



# Newsletter

April 2026

## President's Message

Welcome to our latest newsletter and to the start of another exciting season at the Lindsay Lawn Bowling Club. This issue is filled with important updates to help you get ready for the months ahead, including registration details, upcoming events, Give It a Try sessions, volunteer opportunities, tournament news, and highlights from recent short mat activities. It is a great snapshot of the energy, commitment, and community spirit that continue to make our club such a special place.

As always, thank you for your support, participation, and willingness to lend a hand. Whether you are returning for another season or joining us for the first time, your involvement helps make the club stronger. I encourage you to take a few minutes to read through the newsletter, mark your calendars, and see where you might like to get involved.

I look forward to seeing everyone on the greens and to another enjoyable season together.

Warm regards,  
Rhys Warren

## Your Board and Managers 2025/26

As we begin a new season, we are pleased to introduce the board members and managers who will be helping to guide, support, and organize the club throughout the year. Their time, effort, and commitment play an important role in keeping things running smoothly and helping make the season enjoyable for everyone. Below are the individuals serving in these roles for the season.

### Board Members

**President:** Rhys Warren  
**1st Vice President:** Vacant  
**2nd Vice President:** Vacant  
**Secretary:** Karen Simser  
**Treasurer:** Sandra Scott  
**Directors at Large:** Sheila Bondi,  
Elaine Antaya, Nancy McKague

### Managers

**Greens and Grounds:** Kitty Stone  
**Tournaments:** Sheila Bondi  
**In-house Events:** Elaine Antaya  
**Short Mat:** Sheila Bondi  
**Sponsorship/Advertising:** Rhys Warren  
**Communications/Marketing:** Anne Dranitsaris  
**Website:** Ian Hunter, Rhys Warren  
**Vacant:** Youth, Property, Membership, Clubhouse

## Check Out Our Website

Take a few minutes to explore the Lindsay Lawn Bowling Club website. Many members may not realize just how many resources are available there. <https://lindsaylawnbowls.com/lawn-bowling-resources/>. From club updates and tournament information to helpful tips and other useful content, it is a valuable source of information for anyone who wants to stay up to date and make the most of what the club offers. <https://lindsaylawnbowls.com/>

# Upcoming Events



## **“Give It a Try” Sessions – Welcoming New Bowlers!**

We’re looking for friendly volunteers to assist with our popular Give It a Try sessions, where community members come out to experience lawn bowling for the first time. Volunteers will help set up equipment, greet guests, and offer basic guidance on bowling. **If you’d like to help teach our new bowlers, bring out some friends or family members or volunteer to help out at the sessions. No coaching experience needed—just a welcoming smile!**

### **GIVE IT A TRY DATES**

Tuesday, May 12 & 19 from 1:00 to 2:00 pm

Wednesday, May 13 & 20 from 1:00 to 2:00 pm

Friday, May 15 & 22 from 6:00 to 7:00 pm

**Pre-register by May 9th. Contact the club by email at [lindsaylawnbowls@gmail.com](mailto:lindsaylawnbowls@gmail.com) to sign up or volunteer.**

No experience needed. Bring your flat-bottom shoes.



### **To Give It A Try Volunteers**

Anyone wishing to volunteer can contact us and tell us your availability is during the times above.

## **OPEN HOUSE & BARBECUE**

**Join us for our annual Open House and Barbeque  
Saturday, June 6th, 2025 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm**

Join our lawn bowling community as we kick off the 2026 outdoor lawn bowling season. Meet our executive, connect with fellow members, and discover why lawn bowling is loved from coast to coast.

Bring your friends and family. Drop in any time to check it out. No need to register.

**We can't wait to welcome you to another amazing season on the greens!**

# Upcoming Events

## Membership Renewal

Membership renewal for the new season is opening soon, both in person and online. Stop by the clubhouse on the dates below to renew your membership, get set up for the season, ask questions, learn about new programming, and connect with fellow members. Renewing early will help ensure you are ready to roll when the season begins.

If you are unable to attend in person, registration and waiver forms will also be available through our website. You can print and complete them in advance to bring with you to the club. You may also contact the club directly, and we will email the forms to you.

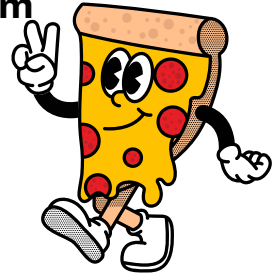
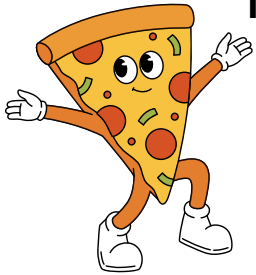
### Registration Dates

May 2nd: 1 pm to 2 pm  
May 5th: 11 am to 1 pm  
May 7th: 1 pm to 2: 30 pm  
and 7 pm to 8 pm

**Registration papers and dues must be submitted 24 hrs before you can bowl.**

**Bowling during May starts Monday, May 11th**  
**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 2 pm to 4 pm**  
**Wednesday from 10 am to 12 pm**

**Spring General Meeting & Pizza Social**  
**May 2, 2026 11 am to 1 pm**



### Pizza Following the Spring Meeting!

**Join us for our spring kickoff meeting!** We'll share important updates about the season ahead, including club initiatives, tournament schedules, and ways to get involved.

