



SO. CAL. SLATED FOR TOP U.S. BOWLS EVENTS

The United States Lawn Bowls Association has set the next three U.S. Open Tournaments, 2012 to 2014, for Orange County.

SWD venues for the next two National Championships competitions were also announced by the USLBA: 2012 in San Diego, and 2013 Santa Anita.

Committees for both 2012 events are currently being organized. Interested parties can find further information and follow developments on the SW Division website.

Most of the past decade's U.S. Open events have been sited in Orange County. Last year's National Championships were held in the Seattle area.

FYI the U.S. OPEN is an annual event for all-WBB and USLBA members, and features both U.S. wide and international entries as well as a large cadre of Southern Californians. The NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS are an annual competition between qualifying teams from each of the United States seven lawn bowling regional divisions.

NOTE: The "U.S. Open" was formerly known as the "National Open". The "National Championships" were formerly the "U.S. Championships".

SW OFFICERS RE-ELECTED FOR 2012

Conrad Melton (*Sun City*) was re-elected president of the Southwest Lawn Bowls Association for 2012 at the SW Division's Annual General Meeting, held at the Santa Anita Bowling Club in January.

Also retaining their executive SWLBA positions are: vice-president Ryan Neptune (*Newport Harbor*), treasurer Kelly Warren (*Newport Harbor*), secretary Jim Semanek (*Sun City*), and national councilor Sam DeLisle (*MacKenzie Park*).

Appointed District Representatives and Alternates: *Central*-Fred Robles/Jack Quinn, *Citrus*-Tony Head/Wiley Doss, *Coast*-Tom Hargraves/Bob Schmalholz, *North*-Amador Martinez/Stam Bloom, *Orange*-Andy Kerr/Ken Weigel, *South*-Jim Olson/Roger Teske, *West*-Bill King/Roger Withrington.

Nominating committee was chaired by Colin Stead (*Holmby Park*), with Joe Siegman (*Beverly Hills*) and Howard Harris (*San Diego*).

ED QUO ELECTED TO USLBA HALL OF FAME

Veteran Southern California bowler Ed Quo (*Newport Harbor LBC*) has been elected to the United States Lawn Bowls Association Hall of Fame. The honor was bestowed at the USLBA AGM in October.

A six-time United States national singles or pairs champion, long-time member of the U.S. National Team, manager of men's and women's National teams, and winner of abundant division titles, Quo has served as a SW division officer and on various committees. He played a key role in establishing the bi-yearly North American Challenge (U.S. vs Canada), and currently is a member of the USLBA National Team Selection Committee. His full biography is found at: USLBA.org/hall.of.fame



THE BRONZE BOYS! They brought home bronze medals in the Triples event at the recent Asia-Pacific Championships in Adelaide, Australia. From left: Ian Ho (*Laguna Beach*), Loren Dion (*MacKenzie Park*), Steve Nelson (*Milwaukee*).

Same threesome will rep the USA at the quadrennial World Bowls Championships, November 24-December 9, in Adelaide.

Other members of the U.S. team at the A-P Championships: Joe Reagan, Michael Siddall, Dee McSparran, Anne Nunes, Kottia Spangler, Carrie Fossati (*all Southern Californians*) and Michele Arculli (*New Jersey*).

NATIONAL LAWN BOWLING NEWS

Two Southern Californians were elected USLBA officers for 2012. Laguna Beach's Heather Stewart will serve as national vice-president, and Santa Monica member Brian Studwell was re-elected to the treasurer position. Arizona's Marty Schans was re-elected USLBA president.

The elections took place at the United States Lawn Bowls Association's (USLBA) annual Council meeting held in Irvine, CA. The National Council consists of two members representing each of the USA's seven regional divisions. Heather Stewart and Sam DeLisle (*MacKenzie Park*) are the Southwest Division councilors.

In other business—South African-born American bowling champion Neil Furman has been contracted as national marketing and public relations director. The veteran marketing professional, most recently headquartered in Colorado, has re-located to Southern California and will immediately engage in an ambitious program to promote and grow the sport of bowls.

SWD president Conrad Melton was greenlighted (funded) to produce an instructional DVD based on his hugely successful SWD "Intermediate Bowls Workshop." The project will be completed by early spring and copies made available *without charge* to all American lawn bowling clubs. Individuals will also be able to purchase personal copies at minimal cost.

