



Discover Your Sport... Lawn Bowls



Newsletter

JUNE 2018

BOWLS USA GRANT PROGRAM

The June 30 deadline is fast approaching for 100% BowlsUSA clubs to apply for a grant. Funds can be used for a wide variety of projects and this year's total of funds available is \$10,000.

Projects must be intended to attract new members or to improve the playing experience of the bowlers. Not sure of the possibilities? Here are some suggestions and ways that clubs have used their grants:

- ◆ Advertising (banners, brochures, and flyers to promote a membership drive)
- ◆ Equipment purchase and repairs
- ◆ Replacement of mats, rakes, and club bowls
- ◆ Greens improvement
- ◆ New fencing and backboards
- ◆ Clubhouse improvements
- ◆ Materials/equipment to promote youth bowls programs

Okay, so here's what you have to do to apply:

- ◆ Click [here](#) to go to the website where you can download the new 2018 Grant Program application and the format for the proposed budget for funds usage. (You can also see which clubs received funds last year and how they used them.)
- ◆ Go for it! Fill out and submit the necessary forms.

And once you've got the funds and completed your project(s), you will need to submit a follow-up report on project success to the Grant Committee and to the BowlsUSA Newsletter.

U. S Open Update	2
Floods in Cincinnati & Asheville	3
Meanwhile, in Laguna Beach . . .	4
Farewell to Our Bowling Friends	
Drill to improve skill	5
It's Not Too Early ...	6
PIMD Open Memorial Pairs	
A Glimmer for Williamsburg LBC	
The history of Taylor Bowls—Part 5 and final	7
An Inspiring Story from the Commonwealth Games	8 & 9
Lawn Bowling Leader Gives Back	10
The Villages Senior Games	
Your BowlsUSA Memorial Fund	11
NE Division Open info	12
Upcoming Major Tournaments	
Certified Club Coach Course in October	13
Umpires Corner	14



Check out BowlsUSA on facebook



U. S. OPEN UPDATE

Submitted by Ron Rollick

With what amounts to a record number of entries, there's still room in all events for more. Some events have teams on the wait list while waiting for additional entries to make the competition even.

Here's how it stacks up as of May 31:

◆ **Men's pairs:** Team entries stand at 84; three teams are on the wait list and one more is needed to round out the next group of four; additional entries will be accepted after that until the number reaches 92.

◆ **Men's fours:** Team entries stand at 40; additional entries will be accepted in groups of four.

◆ **Men's singles:** Entries stand at 120; two entrants are on the wait list to round out the next group of four at 124; additional entries will be accepted after

that until the number reaches 128 and then 144.

- ◆ **Women's fours:** Team entries stand at 28; additional entries will be accepted until the number reaches 32.
- ◆ **Women's singles:** Entries stand at 70; 10 more are needed to round out the maximum of 80.
- ◆ **Women's pairs:** Team entries stand at 48; three teams are on the wait list and one more is needed to round out the next group of four; additional entries will be accepted in groups of four after that until the number reaches 64.

(If this is confusing, you can click on the "Open website" link below to see the entry charts.)

This number of entrants, especially for the men's pairs, has required adding a 7th day to finalize the winners. That day is Sunday, November 11th. Play on that day will start at 7:30 a.m. (rather than 8:30 a.m.) to allow international players to finish final matches and still make flights home on time.

This will be an event to remember. DON'T BE LEFT OUT! Get your entries in as soon as possible. Entries are posted almost on a daily basis, so check out the confirmed entries at the [Open website](#).





OUCH! FLOODED GREEN IN CINCINNATI

Submitted by Marty White

In March, the Ohio River and the Little Miami River rose way past flood stage, putting the Cincinnati Lawn Bowling Club green under more than a foot of water. That's the bad news. The good news is that a few days before the flood, the greens maintenance equipment had been moved up higher in the shed so none of it was lost. And the even better news is that there's nothing like a good layer of river silt for improved fertilizing of the green!

Ever optimistic, club members offered some alternatives to bowling on the green. How about encouraging water polo? Or just, "wait until it freezes and we can try curling." Turns out such measures won't be required because today the green looks healthy thanks to the park maintenance crew.

Opening Day of the Cincinnati bowling season along with an Open House went off as scheduled and yielded several new members and the return of old friends.



