

Santa Barbara Lawn Bowls Club

ON THE JACK

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Website: santabarbaralbc.org

Facebook.com/SBLawnBowls



Greetings fellow Lawn Bowlers:

Do you know what time it is? It is Open House time at SBLBC!

As well as at MPLBC (the other Club across town)....the same day and the same times.

So it is most imperative to get the word out about our Open House.

This is our most important event of the year, with the purpose of building the membership, community value and awareness of our club.

Considering the Police Station options hanging in the balance, we need to be vigilant in our community involvement, promotion of needed activities for all

ages and walks of life, and to support the wellbeing and good health of our community.

If we cannot build and sustain an optimum club membership to support the club, we will have to look at alternative options to fund the Club.

At this time, we do not want to raise our rates or rely on special events to finance the club.

Additionally as important and of value, our yearly membership is \$150, MPLBC is \$260.

So, we want new members to enjoy what the Club, our Club..... has to offer.

We will be having Open House on May 4, Saturday 10:00 – 3:00

If you volunteer for just one activity a year..... THIS IS IT!

It's a fun day for all involved.

Come out and show your commitment to the Club.

Please look at the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board and choose a committee.

Sign up for your favorite activity to allow us to establish the committees to run the Open House.

We need ALL HANDS on deck to present the club and its amenities.

Once the committees are populated, we will begin having Open House Meetings with all involved.

This is where we sell it! The camaraderie, interaction, networking, competitiveness, activities, holiday games, tournaments, and just plain FUN.

Annual membership is currently at \$150.00...January- December

As an incentive, we may be offering new members for their first membership fee of \$70.00 or \$8.75/ mo. (non-refundable), for the ~8 months remaining in 2019...May-December.....What a deal!

What can we do to encourage and retain new bowlers to join the club?

Let your friends and neighbors (18 years and older), know about the Open House.

Free Drinks and Pizza will be available to participating individuals.

Let's make this 2019 SBLBC Open House one to remember!

Regards,

GRANT

Your Monthly Rule Reminder..... Share It:

1.3 A bowler "on deck" (next to bowl) should pick up her/his bowl, stand behind the bowler on the mat and be ready to bowl. After delivering a bowl, a bowler shall exit to the right side of the mat. The movement of bowlers assuming and relinquishing possession of the rink shall be in a clockwise rotation around the mat.

Coming Events:

April:

13, Saturday, Open Bowling Day
20, Saturday, Graffy Blind Draw Triples

May:

4, Saturday, OPEN HOUSE
18, Saturday, Hedrick Bocce Tournament
27, British Cup, Memorial Day Tournament

Tournaments:

Our **Club Pairs Championship Tournament** was postponed but not forgotten. Marlyn thought it best, since several of our regular tournament bowlers were unavailable on the date it was planned, to postpone and make it a real championship. It looks like the last week of June will be the new date and Marlyn will post it in plenty of time for sign-ups.

Coming on Saturday, April 20, is a Very Special Tournament – the **Graffy Blind Draw Triples**. This tournament, sponsored by the Graffy family in memory of our long-time bowling friend Chuck, is a really fun event. Not only did they provide a beautiful trophy but we will also enjoy refreshments at lunch time. So if you haven't already done so, put your name up on the sign-up sheet.

The **Veteran/Novice Tournament** was played on Saturday, March 16 with eight teams trying for their names on the trophy. The weather was picture perfect and everyone played their best. Two teams won all three of their 8-end games but the winners, Marlyn Nicolas and Steven Lee finished with three wins and 18 plus points. The second place team of Brent Boone and Tom Stansberry were just a few plus points behind.



Our super Tournament Director, Marlyn Nicolas, not only directs tournaments, plays in them (and occasionally wins them), but she also makes sure there is nourishing food and drinks available to the players. Thanks Marlyn.



Fun Day:

We celebrated St Patrick's Day a few days early and it was indeed a Fun Day. There were our usual games of Spider and Draw to the Ditch.

The lovely shiny clover at the left was the centerpiece for our Spider game and the winner was none other than our new President, Grant Gibson.

Grant was the happy recipient of a bottle of wine for a prize. Also in the winners' circle were Judy Wang and George Glerum who won the Draw to the Ditch games.



So our St Patrick's Day celebration was a good time but also bitter-sweet as it was the last day that our good friends, long-time bowlers Bud and Stephanie Viard were to play with us. Sadly they have now left us for a home in Oregon. Our Secretary, Alice Chaffee, has written a wonderful biography of the Viards and it will be at the end of the newsletter. Many thanks to Alice for the bio and we miss the Viards already!

Board Meeting Highlights:

Marlyn announced that the night bowling will be Tuesday night only until Easter. After that, it will again be open on Thursdays as well. She said that there are always a loyal group who show up to bowl in the evenings and believes there will be more later in the year when it is warmer.

Chris Trenchel and his PR committee are planning to begin a league which will start on May 22 and will play on Wednesday evenings. Chris envisions this league to be "A night-time

league for current club members and a fun way to introduce the game to new bowlers.” This will hopefully include some of the young people who have been to our club with a special events group. The newcomers will be required to buy a six weeks membership as well a pay an entry fee into the league and will have some lessons before the league begins. The Board was enthusiastic about his plan and gave full consent. More information will be forthcoming when everything is finalized.

Open House was discussed and there will be sign-up sheets on the bulletin board soon since many volunteers will be needed to handle all the jobs required that day. Please keep an eye on the bulletin board and help out with this very important event. Open House this year will be on May 4, so coming up very soon!

