



## **Sarasota Lawn Bowling Club**

### **Annual General Meeting**

#### **AGM Minutes**

**Saturday, March 22nd 2025 • 11:05 am - 12:05 pm**

**In person at the Green**

#### **ATTENDANCE: 25**

- **MEMBEERS (23)** 1. Ted Beilman 2. Graydon Bell 3. Mustafa Bulut 4. Halina Davidson 5. John Garton 6. Jan Gurney 7. Nick Gurney 8. Rusty Hein 9. Don Hester 10. Laurie Holder 11. Sally Mills 12. Hans Petersen 13. Lorrie Pickford 14. Barrie Pritchard 15. Jay Richter 16. Audrey Scalzitti 17. Mary Silverstein 18. Jeri Spann 19. Jim Sparrow 20. Ilona Vrba 21. Deb Walker 22. Rosemary Wilson 23. Ted Wilson
- **GUESTS (2)** 1. Carol Barnard 2. Ken Davidson

#### **1. Call to order and welcome: Sally Mills, Co-President**

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 by Sally Mills, SLBC Co-President. The quorum was met with 23 members in attendance. A quorum is 25% of membership, 40% of members were present.

#### **2. Presidents Report – Sally Mills**

Ms. Mills thanked everyone involved in the final year of the Green's construction, and its opening in December 2024. Thanks were also extended to the donors and the many members and friends that continue to support the on-going maintenance of the property.

She reviewed the Strategic Plan noting the goal to increase membership by continuing the successful Learn to Lawn Bowl classes and reinstating on the calendar SED Tournaments and Club Championships. A priority will be trying to acquire funding for a clubhouse and restroom.

See details at the end of this document..

She also made a call for volunteers, assuring members that they would receive training for the tasks at hand.

### **3. Treasurers Report – Ted Beilman**

Mr. Beilman explained that in effect our budget cycle is 2 years due to donations received from the Giving Challenge in even years. In even years, cash flow is positive: SLBC ends the year with more funds than the beginning of the year. In odd years, like now 2025, SLBC will have a negative cash flow and end the year with less funds on hand than at the beginning of the year. In past Giving Challenges SLBC has received about \$15,000 in donations. It is hoped that our growing membership will generate more funds during the Giving Challenge in Spring 2026.

He went on to say that SLBC's annual expenses are about \$44,000. The largest budget item is the maintenance of the Green. *Exclusive Property Maintenance and Installations, LLC* (Sean O'Brien) is paid \$26,000 annually to tend to the Green. This year options will be reviewed to determine if this cost can be reduced by other vendors or performing some tasks ourselves/volunteers.

The Financial Statements are included at the end of this document..

The new Treasurer, Ms. Mary Silverstein was then introduced.

### **4. Director of Membership Report – John Garton**

Mr. Garton informed us that SLBC ended the 2023-2024 season (and the end of being closed for 27 months) with 34 members. As of the date of this meeting, membership for the 2024-2025 season increased to 58. There were also 2 winter monthly memberships.

The Board of Directors is recommending that the annual membership fee for 2025-2026 remain at \$295. It was noted that due to the inevitable rise in costs, membership for the following season is very likely to increase. Mr. Garton presented a pro-rated membership fee structure for only new members.

It was noted that the membership year starts November 1st. This is dictated by the SED: the Southeast Division of Bowls USA.

The SED requests clubs to designate 3 delegates. The delegates for SLBC are: Rusty Hein - Delegate at Large; Roger Blanken - Male Delegate, Ilona Vrba - Female Delegate. The SED holds 2 meetings per year which these delegates are expected to attend.

### **5. Director of Greens Report – Jim Sparrow**

Mr. Sparrow again thanked the greens maintenance volunteers. They are critical to the maintenance of the Green and the rest of the 3 acre property. More volunteers help is needed to ease the burden on this small group of members and to cover for snowbirds and other absences and health issues.

Jim reminded us that the green was planted 2 months after the ideal planting date, and that a new green requires one year to approach a quality playing surface. The colder than normal winter also delayed the grow in process. He implored us to be patient with the grow in.

The services of *Exclusive Property Maintenance and Installations, LLC* (Sean O'Brien) will be maintained until at least November 2025. Their expertise is essential to the evaluation and treatment of our new green. The costs of these services will be reviewed. However we must have additional volunteers to have adequate coverage if we decide to mow the green ourselves.