Looks like even the photographer was a bit water logged when this photo was taken!

AND MORE RAIN, IN ASHEVILLE, NC

Submitted by Steve Nelson

Over 12 inches of rain has fallen in Asheville during the month of May which has created delays and necessary remedial work in the base level for the new green. The week before the rains began, things were moving along on schedule. Graham County Land (GCL) had completed the clearing and leveling work before the surface was tested and released by the engineering firm.

The True Draw crew arrived (2 New Zealand, 1 China and 1 Connecticut) ready for work. The ship with the surface materials was mostly on schedule to dock in Charleston early in May. Then the rains started.

As a result of heavy rain over many days, the sub-base became saturated and unstable (see photo). The engineering firm notified GCL that the sub-base was not within spec and needed to be reworked, delaying any work that True Draw could do.



The forecast is for rain to continue until Sunday, June 3, when a sorely needed dry spell is set to begin. Hopefully drier weather will permit True Draw to lay drainage and build up the base in preparation for the installation of the synthetic surface (bowls carpet). Fingers crossed that the new green will be ready for play sometime in August.

MEANWHILE —————>



JUST ANOTHER TYPICAL DAY AT THE LAGUNA BEACH LBC IN CALIFORNIA



FAREWELL TO OUR BOWLING FRIENDS

Jim Whittaker was generous with his bowling advice and guidance and was a part of the bowling history of many bowlers in San Diego's north county. Besides the pride he took in seeing others succeed, he also was proud to have won the Huntsman Senior Games in both Utah and New Zealand. He was a member of the Lake Hodges Bows Club. Jim passed away in April at the age of 92.




Dave Jones was a jazz lover and an avid sailor who participated in sailboat races and cruises for many years. After having hip surgery, Dave sold his boat and took up lawn bowling at Oxnard Joslyn Lawn Bows Club where he held the offices of Secretary, Treasurer and Club President, and where he was a member for 23 years. Dave passed away in May.



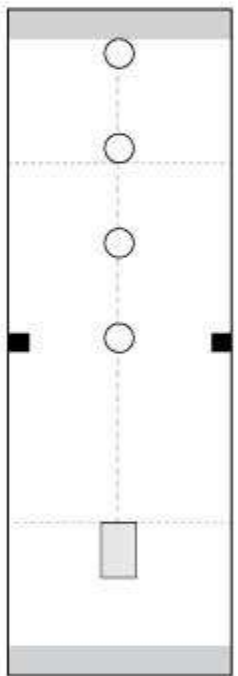


DRILL TO IMPROVE YOUR SKILL



DRAW BOWLING DRILLS

DRAW TO FOUR DIFFERENT LENGTHS



OBJECTIVE : WEIGHT CONTROL

Draw one Bowl AS CLOSE AS POSSIBLE TO EACH LENGTH on BACKHAND **AND** FOREHAND. DO INCREASING AND DECREASING.
(i.e., start short and go long, and start long and finish short).

EQUIPMENT :

4 JACKS
2 MATS

PROCEDURE :

Place Jacks 2 meters apart on the center line (2 meters apart from Hog Line to Ditch).

SCORECARD :

10 ENDS on Forehand - **IN BOTH DIRECTIONS**
10 ENDS on Backhand - **IN BOTH DIRECTIONS**
Bowls touching CORRECT Jack* = **2 POINTS**
Bowls no more than a mat width from CORRECT Jack = **1 POINT**

*CORRECT Jack = Jack aimed for in order.

WE GET LETTERS: The following came from a reader after seeing the apologies for errors that appeared in the April issue: "Yet another outstanding Newsletter - interesting and more fun than so many other Monthlies. Don't worry the small stuff...like those very unimportant small mistakes...and you might refer to a very sage piece of advice from the late former German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, 'A Thick Skin Is A Gift from God.' He suggested his comment to those seeking public office, but it certainly can come in handy elsewhere." It's always good to hear from our readers.



IT'S NOT TOO EARLY . . .

. . . to start thinking about your winter holiday travel plans and festivities. Anyone for winter in Florida and bowling at the Mount Dora Lawn Bowling Club?