Clean-up Day has been scheduled for May 1, a Wednesday, so we can spruce up our clubhouse and campus for visitors. So another volunteer opportunity. There is much to do around our grounds so please lend a hand to this effort as well.

Bowling Reminders:

There still seems to be some confusion about the jack in the ditch and the rule of placing the jack at the center two meter mark if it is hit out of bounds. So a few reminders:

1. If the jack is knocked into the ditch it is still in play. The bowl that touched the jack is also in play and should be marked with chalk to identify it.
2. With the jack and bowl in the ditch, draw a circle in the sand around them. This is useful in case another bowl comes into the ditch and moves either one. If this happens, put the bowl or jack back in the original position.
3. If another bowl is knocked into the ditch and is a previous toucher, then if it moves the jack already there it should stay moved.
4. If the jack is knocked out of bounds (beyond the yellow boundary lines) then it is “burned”. At this point, pick it up and place it on the “T” – that is, two meters from the front ditch and on the center line. If there is a bowl already occupying this space, rule 56.5.4 of *Laws of the Sport of Bowls* states the following: “If any of the spots mentioned.....are partly or completely covered by a bowl, the jack must be placed as close as possible to the covered spot, between and in line with that spot and the corresponding spot at the opposite end of the rink, without touching a bowl.”

Please let me know if there are any questions you need answered. I can always consult our newest umpire Sharron Adams, or I can look up answers in the Laws book.

Bud and Stephanie Viard—Thank You and Farewell

The St. Patrick's celebration at the Santa Barbara Lawn Bowls Club celebrated the service—and marked the farewell—of long-time, beloved, and highly valued club members Bud and Stephanie Viard. The Viards, who have lived in Santa Barbara since the 1970's, have packed up and moved north to smaller and more affordable home in Oregon where they expect to enjoy their retirement.

The Viards joined the Club in 1992. They had been looking for a sport that they could both enjoy when one day, as they were strolling in the neighborhood, they noticed a group of people who seemed to be having a very good time bowling outdoors. Bud had seen the game played in Australia and New Zealand and suggested they give it a try. The Viards took instruction from Velma Dorsey and Judy Patrizzi and soon became regular weekend bowlers. Both Viards learned quickly and began to bowl in tournaments across Southern California. While Bud was still a novice, he and his partner Al Steinman won the 1994 Southwest Division Novice Pairs Tournament. The Viard name appears on a number of the trophies in the clubhouse.

Bud served on the Board of Directors, worked as Tournament Director for several years, and was chosen as Club President for 2010 and 2011. He recalls the renaming of the upper green as the Carol Smith Green as a highlight of his time as president.

Always innovative, Bud and Stephanie initiated one of the Club's most popular annual events, the Aloha Triples Not a Tournament, held every year around Flag Day in June. The only requirements are that the players wear Hawaiian shirts and choose Hawaiian sounding names for their teams. First prize is the coveted Golden Pineapple Award. For over 20 years the Viards also have been moving spirits in Twilight Bowling, which has drawn a devoted following.

In 2012 Bud began the activity which will remain his outstanding legacy at the Club—hosting outside groups who are introduced to lawn bowling while they celebrate special events, from birthdays and weddings (and even a male baby shower) to company outings. Over the past several years, these special events have provided from \$4,000 to \$5,000 of extra income each year to the Club, which has enabled the Club to keep the members' annual dues affordable. Bud credits the Club's website with attracting many of the groups and appreciates all those Club members who have helped him look after the visitors.

While playing bocce ball at Arnoldi's restaurant, the Viards became friends with the Santa Barbara Special Olympics bocce team. Bud learned that they needed a better location to practice. He brought this up at the Club, and under the enthusiastic leadership of Dan Hedrick the Club welcomed the team to our artificial green. Tony Cunningham built three bocce courts on the east end of the green and Bud helped coach the teams. Since that time the Special Olympics bocce team has won a Southern California Divisional gold and silver medals. The local organization and the Club have also hosted a Regional Tournament for the past three years, dedicated to the memory of Dan Hedrick.

Bud was born and raised in Los Angeles. After graduating from high school he spent four years in the United States Coast Guard, including two deployments on an icebreaker in Antarctica. While serving in Seattle in 1970 he met Stephanie, who was still in high school. They were married two years later, aged 20 and 18, and in their 47 years of married life have raised a son and a daughter and now have two grandchildren who have often visited the Club.

When Bud's time in the Coast Guard was up, the Viards chose Santa Barbara as the place to launch their careers. Bud used the GI Bill to study accounting at City College (one of his teachers was John O'Dea). He spent 20 years with the firm that owns the Pepper Tree Inn and the Encina Lodge, eventually becoming Chief Financial Officer. He later became the bookkeeper for the Chart House and eventually for Nick Rail Music. Meanwhile, Stephanie worked a number of jobs in order to make ends meet and eventually also went into bookkeeping. For the past 26 years has been Loan Supervisor for the Santa Barbara Teachers Federal Credit Union.

What the Viards like most about lawn bowling is the people they bowl with. Whatever their backgrounds and circumstances, lawn bowlers meet as equal competitors on the green. Bud always encourages his fellow bowlers, even the most inept. "It's not where the jack is that matters," he will say, "but where it will be." "Be up," he adds. "Don't be short." Stephanie adds: "And have fun!"