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Welcome to the first edition of 2019

Alberta Bowlers on the Gold Coast

*Honoring Past Members of the
Medicine Hat & Stanley Park Clubs*

Development Camps

Challenge for 50/50 Raffle

Youth Team off to Nationals



The Right Bias June 2019

Welcome to the first issue of *The Right Bias* for 2019. This issue features a few special articles from member clubs that celebrated past members each in their own unique way. It also has information about the player development camps that will be offered this summer. And lastly it features a summary of the Youth Provincial Championships and the youth that will be representing our province at the Canadian Championships held in August.

A special thanks to those club members that prepared the reports to share with our membership. Please consider contributing an article for our next edition which we hope to distribute by the end of July. Our final newsletter of 2019 will then feature the season end reports from all the clubs which will be presented and discussed at our AGM to be held on October 19 at the Living Stones Church in Red Deer.

The newsletters will be distributed to the clubs through the club secretaries but also posted on our [website](#) and promoted on the Bowls Alberta [Facebook](#) page.

Alberta Bowlers Roll Down Under at the Asia Pacific Championships

The 2019 Asia Pacific Championships is taking place on the Gold Coast, Queensland from June 18 to 28 and feature teams from 18 countries. This Championships is a qualifying event for the World Bowls Championships 2020 which will also be held at the same venues in May and June next year.

Team Canada Roster

- Men's Singles: Ryan Bester (Hanover, ON)
- Men's Pairs: Ryan Bester, Rob Law (Winnipeg, MB)
- Men's Triples: Cameron Lefresne (Enfield, NS), **Greg Wilson** (Cochrane, AB), **Pat Bird** (Calgary, AB)
- Men's Fours: Cameron Lefresne, **Greg Wilson**, **Pat Bird**, Rob Law
- Women's Singles: Kelly McKerihen (Toronto, ON)
- Women's Pairs: Kelly McKerihen, **Joanna Cooper** (Calgary, AB)
- Women's Triples: Leanne Chinery (Victoria, BC), Jordan Kos (Regina, SK), Jackie Foster (Bridgetown, NS)
- Women's Fours, Leanne Chinery, Jordan Kos, **Joanna Cooper**, Jackie Foster

Results as of June 20:

Men's Pairs have placed 4th in their pool to advance to the playoffs

Women's Singles have placed 2nd in the pool to advance to the playoffs

Women's Fours have placed 3rd in their pool to advance to the playoffs

Men's Triples did not advance after pool play.

The next pool play consists of the men's singles and men's fours and the women's pairs and the women's triples. You can check out the results on the [Bowls Australia Results Portal](#).

Don't miss the playoff knock out games beginning June 25. Go Canada, go!

Medicine Hat club celebrates past president in new Clubhouse

Housed in a clubhouse that dated back to the second world war, the Medicine Hat Lawn Bowling Club knew it needed a better base if it was to continue on into the future.

This past weekend, players celebrated not only a new home, but the man who helped build it. Sadly, he wasn't able to be there to join in the festivities. Dave Dennis was the club president for two months before being diagnosed with terminal cancer in early 2018. But according to club secretary Curt Moll, "Dave is the biggest reason that we are pleased with our new digs."



"In the short time he was president, he approached the city about our dilapidated clubhouse and asked what it would take to get a new(ish) building," wrote Moll in a press release. "Dave passed away in August 2018."

Fittingly, the first event of the year Saturday was named the Dave Dennis Memorial Crown Bowls Tournament. Moll won the men's final over Allen Hunt, while Joan Theriault won the women's division ahead of Dave's wife Pat Dennis. The bronze-medal matches saw Jeff Desjarlais and Barb Moll emerge as victors.

(article from MedicineHatNews.com)

Player Development Camps

Four camps have been held already this year. The first one was May 20 for the Development Team members in the Edmonton area. Coach Derek led the players through some drills particularly helping them to focus on a consistent delivery format. This was followed by two camps in Southern AB; the first at the Medicine Hat club on June 4 followed by one at the Lethbridge club the following evening. The camps were well attended and received!



The Friday evening before the Youth Championships, a mini camp was held for the Edmonton youth at the Royal Lawn Bowling Club. It was lead by Coach Kieth Wylie and he received appreciation the from parents and the young bowlers alike for the enthusiastic way he led them through drills and tips to improve their bowling.

The following camps are scheduled for this season:

Calgary Camps: July 9 at Stanley Park and July 30 at Bow Valley

Edmonton: July 16 at Royal and September 10 at Commonwealth

These camps are open to all BA members of any experience or ability. But please register on the BA Athlete Development page to help keep accurate accounts of participants at the events which we report to Alberta Sport Connection.

Unable to attend a camp? Wish to have a bit more one on one coaching? If you have less than three years experience please request lessons from one of your club's coaches first. Over three years experience, contact Derek via email at coach@bowlsalberta.com.



Development camp in the Hat June 4.



Training session at Commonwealth. Five Coaches observed and 5 players rolled.

Norman Lussier Dedication

Long time Stanley Park lawn Bowling Club member Norman Lussier died on February 27, 2019. In recognition of Norm's many contributions the membership has dedicated the club building as the Norman Lussier Memorial Clubhouse.

