

SLBC NEWS



27 August 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

WINTER EIGHTS FINALS – OH, SO CLOSE!



The finals of the Winter Eights competition were held for Divisions 1, 3 and 4 last Friday at Chermside. The green was heavy after rain on the previous two days but ran true.

Playing against the Northern Suburbs team, the Saints started very slowly. Both Saints teams were down significantly up until around end 13 when there was a changed in the air. At this point, Mark Benson, who was the reserve for the game, brought out the secret weapon - his ukelele. With Mark and his ukelele playing repeat performances of "When the Saints Go Marching In", the teams rallied. I believe Mark is claiming this spurred the Saints on and turned the tables on the scoring.

The team of Doug Buchbach, Lois Bradley, Dicky Ng and skipped by Craig Francis were down 6-15 before scoring seven shots over three ends which helped narrow the score to finish 14-19 after 21 ends.

The team of Rachel Chiang, Darcy Barry, Pam Richardson, skipped by Pam Salway were down 7-13 before a conversion shot by Pam S scored a four and the team was off and running after that, picking up a further six shots over the next four ends, finally winning 17-15 after 21 ends.

Overall, the Saints lost by a mere three shots missing out on the Division 1 medal but all fought valiantly until the last bowl was played.

Well done to everyone who played in the Winter Eights competition this year both in the Division 3 and Division 1 teams. You did the Club proud!

- Pam Salway, Bowls Captain

PENNANTS – OPEN DIVISION 5

The revamped Division 5 team ventured out to Chermside on Saturday for what we knew was going to be a tough semi-final showdown. Having been narrowly beaten by Chermside a few weeks ago at home, it was always going to be a close game. Just to spice things up a bit, we had five players unavailable for the game due to other commitments or injury which saw us field three new players in three newly configured teams.

Despite this, we knuckled down and, although going down 52-68, we gave them a real run for their money. Scores were neck and neck for most of the game with only five points separating the teams after the 17th end. Unfortunately, Chermside finished strongly to take the win.

Rather than review the individual rinks, I'd like to particularly acknowledge Tim Salway, Rob Malcolm and Peter Jordan for stepping up at short notice and all the players for putting in a great effort.

After the game, a Chermside player generously commented to me that St Lucia is always a hard team to beat and that they were hoping not to have to play us until the final. What a great compliment to our club!

On behalf of the Division 5 players, I'd like to thank the selectors, particularly Lois and Dicky, who did a great job with the difficult task of deciding teams. Bring on next year!

- Graham Legg, Team Manager

PS: For a fun read and sing-along, please scroll down to the end of the SLBC News for an *Ode to the Division 5 Team* and their game as penned by their talented manager. Could it use ukelele background?

MIXED PAIRS COMPETITION

We have had a great response to this competition with 13 teams entered. Looking at the entries, there will be some great games. Competition starts on Saturday 6 September. The draw will be on the noticeboard and website later this week. Good luck to all teams.

OPEN CONSISTENCY COMPETITION

Nominations are now open for this competition. This year's competition is open to both men and women and is a great opportunity to test your skills in a slightly different discipline. Please put your name on the noticeboard or use the button on the website to enter. Nominations close on 2 September. Competition starts on Tuesday 9 September.

- Graham Legg, Games Manager

WHAT IS THE "CONSISTENCY" COMPETITION?

Briefly, it is a singles competition which rewards drawing close to the jack. The four bowls which are the closest to the jack score points – 4, 3, 2, 1. Ten points are on offer each end for the players and the eventual winner will be the first to reach 100 points.

Like singles, it is played with a marker whose duties are to centre the jack, placing it on a metal washer. The marker keeps the scorecard and carries a metre long stick. If the jack is moved during the end, the marker replaces the jack on the metal washer. The length of the end remains the same until all bowls are delivered when the score is then counted.

If the jack is hit and moved further than one metre, the jack is replaced on the washer and that bowler is penalised 5 shots which are deducted from their score at the completion of the end. As with regular singles play, the scores are cumulative on the card although the scoreboard is not used.

It is a game of draw bowls with the aim to deliver bowls consistently to a length. Like singles, the winner of each end will deliver the jack to their preferred distance so the length of the end will vary. Obviously, each player tries to gain the most points on each end by getting as many of their bowls as possible close to the jack. Hence, the name “consistency”.

Put your name down for this competition either on the noticeboard or online using the special button. Concentrate and enjoy the improvement in your game as you become more consistent.

GROUNDS REPORT



The Club was allocated a grant of \$10,000 from the Brisbane City Council to purchase a new EV battery-operated greens roller thanks to the hard work of our Grants Officer, Tim Salway. The roller has two batteries in operation and two spares that will fully charge in 20 minutes. This gives ample charge to roll both greens with an easy battery changeover if required.

This roller is much heavier than our earlier model and it is expected that the result will assist in future improvement to the condition of our greens. The Club now has one fully operational roller and a spare which is old but can be used in an emergency.