**Mount Dora
Lawn Bowling Club**

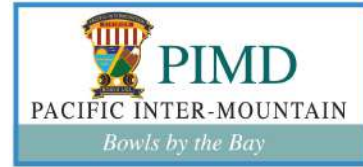
**Holiday Bowl 2018
Mixed Triples Tournament**

November 30 • December 1 • December 2

\$210 per team to include
• Beer/Wine Reception •
• Breakfast & Lunch Saturday & Sunday •

Downtown Mount Dora ablaze
with Christmas lights & activities

Contact:
joellenbraun@outlook.com



PIMD OPEN TOURNAMENTS

As we've indicated on page 10, all PIMD-sponsored tournaments are open to out-of-division BowlsUSA bowlers.

Coming up on June 16 is the Memorial Pairs (Men's & Women's) to be held at the Oakland Lawn Bowling Club in Oakland, CA.

On June 23, the Men's Fives will be held at San Jose Lawn Bowling Club. And also on June 23, the Women's Fives will take place at the Palo Alto Lawn Bowling Club.

For more information contact Tournament Director Bud Birkenseer at budbirk@gmail.com. The entry form can be retrieved at the [PIMD website](#).



A GLIMMER FOR WILLIAMSBURG LBC

Excerpted from an article by Rodrigo Arriaza in the Daily Press.

Clyde Haulman, president of the Williamsburg Lawn Bowling Club, Virginia, recently had an opportunity to participate in a public comment period with the consulting firm that is assessing Williamsburg's city parks with an eye to major parks and recreational development in the future.

At the meeting, Clyde suggested the addition of a new facility for croquet and lawn bowling to replace the lawn bowling green which was demolished as part of a 2016 expansion of Colonial Williamsburg's Golden Horseshoe Golf Club. "Our objective is to expand outdoor activities by constructing a multi-use, multi-activity lawn sports facility to replace the green that . . . served the community of local lawn bowlers, croquet players and numerous visitors for 50 years. Lawn sports all use the same type of green, and they aid in the health and enjoyment of various residents," Clyde said.

There will be more public meetings in July and August, with a final plan to be submitted to the City Council in September.





THE HISTORY OF TAYLOR BOWLS, Part 5 and final

The need for different bowl models

One of the questions frequently asked by bowlers is why there is a need for tighter bias bowls rather than wide swinging bowls. The fact that one set of bowls will suffice for all conditions is a myth. Due to the difference in speeds of different greens especially between indoor and outdoor greens in the UK, and the outdoor greens in Australia and New Zealand, bowls react in different ways.



A bowl developed for the slower outdoor greens in the UK running at 9-11 seconds will show a certain amount of bias when played over 90 feet. If the same bowl was played on an indoor green running at 15-17 seconds the bias will be much more pronounced with the point of maximum curvature into the next rink. The same bowl played on an Australian outdoor green running between 19 and 21 seconds would need to be played from half way across the next rink and a large amount of force to ensure that it travelled the same 90 feet. Finally, if the same bowl was played on a New Zealand green running at over 21 seconds it would not be possible to achieve the 90 feet as the bias would bring the bowl back on itself.

Apart from lawn bowls, we also manufacture Crown Green bowls and jacks, carpet bowls and short mat bowls. Crown bowls is interesting as historically the game is not played in Scotland, yet Taylors are the largest producers of these bowls starting in the 1860's. The game is predominately played in the midlands and the north of England with approximately 210,000 players.

Thomas Taylor addressing an audience of Scottish bowlers in 1914 stated that although there were 40,000 registered lawn green bowlers at that time in Scotland, it was not his biggest market, but the Crown green market was with 600,000 registered bowlers a number of which played professionally earning up to £1000 a year. The game is played with a number 2 biased jack and the two bowls in play are biased to the jack.

Today lawn bowls is the largest participating sport in Scotland with 77,000 registered players.

In Ireland where short mat is the predominant game there are 40,000 registered players. Perhaps one can now appreciate that it has not always been possible for a bowl manufacturer to stand still. Taylors supply 34 countries all with various surfaces and weather conditions and the Company is committed to offering the customer the best possible product.



AN INSPIRING STORY FROM THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES

From 'the pits' to the Commonwealths -- how lawn bowls saved Tongan's life

Excerpted from a story By Aimee Lewis, CNN

"Please don't cry," she tells herself. The Tongan cannot allow herself to lose her composure, not at the Commonwealth Games, not in front of hundreds of people, not with television cameras peering, and not with her teenaged daughter, Stephanie, watching on. The 53-year-old places her feet on the mat and takes a deep breath before rolling her first bowl. It's not her finest attempt, but it's not her worst.

