



# LBLBC NEWS

**Volume 2**

**March 2021**

## **90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**

Although Orange County has moved to the red tier, we are still not able to hold gatherings in the Clubhouse or serve food at this time. We are hopeful that we may be able to have some type of gathering in late April or May to celebrate the Club's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary! In the meantime, Curt Bartsch is taking the lead on getting the word out to the community about the Club's long history in Laguna Beach. Look for some great articles in the local newspapers and magazines about our club and its 90 years of bowling in Heisler Park.

## **From the Greens Committee**

As a follow-up from the March Greens Committee report, further discussions are ongoing with our contracted agronomist as to the decision on the Paspalum grass presently on the South green. We will continue to monitor and observe this green through March and April.

Berkshire Laser Leveling has been contacted for their bid on the green preparation prior to laying of our new playing surfaces. Included with the cost of laser leveling is a compaction portion which will give us a firm playing surface. During the preparation, the water sprinklers on both greens (a total of 16 sprinklers) will be relocated to be in the ditch rather than on the edges of the green. The only sprinkler that will remain in the green will be the center sprinkler.

The dates for commencement of work are still tentatively the end of April or early May for the South Green and then July for the North green but you will be kept updated.



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Club bowling will be suspended during the leveling and sod laying as a safety precaution for all.

Gil continues to mow and roll both greens Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

## **Clubhouse Updates**

Clubhouse improvements are underway. The ceiling fan has been updated with new fan blades and cleaned; it looks SO much better. A big thank you to Scott and Sandy Graham for making the repairs!

Some of you may have noticed that the oven did not appear to be heating properly back when we were able to have potlucks (so long ago). The electric range was serviced and the oven is in good working order. Please avoid opening the oven when it's in use, electric ovens are slow to get back to temperature if they are opened frequently and cause Valerie's scones to not bake evenly!

Additional updates are being considered; however, funds are not currently available. If you are interested in sponsoring\* any of the below improvements, please contact Greg Mech.

- 28 stacking chairs for the Clubhouse: ~\$2,000
- 2 ADA toilets for the women's bathroom: ~\$250
- New, larger capacity, metal lockers: ~\$10,000

*\*Donations are not tax deductible*



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## **Tournaments**

Tournament play has resumed after a yearlong hiatus brought on by COVID restrictions. The Vet/Novice pairs began Saturday, March 13 and will conclude in mid-April. Unlike other tournaments in the past, the Vet /Novice has been modified to make it comply with Laguna Beach gathering and mask rules. Gary Barnes, tournament director, stated that he noticed that this year's novices were superior to novices of the past. He attributed this to the coaching program and social bowls. When asked why club tournaments were so important Gary explained, club tournament play is a step above social bowls. It brings out the best in a player and more importantly it refines their understanding of the game. When Southwest Division tournaments resume the skills learned during our tournaments prepare our members to compete on another level. Also, our members become representatives of the club when they compete at other events. It is really important that our members know the rules, follow the etiquette of the sport and show an understanding of the basics of how to measure properly. These skills are often underappreciated when playing in social bowls.

It is significant to know that our coaching program is the best in the United States. The three lessons we give to each new member provide them with the confidence, skills and understanding of the game to play in our social bowls draw. Their skills are improved during those social games. It is important to understand that we are a community and that community promotes the sport and encourages us all to be our best.



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## **Welcome New Members**

Our membership currently stands at 286 members. LBLBC is so fortunate that our membership continues to grow.

The annual SWD Open House normally scheduled Saturday before Mother's Day, will not be held this year owing to Covid restrictions.

Welcome the following new members. Please join us for Social Bowling, it's a great way to meet members, learn the game, and get pointers from experienced bowlers!

Heather Chalmers

Donnie Thomas

Mona Cox

Lara Flynn Thomas

Donald Field

Keith Venter

Ron Kotick

Michelle Veyna

Paul Miller

Dan White

Kathy Potter

Robin White

Ronnie Pringle



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## **Club Restrictions**

Greg Mech contacted Captain Rachael Johnson of the Laguna Beach Police Department on Monday, March 15<sup>th</sup> about possibly reducing the restrictions for play. Unfortunately, we have not moved into a tier that would allow for the use of the clubhouse or patio and we must continue to wear masks at all times and limit use of the Club to members only. The Captain did indicate that this could change soon but at this time we are to continue under the current restrictions.

As a reminder, NO guests are allowed at the clubhouse and there is no dining in the clubhouse or on the patio. Face masks must be worn properly at all times and remember to wash your hands or use hand sanitizer after bowling.

The Clubhouse is very visible to the public and the City continues to receive reports of club members not adhering to the face mask mandate. Please adhere to these restrictions until we obtain approval from the city to lift some, or all of them, so we can stay open.

If you see a fellow club member not adhering to the rules, please kindly remind them of the rule(s). If the member remains non-compliant, notify Greg Mech [gregorymech@me.com](mailto:gregorymech@me.com). Do not engage in a confrontation.