



HOLMBY HAPPENINGS

The newsletter of the Holmby Park LBC founded in 1927

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SPECIAL JOSLYN TOURNAMENT ISSUE



Participating bowlers from 18 clubs at Holmby Park during the 2016 Joslyn Mixed Triples Tournament.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

I have to start by thanking all those wonderfully efficient Holmby volunteers who helped us to make this event such a success. Yes, even if it sounds repetitive, I have to say that *"WE COULD NOT HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOU!"*.

Several months of preparations have been necessary to get 18 Californian lawn bowling clubs to send 32 representative teams to Holmby Park on September 24, 2016. Over the last nine years, we have established a reputation to organize this event by honoring the memory of Mr. Joslyn, in a way befitting this exceptional benefactor of our club and our sport. It is not an exaggeration to say that he was the most generous American lawn bowler of the 20th Century and our club is ready to carry on with the tradition of generous treatment of our fellow bowlers in the 21st Century. We had completed entries for 96 bowlers before the entry deadline and we had to return entry fees to some other teams who sent entry forms and fees just a bit too late.

In the past, the preparations of our greens presented the greatest challenge - and this year was no different. From early February, we have worked with the DRP maintenance staff and slow improvements could be noticed by early summer. In July, the supervision of all work at Holmby Park was transferred from the Golf Division to the Park Division. This also meant that we had to deal with an entirely new group of supervisors not only for green maintenance but also for urgent repairs. Over the years, about a dozen sunshade structures rotted away and presented an embarrassment. For more than a year, we requested help, even offered sharing the cost of replacement, but nothing happened. Finally, during the last week just before this tournament, almost all needed repairs were completed.

On the day of the tournament we were blessed with perfect weather. Most volunteers were already working at 8 AM and Boris' team decorated the greens with American flags and bunting. Our ladies provided breakfast and a delicious lunch to over 130 bowlers and members. The best 16 teams, designated so by their clubs, competed on the A green, while another 16 teams played on the B green. At the end of the competition, special Joslyn medals were awarded to the members of the first teams on both greens. In the spirit of Mr. Joslyn, we also distributed over \$3,000 cash in prize money to 36 bowlers with the best results. A record. Further details are in this special issue.

JOSLYN 2016 FINAL RANKING: A GROUP

Rank	Club	MP	PP
1.	Newport Harbor	6	+ 26
2.	Laguna Woods	6	+ 25
3.	Laguna Beach	4	+ 18
4.	Santa Anita	4	+ 15
5 - 6	Beverly Hills	4	+ 8
5 - 6	Santa Monica	4	+ 8
7.	Holmby	4	+ 5
8.	Alhambra	4	- 1
9.	Santa Barbara	4	- 3
10.	Long Beach	3	- 10
11.	Sun City	2	+ 3
12.	Casta del Sol	2	+ 1
13.	Oxnard	2	- 19
14.	The Groves	1	- 19
15.	Coronado	0	- 23
16.	Friendly Valley	0	- 30

On this third day of fall of 2016, our club managed to rip a page from its summer calendar. The morning temperature was 85 degrees, the grass was emerald green, the buntings were reminiscent of a World Series game and, as one might expect, the competition rose to the occasion. 96 bowlers graced our beautiful lawns and the play was something to behold; jacks were trailed at critical moments, blocks were carefully placed, bowls were strategically positioned and draw shots reigned supreme, just what you would expect from some of the best tournament players in North America. Several bowlers from the US National Team and a couple of World Bowl competitors were also there. Players came from Coronado to Santa Barbara and every city in between. No one drove away disappointed.

The greens were fast and true and that made for great play. *"The greens have never been better"* said one player, *"These are some of the fastest greens we have ever bowled on"* said another. The hard work of preparations was paying off.

I know many of the tournament players were impressed not only by the beautiful surroundings, by the delicious food and by the famous Holmby hospitality but most importantly, by the quality of the greens. The 32nd Annual Joslyn Tournament was a spectacular success and something to behold: the winner of the "A" green was determined on the final shot of the day, and the "B" green winners were up for grabs until the final ends.



Our park is not a *place* to visit, it is a *community* of the friendliest and the hardest working volunteers in California. Our volunteers worked tirelessly to make this an event to remember. If we should be so fortunate – we hope to see you all next year.

A Group - Winner: Newport Harbor LBC, Bruce Williams with the medals, members Don Stewart, Rita Greenberg (not shown).