For when you've lived without hope, spiraled into a darkness "no-one ever wants to go to", and been engulfed with guilt for not being the mother you wanted to be, winning or losing matters little.

The Caroline Dubois who once did not care about her tomorrows; the divorcee who drank too much, lost her job, her money, and nearly lost her daughter, is gradually pushing away the past. Competing at the Games is another step towards burying her former self.

In 2011, Dubois moved from Australia to Tonga, her parents' native land, in search of the happiness she would never find. Once a successful hotel executive and happily married wife and mother, she became estranged from her husband. When she received divorce papers through the post, her life came crashing down. "I'd had a marriage and family, but I felt so empty. I needed something else. I forgot myself.

Lonely and lost in Tonga, the now single Dubois became involved in a relationship which quickly turned toxic. She now drowned her sorrows in wine and liquor. She was argumentative, fighting with her family. "The whole situation became abusive. It was a vicious circle and here I was trying to fix it with alcohol.

Her youngest sister made one last attempt at stopping Dubois from self-destructing, and gave Dubois a ticket to join her in Auckland, NZ. Her family continued to search for solutions for her, but she was still drinking, still unhappy.

They invited Dubois to the local lawn bowls club. Dubois had no interest in the sport, but knew the alcohol would be cheap. "I'd drink too much, and my sister and I would be at loggerheads around her friends," she says. "It was terrible. I saw it as an opportunity to drink. I'd be so embarrassed the next day."

With another visit from daughter Stephanie on the horizon, Dubois agreed to attend a training session at the bowls club.

Life began to change.

"When it was explained that bowls wasn't easy and that it's an art of line and weight, I thought 'That's challenging, I love challenges.' I'll take up this challenge," says Dubois, offering up a rare smile.

Continued on page 7.



Continued from page 6

Dubois doesn't recall the moment when bowls became more important than booze, but she does remember lying in bed thinking about her new hobby rather than a bar. A healthy obsession had replaced a destructive one. She was always early to training sessions, listening attentively to her coaches. She would practice in the rain, in the piercing sun, even sneak onto the green when the club was closed.

"The more I got into it, slowly my mental state was starting to change," she says, attempting to offer an explanation to a transformation she herself cannot fully shed a light on. "I got more involved in training, got to know members' names and I started to think outside of me. It had previously all been about me, me, me.

"I was starting to separate myself from the negativity. I was breathing bowls. I couldn't wait to get up and go to the green and my family supported me. They'd drive me to games. The old me came back."

With practice Dubois became good. Very good. In her first year she won an Auckland championship and shortly after was asked to represent her region, North Harbour -- one of New Zealand's best teams.

"It was getting me back together, it was a big part in what set me straight. I never touched a drink, I was never even interested in alcohol. I don't know how the hell it happened, picking up that bowl, progressing and proving to myself that I could do it has saved me in so many ways."

In February 2018, two years had passed since Dubois first held a bowl in her hand. Then she received an email from Tonga's lawn bowls association, confirming that she would partner with a fellow New Zealander in the Commonwealth Games. She texted her daughter, 'Mum is going to the Commonwealth Games to play for Tonga.'

Dubois' daughter, her ex-husband, and her sister watched her first match, against Norfolk Islands. "Go Mummy!" screamed Stephanie. "I'm proud of you, Mummy. You go and get them."

"Everyone has those demons and I'm sure there are worse demons than my demons. Hopefully, it'll inspire people. I find myself telling people 'find something you're passionate about, no matter what it is.' I found it and I went with it. Bowls was not something I was interested in, but I made it my passion and I made it interesting for me."

"It's paid off. All those cold, rainy nights and hot, burning days. "How much I've drunk I really don't know, but obviously I drank a lot because by the time I got to Auckland I had no money left and I once had money so that's a lot of money spent. Everyone said I was turning into an alcoholic, which I probably was, but in my mind I wasn't. Now the joke is, I'm an international sports person!"

The tears can no longer be held back. Dubois cries, for the five years she lost and for what she has since achieved. "The Caroline Dubois of today is the one I'm going with," she says, wiping away the tears with her fingertips. "I never want to go back there again. That was the pits."



