



The Yellow Jacket

Newport Harbor Lawn Bowling Club

949-640-1022

1550 Crown Dr. North
Corona Del Mar, CA 92625

www.newportharborlbc.com

Chuck Muser
Editor

Jay Coons
Editor Emeritus

May 2010

From The President's Rink



At our regular April Board Meeting, **Ted Farfaglia** was named President, effective June 1st. Ted is on an extended trip to Italy and doesn't expect to return until late May.

Ted's background and experience will serve us very well. I will continue to serve as Acting President until he returns.

Plans for our upcoming annual "Open House" are progressing on schedule. The committee, headed up by **Myna Chan, Len Cormier, John Groothuis** and **Don Stewart**, has many of the needed volun-

teers assigned and are busy searching for more. If you have not yet signed up please do so.

My primary focus remains to bring our greens up to a super superior state. So far we have been able to eradicate the "Purl Wart" weed and are hot after the "Poa Annuua" grass. We now will concentrate on fertilizing and strengthening the hybrid turf in order to bring it out of its winter dormancy.

You have probably already noticed some improvement. Sometime later in May, we plan to replace the plinths (the inner gutter wall) on both greens. New mats are also on our agenda. Please bear with us if we find it necessary to rearrange our Daily Greens Schedule while these various projects proceed. I have posted an up-dated Greens Schedule, but anticipate having to deviate in order to accommodate our greens keeper and other workers. Please check the bulletin board regularly

and follow instructions from Ramiro and any posted signs.

One last note, as a reminder, please remember that our club relies on all of our volunteer efforts. In other words, we all clean-up after ourselves. Though some tasks are assigned to specific members we all need to step up to any chore that needs doing. Items such as trash, kitchen cleaning and organizing, club house cleaning and equipment care should be on all our lists. Don't wait to be asked, just step up and get involved. Thanks! **John MacDonald**.

It's Open House Time Again

As everybody knows by now, our annual Open House is happening Saturday, May 10th. For anyone who doesn't know what that means, it is our day to throw open our doors, well, really, our gates, to any and all people who might be interested in trying our sport. These might be our friends who we've bored repeatedly by talking about our exploits on the greens who have finally given up and come to take a look for themselves. Or they might be the many people who walk by on the sidewalk on San Joaquin and wonder what all those crazy people are doing with those little black balls on the grass.

What does this mean for all our members? Good question, simple answer: This is our main way to keep our

membership up to the level that it takes to maintain a viable organization. Our club, the Newport Harbor Lawn Bowling Club, is one of the best in the country. We certainly have the best bowlers, and we can make a strong argument that we have some of the nicest people around as members. We are successful because we actively work to build and maintain our membership numbers. The Open House is our best tool to do that.

To make the event work, we need boots on the ground that day, boots (well actually, good flat soled shoes) worn by people to help set up, take names, handle the food, handle the crowd, and to show the interested how to do this beguiling sport. Hopefully, you have all signed up to work on Saturday. If not, its not too late, unless you read this on May 11th, so be there if you can.

This year the open house committee, **Myrna Chan, Len Cormier IV, Don Stewart** and **John Groothuis** have set the theme "in the islands" so you can come dressed as a beach bum with an obnoxiously bright shirt and fit right in. Myrna says that if you don't have, or don't want to wear, such a shirt, wear your club shirt. However, if you have neither but are willing to put in a satisfying day's work, wear what you want. She will see that you get a lei.

This year too, a coloring contest for those too young to bowl will be held. Myrna's little sister, Melissa will be there

to run that endeavor, but if you have a bent with the young ones, or with coloring, your help can be used. Also, the whole thing is going to be televised. It seems that the local access program on Newport Beach TV, "City Scenes" will be there to have a look. Myrna advises those on the lam from the law, or in the witness protection program, to come in disguise. See you all there, if we recognize you.



The Sporting Scene

Success In Australia! Dee McSparran and **Michael Siddall** held their own in great style at the recent World Cup tournament in Australia. Dee placed seventh overall losing only to Australia's Karen Murphy and New Zealand's Val Smith. As the **Yellow Jacket** goes to press the Australian bowler is playing for the championship, against New Zealand, so not a bad deal all in all.

In the men's competition Michael placed sixth, having lost to Israel's Zvika Hadar and Singapore's Chiu Pok Man. In the women's event there were twenty one teams, and in the men's, twenty two. We give hearty congratulations to both our bowlers.

