



Discover Your Sport... Lawn Bowls



# Newsletter

## SOUTH CENTRAL DIVISION OPEN RESULTS

Submitted by Ron Rollick

Bowlers from the four corners of the U.S. and from Canada converged on Arizona to compete in the South Central Division Open which ran from February 10-15. Events were held at the Sun City West and Bell Lawn Bowling Clubs.

Good weather prevailed for most of the week, but did include one cold, rainy day that was greeted with good cheer and hot competition despite slowing the greens down.

Winners of the championship flights were:

### Men's events:

Triples: Grant Shear, Barry Hayes, Robert Busciglio

Pairs: Steve Bezanson & Leo Dusablon

Singles: Steve Bezanson

Bowler of the Tournament: Steve Bezanson (Steve placed 1st in Pairs and Singles, and 2nd in Triples.

### Women's events:

Fours: Marlene Cleutinx, Jackie Tucker, Colleen Gillies, Paula Travers

Pairs: Marlene Cleutinx & Colleen Gillies

Singles: Dee McSparran

Bowlers of the Tournament: Marlene Cleutinx & Colleen Gillies

Go to page 2 for photos of the champions. Full results for all flights can be found at the [South Central Division website](#).

MARCH 2018

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## CHAMPIONS OF THE SOUTH CENTRAL DIVISION OPEN



Men's Triples: Grant Shear, Robert Busciglio,  
Barry Hayes



Women's Fours: Colleen Gillies, Paula Travers,  
Jackie Tucker, Marlene Cleutinx



Men's Singles: Steve  
Bezanson

CONGRATS  
TO  
ALL OF THE  
CHAMPIONS



Women's Singles: Dee  
McSparran



Men's Pairs: Leo Dusablon & Steve Bezanson



Women's Pairs: Colleen Gillies & Marlene  
Cleutinx





## LAWN BOWLING - IT'S IN THE GENES

By Alex Last

(Editor-in-Chief's note: This is the third and last of the NED story about multi-generational families in the NED. Watch for input from other divisions in future Newsletters..)

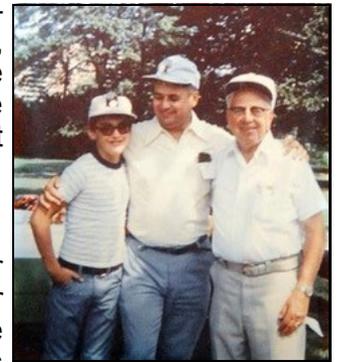
And then there is the venerable **Sayer family**, whose third (**Dick** and **Bob**) and fourth generations (**Josh**) of lawn bowlers now make up many of the championship teams in the NED. Dick Sayer recalls his early years lawn bowling with his dad (**George**) and grandfather (**Ray**):

### *Inconsistent Lead In Trebles*

"When I was 12, I could barely hold the bowl. Dad gave me his old big-biased Brunswick bowls that he had used to win the Eastern Division singles in 1949. I was fairly inconsistent. Dad was one of the best bowlers in New England and possibly in the division. Though he could have teamed with top players, he chose to take me and pick up another club bowler for trebles matches. Dad not only paid my entry fee but he bought my lunch and dinner AND when we placed, he gave me the prize money, too.

### *Promotions*

"As his lead, Dad would let me stand in the head to watch the decision making. After a couple years of learning and playing lead for Dad, he said I was ready for vice skip. During this time Grampa [who passed away at age 99 1/2] was getting older and so was his team. One time when Dad was playing a tournament with others, he asked Grampa to skip with me. This ended up being quite a thing. Grampa was struggling in the game and I was bowling pretty well. At lunch we were 1-1 but Grampa was feeling awful about his play. I said, 'You know Grampa, with your expertise and the way I'm playing, I think we could really win some games if we switched.' Grampa smiled and said okay. I became a skip while bowling with Grampa and he and I were partners until he died, but I wasn't yet a skip when I played with Dad.