Caroline Dubois on the right with her teammate and opponents.



LAWN BOWLING LEADER GIVES BACK BY TEACHING OTHERS

Excerpted from a story by Amber Hair, Daily Sun

Christine Garbett, of The Villages Lawn Bowls Club in central Florida, spends several days a week lawn bowling. It’s a sport she’s played for the past 32 years, but now on the bowling green she is just as often found teaching other people how to play the sport. Garbett believes helping others learn to play the game is a form of community service and she’s glad to give back to others in The Villages.

“I like playing because it’s as competitive as you want it to be,” Garbett says.

Garbett and her husband, John, lawn bowled when they lived in the United Kingdom, and when they came to The Villages they brought their love of the game with them. They joined The Villages LBC after they settled in, and now Garbett acts as the resident lifestyle volunteer for the club. She is one of several people who help new members learn how to lawn bowl.

The Villages LBC meets three days a week, but lately Garbett and a few other members have also been traveling 13 miles south to the new lawn bowling green at the Fenney Putt & Play to teach people there.

“We encourage people to try it. It’s just a question of getting the angle and the speed of it.” This year, The Villages LBC members have seen more people take them up on that offer. The club started the year with 40 members and has grown to 75 in a few short months.

Garbett doesn’t get much time to bowl during the winter months because she spends most of her time helping other club members. In the summer months, though, her schedule is not as hectic. That’s when she focuses on maintaining the skills that helped her and a partner take home a Bronze medal at The Villages Senior Games this year. (See the following related article for more about the senior games.)



Christine Garbett focuses on her target in a recent match.

THE VILLAGES SENIOR GAMES

Submitted by Christine Garbett

The Villages Senior Games is an annual event held in April. It encompasses many different sports. In 2015 lawn bowling was introduced as an “exhibition game” and was closely monitored by the Recreation Department. From 2016 onwards the Games included an open pairs event with much success. New bowlers take part and have won Gold in their age groups. This year John Garbett and a new bowler of only a few weeks came away with a Silver medal. Christine Garbett and her partner took home a Bronze medal.



YOUR NATIONAL BOWLS USA MEMORIAL FUND

The USLBA Memorial Fund is a charitable organization that offers economic assistance to deserving individuals and provides support to foster public interest in the sport of lawn bowling, publicize the game, coordinate various bowling activities throughout the United States, national and international competition, and to provide travel monies to national and international tournaments. Grants to various clubs and individuals have been presented in the past.

Your tax deductible charitable donations are used for these activities and in memory/honor of your friends and fellow bowlers.

In Memory of:

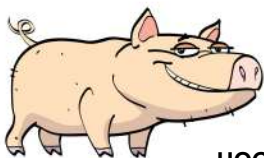
- Reiner Kramer
- Dennis Mijnhijmer
- Jerry Mathwig
- George West
- Kay Wurts
- Adrian Jarreau

Donations for the Benefit of US Open:

- John Hickson
- Glorianne Mather
- George Tucker
- Diconti Family Trust

In any sport, the anticipation of what might happen is almost as important as what actually happens.

- Bob Costas



HOGLINE

GOT AN ARTICLE FOR THE NEWSLETTER?

Send it in to your Division editor as listed below:

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Northeast: Alex Last, alex.last@yahoo.com

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2018 Northeast Division Open

Come join us at the 2018 Northeast Division Open at two of our beautiful and scenic lawn bowling greens in the Poconos, PA!

We will be hosting Triples, Pairs & Singles.

****Teams can be mixed with men & women****



SKY TOP LODGE, PA



BUCK HILL FALLS, PA

Dates	Triples:	August 18-19, 2018 (Saturday & Sunday)
	Pairs:	August 20-21, 2018 (Monday & Tuesday)
	Singles:	August 22-23, 2018 (Wednesday & Thursday)

Check the Northeast Division website [here](#) for entry forms and further details.

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UPCOMING MAJOR TOURNAMENTS SCHEDULE

Watch this section in future issues for the latest updates on major tournaments. As available, we'll list the tournament dates, locations, entry deadlines, and a link/website where you can find more information.

Central Division Open, Pairs, 7/7 - 7/8; Singles, 8/4 - 8/5, Milwaukee Lake Park LBC, WI. Watch for more info [here](#).

