

# WICKS

JULY 2010

## PALO ALTO LAWN BOWLS CLUB

### PRESIDENT

John Hickson

### VICE PRESIDENT

Ginger Harris

### TREASURER

Frank Matyskiela

### SECRETARY

Marianne Maloney

### DIRECTORS

Penny Bayless  
Bud Birkenseer  
David Hale  
Bob Leonard  
Ed Walker  
Jean Wren

### WICKS EDITOR

David Hale

### SUMMER HOURS

Tuesday, Thursday,  
Saturday, 9:45 am.  
Wednesday  
Pizza Bowls, 5:00 pm.  
Sunday, 1:30 pm.

### CONTACT

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[www.palbc.org](http://www.palbc.org)

## PALBC Women's Draw Pairs Tournament

The 2010 Women's Draw Pairs Tournament had six teams participating. Teams were chosen in a "blind draw" with an envelope for each skip and lead. The card in each envelope directed the bowlers to a rink where they found their partners.

The format this year had the ladies scheduled to bowl as many as four 10 end games with no team playing another team twice. This allowed the teams to play two games before the lunch break. After lunch, one more game was played. When all six teams had completed their three games, only teams with a mathematical chance for 1st Place needed to play a fourth game. As



*Champions Nikki Schrager and Terri Torke.*

it turned out, the team of Ginger Harris and Bonny Turner were undefeated, as were the team of Nikki Schrager and Terri Torke.

There were no other teams in the field with a chance to over take these two perfect teams. Ann Walker and Penny Bayless did win two of their three games, but on this day even that was not enough and they ended their day in 3rd place.

With four teams done for the day, we had a nice audience for the final match. After a brief break, the players shook hands, said, "good game" (not sure we heard anyone say "good luck"), and the game began.

The match was close for awhile, but as they had done all day, Nikki and Terri just got the job done. When one of them played a bit soft the other was there to find the jack with her bowl. So, the next time you see Nikki or Terri, just say "Congratulations Champ!" as they are this year's Women's Draw Pairs Champions.

## Born on the 4th of July

Uncle Sam (aka Glenn Stewart) arrived just in time to open our 2nd annual Red, White and Blue Bowling Day this year. Full credit to Glenn for wearing that big hat for the entire game on a very warm day.

A field of about 40 bowlers, decked out in their patriotic finery, enjoyed a morning of bowling on our beautiful green, and then stayed for a traditional American picnic with hotdogs, hamburgers, and a full table of salads, chips, baked beans and desserts.

Thanks to Ian Harris and John Hickson for manning the grill, and to all who set up tables, brought food to share, and helped to clean up!



*Glenn Stewart is our Uncle Sam.*

## What's Happening at PALBC

### Skips Games

We have been unable to organize our monthly "skips" games on a Saturday this year because of the busy calendar. We are therefore planning to hold them on a Tuesday instead. The first one will be on July 27 and the second on August 24. Not only does this give skips the chance to pit their skills against each other but it also enables vices and leads to develop their game without direction from the regular skips.

### Wednesday Evening Classes

With John's Palo Alto City coaching classes finishing on August 4, he is planning to run a four week class focusing on strategy skills. The classes will take place at 5.00 pm on August 11, 18, 25, and September 1. There will only be places for eight bowlers but if the classes prove popular John can run a further series of four weeks. A sign up sheet will be posted at the club.

### Robert Ward Honored

In recognition of his outstanding service and support for our club over his 29 years with the City of Palo Alto (mostly responsible for overseeing the maintenance of our green), the Board voted to make Robert an honorary member. We look forward to seeing him join us on the green.

### Green Maintenance

July 1 saw the beginning of a new phase in the club's history. The City has contracted out the maintenance of our green and surrounding areas to Gachina, a highly regarded landscape management company. John Hickson is working closely with John Gachina. The day-to-day operations will be carried out mainly by Jesus Nuñez under the supervision of Samuel Bustos. Please make yourself known to them but if you have any questions regarding the green or green maintenance, please direct them to John Hickson and not to any of the Gachina staff.

We are very happy with the way the changeover has gone and we now look forward to working together in the years ahead.

### A New Web Master

We are happy to report that Ken Torke has taken over running our web site from Athol Foden. If you have anything you want included on the site it should now be sent to him. We are indeed fortunate to have someone like Ken, with the necessary skills, to take on this important job. Furthermore, Ken has agreed to teach three or four other members about operating the site, once he has got it fully set up on his computer. Thank you, Ken.