#### **6. Director of Education Report – Jeri Spann**

Ms. Spann reported that 5 Learn to Lawn Bowl classes have been scheduled this season. All classes are 4 sessions each, generally held over a 2 week period. The first 2 were organized by Sally Mills and Graydon Bell. They were advertised on social media, and by word of mouth. The second 2 were organized by Jeri Spann and Rusty Hein. They were advertised on the ACE program of Sarasota County Schools. All of these sessions were held during the day. The 5th one will be evening sessions in May, organized by Rusty Hein and Ilona Vrba. All sessions completed to date, have yielded a good number of members. Next season the program may be extended to OLLI, which in Sarasota is run by Ringling College.

Currently planned Saturday Drop-In sessions will run til the end of April as planned and then stop for the summer months. They will begin again in the Fall though with fewer coaches per session.

#### **7. Director of Tournaments Report – Ted Beilman**

Mr. Beilman reminded us that no tournaments were held this season because the new green is not mature enough to provide a quality bowling experience. It is expected that next season there will be 3 SED tournaments, and club championships. Tournaments provide an important financial and social returns to the club.

#### **8. Director of Hospitality Report – Ilona Vrba**

Ms. Vrba reported that although there has been no formal hospitality committee, herself and Sally have done their best to try to make all former members, new members and students feel welcome. The steadfast volunteers that have assisted in the past, pulled through when needed... thank you. A more formal committee will aim to convene soon to generate ideas for next season's social activities.

#### **9. Appointment of Auditor for 2025-2026**

A motion was made by Sally Mills and seconded by Ted Beilman for Ms. Rose Peperissa to continue to perform an audit overview of SLBC's finances. All members present voted in favor.

## **10. Election for Officers and Directors**

- The Board of Directors has reviewed the membership list for potential recruits to board positions and appointed a nominating committee.
- The nominating committee contacted several members and requested them to serve on the Board. Within the required timeframe, the search did not identify adequate candidates to cover all open positions.
- Incumbent Board Members who agreed to continue for an additional 2 year term are:
  - Secretary : Ilona Vrba
  - Membership: John Garton
- Candidates who were identified after nominations closed are:
  - Vice President: Hans Peterson (2 yr term)
  - Treasurer: Mary Silverstein (remaining 1 yr of term)
- At the annual meeting, the following members agreed to cover the remaining positions:
  - Tournaments: Laurie Holder.
    - Assisted by Ted Beilman as Drawmaster, and Halina Davidson.
  - Hospitality: Ilona Vrba
- A motion was made by Ted Beilman and seconded by Laurie Holder to accept the members listed above to the related Board Positions. By a show of hands, the majority of members agreed.

## **10. Subcommittees**

Some issues that fall under Tournaments:

- Ted Wilson volunteered to organize events for HOAs and other outside groups.
- Starting April 1st 2025, the change in starting time for jitneys will be:  
Saturday morning at 10am and Tuesday/Thursday evening at 7pm.
- Jitneys on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings remain at 10am.
- All jitneys will be 14-end games, unless all participants agree on a different number of ends before the game begins.
- The Presidents Draw has been a raffle this season instead of a competition.
- Next season the Presidents Draw will revert to a competition.  
It will be managed by Nick Gurney and Barrie Pritchard,

### **11. Summer 2025**

The next event is an Easter Jitney on Friday April 18, 2025. It will be a fun tag draw, with a prize for best Easter bonnet.

The croquet schedule may change over the summer. Members will be advised when a decision is made.

Maintenance is on-going. Please volunteer to assist if you are in town.

The Board continues to look for opportunities to secure additional funding. If you become aware of any organization that may support SLBC for grants or donations, please advise Sally Mills.

The Board also continues to work with government authorities for support.

