

# WICKS

NOVEMBER 2019

## PALO ALTO LAWN BOWLS CLUB

### PRESIDENT

John MacMorris

### VICE PRESIDENT

Frank Matyskiela

### TREASURER

Ed Hickey

### SECRETARY

Kent Mather

### DIRECTORS

Bud Birkenseer

John Hickson

Liz Hogan

Chuck Sieloff

Christine Stafford

Ed Walker

### PIMD REPRESENTATIVE

Frank Matyskiela

### WICKS EDITOR

David Hale

### SUMMER HOURS

Tuesday, Thursday,

Saturday, 10:00 am.

Wednesday TGIW

Bowls, 5:30 pm.

Sunday, 1:30 pm.

### CONTACT

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## Fred Hawley Invitational Hosted by the Palo Alto LBC

Long-time Palo Alto member Fred Hawley loved lawn bowling whether he was watching or playing. He supported teammates and opponents alike, was always rooting for the underdog, offering congratulations, and making some totally unbelievable shots himself!

Fred thought there should be a tournament for super seniors, he called those in his age group “Golden Geezers.” This tournament for bowlers over 80 was established in Fred’s name.

Three 8-end games were played to move the tournament along quickly, even with a full lunch break. As usual, the club provided lunch for the competitors and markers.

After the first two games, three of the six bowlers were undefeated: Tess Ball, Jerry Knott and Larry Murphy. However, when Jerry played Larry, he was holding multiple points which would have given him the win, but Jerry moved the jack and cut his own count to just 1 point and the game ended in a tie. They each had 4 game points going into the last game while Tess had 6. Both Tess and Jerry won their last games but the earlier tie dropped Jerry into second place.

Congratulations to Tess Ball, our 2019 Fred Hawley Invitational Champion and the first woman to win the event.

Thank you to Albert Tam, John MacMorris and Bud Birkenseer for marking the games.



*Super seniors Oscar Collaço, Larry Murphy, champion Tess Ball, Peter Knopf, Jerry Knott and Norm Tiernan.*

## National Championships Were a Rolling Success in San Francisco!

Following 20 minutes of mesmerizing drumbeats by a Taiko troupe, a lone bagpiper led all 48 Nationals finalists representing every Bowls USA division as they marched single file onto the green. The 2019 Bowls USA National Championships, hosted by the San Francisco Lawn Bowling Club and sponsored by the Pacific Intermountain Division (PIMD), was off to a blissful start.

After the welcoming remarks of Tournament Chair/MC Robb Pawlak, Co-chairs Ginger Harris and Rita Arriaga, and PIMD President Zarka Popovic, each division’s uniformed lineup was introduced. Local BUSA Hall of Famers Joe Shepard and Bill Campbell were honored by rolling the ceremonial first jack and bowl.

To celebrate the renovation of its three greens and century-old clubhouse, San Francisco Rec & Parks GM Phil Ginsburg and club President John Grimes cut a red ribbon (with real 4-foot scissors!) and the opening party moved into high gear.

Players and guests enjoyed hors d’oeuvres and drinks in the Edwardian style clubhouse. Founded in 1901, it’s the oldest municipal bowls club in the country, and later merged with the adjoining women’s club (America’s first women’s bowls club). The clubhouse and greens are a city landmark.

One could say temperatures *averaged* a perfect 76 with Monday–Wednesday soaring into the low 90s, and Thursday–Saturday in the low 60s. Throughout the week, the greens ran fast and smooth after great care by SF Rec & Parks’ Greenskeeper Tory Verhoven and club volunteers.

### Singles Competition

Undefeated Anne Nunes (Newport Harbor/Southwest Stripes) won her third singles title in five years, her fourth since 2003, and her ninth overall including women’s pairs titles. Nita Chambers (Jefferson Park/Northwest) was the runner-up at 5–2, capturing her first medal in five Nationals.

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The men's singles offered surprising drama: a four-way logjam for first at 5-2. Following an impromptu huddle by Tournament Director Rod Arriaga, Robb Pawlak, and BUSA Officials, plus-points were used to determine seedings for the two semi-final games played after Friday's lunch.

Two-time defending champion Charlie Herbert (Newport Harbor/Southwest Stripes) defeated veteran Nationals and Open medalist Steve Smith (Coronado/Southwest Stars). A few rinks over, Chris Davis (Jefferson Park/Northwest) reversed his morning loss to Rob Behncke (Milwaukee LP/Central) to earn a Saturday showdown with Charlie. The final would be played Saturday morning.

### **Pairs Competition**

In women's pairs, clubmates Dee McSparran and Regina Banares (Sun City/South Central) went 6-1 for the win, while Sandra Wall (World Parkway/Southeast) and Martha Nilsen (Pinehurst/Southeast) finished second at 5-2.

In men's pairs, Robert Busciglio (Long Beach) and Matt Bauchiero (Newport Harbor) of the Southwest Stars edged out the Southeast's Bud Ricucci (Mount Dora) and Steve Nelson (Asheville), winning their crucial match by a single point.

