



HOLMBY HAPPENINGS

The newsletter of the Holmby Park LBC founded in 1927

Volume 75, Issue 8.

September, 2015

Club's website: www.losangeleslawnbowling.com

Editor: Tom Seres

club's phone: (310) 550.6116

Associate Editor: Dave Horner



PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

The weather forecast was not favorable for lawn bowling. During our **Joslyn Mixed Triples** tournament on Saturday, August 29, it was unusually hot and humid. By 7 am most of our volunteers were already at Holmby Park to decorate, set up and prepare our club for the expected 100 bowlers and visitors. By 8 am, the temperature was over 85 degrees, but the bowlers kept coming. They drove to Holmby from as far as Santa Barbara and Colorado. By 9 am, all **96 bowlers from 16 clubs** (see photo above) were ready to play.

When we first agreed to host this prestigious event in 2007, it was scheduled for October. Over the years, it has been scheduled earlier and earlier in September, until this year, it was in August. It seems that bowlers really like to participate in this event. Despite the brutally hot conditions, all 96 players came, filling all our 16 rinks.

By lunch time it was 97 degrees in the shade but not one bowler stopped playing.....on our sun drenched greens. Since January, a great deal of effort went into preparing these greens. Due to many unexpected problems, both greens were in miserable, almost unplayable, conditions during the winter and part of the spring. But by late August, the greens improved greatly. During this tournament, we conducted a one page Opinion **Survey**, asking all 100 participating bowlers, what was their experience.

Over 20% of them completed the survey (an outstanding percentage by any voluntary opinion survey!) and almost all of them were highly complimentary. The respondents remained anonymous, as we did not ask for names. Three of them would have liked the greens to be faster. Indeed, if you go according to the Blue Book: *"it is desired that all greens used shall be running at least 12 seconds."* It is believed that our greens were probably slightly slower than 12 seconds.

However, it is often said that adjustments to the greens is a major requirement to successful bowling. This lesson was painfully learned by our players who recently bowled on the fast Santa Monica greens. This time, our bowlers probably benefited from the **'home court'** advantage. On the A green, where some of the SWD top bowlers played, our team came 6th in the pack of 16 excellent teams. On the B green, our B team remained unbeaten and **finished first**.

Comparing teams and clubs on the basis of only one competition is a misguided exercise. Measurement by comparing prize money is more quantitative, but equally deceptive. However, I am glad to report that when it comes to money our bowlers **finished second** (with a total of \$360) out of the 16 participating clubs. One declared aim of this event was to bring tournament and social bowlers closer together. Such an effort is *a priori* a serious challenge given the difference in skill levels. Still, we would like to believe that we were not entirely unsuccessful. Thank you all, you wonderful Holmby volunteers, for helping with this important tournament!



Joslyn Mixed Triples 2015

Final Results - **A group**

Rank	Club		MP	PP
1	Alhambra	A	6	+ 24
2	Santa Monica	B	6	+ 16
3	The Groves	A	5	+ 8
4-5	Newport	A	4	+ 15
4-5	Newport	B	4	+ 15
6	Holmby	A	4	+ 9
7	Santa Monica	A	4	+ 2
8	Santa Anita	A	4	- 2
9	Laguna Beach	A	3	+ 1
10-11	Coronado	A	2	- 4
10-11	Beverly Hills	A	2	- 4
12	Santa Barbara	A	2	- 5
13	Oxnard	A	2	- 8
14	Long Beach	A	0	- 14
15	Friendly Valley	A	0	- 25
16	Sun City	A	0	- 28

Joslyn Mixed Triples 2015

Final Results - **B group**

Rank	Club		MP	PP
1	Holmby	B	6	+ 29
2	Hermosa Beach	A	6	+ 17
3	Alhambra	B	5	+ 14
4	The Groves	B	4	+ 10
5	Laguna Woods	B	4	+ 9
6	Long Beach	B	4	+ 8
7	Long Beach	C	4	+ 6
8	Santa Anita	B	4	+ 1
9	Coronado	B	4	0
10	Friendly Valley	B	2	- 8
11	Laguna Woods	A	2	- 10
12	Santa Monica	B	2	- 16
13	Sun City	B	1	- 11
14	Laguna Beach	B	0	- 8
15	Holmby	C	0	- 15
16	Oxnard	B	0	- 24