Dick, George, and Grampa  
Ray Sayer

### *Heads, You Skip, Tails, I Lead*

"Our team showed up to the Eastern division tourney at Buck Hill Falls with our three generations. I expected to play vice with Grampa leading. As we put our bowls on the green Dad said, 'Heads or tails?' I didn't know what was up. He said, 'If you win the toss, you skip.' (To this day I don't know how the coin toss actually went). Anyway, I ended up skipping.

"Although Bobby and I won championships, Dad is the one of this family that truly deserves the ones that Bobby and I won. He won several divisional championships himself."

Josh Sayer, Bob's son and Dick's nephew, began bowling in the 1990s, when his great-grandfather Ray and grandfather George were still bowling at Slater Park in Pawtucket, RI. He remembers getting a set of size 1 bowls and attending Wednesday evening bowling at the now defunct club. He also remembers bowling with his great Aunt Ruth and his grandfather in club triples there. Josh began competing in NED events when he turned 12, the minimum age, and played in triples with his dad and Uncle Dick. Josh and his wife, Debby, have since become a formidable presence on the green.

**Maurice LaFond** also bowled at Slater Park. Maurice never played as a youngster. After retiring from the service in the early '90s— Maurice had a career in the U.S. Marine Corps — his parents and he took up lawn bowling. His mother, **Greta**, and he were a pairs team for many years, playing until she was 88. Now in her 90s, she still keeps tabs on the NED.



## ASHEVILLE LBC GREEN TO BE RENOVATED

Excitement abounds in Asheville NC as City Council approves \$447,000 plus a contingency of \$19,727 for a total of \$466,727 for the renovation of the lawn bowling green.

The new artificial green is not just a replacement of the existing carpet, but a complete rebuild from the ground up. The current green of 110-feet square will be replaced with a 121-feet green that is playable in both directions. True Draw of Australia has been chosen to manufacture and install the needle-punch carpet, working in conjunction with a North Carolina contractor. Construction is tentatively set for February-April 2018.



Asheville green stays waterlogged after rain.

Nearly two years of careful planning will result in a world-class facility for Asheville bowlers that will be enjoyed for years to come. Tournaments will attract bowlers from around the region and country to come and bowl on this state-of-the-art green.

The meticulous preparations resulted in 327 pages of specifications that were sent out for bid. The cost for Asheville’s green are arguably high due to the green’s location in a floodplain that results in increased engineering and drainage expenses. In addition to a new playing surface, project improvements include accessible sidewalk, storm drainage, signage, and general site renovations.

A huge thank you needs to go to club President, Bill Stoermer, who spearheaded the club’s initiative, monitored progress, communicated expertly, and doggedly pursued every detail. And, most certainly and with great appreciation, a big thank you goes to the Parks and Recreation staff in the City of Asheville and CDC Engineering for their tireless efforts in support of this project that resulted in a positive decision by City Council.

As Asheville’s tagline says: *“It’s time to play your game!”*



## EBLASTS ARE EFFECTIVE

You may have noticed that you’ve been receiving eblasts on a variety of subjects lately. Turns out that they aren’t just filling up your email inbox; they are actually helping to find bowlers who have much needed background to help with a wide variety of club, Division, and BowlsUSA issues. Division officers, club presidents, and tournament chairs can use this avenue, too, to publicize information and events to their bowlers. It’s simple. Just:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Write up your message;                     | 3. Send a request to:   |
| 2. Determine what the distribution should be; | - <a href="mailto:bowlsusanews@gmail.com">bowlsusanews@gmail.com</a> , or |
| AND   | contact your Division Councilor.  |