### **Friday Evening's Gala Awards Ceremony**

With the men's singles final yet to be played, Friday evening's gala awards ceremony was classically San Franciscan. Starting with drinks and appetizers in Golden Gate Park's majestic Conservatory of Flowers, 150 players and guests strolled through rooms of tropical gardens and lily pools to an adjoining banquet pavilion, greeted by a jazz trio and, voila, more wine!

Master co-hosts Robb Pawlak and Rita Arriaga introduced Rec & Parks GM Phil Ginsburg (the club's de facto patron saint), who presented President Grimes with separate National Championships proclamations from SF Mayor London Breed, the city's Board of Supervisors, and the California Legislature.

Bowls USA President Scott Roberts, Tournament Director Rod Arriaga, Robb Pawlak, Memorial Fund Board member Debbie Tupper and PIMD President Zarka Popovic then awarded plaques and checks to all players, with top honors and resounding ovations for the dozen medalists. The first-ever Team plaque was awarded to the SWD Stars for most points (games) won. Toasted in absentia was Co-chair Ginger Harris, who left earlier in the week to attend a family wedding.

Finally on Saturday morning under cool, windy conditions came the final act of the men's singles. Charlie Herbert started strong and maintained his intense focus against Chris Davis to pull away for the title. A crowd favorite all week, Chris was impressive and quietly charming in winning his first Nationals medal.

### **Thank you Bowlers, Guests and Volunteers!**

On behalf of Robb, Ginger, Rita, Rod, SFLBC members and our entire PIMD family of clubs, Zarka Popovic and I are humbled and honored to have hosted the Nationals. Our dozens of local and regional volunteers are applauded for carrying out their tasks to perfection: from planning, grooming,

fundraising, renovations and logistics, to greens set-up, marking, scorekeeping, umpiring, hospitality and publicity.

We cherish our guests' kind expressions of appreciation, remarking how warmly-welcomed and pampered they felt all week. How grateful we are to be part of the uniquely friendly Bowls USA community!

—John Grimes, President  
San Francisco Lawn Bowling Club



*Palo Alto Member Scottie Marzoni made the newspaper while competing in the Men's singles at the National Championships.*

## What's Happening at PALBC

### **Message from the President**

Our Annual Meeting and Luncheon will be held on Saturday, December 14. As is customary at the meeting, a new slate of Officers and Directors will be presented for approval. In addition to a slate of proposed Directors, we will be presenting proposed changes to the club's Constitution and By-laws this year.

The club's Board of Directors proposes to reduce the number of Directors on the Board and the quorum for conducting club business from six Directors to five.

In recent years the club has experienced difficulty in recruiting candidates to serve as directors, as is evident from the fact that three individuals resigned as Directors this year. We have had two Board meetings this year that lacked a quorum. We have been fortunate to fill the vacancies with dedicated and capable individuals who have all served on the Board previously. However, the fact remains that we have had difficulty attracting new talent to serve on our Board of Directors.

The Board's proposal to reduce the number of Directors on the Board and the quorum for conducting club business from six Directors to five is a direct response to this issue. The proposal has the additional benefit of eliminating tie votes by creating a Board of nine members: five Directors and four Officers.

We will present these proposed changes to the membership for approval at the annual membership meeting in December. The changes require the approval of two-thirds of the members in attendance at the meeting.

Here are the specific proposed amendments to the club's Constitution and By-laws that will be necessary to make the changes:

1. Changing Constitution Article V A., from, "...six (6) directors..." to, "...five (5) directors"
2. Changing By-laws Article I. Director, from, "All Directors, normally six (6)..." to, "All Directors, normally five (5)..."
3. Changing By-laws Article II. Office Tenure, from, "Three Directors shall be elected each year..." to, "Directors shall be elected each year to fill vacancies on the board for the coming year for terms of one or two years, as appropriate..."
4. Changing By-laws Article IV. Board of Directors' Meetings from "...A quorum of six voting members of the Board is required." to, "...A quorum of five voting members of the Board is required."

If you have questions, concerns or suggestions, please contact any club Officer or Director. We invite your input. These are proposals from the Board, but the choices are yours.

—John MacMorris

### Winter Hours Time Change

Beginning Tuesday, November 5, 2019 the club's draw games on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday will begin at 12:30 pm. Please have your chips up by 12:15 pm. Sunday games will begin at 1:30 pm. However, coaches Sam Hebert and Frank Matyskiela will continue to offer coaching at 12:30 pm for those who want to improve their bowling.

### Thank you Palo Alto!

Our division has received numerous plaudits and several notes from players and other attendees thanking our division for our over-the-top effort to make the 2019 National Championships an event to remember.

