

WICKS

AUGUST 2009

PALO ALTO LAWN BOWLS CLUB

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WICKS EDITOR

David Hale

SUMMER HOURS

Tuesday, Thursday
Saturday 9:45 am
Sunday 1:30 pm

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Lawn Bowling at the 2009 National Senior Games

This was a most successful event in almost every aspect. The publicity and attention PALBC got far exceeded our wildest expectation. Lawn Bowling seemed to receive more press than Track and Field which brings thousands of athletes to town. The competition and the function of the tournament went very well. The competitors felt they were involved in a first class event.

The support we got from the City was above and beyond what we had reason to expect. The gardeners even had "Welcome Senior Athletes" tags on when they mowed our green five mornings in a row. The green bowled the "best ever" and it still looked beautiful. Former Mayor and current Councilman Jack Morton was a frequent visitor to the green during the tournament, and was here to say some kind words and present the Medals to the winners at the two ceremonies.

We were sorry that we did not have more bowlers from around the country. If we had a chance to do this again we would make greater attempts to reach further afield. We now know what a special event the Senior Games is in its entire scope and the USLBA should be a bigger player. Of course, everything is easier the second time.

Many of our club members were Volunteers at other venues. Our lawn bowling competitors spent many hours following other sports and were entranced and amazed at what was going



Silver: Rod Arriaga and Norm Tiernan. Gold: Alan Bushell and Gordon Lockhart. Bronze: Ian Harris and John SanMartini.



on all over the Stanford Campus. Senior Games Chairman Anne Cribbs and all her staff were a dream to work with. We were invited to every planning meeting and function they held as if we were a major player in the games. We greatly appreciated it and showed it by our attendance.

Our fun day celebration on Friday was a great event. The food at the noon barbecue was outstanding and more local bowlers had the chance to be part of the Senior Games.

There were some fabulous twists and turns during the competition and Terry Hogan is going to write a review of what went on as best he can remember and put it on the PALBC web page and in the club history files. If any players or spectators have something they would like included please put it on paper and give it to Terry.



Silver: E.B.Parkell and Linda Flores. Gold: Sandi Souza and Laura Lewis with Councilman Jack Morton. Bronze: Nikki Schrage and Sarah Babin.

Hand Signals (Part 2)

In June, I wrote about some basic hand signals. This month, I'd like to add a few more.

When you are on the mat and your skip wants you to roll a forehand shot, she or he should signal with a sweeping motion showing you the shot they want you to make. This is done by the skip holding their left hand up and bringing it down with a curving motion outward and then inward.

Vice versa, for a backhand shot. The skip should hold up their right hand and bring it down with a curving motion outward and then inward. (This is assuming the player on the mat is right-handed. For left-handers, it would be reverse.)

When it doesn't matter whether you bowl forehand or backhand, your skip may signal that by bringing their hands up in front of their body, waist high, and turning them back and forth.

If your skip wants you to know which bowls in the head belong to your team, they should point to the bowl, or several bowls, and bring that same hand to their chest. It shows "ownership" of the bowls. They are yours.

A bowl in the head belonging to the other team is shown by the skip pointing to it and turning their hand in a "sweeping away" motion.

It is very difficult trying to describe a motion or signal. If any of these signals, as I have described them, don't quite compute, please feel free to ask me or John Hickson. It's much easier to show them in person than on a written page.

— E.B. Parkell

Welcome to our New Members

Dean Bunderson
1321 Bryant St
Palo Alto, CA 94301
650-444-7127
svahadean@gmail.com

Gene Segre
470 Santa Rita Ave
Palo Alto, CA 94301
650-326-5264
esegre@sbcglobal.net

Geoff Tate
Colleen Tate
Ryan Tate (Student)
4 Valley Oak
Portola Valley, Ca 94028
650-851-8063
geoff@arastradero.com (Geoff)
cttate@pacbell.net (Colleen)
rgtate@ucdavis.edu (Ryan)

Erin Tate (Student)
1631 Kentfield Ave.
Redwood City, CA 94061
650-867-2863
ectate28@gmail.com

Returning Members
Richard Wheeler
2648 Regent Street
Berkeley, CA 94704
510-849-0251
richardjwheeler@comcast.net

Alex Xavier
Maureen Xavier
5 Belmont Dr
Daly City, CA 94015
415-533-6919
avmx@aol.com

The 2009 Men's Draw Pairs

The Men's Draw Pairs tournament had a big turnout with 24 men (and one woman). In what may be a first in a men's tournament,



Terri Torke added color as a substitute.

Terri Torke stepped in to replace a bowler who was unable to continue due to the weather. She was appropriately attired in a bright pink blouse in contrast to the formal whites of the men.

After a long hot day of close matches, the finalist pairs, Terry Hogan & Ron LeBlanc,

vs Bud Birkenseer & Kevin Latham, decided to play the final on another day. An open day has not yet been available due to the preparation of our green for the Senior Games.



Men's semifinalists (not in team pairs): Kevin Latham, Ron LeBlanc, Terry Hogan, Bud Birkenseer, Ed Walker, David Hale, Peter Knopf, and Peter Danner.



Bonny Turner and Linda Flores reached the finals.

The 2009 Women's Singles

Six bowlers contested the Women's Singles Championship. Linda Flores and Bonny Turner had a straight-forward climb through the field to reach the finals. Linda concluded a day of unbeatable bowling to claim the 2009 championship.