**How the bowl is manufactured**

Traditionally, the colours black and brown are a throwback to the days of wooden bowls when the quality of the wood was an important factor. If the wood was of a good grain the finished bowls were lacquered with a clear varnish to highlight the grain. If the grain was of an inferior quality the finished bowls were lacquered with a black varnish to hide the blemishes. About 1936 composite bowls began to appear and Taylor's had their mouldings made elsewhere. In 1982 Noel Taylor acquired from the receiver of Ronoid Plastics the full moulding plant including the operators, thus allowing him total independence. Since the Company changed hands in 1992, when the Heron family acquired it, large investments in new technology have been made. Twenty years ago the shape of bowls was produced by means of a grinding machine, which worked satisfactorily until the grindstone became dull after a day's work. It was then redressed to produce the required shape again. At this time the bowls were finished by hand as each pair or set might have variations from previously produced similar models. To offset this inconvenience Taylor's moved to CNC (computer programmed) lathes to produce the correct bowl shape. Thus all the shapes and sizes of each model were programmed.

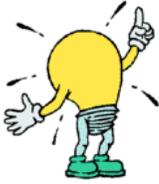


Over the years the governing bodies have changed their views on what they refer to as minimum bias and thus all bowl manufacturers have had to alter their product to comply.

The test tables, which are used in the production and testing of bowls by all manufacturers, have changed over the years. From 2001 the worldwide standard surface, adopted by World Bowls, for the testing of bowls is that which we are currently using. At the same time a new Standard Bowl was issued. These Standard bowls are checked every year and every manufacturer and tester is issued with a replacement. Since its inception in 1893 Taylor have made the Master bowl and the Standard copies of the bowl issued to other manufacturers and testers. Also traditionally flat green bowls are manufactured in either brown or black material – and have a maximum weight of 3lbs 8oz or 1588 gms. Over the last 25 years it has become apparent that sizes 6 and 7 are no longer popular due to the heavier densities of bowls now available. The most popular sizes are 3 and 4's. Once the correct mouldings have been selected they are machined on a CNC lathe. This first operation shapes the running surface which determines the bowl's performance. There are no weights added – the bias is dictated purely by the shape of the bowl. If a grip is required it is put on at this stage and then the bowl has its ends shaped and the paint rings and scores machined. At this stage we have the making of a bowl.

The bowl is now checked for weight and matched with another three bowls into a set of four. The weight tolerance we allow for a new set at this stage is no more than 3gms between the four bowls. The bowls are then run down the test table to ensure that all four take exactly the same path and that the set complies with any existing minimum bias regulations as laid down by the sport's governing body. The set is run against World Bowls Standard bowl, which is a copy of the Master bowl, which was adopted in 2001. The bowls under test must roll at least the same distance as the Standard bowl (i.e. 9 metres) and finish on or beyond the chute/jack line, this being a straight line joining the foot of the delivery chute to the position at which the bowl has come to rest.

**Editor-in-Chief note:** The continued history of Taylor Bowls will appear in upcoming issues of the BowlsUSA Newsletter. Topics will include: the introduction of colored bowls, the bias explained, and the need for different bowl



## HERE'S AN IDEA

Contributed by Berie Grobe

At the Coronado LBC, we have tried to heed the advice and observations of Hall of Famer Jim Olson and his wife (and Club Coach), Robin, both of whom are long-time, successful tournament bowlers. They have told us the reason they have always played social bowls is because they note that sometimes the heads present challenges not usually seen in highly competitive competitions and thus present opportunities to practice unique shots.

Also we have heard of the difficulties that clubs face in trying to satisfy populations made up of social bowlers and competitive bowlers. So what we have tried to do is blur all lines of distinction, and accommodate individuals and what they wish to do. For instance, if some of our competitive bowlers are facing a coming challenge and need to play a set-up game while social bowls is going on, we just smile and let them do what they need to do.

We have seen that some clubs establish very hard-and-fast rules about who can play when and at what position. We do not group bowlers for play within the context of social bowls, and we do not have special game times for more competitive bowlers by invitation.

Our members seem to be happy with this — and we are always striving to rival Disneyland in the designation as "Happiest Place on Earth".

