

# BETWEEN BOWLS

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May 2021

HAPPY VICTORIA DAY  
MAY 24, 2021

**Can U Dig it?**

Or **May U Dig it?**

We've heard it both ways

Doug Normand will be starting to transfer plants into their new summer home in the flower beds and plant pots around the clubhouse. If you are interested in helping – let Doug know. If you would like to donate a solar lamp for the pots or walk way – that would be great!

**Smile – You're on Candid Camera**

The RLBC is installing Security Cameras which will keep track of possible break-ins, etc. We'll also be able to keep track of the comings and goings at the club – so please remember to lock the clubhouse, set the alarm, and put the chain on the fence when you leave. Smile and Wave! We have cameras everywhere! Well . . . . not in the washrooms . . . but everywhere else.

## MAY DAY ~ MAY DAY

Mark your calendar ~ there's lots of stuff happening at the RLBC in May. Well, **MAY**be.

Bring a Friend Night – Evening Draw  
First Jitney & Potluck Supper

Thursday, May 27  
Friday, May 28

## May Clean Up Day

Clean Up! Clean Up! Everybody Everywhere! Postponed! But, if you happen to be at the club and want to clean and tidy a bit – that would be greatly appreciated.

## May Open House

Open House was originally scheduled for May 15, 2021 – 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. The Board decided to delay the Open House. When we have our Open House - we will be asking for some assistance both in the clubhouse greeting potential new members as well as on the greens showing potential new members a bit about the game. Interested in Baking? That would be super helpful as well, because we always like to provide refreshments to our potential new members and our volunteers.

## May Opening Day

Hey bring your bowls, your bowls cloths, your flat shoes and your excitement on Monday, May 24 starting at 1:00 pm. Well . . . actually May Opening Day may be postponed. Watch for an email!

## May New Member Orientation Day

Remember when we announced “New Member Orientation Day” – it was a notice that appeared in the newsletter a month ago, or so. Well, it's happening! Not sure the date(s) – or the time(s) so an email will be coming your way. Just a reminder – Orientation Day is sort of like a guided tour of the clubhouse and grounds for potential new bowlers, and to provide an opportunity to answer questions. We'll also hook up some seasoned bowlers with the new bowlers ~ Bowls Buddy System ~ so that they have a personal contact. Not ready for that yet? That's okay. Perhaps you can be on hand for one of the Orientation Days so that new members see your face, hear your name, and remember you when they arrive at the club and have a question later on. See you there!

## May Competitive 3s

In order to get the season started in a very competitive way, the Competitive 3s league is back. Hopefully, you have your team ready to register, but if not, there is still time. More information will be emailed to you as soon as we are given the green flag – so check your inbox often.

## MayDay Survey

A Social Survey is coming your way! Let your opinion be counted.

## OH, WHEN THE GRANTS ~ KEEP COMIN' IN

More great news on the Grant front. Thanks to Karen, the RLBC is the recipient of the ParticipACTION Community Better Challenge Grant in the amount of .....drum roll ~~~ we'll have to wait and see what amount is on the cheque when it arrives ~ it's a surprise! This Grant will be used to host our National Bowls Day event on June 5. The Board continues to do its Grant Happy Dance!

## VERY, VERY VINTAGE MATE

You may have in your possession a Regina Lawn Bowling Club pin. If so, hang on to it. These pins are considered a Rare Vintage Canadian Badge. Look at the advertisement on eBay. Thanks to our super sleuth member – elementary, my dear Brandon Watson (not Sherlock, of course) – we can try and look for clues to discover who is trying to sell this pin. Any guesses?



The image shows an eBay listing for a Regina Lawn Bowling Club badge. The badge is a shield-shaped pin with a gold crown at the top. The shield is divided into three sections: a blue top section with a white bowling ball, a green middle section with a white bowling pin, and a white bottom section with a blue banner that reads "REGINA LAWN BOWLING CLUB". The shield is flanked by gold laurel branches. The listing includes the following details:

- Condition: Used
- Price: AU \$7.99
- Buttons: Buy It Now, Add to cart, Add to Watchlist
- 30-day returns
- Longtime member
- Postage: AU \$4.99 Standard International Flat Rate Postage | [See details](#)
- International shipment of items may be subject to customs processing and additional charges.