## In the Umpire's View



### Be of Good Standing

When I started bowling back in 2001, I was told by my first instructor that, when at the head, one should stand six feet behind the jack. While the rule book does cover where to stand, it does not state six feet.

I often see players standing one, two or three feet beyond the jack. This could cause a problem (read "headache for the umpire") if the player on the mat is driving.

Case in point: Several months ago, I was acting as Marker for the National Open Men's Singles tournament. As I was bending over to chalk a toucher, I looked up to see a bowl barreling down on me at break-neck speed. Once the bowl hit the jack, it ricocheted into several other bowls sending them scattering all over the rink. It must have been comical to see the gyrations I was going through to keep from having a bowl hit my foot. The last thing I need is to have someone complain that a bowl hit the umpire's foot.

### Rule 36. Position of Players

#### 36.1 In relation to the rink of play

2. Players at the head end of the rink who are not controlling play should stand:

- behind the jack and away from the head: or
- on the surrounds of the green if the jack is in the ditch: or
- well clear of the head if it is not possible to stand on the surrounds.

So there you have it. I try to adhere to my first instructor's advice. By standing six feet behind the jack, I have plenty of time to get out of the way of a drive.

Once a jack has been knocked into the ditch, all players should get off the rink. By staying on the rink, you are no longer "behind the jack and away from the head." If you are the skip and want to show your teammate where to "come in" it's okay to stay on the rink and indicate what you want them to do. But once their bowl leaves their hand, you should step off the rink.

Once a jack is in the ditch, a white jack marker should be placed on the bank above the jack. A yellow bowl marker should be placed above a bowl in the ditch that is a "toucher." This is to let the player on the mat, possibly 114 feet away know where the jack and/or bowl is located. Another reason to stay off the green is that you could be standing in front of one of those white or yellow markers. ("Umpire, he was standing on the rink and I couldn't see the white jack marker. I would have bowled a different shot if I could have seen the marker. Sob")

While we are discussing positions of the players, bowling etiquette dictates that leads should either step off the rink while at the head or stand behind the vices and not next to them.

*Next month: The rest of Rule 36.1 and Rule 36.2.*

— E.B. Parkell

## US Open Fundraiser

A major part of fundraising for the National Open is through a raffle with tickets priced at \$5 each, 3 for \$10, 7 for \$20 or 15 (one book) for \$30.

Top prize in the raffle is one week at Resorts International 5 star Resorts anywhere in the world. Other prizes include a set of Henselite bowls, bowls bags, dinner coupons etc.

The club has purchased 10 books at \$30 per book which allows us to offer a better discount. We are offering 5 tickets for \$10, the best deal available. For every 5 ticket purchase you make, your name will be entered into a draw at the club for the chance to win a SureLock measure, worth \$30. Six measures will be given away. Contact John Hickson for tickets.

## Let the Sun Shine

We understand that the City are scheduled to prune the oaks and remove the dead wood from the fir trees on the Churchill Road side sometime in the next two months. The wheels turn slowly!

## Arts and Crafts Show

As we grow our membership we are finding more than bowling talent in the club. We have a number of members who have artistic gifts, as painters, sculptors, knitters, photographers, or other crafts. So, we are planning to hold an Arts and Crafts Show in the late fall. More details later.

Anyone who would like to exhibit and show their work should contact Ginger Harris, Bonny Turner or John Hickson.

## PALBC CALENDAR

Pizza Bowls every Wednesday, 5:00 pm.

Friday Night League. Draw at 5:30 pm.

### July

- 19 Clubhouse is closed for carpet cleaning.
- 24 Mixed (2x2) Fours, Berkeley. Registration, 8:45 am.
- 31 Norcal Open Men's Pairs, Sunnyvale. Registration, 8:45 am. (Saturday and Sunday)

### August

- 4 Last City coaching class.
- 7 Norcal Open Men's Triples, San Jose. Registration, 8:45 am. (Saturday and Sunday)
- 12 McLaren Triples, San Francisco. Registration, 8:45 am.
- 18 Meat Axe Challenge, Berkeley.
- 21 Vet/Novice Pairs, Sunnyvale. Registration, 8:45 am.
- 21 PALBC Senior Singles. Registration from 8:30 am, draw at 9:00 am.
- 21 PALBC Spanish theme party. Draw games at 2:45, tapas and paella follows.