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## LAGUNA BEACH LBC GIVES BACK

Submitted by Heather Stewart

To show appreciation for continued support from the City of Laguna Beach, the Laguna Beach Lawn Bowling Club recently participated in the annual "Give Back Laguna" event by hosting a bowls outing for residents of the Glenwood House of Laguna Beach.

The Glenwood Housing Foundation is a non-profit 42-room independent facility serving young adults with special needs.



LBLBC members (in sunglasses) Abe Pinnella (L), Reinie Kramer, and Kole Carr (R) with Glennwood residents.



Kole Carr and Reinie Kramer with Glennwood Housing folks.

Residents are provided with learning opportunities and a chance to be part of the community.

As can be seen in the photos, everyone had a great time giving lawn bowls a try. Thanks go to Kole Carr for promoting the Foundation and to the LBLBC members who helped with the coaching.



## CERTIFIED CLUB COACH COURSE

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

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: **King City LBC** (Tigard, Oregon)

Date: **April 7 & 8, 2018** (Saturday and Sunday)

Dress: **Casual** - bowls shoes advised

Cost: **\$125.00** (includes manual, Club Coach certificate 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
- Goal Setting
- Incident Management
- Constants and Variables
- Fundamentals
- Planning Coaching Sessions
- Conducting Coaching
- Coaching Review

### Qualifications to take class:

*A minimum of at least **two** years bowling*

*Be a member of **Bowls USA***

*Written endorsement from participant's club required.*

### To register, contact

Heather Stewart: [heatherastewart@78gmail.com](mailto:heatherastewart@78gmail.com)

Kottia Spangler: [kspangler@rcoe.us](mailto:kspangler@rcoe.us)

Pam Edwards: [edwardspdx@gmail.com](mailto:edwardspdx@gmail.com)



## FEBRUARY 2018 UMP STUMPER ANSWER

Skip A is the last to play in the end and has one bowl left. Skip A tells the opposing skip to go ahead and measure the head, electing not to play the last bowl. Vice A jumps up and down and says Team A may be down one in the head, not up one, and to play the last bowl. Skip A rescinds the election not to play the last bowl and begins to deliver Team A's last bowl. Skip B calls for an umpire. Do you allow Team A's last bowl to be delivered?

Answer: No. See Law 25, Delivering the final bowl of an end. "It is not compulsory for the last player to play in any end to deliver the final bowl of the end, but the player must tell the opposing skip or opponent in Singles of the decision not to deliver the final bowl before the process of deciding the number of shots scored starts (as described in law 23.1). **This decision is final.**"

## March 2018 Ump Stumper

The players in a triples game cannot agree on the score after several ends of play. Skip A and Lead B have been keeping the scorecards. They call for an umpire. How would you resolve this situation?

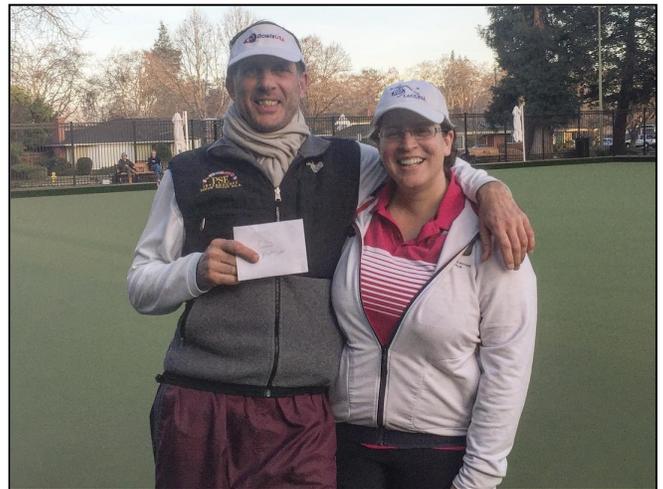


## PIMD WINTER LEAGUE COMPETITION

Submitted by Giulia Gallo

You can never have enough bowling...especially in California. The 2018 PIMD bowling season has not started yet, but we recently held our John Ogden Winter League which is bowled over three consecutive Saturdays. This was the first tournament hosted by the San Jose LBC since installation of their new carpet last year.