Looking simply at these final scores we may not fully appreciate all the drama and excitement of this tournament. Here are some remarkable results: During the first round in the A group, **our Holmby** team beat the experienced Newport team winner of this tournament four times since 2007, with their skip Ian Ho, who won it 9 times since 1996. In the same round, Santa Barbara beat the other dominant Newport team by one point, thereby opening up the competition for other teams. In the second round, Ian Ho with Ivan and Maryna Hyland beat Santa Monica's A team, the reigning Joslyn champions, by 10 points. The Santa Monica B team (strong enough to play in the A group) bowled beautifully, won all three matches and until the last minute, looked like winning the whole Enchilada. However, there was still one match to be completed. Finally, Alhambra A team won by 9 points and finished **1st place**.

In the **B group**, the competition was equally fierce. More than half of the 16 teams won at least two of the three matches. Indeed, we are very proud of **our Holmby B** team that remained **unbeaten**, scoring 29 of the possible 30 points. Congrats to Catherine, Rudy and Ron!

We should, of course, acknowledge that luck is often part of these competitions. As always, a lucky wick at the right moment can be the difference between winning and losing. More importantly, each team plays three other teams from the available pool of 15 teams. Which three teams you play against, has a considerable impact on your chances. Finally, but not less importantly, there is also a **'home court'** advantage. It exists in many other sports, but it is even more decisive in our competitions. We are more comfortable on the greens that are similar in speed to the one we play regularly. It has been said that lawn bowling is a game of constant **adjustments**. This might be most critical when it comes to the greens.

JOSLYN MIXED TRIPLES TOURNAMENT 2015:**A GROUP**

cash award

Winner: **Alhambra** A team
Sean McMorris, Alan Ngo, Cheryl Cabot \$ 450

Runner up: **Santa Monica** B team
Corey Vose, M. Bierman, D. Vanderloop \$ 300

3rd place: **The Groves** A team
Andy Kerr, Chet Mueller and R. Bunch \$ 285

4th place: **Newport Harbor** A team
Brian Stewart, Ron Gill and Doreen Mayo \$ 60

5th place: **Newport Harbor** B team
Ian Ho, Maryna and Ivan Hyland \$ 60

6th place: **Holmby** A team
Cecil Bator, Betsy Lauryssen, Zilbershtein \$ 60

B GROUP

Winner: **Holmby** B team
Rudy and Catherine Uribe, Ron Neef \$ 300

Runner up: **Hermosa Beach** A team
Paul Flahive, Morris Lane, Barbara Clark \$ 225

3rd place: **Alhambra** B team
Kay and Cecilia Tong, Frank Duarte \$ 150

4th place: **Beverly Hills** B team
Howard Horowitz, H. Dickinson, N. Loga \$ 60

5th place: **The Groves** B team
Patrick Walsh, W. and L. Benvenuto \$ 60

6th place: **Long Beach** B team
Heidi Fernandes, R. White, J. Arbogast \$ 60

STAT OF THE MONTHS

16 clubs entered **96 bowlers** at this Joslyn tournament. 12 teams (36 bowlers) received cash awards as shown above. However, the distribution of cash was somewhat less than democratic. Bowlers from six clubs (Santa Monica, Alhambra, The Groves, Hermosa Beach, Newport and Holmby) received **94 % (\$1,890)**, while the remaining 10 clubs received just 6 % (\$120). Are we supporting the unequal distribution of income, or just getting what we deserve?

AWARDS OUR NEW MATS.

When all our **16 rinks** are in use, we need **32 mats** at the same time. Although this rarely happens, one such occasions is our **Joslyn** tournament. Our existing mats were almost 30 years old and replacement was certainly justified.