## Preachers Corner

Every day we bowl, members have to set up the rinks and this usually falls on the few who are always there early. We appreciate what they do. However all members should know or learn how to set up a rink(s). Please make a point of finding out what needs to be done and how it is done, so you can help if needed.

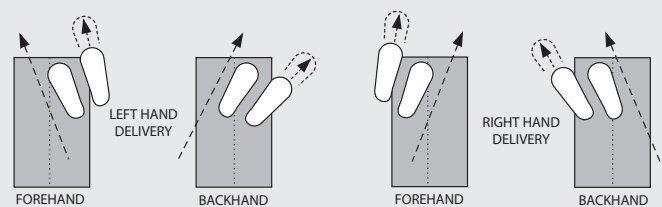


## Coach's Corner

### Foot Placement on the Mat

Last month I talked about foot faulting and the fact that you must have one foot completely on the mat before the delivery commences.

A good way to ensure you don't foot fault and to help with a consistent delivery line is to always place your static foot (right foot if you're right handed or left if you're left handed) in the same place on the mat. To change from a forehand to a backhand, you simply swivel on your toes or ball of your foot and rotate the heel so your foot is pointing in the backhand direction.



The diagrams show that the static foot is placed with the toes near the front edge of the mat and just to the side of the center line. This allows the delivery arm to always cross nearer the center of the mat as it swings forward on the delivery line.

This will certainly help to bring consistency to your delivery and you will not be called for foot faulting!

I will make a point of demonstrating this technique before some of our draw games or ask me to show you at any time.

— John Hickson

## New Members

**Helga Brown**

**Jim Correll**

**Marc De La Cruz**

**Keith Nicholls**

**Linda Wauk**

**Robert Ward**

## Paella Y Bolos, Olé

Are you ready for Flamenco and paella? Well, maybe just the paella. Join us as we celebrate the land of Picasso, Miro, Dali, and the World Cup Champions at PALBC, August 21, at 2:45 following the Senior Tournament.

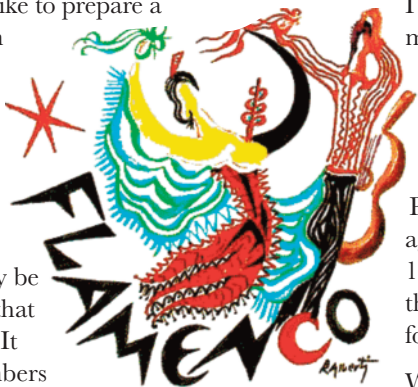
The party will start with draw games at 2:45 followed by Bonny Turner's special sangria and continue with tapas and a variety of paellas. For those who would like to prepare a dish for the party, contact Jean Wren, wrenjp@gmail.com, for a recipe.

As mentioned, this is the day of the PALBC Seniors Tournament and the club house and kitchen will be busy with party preparation. There may be a refrigerator full of goodies that are being saved for the party. It would be helpful if club members could limit their use of the club house on that day.

However, we do hope you come out and watch some great bowling during the tournament which starts at 9:30 am.

Social bowling begins at 2:45 followed by sangria, tapas and dinner. Dinner will cost \$10, sangria is \$2 with wine, beer \$1. Soft drinks and water are \$.50.

RSVP by way of the on-line invitation or Penny Bayless at penny@haybales.biz or 650-324-1192.



## Playing the Game

I had the very good fortune to play skip against Ginger Harris recently. I commented that I thought it wonderful that men and women can play the game on equal terms. She agreed with enthusiasm and added that lawn bowls is the only game at which she has become good, and she loves it.

To know that you are good at the game is something special. I call it "the magic" Fortunately I am finding hints of "the magic" as I get back into the game again. The fellowship of the club makes this possible, and I love it.

— Fred Hawley

## The Challenge is On

Palo Alto bowlers will soon be competing in friendly games against two of our neighboring clubs. On Wednesday, August 18th, we will travel to Berkeley for a day of competition in the "Meat Axe Challenge" hoping to hold on to the plaque for another year.

We will welcome San Francisco bowlers to PALBC for the "Cable Car Classic" and a delicious lunch on Wednesday, September 8th. Last year they managed to reclaim the prize by winning four of the six afternoon games in the last end. The plaque is now sitting in cold and foggy SF, just waiting to head back to Palo Alto!

Tournament formats and teams will be determined based on how many bowlers sign up from each club. Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board.

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