## RLBC Board Update

- Approval to purchase a new riding mower (April) and new Security system (May).
- New bowls order has been placed and should arrive at the end of the month.
- RLBC received the ParticipACTION grant.
- Tarps are off the greens.
- B Cubed has 6 teams ready to register.
- Bowls Sask is organizing several tournaments for members this season. They're gunna be fun.
- Many special days planned for May have been postponed.
- Brandon's exciting new project ~ the first in Canada and possibly the World ~ happening at the RLBC.

## Summer Student

Remember last month when we said that Adam was hired to be our Summer Student. Well . . . Just Jokes! Adam found a better ~~fit~~, I mean fit with another company whose line of work was more suitable to his degree of study. So, the Interview Crew were back at it, and luckily, they found another excellent candidate. Please welcome **Chris Reimer**. Chris promised us he would stay all summer – and we are going to hold him to it. If Chris looks familiar, it's probably because you recognize him from the time he came to the RLBC as part of his high school phys ed class 3 years ago. It was a Tuesday afternoon.

# **Roles in Bowls**

## **Coach's Corner**

This month's Coach's Corner focuses on the roles of each position on a fours team. Remember, these descriptions can be transferred to a pairs or triples team.

### **Take the Lead**

The lead always throws first for their team and rakes the bowls when the end is completed if the opponent scored the point(s). To be most consistent, leads are usually asked to play one side of the green. The skip will build on your strengths, or on the condition of the green, to find the best path for the lead to get their bowls close to the jack. The downside to this approach is that sometimes, the opponent's skip will try to put a blocker in your way. Don't worry. As a lead, you've been practicing all season and your positive self-talk will guide you to change hands and roll a great bowl. Leads should also practice throwing jacks to various lengths. If your skip calls for a short jack, you need to be able to deliver a short jack. A quick and easy practice is to place 3 or 4 bowls at various lengths on the green. Then take a bucket of jacks and try to roll to each length.

### **Thank you, I'll have Seconds!**

The second position is often overlooked – but this is a mistake. The second needs to be able to draw to the jack, just in case the team's lead didn't quite get shot, and, the second needs to be able to throw a bit heavier just in case the skip sees the potential for a drive shot for the vice. So, the second should practice draw shots to various length jacks, up-weight shots, and be able to play both forehand and backhand. The second position is a very important role!

### **Freeze! Vice Squad**

The role of the vice, in either a triples game or a fours game is crucial. The vice is second in command, and often times, provides shot selection opportunities to the skip for consideration. The vice continues to build the head, setting up the bowls in the best possible position for the skip to finish off the end. The vice needs to be able to draw, move short bowls around with up-weight shots, draw to the ditch or re-spot, and drive. The vice can be at the same end of the rink as the lead and second – to encourage their shots and to report to the skip information that the skip may not see from the other end. Or, the vice may stay with the skip in the head during the end, and is a sounding board for shot calling.

### **"Skip" To My Loo!**

The role of the skip is more than simply throwing last bowls. The skip calls the game, calls shots that will put the team in the best possible position to score, and guides the basic tactics of the team. The skip will call for a particular jack length to be rolled; decide if the team should play aggressively or defensively, and needs to have a keen eye to see two or three shots ahead. The skip needs to be able to drive and draw – the skip needs to be able to play every type of shot – which could cut down losses, add shots to the count, or turn the head over. The skip carries the official score card. The skip is also the glue that holds the team together – a positive word or two to a player when his or her bowls have a mind of their own and congratulating a player on a good shot is important. In a competitive tournament, the skip registers the team, is the first line of contact when conversing with the officials, etc.

## **Short Jack**

Just a reminder that some of our members prefer to bowl to a short jack during the daily draws. If you want to play short jack, make sure your draw tag is in the correct tray. There is a short jack tray and a regular jack tray. Short jacks can be thrown, or, the skip can simply place the jack just beyond the hog line. Have fun!

## **Not Quite the Lift I Needed**

For bowlers who have difficulty getting down to deliver a bowl – we have a bowls launcher at the club. Feel free to try it out.

And . . . we are in the process of making steps down to the greens. So, no excuses now!

## **A WALK DOWN MEMORY LANE**

The RLBC isn't just a place to bowl. Counting steps? Why not walk the greens and satisfy the old Fitbit.

11 laps around any green	=	1 mile = approximately 2000 steps
7 laps around A & B or C & D	=	1 mile = approximately 2000 steps
4 laps around A, B, C, D	=	1.1 miles = slightly over 2000 steps

# Tarp Party

The tarps are officially off the greens! Thanks to a great team of ~~Laundry Folders~~ I mean Tarp Guys who got the job done! Thanks guys – you did an awesome job. Who do you spot?

