

MINUTES

Balmy Beach Lawn Bowling Club Spring Meeting

April 23, 2023 | 11:00am | *Meeting called to order by* Tom Marley

Board Members

Tom Marley, President | Marco Thompson, Vice President | Jeff Maple, Treasurer |
Dennis Bockus, OLBA Rep | Carl Trинier, Immediate Past President | Victoria Robinson, Secretary

Welcome and President's Message

- Tom introduced the LBC board members.
 - There was a moment of silence for members and past members who have passed over the winter, including Don May, Jim Corcoran, David Cockfield, Helen Littlejohn and Paul Drohan.
 - Tom announced the draw for a free membership for which tickets were on sale prior to the start of the meeting. The draw will take place at the end of the meeting.
 - Last year the BBCLBC was the second largest in Ontario, based on membership numbers. We were also fourth largest in the country, just behind Stanley Park (BC), Lethbridge (AB) and Cosburn Park (ON).
 - The following people were recognized for their contributions to club activities over the winter:
 - Carl for running the short mat bowls.
 - Victoria and Karen for Euchre, Victoria for her creativity with the gift baskets and Karen for her ever efficient organizing skills. Thank you also to all those who came out to support the event.
 - Everyone who kept the Ron Hosking Horseshoes and Easter bonnet event alive, including Victoria, Dennis, Marco, Cathleen Gates, Cheryl Tredgett, Vicki-Jo Bowden, Lynne Penberthy, Ron Robinson and John Graziano. Thanks also to Alex Williams and Laura DiBattista who shared their wisdom regarding the running of the event, and to all who participated. Once a section loses a fundraising event it is very difficult to regain or re-establish it again.
 - The staff of the front office, Lisa, Tanya, Erin, Peter and Lisa, who were helpful and supportive of all our events.
 - Susan Dickison and Cathy Moxey for pursuing grant funding available to our section. They have already secured \$25,000 from New Horizons and are actively pursuing two more. Well done!
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Approval of 2022 AGM Minutes

- Al Quance moved to approve the minutes. Cheryl Tredgett seconded the motion.
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Treasurer's Report

Jeff presented the final Operating Results for the fiscal year ended February 28, 2023. The closing cash on hand was \$20,795. Last year there were increased equipment costs and this year there will be one-time costs for repair of the west green. A break-even budget is projected for the coming year, based on a fee increase of \$10, \$3.00 going to OLBA and \$7.00 to the club.

With respect to the greens, Tom explained that the work was unable to be completed as planned at the end of the season for a number of reasons:

- The gates to the greens had to be expanded to allow the entrance of the equipment required by Zander Sod, the company working on the greens.
- The required equipment broke down and while the repair was taking place the first snow arrived, delaying the work until the spring.

Zander Sod is prioritizing our greens and will begin work as soon as they can cut sod. The work on the west green includes:

- Removal of damaged sod
- Reshaping of borders
- Adding of sand mix to level the green
- Supplying and installing new sod

As well they will top dress both greens. It is hoped that the west green will be playable when the season begins.

John Clarke asked if re-sodding the entire green had been considered. Tom advised that experiences at other clubs indicated that the green would be out of use for two years and during that time membership would drop.

Alice Iacurci asked if we had considered raising the rate for Corporate Events. Tom advised that we had looked at the fees, which had been raised considerably in 2022, and decided to maintain the current rate structure (\$500.00 per event up to 20 people and \$25.00 per additional person).

Membership Registration

Registration in person was available prior to the meeting. Online registration has been delayed while the new information requirements the OLBA only recently announced are programmed. It is hoped the online form will be ready next week. You will be advised by email when this occurs.

New Bowling Opportunities

First Tom thanked Cyndy and Norm Neilly-Spence for running the Thursday night skills and social bowling for the past several years. They have decided to take a well-deserved break. Skills practice has moved to Tuesday night and Norm is not available that night, and Cyndy does not want to run it without him.

Over the winter Tom researched what the top 15 clubs in Ontario offered their members through their websites, calendars and via emails to some of the clubs. That information was compiled and shared with the executive and the league coordinators.