Fourteen pairs hailing from all Bay Area clubs joined in the fierce competition. It was a full round-robin with four 10-end games each of the first two weeks, 5 games on the last day of competition, and bowlers using just three bowls each.



League winners Frankie Napoli & Giulia Gallo

The final ranking speaks for the quality of the players and play. The first-place winners were in first place throughout and never lost their lead, despite losing one game in the final week. The winning team consisted of veteran Frankie Napoli (Rossmoor) and novice Giulia Gallo (Berkeley). They came in with an impressive 11 wins, 1 tie, and just 1 loss.

## LATEST LAGUNA WOODS UPDATE

Excellent comprehensive YouTube interview on the [re-construction of the green](#) at Laguna Woods.



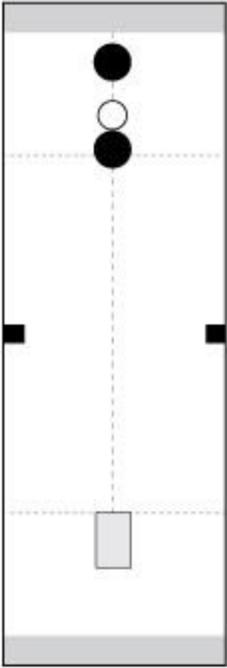


## DRILL TO IMPROVE YOUR SKILL

**DRAW BOWLING DRILLS**

### CRACK AN EGG

**OBJECTIVE :** *Draw with enough weight to move the Jack back slightly to your Bowl.*



**EQUIPMENT :**  
2 BOWLS 1 MAT 1 JACK

**PROCEDURE :**

Set the Jack on the Center Line with 1 Bowl in front touching the Jack, the other Bowl just off the Jack directly behind.

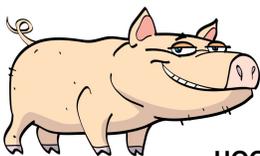
Draw with enough weight to just touch the Jack slightly to move it back to your Bowl.

Vary Mat lengths.

Play **F / H** and **B / H**.

Dogs look up to you; cats look down on you. Give me a pig! He looks you in the eye and treats you as an equal.

- Winston Churchill



**HOGLINE**

### **GOT AN ARTICLE FOR THE NEWSLETTER?**

Send it in to your Division editor as listed below:

**Central:** Glorianne Mather, [gloriannemather@yahoo.com](mailto:gloriannemather@yahoo.com)

**PIMD:** James Cur, [timbhoy71@sbcglobal.net](mailto:timbhoy71@sbcglobal.net)

**Northeast:** Alex Last, [alex.last@yahoo.com](mailto:alex.last@yahoo.com)

**Northwest:** Bob Wells, [rfwells1@yahoo.com](mailto:rfwells1@yahoo.com)

**South Central:** Ron Rollick, [dbsgrnkeg-ler63@outlook.com](mailto:dbsgrnkeg-ler63@outlook.com)

**Southeast:** Gary Higgins, [garryhiggins@rogers.com](mailto:garryhiggins@rogers.com)

**Southwest:** Cynthia Murray, [cnthmurray@gmail.com](mailto:cnthmurray@gmail.com)

**Editor-in-Chief:** Georgie Deno, [postdeno@gmail.com](mailto:postdeno@gmail.com)



## 2018 DEVELOPMENTAL CAMP

Submitted by Jackie Tucker

After competing in the recent South Central Open, 22 women attended a 2-day skills clinic at R.H. Johnson LBC. Jackie Tucker led off with discussion of how to use foot position on the mat to draw inside or outside bowls in the head. Based on comments from the tournament committee, Jackie also covered the proper way to fill out scorecards.