Northeast Division Open, 8/18 to 8/23/18 at Skytop and Buck Hill Falls, PA. Watch for more info [here](#).

Northwest Open Team Tournament, 9/8 to 9/9/18 at Jefferson Park LBC, Seattle, WA. Watch for more info [here](#).

U. S. Open of Lawn Bowls, 11/2 to 11/10/18, hosted by South Central Division. Watch for more info [here](#).

U. S. National Championships, 11/25 to 12/1/18 hosted at Sun City Center, FL. This tournament requires competing in your Division's qualifying rounds.

PIMD, All PIMD-sponsored tournaments are open to out-of-division BowlsUSA members. Check their webpage [here](#) for the calendar of Division-sponsored tournaments indicated by the orange background.

CERTIFIED CLUB COACH COURSE

As part of Bowls USA nationwide *Coaching Program*, a **Certified Club Coach Course** will be presented in the **South-Central Division in 2018**.

It is the objective of **Bowls USA** to have well qualified coaches across the country to assist in raising the enjoyment and standard of our sport and to provide the necessary assistance to players of all ages and skills levels.

Place: **Sun City West LBC**

Date: **October 18th and 19th** (Thursday and Friday)

Dress: **Casual** - bowls shoes advised

Cost: **\$125.00** (includes manual, Club Coach certificate awarded upon successful completion of class, and Bowls USA Coach shirt)

Class size: Minimum 6 participants – maximum 14 participants.

Payment to: **Bowls USA** (by student or sponsoring club)

The Club Coach Course covers:

- Safety & Risk Management
- Incident Management
- Constants and Variables
- Goal Setting
- Fundamentals
- Planning Coaching Sessions
- Conducting Coaching
- Coaching Review

Qualifications to take class:

- A minimum of at least *two* years bowling
- Be a **Bowls USA** member
- Written endorsement from participant's club required.
- Preferably be a **Bowls USA** umpire (desirable but not mandatory, at this time)

To register, contact

Heather Stewart: heatherastewart78@gmail.com
Kottia Spangler: kspangler@rcoe.us
Jackie Tucker: tuckerjackie@icloud.com



By Melanie Vizenor

BowlsUSA National Umpire-in-Chief



Wow! It's June. Where has the year gone? We're almost to the summer solstice and I'm still trying to absorb the changes since the spring equinox. But, this ol' world just keeps turning.

May's UmpStumper was:

A pairs tournament was about to begin. Skip B announces a need to go to the restroom. While gone, Lead A rolls out the jack and play begins. Upon Skip B's return, and seeing three bowls from each team have been played (Lead B is short on all three bowls; Lead A's bowls were closer to the jack), Skip B states that play should not have begun and immediately picks up all of the bowls. Was Skip B correct?

Absolutely not. As soon as those bowls, which were -- what? (come on, now, this is an easy one) -- at rest, having been moved by -- who? -- a player, then Law 37.1.4, Displacement of a bowl at rest, specifically 37.1.4.1, governs what the opposing skip is to do. Which is? Replace all the bowls as best as possible and play continues. There is no option for a dead end.

There's a lot of wisdom in the Laws of the Sport of Bowls, and it's quite evident in the above situation. If the laws did allow for a dead end in the above situation, then some players would simply run amok through the head so as to render replacing all the bowls to their previous position an impossible task.

To all **umpires** out there -- be the example when it comes to following the Laws of the Sport of Bowls when it comes to Section 1.3 - Possession of the Rink, Laws 12 and 13.

To all **bowlers** out there -- read Section 1.3. Both Laws 12 and 13 and all their subparts.

The majority of complaints and altercations on the green revolve around possession of the rink and the position of players. Some bowlers get more uptight than others and fuss and moan over every little thing. Some bowlers say, "Oh, what's the big deal? Relax!" Somewhere in the middle of those two stances is an enjoyable day on the green.

So what's the answer? For myself, it's this: just follow the rules. And if you and your opponent are of opposite viewpoints, then the only way to play the game is by the rules.

Why, you ask. Well, the laws are written to maintain the orderly and pleasant progress of play. So if you're playing a game where you and your opponent share the mindset of anything goes, then great, go ahead and bowl that game. If your opponent plays a game that adheres to the laws as they're written, then that game must be played as it's designed by the Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

