next game will be played against Northern Suburbs at Ferny Grove on Friday 6 June. Keep up the good work, team! Thank you to Graham Legg for his umpiring skills on the day.

- Bruce Holwell, Team Manager

Teams for the semifinal against Northern Suburbs at Ferny Grove on Friday 6 June at 10am:

Ken Harvey	Robin Town	Vaughan Thomas
Peter Jordan	Darcy Barry	Dicky Ng
Craig Francis	Doug Buchbach	Bruce Holwell (Manager)

CLUB COMPETITIONS UPDATE

Men's Triples

The first round of the Men's Triples on 24 May saw some very entertaining games with both the top seeded teams bundled out.

Boilover alert! The game of Peter Fairchild, Tony Burton and Craig Francis (S) against Lloyd Edwards, Graham Legg and Antony Flint (S) saw a major upset. In a close to four-hour marathon that finished in fading light, Antony's team managed a very unlikely 18-13 win over the top ranked team. Antony's team was down 8-12 after 14 ends but managed to win the next six ends to go to ahead 18-12 after 20 ends. All but two of the ends were either one or two shots in a very hard-fought game that saw quality bowls from both leads and some absolute 'bombs' from both skips, particularly after the break. The game was played in great spirit and Craig's team was particularly gracious in defeat.

Vaughan Thomas, Ken Harvey and Bruce Holwell (S) also made it through to the semi-finals with a solid 29-13 victory over David Cowper, Paul Pollock and Laurie Annan (S). Bruce's team led for all but the first end and scored three 4s and one 5 for a convincing performance which will make them hard to beat in the next round. Laurie's team can take confidence from the fact they managed to win 9 of the 21 ends.

The other half of the draw saw Don Anderson, Max Grey and Brian Vandersee (S) have a convincing 31-19 win in 20 ends over Paul Keane, Rob Malcolm and Doug Buchbach (S). The first part of the game was very close with Doug's team ahead 13-9 after 10 ends. Brian's team finished the stronger, scoring 22 points over the remaining 10 ends played. Thanks to Max Grey for standing in for Tim Salway in this game.

The second ranked team of Col Bertwistle, Robin Town and Darcy Barry (S) also went out in spectacular fashion to Patrick Bailey, Paul Kenny and Dicky Ng (S) losing 22-23. I say "spectacular fashion" because Dicky's team managed to win even after giving away a seven on the 17th end which took the score from 19-12 in their favour to 19-all! Darcy's team then took a 22-20 lead after 20 ends. Dicky's team, to their credit, kept their nerve to score three shots on the last end to take the match. Stranger than fiction!

The scene is set for two blockbusters in the semifinal round which hopefully will be played on 31 May, weather permitting. The Games are Flint v Holwell and Vandersee v Ng.

[Rain Affected Saturday's Play](#)

No one was particularly surprised when the semi-finals of the Men's Triples were rained out on Saturday. Both games were abandoned after six ends but the remainder will be played this Wednesday.

When rain stopped play Patrick Bailey, Paul Kenny and Dicky Ng (S) were ahead 9-3 against Don Anderson, Tim Salway and Brian Vandersee (S). In the other semi, Vaughan Thomas, Ken Harvey and Bruce Holwell (S) led Lloyd Edwards, Graham Legg and Antony Flint (S) by 6-4.

Good luck to all teams on Wednesday.

- Graham Legg, Games Manager

[VISITING THE HEAD DURING A GAME](#)

This is not a social occasion. In singles play, no bowler may go to look at the head until they have delivered three bowls. If they choose to follow their third bowl down the rink to the head, they must arrive behind the head before their bowl stops rolling. Once their bowl has stopped, possession of the rink falls immediately to their opponent. If they are still walking down the rink, they are impeding the delivery of their opponent's bowl and slowing play deliberately which is an offence under the Laws of the Sport of Bowls. If your opponent feels this is happening, they are entitled to ask the umpire to watch the situation. The umpire can warn the player after observing this on the first occasion but a repetition of this action would cause the player's next bowl to be declared dead and removed from the rink.

It is not necessary to follow your bowl and run down the rink after every third delivery. You can watch what happens from the mat and then, if after your opponent has delivered their bowl which has made a change to the head, you do have the option to inspect the head. Otherwise, your slow, thoughtful walk back to the mat does impact the speed of the game.

If you would like to have a look at the head following the delivery of your opponent's third bowl, the procedure is to tell the opponent what you are doing then leave your bowl on the mat to inspect the head. Then, return to the mat quickly to complete your last bowl.

Basically, players may ask questions of their marker in a singles game to ascertain positions of the bowls when they are in possession of the rink but only go to look at the head after their third bowl. Make use of your marker! Their role is more than keeping your score and centring the jack. Ask any kind of question to which they can give a factual answer. Examples would be: How far short is my last bowl? Is the (green) bowl even with/in front of/behind the jack? Where is the second shot? How close is the shot bowl to the jack? The question "What is the situation?" only involves a reply which indicates the number of shots up or down and not a description of all the positions of bowls. Keep it brief!

When playing pairs, triples or fours, the skips should be able to rely upon their partner, second or third to advise them of the situation at the head.

UPDATE FROM THE SELECTORS

A meeting of Selectors took place last Saturday. The outcomes of this meeting included reinforcing the selection process to be done on the Wednesday and Saturday social bowling days.

"Random Wednesdays" will continue (so it's the luck of the draw who you play with and against), whilst Saturday selections will be based more competitively, meaning selectors may structure the competition based on skill levels.

Selectors (Doug Buchbach, Craig Francis, Dicky Ng, Lois Bradley) are starting to formulate teams for the upcoming Pennant seasons (Mid-Week Open and Winter Open) both starting in early July. Please ensure the "Absentee" list is up to date if you are planning to go away but have your name down to play in the Pennant seasons.

- Pam Salway, Bowls Captain

PENNANT PRACTICE – SATURDAY 7 JUNE FROM 10:45AM

With the pennant season only a few weeks away, a one-hr practice time slot has been set aside at the Club before social bowls next Saturday 7 June from 10:45 am. Structured "heads" will be set up for shot practice. These will benefit all positions in the team (i.e. leads, seconds, thirds, Skip).

Players interested in being prepared for selections into pennant teams are encouraged to attend. Those players interested in improving their game are also encouraged to attend. In fact, all players are welcome to attend.

See you on the green!

- Pam Salway, Bowls Captain

LAST CALL FOR CLUB NAME BADGES

Orders are being taken for members who would like to have new badges. Perhaps you may have lost your name badge or it has been broken. The list closes this week. Last chance to write your preferred name, type of badge on the list in the main room or email the Providore at providore@stluciabowls.org The cost of a replacement badge is \$15 for the combination clip or \$16 for the magnetic clip. New members receive their badges free as part of their welcome to the Club when they join.

USEFUL RESOURCES

Did you know that the St Lucia Bowling Club's website has an abundance of information for players? It covers aspects essential for your game, such as purposeful practice, marking and stretching. The link to this area of the website can be found here: www.stluciabowls.org.au/bowls-resources

All members should become familiar with "How to Mark". Please read the articles as this is an important aspect of any singles match. An efficient, decisive, on-the-ball marker, one who has a good understanding of the rules of bowls is essential in any singles game.

Bowls Australia offer more information on being involved in the sport by way of marking, measuring, umpiring, and can be found here: <https://bowls.com.au/get-involved/officiating-laws>

Check it out.

- Pam Salway – Bowls Captain