As a co-chair of the event, I'd like to personally thank the leadership and members of the Palo Alto club for their generous support over the past 2 years. From raffle ticket buyers (I hope a few of you won some big \$\$\$!), to attendees at our Wednesday evening dinners (Profits went to support our fund raising), volunteer markers and score keepers, umpires, the lunch bunch who provided a delicious and healthy meal for close to 100 people, and spectators who came to support our participants, *Thank You!!*

The enthusiasm and overt friendliness of our membership did not go unnoticed. This was truly a division club sup-



## Coach's Corner

### Fall is coming Fast

So is our green! As cooler days come on, the grass goes dormant, which means the green speeds up.

We are now seeing the benefits of all the hard work the City has put in over the last four months. Most of the sandy areas have grown over and on Wednesday October 3 the green was running at 12.25secs.

Rolling on a regular basis makes all the difference, so we will be aiming to roll at least twice if not three times a week during October and November. The roller has just been serviced so should give us a smoother ride! Come and enjoy the faster pace without having to worry about whether you can reach a long jack!!

Let me finish with a tip for leads. You can choose to bowl forehand or backhand at the beginning of each end but remember to deliver all your bowls on the same hand, unless your skip asks you to change.

Occasionally the skip may ask you to bowl a particular hand as a tactic or because he or she considers one hand more reliable than the other. If you feel you want to change from forehand to backhand or the other way round always ask first. Your skip might say no.

Remember, it is a team game and the skip is there to guide the team to success.

—John Hickson

ported event, and every club did its part! From experience, that is not always the case. We set a fine example of each one doing what she or he could contribute for the benefit of our bowling community.

—Ginger Harris

### PALBC CALENDAR

#### October

- 26 Tab Boyden Memorial Halloween Classic Invitational, Del Mesa Carmel LBC.
- 26 Halloween Evening Glow Bowls Invitational, Oakland LBC.

#### November

- 2 PIMD Novice Recognition and Closing Day, Rossmoor LBC.
- 9 Glenn Stewart Memorial Invitational (mixed triples), Palo Alto LBC.
- 16 San Jose 3s Invitational, San Jose LBC.
- 17 PALBC Soup and Salad Lunch, Palo Alto LBC.

#### December

- 7 PIMD Meeting, Berkeley LBC.
- 14 PALBC Annual Meeting and Luncheon, Palo Alto LBC. Meeting at 11:00 followed by lunch.



## PIMD Novice Tournament

There was an impressive turnout for the PIMD Novice Tournament hosted by the Berkeley LBC. It was encouraging to see 16 competitors, a good number of whom were women. It bodes well for the future of our game.

With this large number of bowlers, the tournament extended over two days. The results of the three Saturday games would determine the four bowlers who would play for the championship on Sunday. Games were played to 16 points.

Many bowlers were in the mix to advance on Saturday. Three bowlers were undefeated and the fourth finalist was determined by the most differential points among the five competitors with two wins and one loss.

The four bowlers who returned on Sunday to play for the championship were Mike McClintock, Mary Collins, and Palo Alto LBC members Albert Tam and Rose Selby.

With four bowlers, a round robin was played, again to 16 points. Albert won his first two games but lost his third game to Mike giving them both two wins and a loss. A 4-end playoff was held and Mike outlasted Albert. Congratulations to Mike McClintock, our 2019 PIMD Novice Tournament.



*PIMD Novice finalists Albert Tam, Mary Collins, Champion Mike McClintock, and Rose Selby.*

We hope our new bowlers had fun and there was certainly some great bowling. Thanks to all for playing.

Many thanks to Ann Brillhart who was our Umpire for both days and also marked both days. Thanks also to the Berkeley LBC for hosting, and to all the volunteers who marked, put out food to snack upon, and who set up and took down the rinks. It takes a village for sure.

## A Good Idea Then is a Good Idea Now

Andy Vevers, tournament director of the Berkeley LBC, has been busy this year creating some fun events. His latest adventure is the possible rebirth of the Champion of Champions singles tournament, tentatively scheduled for November 17. This is not a new concept, but a tournament from the past.

Many clubs hold a singles tournament annually, Berkeley's event will pit those champions against each other for a weekend, so a club can brag that their bowler is the best of the best.

Clubs will send their singles champion (men and women if they have separate tournaments) to this event, to see who is the best of the best each year. Because we may not have many entries this first year, we will likely have men and women compete in a single tournament.

It is understood that your club's singles champions may not be available the weekend of the event. The men's or women's singles runner-up can go in place of the actual champion so your club will have a representative. Clubs that do not hold a bona fide tournament for a Singles Champ will not be included.

That said, there is still time to organize a tournament before November 17th so your club can join the competition. The San Jose LBC just took that action and Dr. Mario Giorgianni was delighted with the turnout, as 18 club members signed up—9 men and 9 women. They will have two players coming to Berkeley, a man and a woman, in November. Club Tournament directors should contact your singles champions and tell them to save the date.

PIMD Tournament Director, has sent a flyer to all the clubs with information about the tournament. If you have questions, contact Andy ([andyvevers@gmail.com](mailto:andyvevers@gmail.com)) Have your club champions contact Andy to let him know they are coming to capture those "bragging rights"