

SLBC NEWS



8 October 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

STATE TITLES – HERE WE COME!



What a wonderful day Sunday 5 October 2025 turned out to be! A beautiful day and who could wish for more? The Brisbane Broncos won both in the women and the men and our very own "Northern Saints" surprised even themselves with a win. Here's how it happened.

Kawana (Sunshine Coast Division 1 Champions) had already earlier in the day convincingly knocked out the team from Pine Rivers, (the Moreton Bay Division 1 Champions). So, it was against teams from Kawana containing the calibre of players an upcoming bowler could only dream about becoming, that our Northern Saints combo team from St Lucia and Northern Suburbs were to battle in the final. Northern Saints were, at best, described as the underdogs with nothing to lose but to enjoy the afternoon.

Playing in the Brisbane District uniforms because of being a combo team made up from two clubs, it was a slow start for the team of Rachel Chiang, Pam Richardson, Nikki Geran and skipped by Pam Salway. At the ninth end it was 5-18. It looked like the game had gotten away and it was not going to be an enjoyable afternoon after all, instead it had the promise of being a long afternoon against Kawana Thunder's Maria Rigby-skipped team. But, in true fighting spirit and a bit of luck/skill, our girls started to turn things around, winning the next 9 ends out of 12. To make it even better and a far more enjoyable afternoon, a seven was scored on end 19 which saw the Northern Saints take the lead. Score after 21 ends was a win 27-22.

On the rink skipped by Northern Suburbs' Chris Baxter, with Elise Anderson and Tahlia Lait and led well by SLBC's Suzanne Jordan, it was a different story. Leading from the sixth end, they were always slightly ahead of Kawana Thunder's Katelyn Inch-skipped team until end 19 when the opposition scored a four. Score after 21 ends - a loss 15-20.

Now, I'm no mathematician but a +5 and a -5 equals a big donut, zero, nil, nothing, (0). So, both rinks had to resume play for a one-end shoot-out. Chris's team was first to finish the end to score a 4. Pam's team held 2 and were placing defensive shots to prevent losing a 5 with the last remaining bowl to be played. It was a thin edge of the jack from the last bowl of Maria Rigby which meant Kawana scored 3.

Final result = Northern Saints +1 and we're **OFF TO THE STATE TITLES!**

Thanks to the players who never gave up. Thanks to the supporters who came and cheered. I'm sure they had a roller-coaster ride just as much as the players did.

The BQ Division 1 Pennant State Finals will be held at Club Tweed Heads on Saturday/Sunday 1-2 November. Our ladies will take on the winners from the other eight zones across Queensland and perhaps, just perhaps, they might surprise us again.

- Pam Salway, Bowls Captain

OPEN CONSISTENCY COMPETITION



The final between Lois Bradley and Graham Legg was held on Tuesday. With the merciless sun blazing down on a parched green, the stage was set for a shootout between these two excellent draw bowlers.

For those unfamiliar with the Consistency scoring, there are 10 points on offer at each end with 4, 3, 2, 1 being given to the four closest shots nearest the jack with the winner reaching 100 points first. Lois and Graham didn't give an inch being almost shot for shot and were even through the 80s and 90s until the last end which began with Lois on 96 and Graham on 94, both having the opportunity to close out the match.

It was a dramatic finish. Lois had bowls very close to the jack and Graham tried to send his bowl between them. Speed was his undoing as he shifted the jack more than the allowed one metre, receiving a deduction (-5) to his score, the first deduction of the whole game. That allowed Lois to pass the 100-mark and claim the title. Thank you to Margaret Miller who managed the metre stick, scorecard and washer with aplomb under tiring weather conditions. This was a great final in a format which will no doubt attract more entries next year.

MIXED PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL



Craig Francis and Pam Richardson have successfully defended their title of SLBC Mixed Pairs Champions this year by winning a closely fought match against Rachel Chiang and Dicky Ng.

Craig and Pam jumped out to a 6-0 lead but Rachel and Dicky equalised by the 8th end. Craig and Pam responded with a 5 on the following end which turned out to be the highest score of the afternoon. All other scores were either two or one which was indicative of a highly competitive final. Dicky and Rachel won the last three ends but, after the required 21 ends, the margin to Craig and Pam, 21-17, gave them the title.