**12. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 12:05 pm.**



SARASOTA LAWN BOWLING CLUB  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

March 22, 2025

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order and welcome – Sally Mills
2. President's Report – Sally Mills
3. Treasurer's Report – Ted Beilman
4. Director of Membership Report – John Garton
5. Director of Greens Report – Jim Sparrow
6. Director of Education & Coaching Report – Jeri Spann
7. Director of Tournaments Report – Ted Beilman
8. Director of Hospitality Report – Ilona Vrba
9. Appointment of auditor for 2025-2026 –Ted Beilman: Rose Peperissa
10. Election for Officers and Directors –The following positions are up for election:
  - Vice President – Hans Petersen**
  - Secretary – Ilona Vrba (incumbent)**
  - Treasurer – Mary Silverstein**
  - Membership – John Garton (incumbent)**
  - Director of Tournaments -**
  - Director of Hospitality -**
  - Sub-Committees:
  - Bowls – Rusty Hein
  - Equipment -
  - Croquet Program – Hans Petersen
  - Community Events & Corporate Relations –
  - Club Clothing – John Garton
  - Gardens – Ilona Vrba
  - Advertising, Publicity, Social Media –
  - Member Communications/Newsletter –
  - Sponsorships, Grants, Fundraising –
  - Volunteer Coordinator – John Garton
  - Webmaster – John Garton
11. Summer 2025 plans
10. Adjournment

## **BIOGRAPHIES:**

### **Hans Petersen, Vice President**

- Bowled for the 1st time in 1982 with French actor Maurice Marsac at the Beverly Hills Lawn Bowling Club
- Many years' experience supporting and promoting croquet, including managing clubs of various sizes both public and private and currently President of the Sarasota County Croquet Club in Venice
- Experienced developing and negotiating strategic plans with city and county entities
- Passionate enthusiast in anything to help enrich others' lives
- REALTOR, Michael Saunders & Company

### **Mary Silverstein, Treasurer**

From Augusta, Ga (home of the Masters and yes I love golf!)  
Finance and MBA degrees from Emory and Duke University  
Spent most of my career in Atlanta working for various corporations with jobs in finance, accounting, and treasury  
Most notable company – Controller & Treasurer for Honey Baked Ham  
Served as Treasurer on HOA Board in Atlanta  
Family vacationed on Longboat Key since the 80s, Mom lived on Longboat Key  
2018 traded traffic for paradise and moved to Sarasota  
Transition job last 6 years as VP Finance & Accounting for small company in downtown Venice  
Retired Jan 3 2025, first activity was Sally's lawn bowling classes  
Look forward to lots of bowling, getting to know members & working with SLBC Board



## SLBC STRATEGIC PLAN, 2025

As of March 2025

### **Vision:**

1. Create a lawn bowling facility that mirrors the architectural plans presented by Richard Mandell to the City of Sarasota and the Sarasota Lawn Bowling Club in 2022
2. Maintain a world-class lawn bowling green
3. Grow and maintain the membership to ensure the sustainability of the club
4. SLBC to become a leader in the SE Division of Bowls USA

### **Short term (2025/26):**

- Improve quality of bowling green
- **Continue fundraising**
- **Build Clubhouse** to enable club to provide **club events and outreach programs**
- Continue Learn to Bowl classes
- Grow the membership to **80**
- Continue publicity
- Plan club tournaments & club championships, 3 Open Tournaments

### **Medium term (2026/27):**

- Plan **100-year anniversary in 2027**
- Continue fundraising
- Continue publicity
- Continue Learn to Bowl classes, community events
- Offer Club tournaments & club championships, 2 Open Tournaments

### **Long term (2027+)**

- **100-year anniversary celebration**
- **Membership = 100+**
- More Open Tournaments
- **Increase accessibility with sidewalks, paved parking**
- **Permanent restrooms, potable water**
- Fenced green
- Leader in South East Division of Bowls USA
- Second green built