As a result of these discussions some new opportunities to bowl, particularly suited to members who have daytime commitments during the week, have been created. In all cases they are drop-in sessions, but on Tuesday and Thursday evening you should arrive 15 to 20 minutes ahead of the start time to help set up. The new activities are reflected in the calendar posted on the LBC website, and include:

- Tuesday 7:00 to 9:00 pm; Skills and Drills and Open Bowling; Rachel Jones, Coordinator
- Thursday 7:00 to 9:00 pm; Jitney Format Social Bowling; Volunteer draw master is needed
- Saturday and Sunday 10:00am to noon and 2:00 to 4:00pm; Open Bowling
 - Participants will determine what they want to do during Open Bowling, and can bowl outside the hours specified if desired.
 - Participants will be responsible for determining if the greens are free, as greens maintenance is not always able to follow a precise schedule due to weather.

Al Quance asked if greens overuse and recovery was considered. Tom reassured everyone that Will supports the new times. He monitors the status of the greens and changes to the schedule will be made when and if required.

Tournament Update

Dennis provided the following update of 2023 BBC tournaments and their sponsors. The tournaments are posted on the lawn bowling website under the Tournaments tab.

OLBA Tournaments:

- Friday, July 7, Baird McGregor Insurance, Open Pairs, 2-bowl
- Sunday, July 15, 16, Cosburn BBLBC, Combo Fours - John Adams (Wintergreen) sponsors our half
- Friday, July 21, Scott Howe Wealth Management, Mixed Trebles, 2-bowl
- Thursday, August 3, The Foot Guy (David Allison), Mixed Pairs
- Saturday, August 12, Mixed Trebles (currently no sponsor)
- Sunday, September 10, Joan Beal Real Estate Open Pairs, 1 novice

BBC In-House Tournaments:

- Coach Quance Classic, July 11 (Al Quance), Mixed Trebles; 2 experienced bowlers, 1 novice
- Novice Tournament, August 18 (Marco Thompson), Mixed Trebles, novices only

Challenges:

Kew - Beaches Challenge, July 19, 26

Boardwalk Challenge, Sept. 6, 13

RCYC, July 20

Al provided additional information regarding his tournament; it was created in 2021 to renew interest in lawn bowling after COVID; this year there will be a steel band and bar service.

Bowling Convenor Updates

- Monday 10am (tentative) & 2pm – Mixed Trebles League (Convenors – Elaine MacSween and Dave Smith)
 - There are 76 bowlers registered at this point, and the maximum capacity is 84.
 - 8 of the registrants are new bowlers (compared to 18 new bowlers last year).
 - Elaine and Dave hope to be able to offer training to new bowlers prior to the beginning of league play.
 - The players draft will take place on May 15 and the league starts on May 30.
 - Depending on the number of rinks available, it is possible that the league will have one set of games in the morning and one set in the afternoon; a team will never be scheduled to play twice in one day.
- Tuesday 2pm – Men’s Trebles League (Convenor – Ken McAulay)
 - Last year Men’s League had 17 teams; at this point there are already 20 teams registered.
 - Ken confirmed that the players draft will take place on May 15. Play will begin on May 23 at 2:00 PM (weather permitting).

- Ken will provide training sessions one hour prior to the start of play if there is interest.
- The Men's League fee for this year is \$30.00 per player. It covers the Championship Day BBQ, prize money for the flight winners, and monogrammed shirts for the league winners.
- Wednesday 7pm – Wednesday Night Open Trebles League (Convenor – George Apap)
 - The league will have two segments. The first segment will be from May 31 - July 26. The second segment will be from August 2 - September 27. Teams have the option of playing in one or both segments.
 - Registration and league details will be shared before Friday, May 5, 2023
 - Any inquiries about the Wednesday Night Open Trebles League should be directed to bbcwnbowls@gmail.com
- Thursday 10:30am – 5 Bees (Ladies' Trebles League) (Convenor Charlene Rathgeb)
 - Charlene was away but said that registration has been strong and a random draw of teams will take place when she returns in mid-May.
 - The season will get underway on Thursday, May 25 at 10:30 sharp.
 - Games will be 12 ends, unless both team skips decide it is in everyone's best interest to bowl only 10 ends (usually weather related).
 - There is no additional fee for this league.
- Tuesday 7pm – Drop In - Skills and Social Bowling (Convenor – Rachel Jones)
 - Rachel is planning to offer skills development and coaching on one green and have the second green available for practice or playing.
 - Joe Green, Mary Lou Richards and Andrea Hampton have volunteered to coach as well, when available.
 - The evening sessions will begin on Tuesday May 23 (weather permitting).