Meanwhile, on the local tournament scene, the Southwest Women's Division Australian Pairs was held on the Riverside greens on April 17th. Second place in that event was taken by **Maryna Hyland** and **Jan Hargraves**. Fourth was taken by a team on which **Anne Nunes** bowled lead. Also bowling in the sixteen team competition was **Dee McSparran**, **Patty Lucas** and **Linda Jahraus**.

Earlier in the month, on the third, Long Beach LBC held its annual Carnival. Although a whole bunch of Newport Bowlers competed, only **Dave Price** was in the money, taking third. The others were **Richard Smith**, **Frank Cornella**, **Rita Greenberg**, **Tony Greenberg**, **Linda Jahraus**, **Patty Lucas**, **Dale Lucas**, **Cathy MacDonald**, **John MacDonald**, **Gloria Montes**, **Bob Montes** and **Angie Vazirian**.

President's Cup Triples

Eight teams squared off in the annual club President's Cup Triples tournament on Thursday April 15th, and when the dust settled the team of **Don Stewart**, **Jim White** and **Ginnie Kelley** walked away with the trophy, and the winner's share of the cash. As always, the teams were made up in a blind draw. There were three 12 end games bowled.

Second place went to the team of **Jerry Grady**, **Pauline Kozma** and **Len Cormier III**, and third was taken by **Joe Regan**, **Ray Norris** and the combination of **Ken Perry** and **Gloria Montes**. During the competition Ken experienced a temporary health problem and Gloria filled in for him.

Before bowling **Gloria Montes** was kindly volunteering in the clubhouse, preparing and serving lunch. She has been very active in that capacity since

rejoining the club in January. For this she gets our thanks as well.

So, next on the agenda is the President's Cup Pairs, scheduled for Thursday, May 6th. There is still time to sign up at the clubhouse. Be there!



Here is the winning team, with **Ginnie Kelley** propping up her exhausted teammates **Don Stewart** and **Jim White**.

Of Touchers and Such

By The Mad Rule Guy

The last time we dealt with touchers, in the March edition, I left it where you had just whacked the jack into the ditch. So what happens when a jack gets hit by a bowl? Magical things, that's what. A bowl that touches the jack is called, what else, a toucher. If the bowl stays within the side boundaries of the rink, **even if it goes into the ditch**, it is live, that is, it can score.

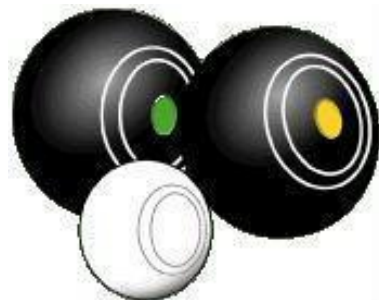
There are a bunch of questions concerning touchers. One is this: if a bowl first hits another bowl then hits the jack, is it a toucher? The short answer to this is **yes**. Here's the rule: "A bowl **in its original course** which touches the jack . . . is live and is called a toucher [emphasis added]." (Section 6:24-1) Now, a confession. When the Mad Rule Guy wrote the first draft of this article his view was that the short answer was no, that the language meant that a bowl that changed direction (by hitting another bowl) was not a toucher. But he has since found out that he is wrong. According to Conrad Melton, the USLBA Umpire in Chief the language emphasized above. "**in its original course**," means "**while a bowl is still rolling**." In other words, that language is there to tell you that a bowl that is at rest, **and then hit by another bowl** and knocked into the jack, is not a toucher. So, bowls wicking off other bowls and then hitting the jack are touchers. This, of course, brings up another question: why didn't the rule maker just say that, rather than using language which can be interpreted more than one way? Ah, well.

Another question is: If the jack is in the ditch and a rolled bowl hits it, is that bowl a toucher? Here, the short answer is **no**. As soon as the rolled bowl crosses the edge of the ditch, it is dead. So it doesn't matter if it falls on the jack, it's dead. In fact, it's a good idea to stop a bowl from hitting the jack in the ditch because a ditched jack must not be moved. Here's the rule: "No bowl will be a toucher, if it plays onto, or comes into contact with the jack when the jack is in the ditch." (Section 6:24-3)

Here's another question concerning jacks in the ditch. Is a bowl that is a toucher but is not in the ditch, but is subsequently knocked into the ditch, still a live bowl? The short answer to this question is **yes**. Once a toucher, always a toucher . . . unless, of course, that bowl is moved outside the side boundaries of the rink. Then it is dead.