National Umpire in Chief, Melanie Vizenor, followed with some tips on using the Laws of the Sport of Bowls to advantage [see details in the Umpires Corner on pages 13 and 14 of this issue]. She also demonstrated the proper way to measure shots and new equipment that umpires can use for close measures.



The ladies cheer for a successful Developmental Camp.

The remainder of the two days consisted of a variety of fun drills and games designed to develop skills such as consistent delivery, drawing to the ditch for shot, adding and taking off weight, strategies for building and bowling into the head, developing team cohesiveness, and improving team communications.

Participants were coached by Jackie Tucker and Canadian Hall of Famer Marlene Cleutinx. Assistance for running the drills was provided by Alice Birkinshaw and Dee McSparran.

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## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Georgie Deno

Is lawn bowls a "game" or a "sport"? What's the difference and why should we care?

**The difference:** Lawn bowlers have long described their activity as a game rather than a sport. While a "game" is defined as a competition conducted according to rules with the participants in direct opposition to each other (all of which applies to lawn bowling), it is also defined as a division of a larger contest.

Although there are opposing views on whether or not competition is a defining element of a sport, it is clear that competition is a prerequisite of recognition by the International Olympic Committee.

So, let's see: we have rules (referred to as "laws"), we play in direct opposition to each other, and in the "sport" of lawn bowls, we play individual "games". Sounds like a "sport" to me.

**Why we should care:** One of our fondest hopes is that lawn bowling will someday be recognized as an Olympic sport just as curling is now. In the long run, the difference seems to be a matter of perception. To many people, when you say "game", they hear "leisurely pastime" rather than "exciting competition". Seems to me that we need to start thinking (and speaking) of it as the sport of lawn bowls, rather than just a game of lawn bowls.

Take a cue from the name of our rule book which is called "The Laws of the Sport of Bowls". And, Olympics here we come! (How about Los Angeles in 2028?)



## SW OPEN EXCITEMENT IS BUILDING

### Women's Events

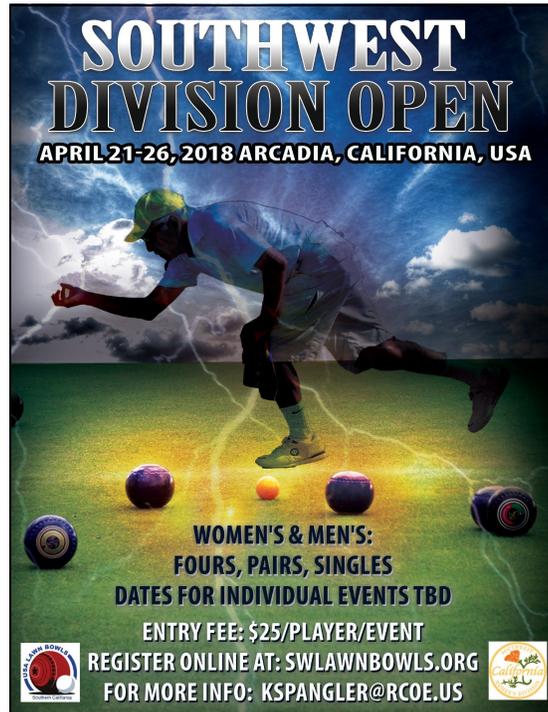
Fours - 4/21 & 4/22,  
Saturday & Sunday

Pairs - 4/23 & 4/24,  
Monday & Tuesday

Singles - 4/25 & 4/26,  
Wednesday & Thursday

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\*All events to be played at Santa Anita Lawn Bowling Green.



### Men's Events

Pairs - 4/21 & 4/22,  
Saturday & Sunday

Fours - 4/23 & 4/24,  
Monday & Tuesday

Singles - 4/25 & 4/26,  
Wednesday & Thursday

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\* Daily raffle prize drawings.

\*Newly trained markers for singles.