ALL-SOUTHWEST TEAM NAMED

The Southwest Division Tournament Committee named the 2012 All-Southwest Team and presented individual awards at the recent Annual General Meeting. The top 14 players are ranked by points accumulation during the previous year's tournament season.

1. Loren Dion
2. Michael Siddall
3. Joe Regan
4. Aaron Zangl
5. Tony Baer
6. Bill Brault
7. Phil Dunn
8. Steve Smith
9. Ian Ho
10. Brian Stewart
11. Jim Olson
12. Charlie Herbert
13. Scott Roberts
14. Mert Isaacman

Formula for All-SWD team selection can be found in the Tournament Blue Book.

EVERYTHING LAWN BOWLING @ SOUTHWEST STUFF

Shirts, caps, coffee mugs, drinking glasses and more. You can now own them and 35 other items emblazoned with the Southwest Division logo by clicking on the Southwest Stuff link at the SWD website (www.trylawnbowling.com). Or you can take the direct route: www.cafepress.com/SouthwestStuff. The website pictures every item it carries with the SWD logo. And all SWD Stuff is reasonably priced.

Feel the Southern California lawn bowler pride. Get Southwest Stuff on your side!

NOW ON-LINE—COPIES OF BOWLS MAGAZINE 1962-2009

Copies of BOWLS Magazine, the national lawn bowling magazine published by the American Lawn Bowls Association and its successor USLBA from 1962 to 2009, are now available on-line.

Initially, rising costs of producing the magazine reduced quarterly publication to three annual issues in 2001, and its eventual demise at the close of 2009.

Thanks to the efforts of late ALBA historian Harold Esch (*Florida*) who preserved the library of magazines, USLBA webmaster Jim Semanek (*Sun City*) and several others, every issue of the magazine is readable on the USLBA website: USLBA.org

Anyone interested in the history of American lawn bowling, as well as numerous photos, instructional and greenscare articles, and home-club reports of years past will find the library of more than 175 issues fascinating and informative.

Webmaster Semanek warns: "Reading Bowls Magazine can be addictive!"

SW WOMEN'S ORG 2012 OFFICERS

The Southwest Women's Division 2012 officers are: President-Melanie Vizenor (*San Diego*), Vice-President-Georgie Deno (*San Diego*), Secretary-Candy DeFazio (*Long Beach*) and Treasurer-Dee McSparran (*Newport Harbor*), Councilor-Carrie Fossati (*Santa Ana*), Tournament Chair-Izzy Forbes (*Long Beach*), Immediate Past-President-Jan Hargraves (*Newport Harbor*).

The Dream Machine

MR. FLAT GREEN

Club representatives attending the January AGM at Santa Anita were introduced to Mr. Flat Green, the latest innovation for simplified professional bowling green maintenance.

It is described by Amador Martinez, newly appointed SWD Greens Committee head, as: “a 21st century re-birth of the original ‘Haley’s Planer’, the 1970s multi-purpose wonder machine that redefined the playability of America’s bowling greens.” The late Dr. Edgar Haley, author of lawn bowling’s “Green Book” maintenance manual, invented the original ‘planer’.

The re-designed Mr. Flat Green, explains Martinez: “planes (levels), verticuts and grooms (vertically cuts turf for smoothness), all in one forward motion sweep”.

Most notable modifications of the new model vis a vis the 40-year old version, include: elimination of the complex pulley, sprocket, V-belt construction to support the power-take-off (PTO) system; elimination of the hydraulic pump and hydraulic motor, including all associated hardware - replaced with 4-hp gas engine system attached to the cutting blade frame; and direct drive to the cutting blade shaft. Also, cutting blades comparable

to the current grooming wheel are mounted on the mower frame. The mower system provides surface coverage of six square feet in area. Mr. Flat Green provides 24 square feet of surface in area.

Mr. Flat Green’s are handcrafted in Southern California by skilled mechanics using the best materials available. It is not mass-produced.

The new machine was tested and systems evaluated at the Oxnard LBC with great success. “Used regularly, the tournament condition of your green will delight your club’s members and make your LBC a destination for visitors”, says Martinez.

All Southern California greenskeepers and interested parties are invited to view and test Mr. Flat Green. Contact: Amador Martinez (Oxnard LBC), amadorm1@verizon.net



Grand Opening!!!