Congratulations to all players for a very exciting match!

SPREADING THE WEAR ON THE GREENS

It is up to us, those playing bowls, to make an effort to spread the wear on the greens, to minimise trekking down the same paths, putting the mats in the same position every end and kicking back bowls to the same position. Change things around so the same parts of the greens aren't overused and those which need care can recover.

Crossing over on the rink is one area which needs more thought by bowlers. **Walk down the middle of the rink!** When you think about it, our bowls travel in an arc wide to the edges so walking wide on the rink as well as having the bowls track that way wears out the grass more towards the sides. Walking down the middle is the best choice and you are also out of the line of sight of bowlers on adjacent rinks who don't have to wait while you wander up while crossing over along the side edge of your rink.

Coming down to the club for a **PRACTICE ROLL-UP? ALWAYS PLAY EAST-WEST.** Because we generally play North-South so the late afternoon sun is not in our eyes, the North-South direction gets more wear. Help the greens to recover by practicing East-West, that is, towards the University and, if possible, play on the middle rinks 3, 4 and 5.

MIXED BIRDIE TRIPLES

It must be the end of another competition year at SLBC because the Mixed Birdie Triples are soon upon us. Again proudly sponsored by St Lucia Dental, "The Birdies" is a round robin event over several Saturdays in November and December. The great news is that, because each team has five members and it's a triples competition, there is flexibility as to who plays in which games. This means you don't have to be available for every game.

The even better news is that there is prizemoney! Please nominate via the website. The teams are club-selected and nominations close on Saturday 1 November. Competition begins on Saturday 15 November. Go the Birdies!

– Graham Legg, Games Manager



SPRING FASHION PARADE

We were blessed with a perfect day for the Club's Annual Fashion Parade, presented by Portofino. After a complimentary glass of champagne (thanks to our charming bar staff), came a succession of drawings for door prizes and raffles which were eagerly received. Then, nearly eighty members and guests were enjoying a lunch of fresh sandwiches with delicious fillings, some of which brought back memories for bowlers who belonged in the days when lunches were a given on Tuesdays. Thanks to the team in the kitchen for recreating these wonders.

Following dessert (Who doesn't love chocolate treats with blueberries and cream?), the models from our members paraded the latest fashions with style and flair to great applause. The outfits were all very colourful with the words "not needing an iron", "easy to pack" and "stretchy" putting us in mind of cruises and relaxing vacations.

Many thanks to all the volunteers and members who planned and organised the event, set up the room, sourced and sold raffle prizes and tickets, worked so hard in the kitchen, modelled the clothes and cleaned up following the luncheon and parade. We look forward to another enjoyable time next year.

NEW SPONSOR ANNOUNCEMENT



We are delighted to welcome *Twins on the Village* as a new sponsor of the Club. This well-known local restaurant is already a favourite among many of our members and we are sure its popularity will only grow once more get to enjoy their wonderful, authentic Italian cuisine.

Located on Hawken Drive, *Twins on the Village* has been serving the community for over 13 years - a true testament to the quality and consistency of their food. Chef Renti, who has been at the helm since the very beginning, co-owns the restaurant with his wife and her twin sister.

As part of their sponsorship, the restaurant will be providing \$25 food vouchers to be raffled every second Saturday. Conditions of redemption will be similar to those used for Common Ground Cellars and will be clearly stated on each voucher. A special thankyou goes to Stephen James for introducing *Twins on the Village* to the Club and assisting with the sponsorship arrangements. Stephen will continue to act as our liaison with the restaurant with my support.

We encourage all members to support our sponsors whenever possible. Their contribution plays a significant role in keeping the Club financially strong and helps us keep member fees at a reasonable level.

- Ian Thomas, Sponsorship Manager

RUB OF THE GREEN

Renovation of the Blue Green has now commenced. It will return to play as soon as possible though a minimum of four weeks is expected before it is back in use. Final timing will depend on weather conditions and overall growth. Unfortunately, we have had to begin the process before receiving the soil test results regarding the presence of Ground Pearl. These results are still with the laboratory and we will update members when we know more about the situation.

The work so far:

- 2 October – The green was scarified and brushed.
- This week – Core drilling, aeration and topdressing with sand and fertiliser will take place. With the ongoing dry weather, watering has commenced. At present, irrigation is scheduled for Saturday and Wednesday nights with the program to be reviewed regularly to ensure both effective growth and cost efficiency.