Looking for a team/teammate? Men contact Scott Roberts, [scottroberts1269@gmail.com](mailto:scottroberts1269@gmail.com). Women contact Heather Stewart, [heatherstewart78@gmail.com](mailto:heatherstewart78@gmail.com).

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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.

**Southeast Division Open**, Women, 3/3 to 3/9/18 at Sun City Center, FL ([entry deadline 2/23/18](#)). Men, 3/10 to 3/16/18 at Sun City Center, FL ([entry deadline 3/2/18](#)). More info at <http://www.sedlawnbowls.org>.

**Southwest Division Open**, 4/21 to 4/26/18. Arcadia, CA. See the flyer on this page. 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**, 11/24 to 11/30/18 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.



## Grant Program

The **Mission** of the Grant Program is to provide funds for 100% Bowls USA clubs to promote club development and to assist recruiting and retaining members. Grant funds may be used for projects that are intended to attract new members or to improve the playing experience of the club.

The **Goal** of the program is to allocate funds equally across divisions, if possible. The total amount of grant funds available for 2018 is \$10,000.

### Guidelines:

All 100% clubs within a division are eligible for grants.

The grant application deadline is June 30, 2018.

The three-member Grant Committee shall review all grant applications for merit.

Grants may be fully or partially funded based on a review of the proposed project costs.

Grants may be fully or partially funded based on the total number of grant requests.

Grants may be used for projects that are intended to attract new members such as advertising, signage, Open Houses, youth programs, pamphlets and flyers, etc.

Grants may be used for projects to improve the playing experience of the club such as greens improvements, equipment repairs, club house repairs, or rink equipment such as mats, bowls gatherers, score frames, etc.

Grant money will not be provided for food or refreshments.

Grant recipients must submit a follow-up report on the success of the project to the Grant Committee by December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 and to the Bowls USA newsletter. Non-receipt of a follow-up report may put the club in jeopardy of receiving further grants.

### Questions?

Send an email to [peacecorps.ginger@gmail.com](mailto:peacecorps.ginger@gmail.com) with your questions about this program and the application process. Include a telephone number and times to call if you would prefer a phone call.

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.

**[Editor's note:** 2018 marks the third year of the 100% BowlsUSA Club Grant Program. In 2017, at least one club in each division received a grant. The executive board has approved \$10,000 for 2018, and all 100% BowlsUSA clubs are encouraged to consider applying. If your club is not 100% BowlsUSA, you may want to consider becoming one. Here are some ways that the 2017 grant program recipients used their grants: advertising and purchase of club equipment, repair of backboards and rakes, a fence banner and membership drive, new fencing, clubhouse equipment, greens mower, and greens maintenance in preparation for hosting the U.S. Open.]





By Melanie Vizenor

BowlsUSA National Umpire-in- Chief



### Using the Laws of the Sport of Bowls to Your Team's Advantage

In my first U.S. Open, I played a Singles match against a woman from Canada. She won.

We were on an end rink by the clubhouse. She rolled the jack and, for whatever reason, it came back to me to deliver again. I, too, mis-delivered the jack. The jack was placed at the 2-meter mark, and she promptly picked up the mat and took it to the hogline -- at which point three women, who were sitting up against the clubhouse in the shade, started, well, basically yelling at her that she couldn't do that. She was adamant that she could. They argued with her from the comfort of their chairs in the shade.

There are so many things in that vignette that are wrong -- the biggest of which is that those spectators (and they were all bowlers) interfered with our game, they distracted us, and they were completely wrong. That event prompted me to learn the Laws of the Sport of Bowls (LSB) and how to use them -- to my advantage. So for you Singles players, learn the LSB and stand up for yourself like she did. She was impressive and made an impression on me.

**For Leads/Vices** -- Some of you may choose to ignore Singles and stick to Pairs, Triples, or Fours. You may be of the mistaken belief that you don't really need to worry too much about the LSB because you'll just let your skip do the worrying. **Wrong!** Each position comes with its duties and the obligation to know the laws that, in your position, could be a difference maker in the game. Such as, you ask?

