



SARASOTA LAWN BOWLING CLUB DESCRIPTIONS

CLUB EVENTS, INVATIONALS & CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

CLUB EVENTS

- 1) Sarasota has various club events during the course of the season (different from Invitational Tournaments and Club Championships).
- 2) All club events are special days where full members and monthly members can participate.
- 3) Most club events happen on one day on a weekend that could be at our club, or a “Home & Away” game. Usually they are “mixed triples” (must be at least one man and one woman on a team of three) of 12, 14, or up to 21 ends. The “Convenor” or “Drawmaster” organizes many of these events. An extra \$3 or \$4 fee is usually charged for each event. About 75% of this fee is given back in prizes. The majority of the club events are “draws” (tags of signed up players pulled at random to make up teams) drawn a couple of days before the event by the convenor. An exception would be the “Home & Away” games where members sign up as a team (usually mixed triples). For all events, members are required to sign up inside the clubhouse in the binder at the podium. Payments are made on the day of the event.
- 4) Examples of club events from November to March are: *Aussie Pairs, Turkey Shoot, Christmas Bowl, English Day, Canada Day*” etc.
- 5) Home & Away games are a form of inter-club competition where a club comes and plays two games in the same day, and on another date normally a couple of weeks later, our club goes to their club and plays two games. Normally a fee of \$4 per member participant is requested, with a return of 75% of the fee paid out in prizes. The Home & Away games between two clubs are planned through a sign up sheet at our clubhouse where you are generally required to sign up as a team for each separate day. Your home team could be different than your away team. If more teams have signed up than the limit of available rinks, then the convenor will do a draw to finalize the teams who will play.
- 6) Examples of Home & Away events are the two games that we play with *Sun’n’Fun Lawn Bowling Club* and with the *Maple Leaf Lawn Bowling Club*.
- 7) Another special event played on Wednesdays in January is the *Grass League*. This 4-week league involves two games of 12 ends played between *Sarasota, Sun City Centre* and *Lakeland*. We alternate the location of play every week between our club and Sun City Centre. There is NO FEE for entering in the Grass League (except you must be a full member of our club). Four teams of Ladies Triples and four teams of Men Triples play every week against the two other clubs. If more than four teams per gender have signed up then the Convenor will alternate among teams that have signed up to give a chance for each team to play. Results of all games from each week are kept and counted and at the end of January. The club with most points win the honour of flying the *Grass League Flag* at their club until the following year.

CLUB INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENTS

- 1) Every year our club offers four “*INVITATIONALS*”. These special tournaments are held on a weekend day and are different team formats - normally three games of 12 ends in the same day. To be eligible as a player you have to be a full member of a club or have paid Bowls USA or SED (South East Division) fees elsewhere. Monthly members may not play.
- 2) Advance registration and entry fee payment is required. Online application forms are located on our website where any team of qualified players can register in advance. We ask all who register to **READ ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE RECORDING YOUR TEAM**. The website will send the contact person an automatic email from “Wordpress” with **PENDING** in the title, meaning you are registered but NOT CONFIRMED. You must pay your entry fee immediately, and once the fee is recorded, you will receive another automatic email with **CONFIRMED** in the title. Once you have received that CONFIRMED email, your team is assured a place for that particular INVITATIONAL game. Note that some email servers may put the Wordpress emails in your **SPAM FOLDER** or **JUNK MAIL**, so please check those folders.
- 3) Our INVITATIONALS are usually scheduled as follows: “Mixed Pairs” in December, “Ron Buck Fours” (teams of 2 women and 2 men) in January, “Mixed Triples” in February, and “Men’s Pairs & Ladies Pairs” in March.
- 4) Fees for invitational tournaments is usually \$15 per player. The club gives back about 80% of the fees in prizes.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 1) The Club Championships is designed to recognize the best players at our club.
- 2) The games occur during January & February each year.
- 3) All formats are **DRAWS**, and made publically by the Tournament Director.
- 4) Only full Sarasota club members can register or sign up for these Championships games.
- 5) Each game has its own sign up sheet in the clubhouse at the podium, where members choose and register which games they would like to compete in.
- 6) A fee of \$1 is retained by the club for each Championships game.
- 7) Each Championship game is played during one week due to the elimination play format.
- 8) Each Championship game is SINGLE ELIMINATION format. When your team loses, you are eliminated for the rest of the week for that tournament. A new tournament with a different format starts the following week.
- 9) In early January we have the following championships: ***Ladies & Men’s Pairs, Mixed Triples, Ladies & Men’s Singles, Champion of Champions, Washington Mixed Triples, Mixed pairs, and Cut Throat*** (see below for game explanations).
- 10) In each of these formats, each member of the winning team will have their names engraved on the respective club championship plaque and will be presented with a champion’s certificate for the current year.

DESCRIPTIONS OF CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES:

Champion of Champions

The winners of the championship games for Ladies Singles & Men's Singles will compete in the "Champion of Champions", which occurs a week later. The winner is then proclaimed the best player of the year from our club.

Washington Mixed Triples Draw

This championship game is the same format as a Mixed Triples draw. It is called "Washington" because it is played around or on the same week as the American President's Day.

The Cut Throat Draw

Cut Throat is the same game that is also referred to as "Clover Leaf", or "4-3-2-1", but in Sarasota they play it with a group of 3 players per rink for 14 ends. Each player has their 4 bowls and as usual the idea is to place as many of your bowls closer to the Jack. Each of the three players is given a special scoring card before the game. We start at the first end in the alphabetical order of the players, meaning the name closer to the letter A takes the mat, rolls the Jack and the player's name closest to the letter Z goes at the end of the rink to center the Jack. After the three players have taken turns rolling their four bowls, points are counted as follows, the bowl closer to the Jack = 4 points, the second bowl = 3 points, the third = 2 points and the fourth = 1 points. Note that the same player could have the first bowl at the Jack = 4 points and the third one = 2 points. That player would score for the end a total of 6 points. What is IMPORTANT is that the MAXIMUM SCORE of each end is a TOTAL of 10 points (4, 3, 2, 1). At the finish of each end, the three players have to add up their score which should be 10 points and will increase 10 points at each other end. That's why after 14 ends the total of all players should come to 140 points once you add up the three players. After each end, the player with the highest score rolls the Jack for the next end, and the player with the lowest score centers the Jack and the second lowest score of that end gathers the bowls.