A large turnout of club members, family and friends gathered on May 26 at the clubhouse for the unveiling of a plaque to honour Norm's memory. Thanks to a donation from a family member, the attendees enjoyed some of Norm's favourite snacks: egg salad sandwiches, cheddar cheese popcorn and salt and vinegar potato chips, complemented with a glass of prosecco sparkling wine for a toast.

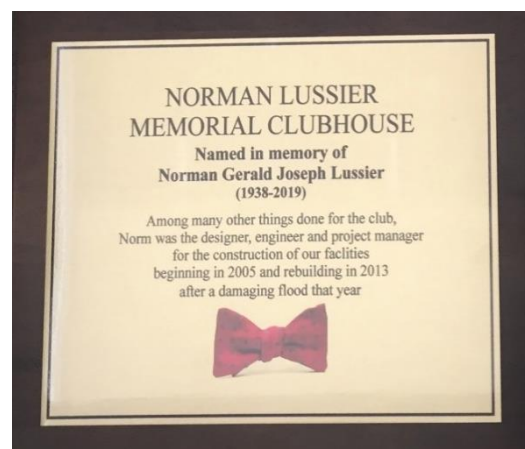
Norm's involvement with Lawn Bowling began in 2003 when, after having sold his manufacturing and distributing business, he and his wife Angela walked down the path (literally and figuratively) to the Stanley Park lawn bowling green to explore the sport of lawn bowling.

Norm was an energetic force in the Stanley Park Lawn Bowling Club, always looking for ways to improve the club and the experience of lawn bowling for the members. Among many other things, he was the designer, engineer, and project manager for a project in 2005 to replace the old original club sheds and then in 2007 adding washroom facilities. After the devastating 2013 flood, he again project managed the reconstruction of the facilities and adding a new equipment shed.

Norm loved competing in club and Provincial tournaments from singles to fours, including winning a gold medal in the 2009 Mens Provincial Fours and going on to represent Alberta in the Canadian Majors.



A tribute to Norm has been posted on the Bowls Alberta Website In-Memoriam Page.



National Bowls Day

Most clubs across our province participated but the weather sure didn't cooperate. The following pictures give a glimpse of some of the celebrations that were held.



Dave instructing at BV Club



Gloomy Day in the Hat so only two visitors for the day



June 8, 2019



Several clubs included the Community Challenge as part of the day.



Tried it and joined Bow Valley!



Open House at Stanley Park



Bowled triples games at the Commonwealth Club with instruction for six 'try-it' drop-in players.

AB BC Test Match 2019

This year the Test Match between ten players from AB vs ten players from BC was held at the Calgary Lawn Bowling Club. Eight development players were chosen to compete after a review of the applicants and a development team being identified. BC also used a similar application process for development players and selected their team. Both teams also included two 'senior' players to help guide the team on the green.

The BC team took home the trophy for a second year in a row mostly edging out the AB team on the singles games.

Thank you to Calgary Lawn for hosting and to all the volunteers that helped make the event a top notch competition.



50-50 Raffle

For the second year in a row Bowls Alberta is holding a 50/50 Raffle. Last year the winner, the daughter of one of our members, was pleased to win just under \$1,000 having purchased only one toonie ticket.

Bowls Alberta, after paying expenses for the tickets, began *the Greens Development Pot*. The hope is to have sufficient funds in 2020 so that Clubs which operate under a tight budget, can apply for some financial assistance for extra greens work or equipment.

A member of BA has stepped up to encourage sales!

The member that sells the most tickets in 2019 will receive \$200 and the second highest ticket seller will receive \$100.

For tickets to sell please contact the Bowls AB office. This year let's sell off all 2000 tickets and help fund the '*Greens Dev Pot*'.



Bowls Alberta Toonie 50/50 Raffle

Draw: Saturday, October 19th, 2019
Living Stones Church, Red Deer, AB
@ Annual General Membership Meeting

Maximum 2000 tickets @ \$2 each



AB Youth off to the Canadian Championships!

This year Bowls AB will be sending two young gentlemen to compete in the U25 Singles Championships. Both are members of the Commonwealth Lawn Bowling club and both will be returning to compete after having attended once before in previous years.

We are also sending four Juniors, two young girls from the Highlands Club along with one young lad from the Royal Club and one new young 'curler' member of the Commonwealth Club.

The 2019 Canadian Youth Championships will be held at the Juan de Fuca Lawn Bowling Club in Victoria, BC, from August 6 – 10. Coach Derek will be attending with the youth along with a team manager to help oversee the group.



Andrew M. (Silver) and Brad R. (Gold)



Kiera S. (Silver) and Alexis G. (Gold)



Andrew M. (Gold) and Sean K. (Silver)



Pictured to the left are Stanley Park Club members raising a glass in memory of Norm Lussier. (see article on page 3)

May we all take the time this summer to raise a glass in memory of the many fine bowlers and club supporters that we miss at our clubs, too many to mention.



Greg Dolsky, member of Commonwealth, passed away very suddenly on May 21. A great AB Champion player and a respected coach across Canada. He will be missed.