The Southwest Division’s
ONLINE STORE:

Southwest Stuff

Is Open and Ready for Business!!

at: www.cafepress.com/SouthwestStuff

Shirts, Sweatshirts, Bags, Jewelry, Cups & MUCH MORE!

And every product displays the SWLBA Logo!

AMADOR MARTINEZ NAMED GREENS CHAIRMAN

Oxnard Lawn LBC stalwart Amador Martinez has been appointed 2012 Greens Chairman for the Southwest Division.

Martinez has been greenskeeper for the Oxnard bowling club since 1995. He recently introduced “Mr. Flat Green”, an all-in-one multi-task “super” machine that simplifies bowling green maintenance. Martinez designed and supervised construction of the machine. (see story above).

The Oxnard bowls veteran, who stresses the importance of weed control and measures to eradicate unwanted species, is available as a consultant to all SWD clubs wishing to improve the surface of their bowling greens. He can be contacted at:

amadorm1@verizon.net

DEAR DR. GOODWICK...

RX for more consistent excellence

Dear Doctor Goodwick,

You know how golfers are taught to have a “pre-shot routine?” Well, I’ve been thinking that maybe I should have some kind of a pre-shot routine for when I get on the mat. What do you think?

Looking 4 Some Good Help

Dear Looking,

Excellent question. I have to say, you’re “Looking Good” by seeking something that can add a lot of stability and focus to your game. In fact, many bowlers do have a pre-delivery routine of sorts, but often they apply it to their posture and how they check for correct bias. Not their mental game.

I believe that fully 50% of bowls is mental. So your pre-delivery thoughts need to be very carefully chosen and “religiously” followed. Here’s a routine that was developed by Coach/Umpire George Poor of the Northwest Division, and I later did a little fine-tuning. I think you’ll find it a lot of help if you’re able to incorporate it into your game.

1. Pick up your bowl with your non-delivery hand. This “saves” some muscle energy in your bowling arm and gives you a chance to gently shake your delivery arm and keep it loose. It also helps minimize the chance of rolling a wrong bias.

2. Place at least one foot entirely on the mat as you study the head and, if you’re a lead or vice, wait to see if your skip has any new instructions. Top bowlers never question their skip’s instructions, just as top skips often leave ‘which hand’ to the discretion of their teammates...especially when the common understanding is, “always draw to the jack unless I instruct otherwise”.

3. Based on instructions and/or your own analysis, speak your shot’s intention in your mind and select your aiming point. This decision in your own mind emphasizes the shot plan to your subconscious and begins the process of developing ‘muscle memory’.

4. Identify in your mind how much weight you need to apply to this delivery.

5. Face your aiming point as you transfer the bowl to your delivery hand, with attention to the proper bias, and carefully take your grip. This re-check and

gripping step eliminates two common ‘unforced errors’. As you prepare to deliver, point your feet toward your aiming point.

6. Give your aiming point your exclusive visual focus. From here on, your subconscious muscle memory will take control and provide the right weight. Use your conscious mind to deliver the bowl toward your aiming point. Remember the old adage: “keep your eye on the ball”? Well, in bowls, you need to “keep your eye on the aiming point”!

7. Deliver your bowl and follow through bringing your arm up to a horizontal position. Virtually all champions agree that a full follow-through is one of the most critical elements of an accurate delivery.

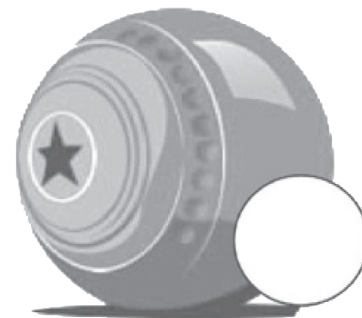
8. Observe your bowl’s initial path (about 20 feet) to determine how close your delivery line matched your aiming line. This often neglected but critical step provides information you must have in order to adjust your aiming point when conditions change. If the two paths were not identical, you may need to adjust your feet, shoulders, grip, or some other part of your delivery. Usually the cause of an off-line delivery is a break in concentration.

9. Stay on the mat and watch your bowl’s path until it comes to a complete stop. This provides feedback to both your conscious and subconscious mind regarding weight, shot visualization, and possible problem areas on the surface of the rink.

Now relax and graciously accept your colleagues’ appreciative comments about a well-played shot!

Remember, in sports, the primary opponent is often in your head...not the other team.