- Bruce Holwell, Facilities Director

AUGUST MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MINI-MINUTES

- Thanks to our Grants Director, Tim Salway, the Club has been successful in securing a BCC grant for \$10 000 towards a new greens roller valued at \$14 500. Tim has another grant in the pipeline with the BCC for an upgraded security system.
- Anne Kuhnemann, Functions Director, reported there were three functions in July involving a total of 155 guests. There are 13 booked functions to the end of December.
- Discussed that we need to expand our position on barefoot bowls on the website. For example: More information outlining numbers required as well how groups can access food.
- Ian Thomas has been talking to Steve, our greenkeeper, to plan for the annual renovation of our greens. Looks like Oct/Nov/Dec with a timeframe of six weeks for each green before it comes back into play.
- Work in the ladies' toilet area has been completed, resulting in a fresh look. Walls and ceilings have been cleaned, the main door and cubicle doors have received a fresh coat of paint and the laminex on the cubicle doors has been replaced. Our thanks to the Monday Morning Crew.
- Assembly of new shelving in the machinery shed looks great and enables easier access to tools and equipment.
- Club to make a concerted effort to use sponsored prizes in our raffles, ensuring that members are aware of the prizes on specific days. This should assist with funds to cover the bar and wages.
- The Secretary wishes to thank Pam Salway for offering to cover for him while he is on vacation.

- Rob Hoskin, Secretary

FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am sure you are all aware of the continuing increase in costs of all aspects of the running of the Club just as the increased cost of living throughout the economy. The Management Committee is always looking for ways to reduce our costs, increase our income and still offer a full range of services to our members at a reasonable price.

Both Bruce Holwell, Ann Kuhnemann and their teams are working hard in all areas of their portfolios to achieve their planned goals.

The operation of the bar (which always runs at a loss), bar and function wages (recently increased from 1 July including a mandated rise in employee superannuation) and excise increases in the cost of our drinks are areas over which we have no control as they are priced externally.

The target which we hope to achieve is for the **Bar Sales, Bar Staff Wages, Function Wages, Afternoon Tea Costs, Superannuation Costs and Raffle** combining to 'break even' so that there is little or no cost to the Club. I am happy to report that, at the end of July, we were almost on our target and expect the August figures to show that all costs are covered.

Thanks to the great effort of Ian Thomas in obtaining sponsorship donations, the losses of \$7000-\$9000 per annum should be recovered. As part of this plan, we will be offering for our raffle prizes **vouchers of better value than the cash option** from time to time. It is planned to **advise which prizes are available on the days of the raffle.** If you choose not to buy a raffle ticket because of the prizes, that is a choice you can make. The prizes will be such that any person can use them so, if a prize is not to your liking, you can pass it onto another person to use.

I hope that all Members will maintain their level of support to our raffles (remaining at \$5 per ticket) as a small way to support our Club and demonstrate we are supporting our valued sponsors.

SPONSORSHIP – ASSISTANCE FROM MEMBERS

There are many members who do a great job in all aspects of the running of the Club and to them all, the Management Committee are grateful for what they do.

I would like to advise members of the excellent work being done by our Sponsorship Manager, Ian Thomas who, in a tough market, has raised between \$17 000 and \$19 000 of income for the Club in the form of cash, products or vouchers since 1 April 2025. This amount is the second highest level of income only exceeded by green fees for our financial year to date.

To allow Ian to maintain this great effort, he needs the support of all members. If you have a need for any of the sponsors' offerings, please give them a call, identify yourself as a St Lucia bowler and hopefully they will be able to assist you.

Remember that your thoughtfulness in doing this is helping your Club.

- Max Grey, President

St. Lucia Bowls Club
9 Carr Street St. Lucia
Will Have The Pleasure Of Hosting A

PORTOFINO

Fashion *Parade*

Friday
3rd October 2025
From 11:30am



\$30 includes a Glass of Champagne, Lunch and Lucky Door Ticket

Raffles available

Tickets on sale at Club Bar

Lucky Door Prize \$50 Portofino Gift Voucher

Enjoy a Day of Fashion, Friendship and Great Shopping

Most of the Fashion is Made by Portofino in Brisbane

Enquiries: Robyn: 0403 028 376 or Anne: 0477 107 594

Email: functions@stluciabowls.org

What follows is a tribute to the Division 5 semifinal team of 2025 with a nod to the Deep Purple 1972 rock anthem 'Smoke on the Water'.

Leaves on the Green

We all came out to Rode Road
In the Northern Suburb Chermside
To play the Div 5 semi final
We had a much-changed side.
With the sun shining bright
And the wind in the trees
On a winter's day in Brissie
We love bowls days like these.

Leaves on the Green, Whistles in the Air

Lois and Graham finally arrived
after a long scenic tour
To play in the opposite direction
That we hadn't played before.
With the Div 3 final happening right alongside
We were playing a good team
This could be a very bumpy ride.

Leaves on the Green, Whistles in the Air

After the toss and the rollup
We found rinks 2, 3 and 4
With the noisy young netballers right next door
To play the team we hadn't beat before.
With the wind blowing hard
Some bowls short, narrow, or wide
No matter what, we all did our best
And I know, I know we did it with pride.

Leaves on the Green, Whistles in the Air

With Tim rolling jacks
Dicky saving shots
Rob and Peter just called up
We'll give it all we've got.
With Ken bowling lead
And Mark doing drives
With Bill and Graham as seconds
Could we ever survive.

Leaves on the Green, Whistles in the Air

Close 'til the end
It was a really tough game
We gave it our all
And we left with no shame.
SLBC is never flashy, pushy or loud
And wherever we play we do the club proud
We always play straight, true and fair.

Leaves on the Green, Whistles in the Air