2nd Place: Laguna Woods LBC, Skip, Charley Herbert, Ivan and Maryna Hyland (6 times previous Champions)



3rd Place: Laguna Beach: Scott and Linda Roberts, Reinie Kramer



B Group Winners: Laguna Woods LBC
Buzz Bowbeer, Teemo Macchiavello, Helen Mathewson



2nd Place: Santa Monica LBC
Brian Studwell, Lesley Greene, Tom Sternweis



3rd Place: Hermosa Beach LBC
Kevin White, Lynn Logan, Jim Mueller

JOSLYN 2016 FINAL RANKING: B GROUP

Rank	Club	MP	PP
1.	Laguna Woods	6	+ 23
2.	Santa Monica	6	+ 16
3.	Hermosa Beach	4	+ 17
4.	Alhambra	4	+ 16
5.	Casta del Sol	4	+ 9
6.	Holmby	4	+ 6
7.	The Groves	4	+ 3
8.	Santa Anita	4	+ 1
9.	Oxnard	4	- 7
10 - 11	Long Beach	2	- 4
10 - 11	Sun City	2	- 4
12.	Beverly Hills	2	- 7
13.	Hemet A	1	- 19
14.	Friendly Valley	1	- 20
15.	Hemet B	0	- 13
16.	Coronado	0	- 17

First to welcome the participants: our ladies!



Lynne is ready to register the 96 participants, **Judy** is distributing our 'favors' - a Holmby towel to each skip, sun-protective sleeves and scarves to others, **Chrissy** provides Tournament Rules and Time Tables for the 32 teams.



CASH AWARDS DURING THE 2016 JOSLYN MIXED TRIPLES TOURNAMENTS.

AT THE END OF THE TOURNAMENT THE FOLLOWING CASH AWARDS WERE DISTRIBUTED TO 36 BOWLERS ON THE TWO GREENS

A GREEN WINNERS:

1 ST PLACE:	Newport Harbor:	\$ 250 EACH = 3 X \$ 250 =	\$ 750 FOR THE TEAM
2 ND PLACE:	Laguna Woods A	\$ 200 EACH = 3 X \$ 200 =	\$ 600 FOR THE TEAM
3 RD PLACE:	Laguna Beach	\$ 100 EACH = 3 X \$ 100 =	\$ 300 FOR THE TEAM
4 TH PLACE:	Santa Anita A	\$ 30 EACH = 3 X \$ 30 =	\$ 90 FOR THE TEAM
5 TH PLACE:	Beverly Hills A	\$ 30 EACH = 3 X \$ 30 =	\$ 90 FOR THE TEAM
6 TH PLACE:	Santa Monica A	\$ 30 EACH = 3 X \$ 30 =	\$ 90 FOR THE TEAM

B GREEN WINNERS:

1 ST PLACE:	Laguna Woods B	\$ 125 EACH = 3 X \$ 125 =	\$ 375 FOR THE TEAM
2 ND PLACE:	Santa Monica B	\$ 100 EACH = 3 X \$ 100 =	\$ 300 FOR THE TEAM
3 RD PLACE:	Hermosa Beach	\$ 75 EACH = 3 X \$ 75 =	\$ 225 FOR THE TEAM
4 TH PLACE:	Alhambra B	\$ 25 EACH = 3 X \$ 25 =	\$ 75 FOR THE TEAM
5 TH PLACE:	Casta del Sol B	\$ 25 EACH = 3 X \$ 25 =	\$ 75 FOR THE TEAM
6 TH PLACE:	Holmby Park B	\$ 25 EACH = 3 X \$ 25 =	\$ 75 FOR THE TEAM

TOTAL CASH AWARDS FOR THIS EVENT = \$ 3,045

32 TEAMS REPRESENTING 18 CLUBS.

A competition involving so many clubs and 96 bowlers with such different levels of skills would always present some organizational difficulties. Many of the other SWD tournaments typically attract the most skilled players and only the bravest of the non-tournament players. The Joslyn is a different event. In stead of a few excellent bowlers from different clubs forming teams that play as a group of individuals, the Joslyn event attracts bowlers from many clubs who are **representing their own clubs**, rather than forming teams from any pool of players who might be still available.

This creates a healthy rivalry between clubs, similar to all professional clubs, or college teams in other sports. Here, the efforts are for the team, not for the individual, to win. For non-playing club members it is easier to root for and support a team representing your club, than for a mélange of individuals playing only for themselves.

The Joslyn also presents a rare opportunity for the better club bowlers to compete against the most experienced players of this sport. Substantial cash awards attract the best. while other aspiring bowlers benefit from such high level of play. The downside of this format is that we sometimes end up with one sided scores reflecting glaring skill differences. Still, the history of our Joslyn events shows that clubs with many 'social' bowlers continue to attend. Occasionally, these less experienced bowlers manage to play a close game against the tournament bowlers. With pride and satisfaction, these stories are told at home and inspire others to try.

Which clubs are blessed with the best players? The records are unambiguous: Laguna Woods, Newport, Long Beach and Laguna Beach attract the largest group of better bowlers, while Alhambra, Santa Anita, Beverly Hills, Santa Monica and, yes, **Holmby** can often field teams that are sufficiently competitive. Cecil's team won two matches in the A group and lost only to the arguably best team from Laguna Woods. We congratulate our bowlers by saying: **"The future is looking even better!"**