After the meeting, stick around for a pizza social at noon. Catch up with old friends and welcome new faces. It's a great way to ease into the season.

### Meeting Agenda

1. Welcome & Opening Remarks
2. President's Report
3. Greens & Grounds Update
4. Clubhouse Update
5. Membership & Registration
6. Season Events Overview
7. Budget 2026/27
8. Volunteer Opportunities
9. Open Floor – Questions & Suggestions
10. Closing Remarks

## Sign Up for Open Tournaments

Our home-side summer open tournaments are coming up, and we would love to see more members participating. We still have spots available, so now is the perfect time to put your teams together and get your entries in.

It is a great chance to enjoy some fun competition, support the club, and be part of tournament play. Gather your team and sign up while there are still openings!

Contact Shiela Bondi at [lindsaylbc.drawmaster@gmail.com](mailto:lindsaylbc.drawmaster@gmail.com) to sign up or for more information.



# Short Mat International Championships in Norway

I am very excited to share a few highlights from our experience at the **Short Mat International Championships in Norway**, held from March 20 to 22, 2026. It was an exciting and memorable event that brought together teams from around the world and showcased a very high standard of short mat bowling.

Our team consisted of Tracey Warren, Chris Empey from Niagara Falls, Alan Hunter from the Lindsay club, and me. This was the first time the four of us had played together as a team. I was genuinely happy with our performance. We won 41 of the 90 ends played, and I felt we competed hard from start to finish. We had some excellent moments and made many great shots throughout the tournament.

Against Ireland, we were tied 7 to 7 coming home. Against Wales, the gold medalists, we were tied 5 to 5 with four ends to go and won 5 of the 10 ends. Against Scotland, the silver medalists, we gave up 3 in the first end and then lost 9 to 4. Those results show that we were right in the mix against some of the very best teams in the world.

What impressed me most was how well we battled and how much potential we showed. With more time playing together, I believe we could become even stronger. What we needed most was a little more consistency, and that only comes with practice and experience as a team.

The level of competition was outstanding. Wales has reached the finals in the last five World Championships and has won three of them. Their players have all been involved in short mat bowling for more than 30 years, and their skip was on the national team at age 13. There are more clubs in one Welsh county than in all of Canada. Wales has more than 3,000 bowlers and England more than 14,500, so it is a real challenge for Canada to compete against that kind of depth. That makes our progress all the more encouraging.

One of the most exciting things to hear was that many countries noted Canada has improved more over the past two championships than any other country. That is something we can all be proud of. A big part of that progress has come from the Lindsay and Cobourg clubs, which together sent 10 of the 20 players on Team Canada.

The event itself was very well run, and it was a terrific experience meeting players from so many different countries. It was also interesting to see the difference in age demographics. The average age of many of the competitors was probably around 35 to 40, while the Canadian team was closer to 55 to 60.

All in all, it was a fantastic experience. We competed well, learned a lot, made some terrific shots, and showed that Canada continues to move forward on the international stage. I was proud to be part of it.

Rhys Warren



# Short Mat Bowling

## Mind Garden Wellness Tournament

Thanks to Stacey Gudmundsson & Mind Garden Wellness for sponsoring our latest tournament.

### Celebrating Our Tournament Winners

Congratulations to all of the players who took part and to this year's winners across both the Competitive and Recreation divisions.

In the Competitive Division, the 3 Game Winners were **Murray Bennewies, Susan Dale, and Travis Anderson**. The 3 Game Winners also included **Jim Baggs, Carol-Anne Bell, and Scott Bell**. 2 Game High honours went to **Rhys Warren, Carolyn Armstrong, and Doug Bagshaw**, while Last Game High was awarded to **Peter Stuart-Shepperd, Bailey van Steijn, and Bill McCollam**.

In the Recreation Division, the 3 Game Winners were **Lyn Bryans, Sheri Perkins, and Mike Wilson**. The 1st 2 Game Winners were **George Brown, Janet McGarry, and Art Gudmundsson**, and the 2nd 2 Game Winners were **Blair Brooks, Wendy Brooks, and Mike Edwards**. Last Game High winners were **Len Bondi, Ann Morasse, and John Newbold**.

A special thank you to **VS Sports** for sponsoring the Random Draw prizes. Congratulations to **Sandy Scott, Bill Jackson, Brenda Simmons and John McKenzie, Carl Ferguson, and Nan Hendren** in this category.

Well done to everyone who participated and helped make the event such a success.