Thank you for your understanding as we work to bring the Blue Green back into top playing condition.

- Ian Thomas, Greens Director

NAME BADGES FOR MEMBERS

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 badges make it easier for all members to greet each other by name instead of relying on their memories. Send your preferred name and type of badge to the Providore at providore@stluciabowls.org The list will be open for a week or two.

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

Captain's Corner

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Captain's Corner will disappear for three weeks while I go away on a holiday. Coming up during the next month or two whilst I'm away are:

- **11 October - SLBC President's Fours** - The club-selected teams are now published on the website. Remember to stay after the games for nibbles and presentations.
- **17 October – BDBA Open Senior Pairs** – The draw has been completed and SLBC's Craig Francis will compete in this event being played at Chermside Bowls Club. We wish him to play well and have good luck.
- **25/26 October - BDBA Singles (Men and Women)** – Nominations are open now and will close 17 October. Competition is played 25/26 October and 8/9 November at Red Hill (W) and Geebung (M). More details and entry is through BowlsLink.
- **1 / 2 November – Bowls Queensland State Final Div 1 Pennant – Women** – The Northern Saints (combo team from St Lucia and Northern Suburbs) have won their way into the State finals. Games will be played at Club Tweed Heads on 1-2 November. All are welcome to support our women's team.
- **8 November - St Lucia Dental Birdie Triples – Play** will commence on 8 November. Watch this space to find out how to enter.

- **14 November – BDBA Senior Mixed Fours** – Nominations close 6 November, with the competition played at Chermside. More details and entry is through BowlsLink. (St Lucia is the defending champion in this event).
- **15/16 November – BDBA Novice Singles** – Nominations are open for this event. If you've played for four years or less, you are eligible to enter. Nominations close 7 November and the competition is played 15/16 & 23 November at Enoggera. More details and entry is through BowlsLink.
- **Bowls Premier League (BPL)** - BPL22 runs from October 27-31, 2025, at Club Pine Rivers with live streaming on Bowls Australia's YouTube channel, as well as live broadcasts from Tuesday to Friday from 4pm until 10pm AEDT on Fox, Kayo and Sky Sports NZ.

TIP OF THE DAY - Strategic Bowl Selection

Fast Greens: Use narrower, faster-turning bowls for leading or singles.

Slow/Wet Greens: Use wider-turning bowls for skipping to help the bowl find its line.

Understanding Your Bowls: Know your bowls' characteristics (narrow turning, medium turning, wide turning) and how they interact with different green surfaces and playing positions.

(Credit: Gary Willis – Australian Coach)

Please be at the club and have your green fees paid by 12 noon.

OPEN PRESIDENT'S FOURS 12.30pm on Saturday 11 October 2025

10 TEAMS – 2 GAMES OF 10 ENDS EACH

TEAM 1 Narelle Sutton Don Anderson Red O'Hara Pam Salway (S)	TEAM 2 Anne Kuhnemann Peter Jordan Lloyd Edwards Bruce Holwell (S)	TEAM 3 Marj Johnson Greg Ferrero Tim Salway Craig Francis (S)
TEAM 4 Doug Phipps Paul Keane Roland Baudet Dicky Ng (S)	TEAM 5 Frank Wark Paul Pollock Rijn Camphorst Doug Buchbach (S)	TEAM 6 Patrick Bailey Josie Caltabiano Rob Malcolm Robin Town (S)
TEAM 7 Vaughan Thomas Peter Broderick Max Grey Peter Fairchild (S)	TEAM 8 Rachel Chiang Erin Grey Clive Hamlin Graham Legg (S)	TEAM 9 Col Bertwistle Bev Walker Brian Vandersee Ken Harvey (S)
TEAM 10 Stephen James Kellie Broderick Ian Thomas Pam Richardson (S)		

NOTES

As there will only be one green available for play because the other is being renovated, there will be no Social Bowls played on Saturday 11 October 2025.

1. The opponents for both games will be determined prior to play.
2. The winning team will be the team with the greatest number of wins and, if more than one team, then by the highest margin over the two games. If still tied, then by the highest win/loss percentage.