After thorough research of many possible vendors available on the Net, we sent this photo to all Board members. It was then decided to order 16 yellow mats for one green and another 16 black and white mats for the other. These regulations mats debuted and were much appreciated by 96 bowlers during our Joslyn tournament. They seem to be sturdy, so they will be still in use at Holmby when most of our current members are already gone. Another good investment.

Breakfast & bowling & lunch & bowling & deserts & bowling..

Our special time arrangement during the **Joslyn** tournament was designed to allow enough time for eating, drinking (no alcohol!), socializing and bowling. Our Hospitality Committee was shining again. Under the leadership of **Linda Bator**, 18 lady members contributed salads, deserts, etc. to this feast.



Lunch and.....

Judging from the many verbal and email compliments received, our guests were well fed and treated. There is no room here to list all contributors, but we thank all of them. Our volunteers are the very best!



.....after lunch



OUR WELCOME MAT.

Our recruiting is an ongoing process. Although we keep experimenting with several new promo steps, our two traditional methods (current members and our banners in the park) are still the most effective.

In August we admitted, **Cristina Gentile** as our **#98** member - introduced by member, Fred Fox.



Paul de Mielche walked in the park, noticed our offer for free lessons and past the test in two weeks



Paul is our **# 99** member. Our good fortune continued when **Diana Cook** was attracted by our banner.



Diana was admitted on August 27 as our **member #100**. We extend a warm welcome to all three novice members and wish them many happy bowling years and friendship at Holmby Park!

ONE DAY TOURNAMENT: AUGUST 2015.

Our One Day tournaments have been successful even on the unusually hot and humid weekends. On Saturday, **August 8**, over **40 bowlers** gathered for the three short games competition. 12 triple teams bowled on 7 rinks on one green. Social bowling carried on the other.



Each team played against three other teams that included some younger, talented beginners. At the end of the day, only two teams remained unbeaten. First prize and the **trophies** went to **Harold, Pौरan** and new bowler Cary with higher plus points...



....while second place winners, Paul Reznik, Molly and short term member Matt received appreciation and applause from our bowlers. Perhaps even more importantly, our greens were improving, the mixing of age groups was successful and everybody had fun!

UPCOMING EVENTS.

Sept 8: Bridwell Singles tournament starts
 Sept 15: Birthday Party
 Sept 19: Board of Directors meeting
 Sept 26: One Day tournament

BIRTHDAY PARTY SPONSORS: AUGUST 2015.

Birthday cake: Boris and Annette Marks.
 Ice Cream and spiders: the membership.
 Hostesses: Christine, Shirley, Valerie, Mary and Linda

In this issue, all photos and articles are by Tom Seres, unless indicated otherwise. Photos on page 5 and 6 are by Ted Burton.

JOSLYN WINNERS: A GROUP



1st place: Alhambra A team:
Sean McMorris, Alan Ngo, Cheryl Cabot



4th place: **Newport Harbor** A team
Brian Stewart, Ron Gill, Doreen Mayo



2nd place: **Santa Monica** B team
Corey Vose, Marty Bierman, Dixie Vanderloop



5th place: **Newport Harbor** B team
Ian Ho, Maryna and Ivan Hyland



3rd place: **The Groves** A team
Andy Kerr, Chet Mueller, Roma Bunch



6th place: **Holmby Park** A team
Cecil Bator, Betsy Laurysen, Zev Zilbershtein

JOSLYN WINNERS: B GROUP



1st place: **Holmby Park** B team
Catherine and Rudy Uribe, Ron Neef



4th place: **Beverly Hills** B team
Howard Horowitz, Harry Dickinson, Netla Loga



2nd place: **Hermosa Beach** A team
Paul Flahive, Morris Lane, Barbara Clark



5th place: **The Groves** B team
Patrick Walsh, Wally and Laura Benvenuto



3rd place: **Alhambra** B team
Key and Cecilia Tong, Frank Duarte



6th place: **Long Beach** B team
Heidi Fernandes, Richard White, John Arbogast