Tarp Party: Doug Normand, David Calam, Doug Lambert, John Gale, Jim Gares, Garth Zummack, Darren Gress. Photos compliments of Ingrid Riffel.



**A beautiful Green doesn't happen by itself!**



**Green C is Lookin' Good!**



# Extra! Extra!

## Read All About It

### Between Bowls Celebrates 1 Year in Publication

Hot off the press! It's official! We reached a milestone!

The *Between Bowls* Newsletter has been delivered to the RLBC membership for 1 year! That's right ~ 1 year. In May of 2020, the RLBC Board, supported by the Strategic Planning Committee, saw the need to reach out to the RLBC community on a regular basis. The concept of a monthly newsletter was developed and the first ever *Between Bowls* Newsletter was delivered.

On the first of every month – spring, summer, fall, winter – your RLBC newsletter is delivered to your inbox. We hope that you have enjoyed one or two of the articles ~ learned strategies from some of the coaching tips ~ were kept informed about future events ~ received a glimpse of the RLBC Board meetings, Strategic Planning Committee meetings and the Orientation Committee meetings ~ enjoyed reading highlights about some of our members who have made outstanding contributions to the sport or who have been recognized for their significant achievements ~ grants, grants and more grants ~ summer students and the greens keeper ~ and all the other stuff too. We know that you waited breathlessly to see what color scheme would be used in next month's edition and some of you turned directly to the funny pages to see the bowls cartoons. We have received excellent feedback from our members ~ apparently you like the newsletter.

Remember ~ if you think you missed a copy, you can always go to the RLBC website and download it. Just click on **NEWS-NEWSLETTER** on the top. If you have suggestions for future articles ~ or ~ if you fancy yourself a budding journalist and would like to write an article for the newsletter, drop us a line at [RLBC.SK@OUTLOOK.COM](mailto:RLBC.SK@OUTLOOK.COM). Even though our super-sleuth investigative reporters always have their ear to the ground ~ they miss an important piece of news every now and then. Don't forget to let us know ~ we can feature your story in our next edition ~ of course, we will have to verify your sources as all good journalists do!

**CHEER'S TO ANOTHER YEAR OF THE BETWEEN BOWLS NEWSLETTER**

## Great Minds . . . . . Think Alike

If we didn't know better . . . we'd think that Bowls Canada was listening in on our Board's conversations. If you think about it – RLBC has been a trailblazer in the lawn bowls community. The RLBC has been introducing new ideas to move the sport ahead for many years– and so is BCB.

Here are some things that BCB recommends – which the RLBC has already implemented.

- Update the Website. The RLBC's website is one of the best in Canada.
- Modernize the clubhouse – make it more aesthetically pleasing. Done in 2018.
- Use SignUpGenius. Our SignUpGenius software is ready to go and members are informed.
- Make sure new members feel welcome. Hence the RLBC's Orientation program.
- Advertise for Group Bookings to increase funding. That's our plan for the 2021 season.
- Start a rec league. Already done ~ Thank you, B Cubed.
- Hire staff. We hired a greens keeper 3 years ago, and this is our second year hiring summer students!
- Maintain the greens at a good speed. Garth promised!
- Find sponsors. We found many – a sponsor to replace the greens equipment shed roof, a sponsor for B Cubed, a sponsor for new flooring. And we continue to look for sponsor partnerships.
- Apply for Grants. We apply every year and this year we were the recipients of the New Horizon's Grant and the ParticipACTION Grant!
- Play music. Our sound system was installed in 2018 and enhancements are scheduled for 2021.
- Invest in equipment. We just purchased a new mower. And 50 sets of new bowls are on the ship on route to the Leslie Greens.
- Make the sport more accessible. RLBC is getting step downs onto the greens, and already has a bowls launcher.
- Update anything. The RLBC's logo was refreshed in 2021.
- And . . . . .
- Bowls is Safe. RLBC's publicity campaign touts bowls as the safest sport given the Covid restrictions. . . . .

Casey Donnelly from BCB talks about 2021 being the perfect season to attract new members – with the Covid restrictions and all. See – Lawn Bowls is one of the safest activities you can play during a pandemic – and we all saw that last season. So, in keeping in line with the RLBC's Strategic Plan and the recommendations by the Orientation Committee . . . . . here's what Bowls Canada has to say about the 2021 season.