Conrad Melton



Next Issue Deadline
April 30

Division-Wide
OPEN HOUSE
Saturday May 12

At All Southern California Clubs

The Proven
New Member Recruiting Event
Over the Past Five Years

(More than 600 new bowlers have signed up at annual Southwest LBC Open Houses since the program began.)

If your club hasn't yet begun to prepare for the 2012 event the time to start is NOW! See information at trylawnbowling.com, or contact Open House Chair, Ryan Neptune: Neptune92651@gmail.com

Or, Your Club Can Ad Lib....

The Beverly Hills LBC will be holding its Open House on Sunday, March 11th, to take advantage of the City's annual "Woofstock" event (canine extravaganza) adjacent to the green, which traditionally draws more than 500 men and women every year.

"Membership potential" is where you find it. If you anticipate a ready-made advantage, latch onto it!

<http://www.trylawnbowling.com>

for all southern California lawn bowling news and information

**SOUTHWEST
DIVISION
CLUBS**

Alhambra
Beverly Hills
Cambria
Casta del Sol
Coronado
Friendly Valley
Groves
Hemet-Joslyn
Hermosa Beach
Holmby Park
Joslyn Lake Hodges
Laguna Beach
Laguna Woods
Long Beach
MacKenzie Park
Newport Harbor
Oaks North
Oxnard
Pasadena
Pomona
Redlands
Riverside
San Clemente
San Diego
Santa Ana
Santa Anita
Santa Barbara
Santa Maria
Santa Monica
Sun City

SOUTHWEST DIVISION

THE GREEN JACK

Joe Siegman

Jim Semanek

Conrad Melton

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

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SCHEDULE

FEBRUARY

25	Sat.	Mumma Mixed Pairs (Women Skip)	Riverside
26	Sun.	Mixed Pairs (Men Skip)	Santa Anita

MARCH

3	Sat.	Vet-Novice Mix or Match Triples	Santa Anita
10-11	Sat.-Sun.	SoCal Triples	San Diego
17	Sat.	Stirrat Mixed Triples	Santa Ana
18	Sun.	Don Goodrich Senior Triples	Sun City
21	Wed.	Ladies Day	Santa Anita
24	Sat.	Murray-Allison	Riverside
24-25	Sat.-Sun.	California Bears	Santa Anita
31	Sat.	Carnival	Long Beach

APRIL

1	Sun.	Amador Martinez Triples	Oxnard
14	Sat.	Chris Hyland Triples	Newport Harbor
14-15	Sat.-Sun.	SoCal. Rinks	MacKenzie Park
18	Wed.	Ladies Day	Santa Ana
21	Sat.	Australian Pairs	Riverside
22	Sun.	Beckley Invitational	Santa Monica
28-29	Sat.-Sun.	SW Division Open-Fours (women)	Santa Anita
28-29	Sat.-Sun.	SW Division Open-Pairs (men)	Santa Anita
30-1	Mon.-Tue.	SW Division Open-Singles (women)	Santa Anita
30-1	Mon.-Tue.	SW Division Open-Fours (men)	Santa Anita

MAY

2-3	Wed.-Thu.	SW Division Open-Pairs (women)	Santa Anita
2-3	Wed.-Thu.	SW Division Open-Singles (men)	Santa Anita
5	Sat.	The Jean MacAuley Mixed Triples	Laguna Woods
6	Sun.	Groves Mixed Triples	Groves
12	Sat.	OPEN HOUSE	All Clubs
16	Wed.	Ladies Day	Long Beach
19	Sat.	Katy Stone Singles	Santa Anita
20	Sun.	John Clark Mixed Triples	Hermosa Beach
26-28	Sat.-Mon.	Disney Tournament	Beverly Hills

JUNE

2	Sat.	City of Hope Triples	Santa Anita
3	Sun.	Senior (55+) Games	Pasadena
9-10	Sat.-Sun.	US Pairs Playdowns (women)	Newport Harbor
9-10	Sat.-Sun.	US Singles Playdowns (men)	Santa Anita
13	Wed.	Ladies Day	Santa Monica
16-17	Sat.-Sun.	US Pairs Playdowns (women)	Newport Harbor
16-17	Sat.-Sun.	US Singles Playdowns (men)	Santa Anita
23	Sat.	Laguna Beach Open Pairs	Laguna Beach
24	Sun.	Novice Singles (women)	Long Beach
24	Sun.	Novice Singles (men)	Long Beach
30	Sat.	Coronado Mixed Triples	Coronado