One last question about touchers: when should it be marked? Here's the rule: "A toucher should be marked with chalk by a member of the team that delivered the bowl . . . **as soon as it comes to rest**." [emphasis added] (Section 6:25-1) Why did I emphasize the last bit? Some players are so anxious to deliver their bowl that they don't give the person at the other end time to mark a toucher. In fact, some players have been observed getting somewhat agitated when someone at the other end moves to mark a toucher, complaining that their concentration is threatened. Seems to me that common courtesy, and the rule, dictate allowing for time to mark a toucher.

Here, for those interested, is what Conrad Melton said was the meaning of the language "in its original course." ". . . a jack or bowl from its delivery until it comes to rest, no matter how many times (for a bowl) it comes into contact with the jack or other bowls before it comes to rest or becomes dead." He is quoting "Laws of the Sport of Bowls (LOTSOBs) page 8, Law 15." Our thanks to Jim White for questioning our interpretation of the rule and thus saving us from getting egg on our face.



May Birthdays

Linda Jahraus	4-May
Missy Parker	6-May
Sally Shipley	6-May
Ivan Hyland	7-May
Jerry Grady	10-May
Rick Timms	9-May
Kelly Warren	11-May
Mary Dooley	13-May
Myrna Chan	16-May
Wayne Steward	16-May
Bev Gillett	17-May
Dody Reid	17-May
Jim Hempe	18-May
Tony Baer	19-May
Jan Hargraves	21-May
John Lackey	22-May
Cathy MacDonald	26-May
Anne Nunes	30-May
Charlie Clark	31-May



Scenes of Past
Open Houses



NHLBC CALENDAR FOR MAY 2010

Weekly Club Social Bowling

Mondays	Evening Bowling	6:30 pm
Tuesdays	Afternoon Bowling	1:00 pm
Wednesday	Morning Bowling	10:00 am
Thursdays	Afternoon Bowling	4:00 pm (Bring a Dish+ Games)
Saturdays	Morning Bowling	10:00 pm
Sundays	Afternoon Bowling	3:00 pm

Call (949-640-1022) 30 to 60 minutes before bowling begins. Give your name and number.

Special Events at NHLBC

Tuesday May 4	Meeting, Board of Directors	4PM
Thursday May 6	President's Cup Pairs	All Day
Friday May 7	Coast League	All Day
Saturday May 8	Open House	All Day
Saturday May 22	Chris Hyland Tournament	All Day
Saturday May 29	Private Party	2PM

Hints And Rules Of The Greens

[Editor's Note. We thought it would be good to reprise some of the "Hints and rules of the greens pieces from other issues so our members can refresh their memories about the details of the game. Sometimes they seem to get overlooked.]

Many times during the course of a game questions about whether a bowl is, or is not, out of bounds arise. We've all seen this happen. When a bowl is close to the edge of the rink it's up to the skips to decide, but many times that is difficult for the skips to do without help from the players at the other end of the rink. So, players at that end should be aware of bowls and help out by standing on the bank in line with the edge marker. Why is this important? Too often the skips must yell and wave trying to get the attention of players at the other end, thereby distracting players on adjoining rinks. It is important that out of bounds bowls be removed promptly so they don't interfere with bowls in the adjoining rink, or with a bowl rolled by players on your rink which might strike the out of bounds bowl. Being aware of what's happening at the other end of the rink helps speed play and makes the game go smoother.

Most of the time when we play we're sharing the green with other players. There are some common sense etiquette rules that make this situation easier on everybody. It's important to be aware of the players on an adjoining rink. When you are bringing in the bowls before starting another end, be careful to stay in the boundaries of your rink. And, it's a good idea to pause and be still when a bowler next to where you're raking is delivering a bowl. Also, when you're changing ends, don't wander into an adjoining rink. Instead, walk in the center of your rink.

Here's an interesting rule that gets forgotten too many times. "Possession of the rink will belong to the player or team whose bowl is being played. As soon as each bowl comes to rest, possession of the rink will transfer to the opposing player or team after allowing time for marking a toucher as soon as it come to rest." {Section 8.35.1&2} What does all that mean? Essentially, stay out of the head when it's the other team's turn to bowl. It's common courtesy and, it's a rule.