Tom and Erin mentioned that free learn-to-coach and umpire training/testing clinics are being offered by the OLBA. To be considered for coach training you must have Safe Sport certification and a police check. A police check is not required for umpire training. OLBA reimburses up to \$45.00 per police check.

- Thursday 7pm – Drop In - Social Bowling (Convenor/draw master needed)
 - This will be an evening of jitney-style bowling; teams will be randomly set by the draw-master and games may vary (trebles, pairs, fours)
- Friday 2pm – Drop In - Aussie Pairs (Convenors Anthony Tacoma, Alice Iacurci, Bonnie and Denis Morrice)
 - Aussie Pairs is a game of 2 players per team, 4 bowls per person, and every person ends up bowling as lead, vice and skip.
 - Teams are assigned by the coordinators on a random basis each week, and depending on the number of participants, some may be assigned to play trebles or practice their singles game.

Corporate Events, Kitchen/Clubhouse and Grounds Beautification

Coordinators of volunteers for the activities that provide support to the club operations spoke.

- Cathy Moxey and Jo Bradley – Corporate Events

- A number of events have already been booked, and additional companies have expressed interest.
- Volunteers will be required to support these events, and Jo will be in touch to recruit later in May. The events and participants are great fun and you don't have to be an ace bowler to help out.
- Mary Opper and Vicki Jo Bowden – Kitchen/Clubhouse Operations
 - Victoria spoke on behalf of Mary and Vicki Jo, who were unable to attend.
 - Mary and Vicki Jo will be looking after the kitchen and ensuring other supplies are in place for the clubhouse.
 - They will be handling food for 4 holiday jitneys and 10 tournaments/district events this year
 - It is more work than 2 people can handle so please consider volunteering to help them.
 - It is a lot of fun, you get to meet bowlers from other clubs, and the snacks are endless.
- Marjorie Walsh – Grounds Beautification
 - Victoria read Marjorie's comments as she was unable to attend:
 - I try each year to have the gardens looking presentable by the jitney in May. Having said that I will be reaching out to all past gardeners by email and hope to get started on May 3rd and 4th for usual spring clean-up. I usually arrive around 10. Hoping for the weather to be nice and we can get a lot done.
 - There will be ongoing opportunities to assist throughout the summer and I will keep you informed. If anyone is interested in helping with the gardens, we would like to have you join in. All help is valued and appreciated.
 - Looking forward to another season. Have a nice day everyone.

Open House

The Open House will take place on Thursday May 25 starting at 7:00pm, weather permitting. Due to the BBC freeze on new memberships the open house will be limited to existing BBC members. Alice Iacurci suggested that a section challenge could be arranged to encourage members to join lawn bowling.

Joe Green Induction into OLBA Hall of Fame

Joe Green has been a permanent fixture at the Balmy Beach Club and has won District 10 titles in every event offered since 1984 including 1 Triples, 2 Colts, 6 Pairs, 6 Seniors, 10 Fours, 11 Singles and an astounding 13 Mixed Pairs, totaling 49 wins.

In addition, Joe has won the 2000 National Mixed Silver, the 2001 Ontario Mixed Gold, the 2006 Ontario Mixed Gold, the 2007 National Seniors Gold and the 2018 Ontario Mixed Gold totaling 82 qualifying points.

In addition to Joe's accomplishments, he has mentored some of the finest players in Ontario, especially in the Mixed Pairs event.

The OLBA is proud to induct Joe Green as a Legacy Player in the Hall of Fame, Class of 2022.

Joe thanked the members for their support. He has been a member of the BBC since 1950, starting as a paddler. He can't bowl this year but will assist with coaching on Tuesday nights. Joe had a friend in his days at Malvern who said the wise word for success in sports was "concentration". Joe's wise words are "have fun"!

Other Business

- Al Quance inquired about the use of the large mats this season. Tom responded that the large mats do help prevent damage from dropped bowl, however in the mornings they trap dew which leads to spot fungus. We will be monitoring the need for the mats throughout the season.
- John Adams thanked the members for being strong supporters of Wintergreen indoor bowling. John and his wife Donna have been running it for 15 years.

Draw for Free Lawn Bowling Membership

Kathy Russell was the lucky winner of the free membership. Congratulations, Kathy.

Adjournment

Al Quance moved that the meeting be adjourned. Andrea Hampton seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 12:45pm.