SLBC Management Team and Committees 2024-2025			
	Chair	Volunteers	Updated 3/20/25
<b>BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b>			
President	Sally Mills, Ilona Vrba		
Vice President	Charles Krips		
Secretary	Ilona Vrba		
Treasurer	Ted Beilman		
Membership	John Garton		
Coaching & Education	Jeri Spann	Barrie Pritchard, Bill Dolny, Brad McCourtney, Gary Ware, Graydon Bell, Halina Davidson, Ilona Vrba, Jim Sparrow, Jan Gurney, Nick Gurney, Bob Ferraro, Roger Blanken, Rosemary Wilson, Rusty Hein, Sally Mills, Ted Beilman, Ted Wilson, Tom Bondur	
Greens & Surrounds & Gardens	Jim Sparrow	WEEKLY MAINTENANCE: Ted Beilman, Mustafa Bulut, Ted Wilson, Mario Martins. ROLLING: Don Hester, Graydon Bell, Ted Wilson, Mark Cruey. GARDENS CHAIR: Ilona Vrba	
Tournaments		Ted Beilman, Charlene Mead, Graydon Bell, Mark Cruey, Bob Ferraro, Russ Sheldon, Tomas Ollstad	
Hospitality		Charlene Mead, Don Hester, Ilona Vrba, Jay Richter, Lori Ferraro, Rick Cox, Roger Blanken, Tomas Ollestad	
<b>SUB-COMMITTEES</b>			<b>Reports to...</b>
Bowls & Equipment		Rusty Hein (Bowls). Equipment vacant yet.	Board
Croquet Program	Sally Mills	Bill Jackson, Graydon Bell, Bob Ferraro	Board
Community Events & Corporate Relations		Ted Wilson, Charlene Mead (need clubhouse)	Board
Club Clothing	John Garton		Membership
Facilities		Ted Beilman, Sally Mills, Nick Gurney	Board
Gardens	Ilona Vrba	Sally Mills, Jay Richter	Greens & Surrounds
Advertising, Publicity, Social Media		Sally Mills, Ilona Vrba	Board
Sponsorships, Grants, Fundraising		Susan Hewitt, Sally Mills, Roger Blanken	Board
Member Communications /newsletter		Sue Lindstrom, Sally Mills, Ilona Vrba	Secretary
Volunteer Coordinator	John Garton		Board
Webmaster	John Garton	Graydon Bell, Tom Bondur	Board

## COMMITTEES

### Committees with a Director acting as Chairperson:

**Coaching & Education** – oversees public lessons outreach (ACE classes e.g.), coaching, and member's skills development.

**Greens** – directs the maintenance and upkeep of the greens and surrounds of the Club premises.

**Liaisons with Bobby Jones Golf Course.** Responsible for safety issues of the physical facility. Oversees garden maintenance.

**Hospitality** – provides refreshments for tournaments and special events. Oversees refreshment procurement, setup, serving, cleanup. Organizes fun in-house events (e.g.: Valentines Day, St. Patrick's Day, etc.).

**Membership** – oversees all membership records. Works to reach membership goals each season via Open Houses, engaging potential members at training classes and events, etc. Facilitates merchandising: uniforms, hats, name tags, bowler supplies/accessories (lifters, pushers, spray chalk, etc.).

**Tournaments** – oversees and organizes Club SED tournaments and Club Championships. Communicates with teams on registration. Assists the Drawmaster during tournaments. Coordinates with Hospitality. Also oversees in-house tournaments.

### Committees that liaise with the Board of Directors:

**Bowls & Equipment Management** – responsible for Club bowls, rakes, scoreboards and other equipment. Coordinates with other committees to ensure cleanup.

**Club Clothing (Pro Shop)** – under direction of Membership, responsible for engaging vendors for club clothing and apparel, and accessories.

**Community/Corporate Relations** – oversees running events for groups from the surrounding area, and corporate sponsored events. Coordinates with Coaching and Tournaments committees to avoid conflicts. Coordinates with Hospitality for refreshments.

**Croquet Program** – responsible for organizing croquet sessions, course setup and breakdown.

**Facilities** – responsible for buildings and structures on the property.

**Gardens** – under direction of Greens & Surrounds, responsible for plantings, weeding and watering of the garden areas of the property.

**Marketing – posts to Social Media.** Plans and executes Publicity & Advertising.

**Member Communications** – under direction of the Secretary and President, creates content for weekly and monthly newsletters.

**Sponsorships, Grants & Fundraising** – oversees searching for and applying for grants, fundraising, and sponsorship opportunities.

**Volunteer Coordinator** – recruits among the members for volunteers.

**Webmaster** – oversees Club website, web tournament registration, and online records and documents. Trains an assistant webmaster for backup.

## SLBC AGM 2025

### Intro & President's Report:

Thank you for coming, & welcome to our first AGM at our new site.

We have accomplished a lot recently. First, a special thank you to all who have assisted over the past few years with planning, meetings, donations, even just paying your membership fees, and offering support.

We owe a huge thank you to the small group who were present during the construction over the summer of 2024: Ted Beilman, John Garton, Jim Sparrow, Ilona Vrba, Don Hester, and Charles Krips. This group handled the never-ending stream of challenges, and tasks that had to be completed. The green construction was completed, and we were able to re-open the club on Dec. 6, 2024.