- Well, let's look at the very first thing that happens in a game: the lead places the mat ... stop. OMG! Things could go wrong and all that's been done is putting the mat down?! Yep.

*Law 6.1.3. If, **after** the jack has been delivered but **before** the first bowl is delivered, a player or the marker finds that the mat line has not been positioned within the distance described in law 6.1.1, the opposing player must place the mat as described in law 6.1.1 and re-deliver the jack, making sure that it is centered, but the opposing player must not play first.*

So you're 10 ends into an 18-end game and your opponents are killing you with, let's say, long jacks -- how might this law help you? Where is the skip when the jack is being delivered? At the far end of the rink, of course. So being an astute lead, you notice that you can get control of the jack length. Well done. What an opportunity you just got for your team.

*Law 9.6. If, after a bowl has been played by each team, a player notices that the wrong team has delivered the jack, play in that end must continue **in that order**.* Sometimes it's better to keep your mouth shut and get your bowl delivered.

What do you do when you play poker? That's a game, right? Money and prestige involved? You bet. So what do you do? You bluff. Well, the same goes for bowls. Not only can you bluff, but you can be bluffed. So be vigilant for what can be used to your team's advantage, but don't let your opponent take advantage of you. And remember, you are not your opponent's keeper.

[More on p. 14]



[Continued from p. 13]

**Scoring** -- The use of the word “Hey!” by a skip during a game usually signals trouble for at least one of the players in the head. Why? Well, as one umpire told me, “Because when you hear a skip yell Hey!-- it’s usually time to get out a box of Kleenex because somebody’s going to cry.” Have you got some Kleenex in your pocket, because you’ll need it if you fall for your opponent saying, “One for us?” -- and you and your opponent signal to your skips that the count is one. When does that happen? While you’re chit-chatting with your teammates or your opponents and you’ve lost track of how many bowls are left to be delivered.

*Law 23.1 says, in part, “The process of deciding the number of shots scored must not start until the last bowl required to be played in an end has come to rest. . .” and then Law 23.3, “No measuring. . . will be allowed before the process of deciding the number of shots scored starts (as described in law 23.1). If a player measures before the process of deciding the number of shots scored starts, the defaulting team will lose the right to play any bowls remaining to be played in that end and the non-defaulting team will deliver their remaining bowls to complete the end.”* Yikes!

*Law 40 Players’ duties, 40.2 The third, 40.2.1 says, “The third can measure any and all disputed shots,” and 40.2.2, “The third can tell the skip the number of shots scored for or against their team as each end is completed.”*

When taken together, the laws say that if you are the vice and you place your measure between the jack and a bowl (starting the process of measuring), or, if you and your opponent agree and then indicate one shot -- you may hear “Hey!” And if it’s your skip saying “Hey!” -- standing down at the mat, arm outstretched with a bowl in hand -- that bowl cannot be delivered. If you perform either of those actions, either by mistake or inattention, Law 23.3 and its penalty are now in effect.

*Law 29.4.1 says, “If the result of an end has been agreed or the process of deciding the number of shots scored has started (as described in law 23.1), a player who has failed to play a bowl (either deliberately or accidentally) will lose the right to play the bowl.”*

**For all team members** -- Learn the displacement laws for players. At the very least know this: **there is no option for a dead end** when either a bowl or a jack is **at rest** when it’s displaced **by a player**. More and more, our tournaments are using time limits. The less time spent flopping around like a fish out of water, wondering what to do, the more time there is to play the game.

**For Skips -- Be a Skip!** -- Even if you know that the lead likes short jacks, or long jacks, stand where the jack is to be delivered. Infuse the game with your confidence and leadership -- and by all means, know the LSB. Become an umpire, albeit an umpire in disguise. Take command of the game, stay focused, stay frosty.