A Special Thanks to Terry Hogan

Terry, our representative to the 2009 Senior Games Organization, has spent much of the past year planning and organizing the Lawn Bowling portion of the games. Terry's enthusiasm, hard work and networking skills paid off in a big way for our relatively small event. You couldn't miss the PR our club received in every publication. The local media loved us.

Thank you Terry for your early morning rolling of the green, your mid-day grilling, your encouragement, your smiles and even the end of the day watering of the green. You deserve a well-earned rest and a big THANK YOU from the Palo Alto Lawn Bowls Club. We will all remember the Senior Games.

— PALBC President, Bonny Turner

What's Happening at PALBC

Aussie BBQ with the Mighty Crows— as in Bluegrass Crows

Get ready, get set, for a trip “down under.” Join us on August 22 for an evening of fun and festivity organized by Kevin Latham and his wife Annet for PALBC's Aussie BBQ. Kevin and Annet are bringing most of the food with them from Australia. It'll be the real deal with authentic dishes like sausage sizzle with fried onions, convict damper, shrimp on the barbie, and traditional Aussie meat pies. If you save room for dessert you can choose from pavlov, lamingtons, Arnott's Tim Tams biscuits, Chocolate Mints biscuits or Cream biscuits, Allen's Cherry Ripes, Fantales, or Jaffas and Hoadley's Violet Crumble. Life is short—have dessert first!

Bluegrass music may not be from Australia but the Mighty Crows with our own Ken Torke would have them up and dancing. This is a return engagement for the band and we hope they'll be back again.

Dinner will be \$15 with drinks \$1-\$2. Watch for news and a sign-up sheet at the clubhouse.

City Moves Ahead with Locker Room Renovations

At this point, we are still on schedule to have our locker rooms torn up from September 6 through October 31. We will have portable toilet facilities, but expect our lawn bowling to continue as usual. **EVERYONE WILL NEED TO REMOVE THEIR BOWLS AND OTHER PERSONAL BELONGINGS FROM THE LOCKERS PRIOR TO SEPTEMBER 6**, as you may not be able to enter the restrooms or lockers during that extended period of time. We will keep everyone posted as to any changes via email and signs in the club house.

A Reminder

One more reminder that tags must be up 15 minutes before the draw or you may not get in a game. Just call 323-2575 if you are running late.

PALBC CALENDAR

Pizza Bowls every Wednesday, 5:00 pm (weather permitting).

Last Friday League at 5:00 pm on August 14.

August

- 3-7 Senior Games
- 5 NO PIZZA BOWLS
- 8 Regular Draw game, 9:30 am
- 11 Board Meeting after draw games
- 22 Aussie BBQ and and Bluegrass.
Draw games, 3:00 pm, BBQ and music follows
- 29 Women's draw pairs tournament

September

- 1 Board Meeting
- 6 Construction begins on locker rooms scheduled for completion Oct 31
- 10 Mixed team pairs tournament



Coach's Corner

Foot Faulting

Too many bowlers continue to foot fault and don't realize it. So remember, it is perfectly reasonable to point it out quietly to a bowler who is in fact breaking the law. However before you take such action, be sure you are absolutely clear about this law yourself.

It is Law 20: “Position on the Mat” on page 27 in the *USLBA Laws of the Sport of Bowls*, 2007.

1. It states quite specifically that *one* foot must be completely on the mat prior to the delivery. Of course, it can be either foot.
2. At the point of releasing the bowl, you must have at least one foot partly on or over the mat.

You therefore need to remember, if you are a right handed bowler, that your left foot will leave the mat as you step forward to make the delivery, and so you must ensure that the right foot is partly on or over the mat. It is the reverse for a left handed bowler.

There are times when it is necessary to move to one side of the mat to take a new delivery line.

Then it is even more important to check that one foot is on the mat at the commencement of the delivery and that one foot remains on or partly on/over the mat at the point of delivery.

If you have any questions, please let me know and maybe we could cover this subject before one of our Saturday draw games.

— John Hickson

Wednesday Evening Bowling

Some days are just ideal. Last Wednesday was one of them. The grass was freshly cut and bright green. The bowls traveled well and had a moderate draw. The sky was bright blue and a fresh breeze fanned my face. The sun was bright, the temperature just right, and a wonderful warmth soaked into me. The crows flew overhead in an aimless manner, coming down occasionally to peck at something, but with no urgency.

We proceeded with the orderly routine of play. George Marotta (AKA George 1) and I played Vice. George has regained his health and a new wife. He is a truly happy man. We had good shots and bum ones. Ian had a beauty where he took away five points. A good skip does that sort of thing. George Stewart (AKA George 2) radiates happiness. He had his share of good shots. I had my moment or two.

It was a happy time for me, and, I expect, for many others.

— Fred Hawley



Jackets, sweaters, and hot coffee were the order of the day as the sun worshippers of Palo Alto travelled to the cold north for the Cable Car Classic.

We Left Our Cable Car in San Francisco

Sadly, the PALBC had to return the Cable Car Classic Trophy to the San Francisco Club after only one year of victory. They are tough competition and added the weather card to make the day even more challenging for the Palo Alto teams.

Add a bit of fog, mist, and a chill to the air to an already competitive atmosphere and we were down after the morning games. We must have become acclimated to the less than per-

fect weather because, even with a chilling breeze, we played much better in the afternoon regardless of the results.

It was truly a fun day for all and San Francisco was a terrific host providing a roast chicken lunch and lots of laughs all around. Our tournament chairman for the day, John Hickson, did a great job in organizing the Palo Alto teams.

Rumor has it that if Peter Knopf had not played for San Francisco, the results could have been quite different...and then he tried to get in the Palo Alto team photo—imagine!

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