Visit our website for photos of our winners. <https://lindsaylawnbowls.com/short-mat-lawn-bowling/>



## Lindsay Ear Clinic Chili Bowl Short Mat Bowling Tournament April 25, 2026

Join us for a day of fun, friendly competition, and mouth-watering chili at one of our most anticipated events of the year—the Chili Bowl! This exciting event will take place at the Lindsay Curling Club on Saturday, April 25, 2026, and promises to bring together bowlers and spectators for an unforgettable experience.

This event is a MxT/WT 3 bowl tournament. Whether you want to play or volunteer, we'd love to have you join us. For more information, please contact us at [lindsaylawnbowls@gmail.com](mailto:lindsaylawnbowls@gmail.com).

# We ♥ our Volunteers

## Club Opening – Volunteers Needed!

### Help us get the club ready for opening day.

Whether you're handy, organized, or just eager to pitch in, there's a job for you! Please reach out to the contact person at the club email.

### Clubhouse Setup

Assist with cleaning, organizing supplies, and preparing the lounge and kitchen areas for members and guests. It's a great role for detail-oriented helpers who like things tidy and welcoming.

### Greens Preparation

Help prepare the playing surface—this includes light raking, inspecting for damage, setting up equipment, and ensuring the greens are safe and ready for play. No experience necessary—Kitty will guide you!

### Drawshed Setup

Assist with organizing scorecards, mats, jacks, and equipment for draws and matches. If you like things in their place and enjoy behind-the-scenes logistics, this role is for you.

### Grounds & Maintenance

Pitch in with outdoor tasks like weeding, raking, and light repairs to keep our grounds looking great all season long. Perfect for those who enjoy fresh air and light physical activity.

### Contact us at

**[lindsaylawnbowls@gmail.com](mailto:lindsaylawnbowls@gmail.com) to sign up or learn more about any of the positions or opportunities mentioned.**

Thank you for your support – together, we make the club stronger!



## Member Spotlight Rhys Warren

A huge congratulations and heartfelt thank you to Rhys Warren for putting short mat bowling in Lindsay on the Canadian and international map.

Rhys's trip to Norway, spearheading the Nationals in Lindsay last November, his strong contributions to our winter play, and his ongoing commitment to tournaments have helped raise the profile of our club and our sport in a very meaningful way.

At the same time, a very big congratulations is also in order on the achievement of obtaining Level Three umpiring accreditation as an International Technical Official (ITO).

Travelling to California in March to complete the course was an impressive commitment in itself, and to learn just a week ago that the accreditation was successfully earned is outstanding news. This qualification opens the door to umpiring at World Cup competitions, World Championships, the Commonwealth Games, and perhaps even the Olympics one day if bowls is included in the future.

To be the only successful candidate out of six who wrote the exam is an exceptional accomplishment. To now be the only ITO in North America, and in fact in the entire Western Hemisphere, is something truly remarkable and a tremendous honour.

Thank you, Rhys, for everything you are doing to elevate the sport, support the club, and make Lindsay proud.

# Club News

JOIN

OUR

TEAM

## Looking to Get More Involved This Season?

If you're someone who enjoys being part of the action or simply wants to feel more connected to the club community, we'd love your help! Volunteering is a great way to meet fellow members, share your ideas, and make this season our best yet. Whether you enjoy planning events, organizing snacks, or just lending a hand where needed, there's a place for you. Check out some of the ways you can get involved below!

### **In-House Activities**

Want to get to know more members and feel part of the heart of the club? Volunteering for our in-house events is a fun and easy way to do just that! From tournaments and leagues to theme days and socials, helping with setup, refreshments, or scorekeeping puts you right in the action. You'll connect with others, share some laughs, and help create memorable experiences for everyone involved.

### **Inter-Club Tournaments**

Be part of something bigger! Volunteering at inter-club tournaments is a chance to represent our club with pride and hospitality. You'll meet players from across the region, help our events run smoothly, and play a key role in making guests feel welcome. Whether it's greeting teams, keeping scores, or helping in the kitchen, your contribution makes a real difference — and it's a great way to be recognized as a valued member of our community.

## OLBA NEWS



### **2026 Annual General Meeting Announcement**

The OLBA is excited to host its Annual General Meeting (AGM) this spring! This important event is your opportunity to stay informed about OLBA business, participate in Board elections, and connect with the club's vibrant community.

Date: April 25, 2026

Time: TBD (Online)

Register at <https://www.olba.ca/annual-general-meeting.html>

### **So you want to be an umpire....**

Are you interested in learning more about the game of Bowls? Do you want to give back to the sport you love? Are you frustrated that no one in your club seems to know the Laws of the Sport? Maybe you should become an Umpire.

Please complete this form if you are interested. If you have any questions about the process, please email [umpire@olba.ca](mailto:umpire@olba.ca) or <https://www.olba.ca/new-umpire-info.html>.