We ran four Learn to Lawn Bowl programs this January and March, and grew the membership from 34 a year ago, to almost 60 today. Without a clubhouse or office, we are doing our best to provide lots of social activities (lunches, dinners, and other events), and have held some in-house mini-tournaments.

Our hard-working maintenance crew cleared and maintained the whole three-acre property, with a special thanks to leaders Jim Sparrow and Don Hester. The green is a "work in progress", which we expect to be fabulous and fully open by this fall.

We started free croquet program for members, have a small but very enjoyable, fun group that plays twice a week.

The club's Strategic Plan, outlines the club's plans for next season:

- 3 open/invitational tournaments (open to other clubs)
- Continue with member education & the highly successful Learn to Bowl programs
- Reinstating club championships
- *Grow membership to 80*
- Seeking funding for a clubhouse & restrooms

Your Board of Directors is working continually on seeking funding to complete the facility that was originally planned – especially for a basic clubhouse, proper restrooms and potable water. This is an ongoing project, and a great deal of work goes on behind the scenes. So far, there is no concrete news to share, and we will let you know as soon as we know.

There has been a rumor circulating that the City recently re-zoned this property as residential, so they can ask us to leave at any time. Is far as I am aware, this property has been zoned residential - at least since we were told we would be moving to this location. In our 2-year Occupancy Agreement, it states that the City, and our club, need give only 30 days notice of vacancy. These terms were non-negotiable. As far as I am aware, the City has no plans to move us, or to close this facility. We are complying with all the terms of the Occupancy Agreement, and are taking good care of the three-acre property.

Before we hear the Director's reports, I'd like to Thank Ilona Vrba, who stepped up to be your Co-President this past year, as well as holding the Secretary and Hospitality Director positions. Your assistance and guidance have been appreciated by me, and by all of the membership.

I also want to thank Ted Beilman, who is stepping down after being our hard working Treasurer for 3 years, and also, in effect, the Facilities Coordinator.



**Ted Beilman**

Treasurer Page for AGM packet

To: Sally Mills, IV for SLBC

Inbox - IV for SLBC March 20, 2025 at 9:31 AM



Sally,  
Here is the final, corrected treasurer's page.

You all catching that the \$3400 in chemical costs for the Green were already in Sean's \$1630 monthly rate REALLY improved things when I made the correction.

Averaging odd and even year results, we are short of break even by around \$1500 per year. 5 additional members (over and above the 80 projected for 2025) paying \$295 each gets us to breakeven.

Ilona,  
You were concerned about costs increasing over time. I should have mentioned that any of my multi-year projections are in constant dollars ... the same method used in business for multi-year projections. Clearly, as costs inflate we will increase our annual membership fee, monthly fee, daily playing rate, and tournament fee commensurately. Donors also tend to increase their giving over time, since they know we are in an inflationary world.

One of our additional upsides is revenue from croquet ... which involves minimal incremental expense for the club.

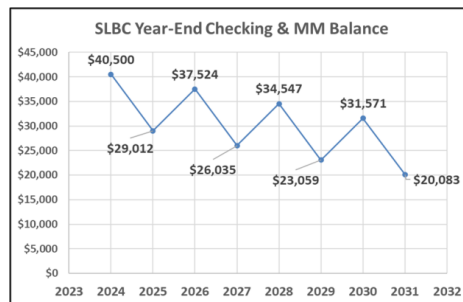
### SLBC 2025 Revenue and Expense Budget - Cash Basis

Category	2025 Budget	Calculation Notes
<b>INCOME</b>		
Annual membership fees	20,800	80 members (40 paying full year \$295 and 40 paying for shorter duration incl 1 month)
Daily Playing Fees	2,700	4 months @\$375 + 8 months @\$150
Bank interest	616	\$28,000 avg balance @2.2%
Tournament Net Income	225	Assume 1 Fall Tournament - Assumes Pairs
Fity Fity Draw at tournaments	50	50% share to club
Presidents Draw	2,600	4 months @\$400 ea + 8 months @\$125 ea
ACE and Other Coaching Fees	3,600	4 classes generating \$900 per class
Contributions and Grants incl Giving Tuesday	1,500	<b>Giving Challenge only in Even Numbered Years</b>
Misc Income (shirt sales, measures, grippo etc)	450	30 items @ \$15 avg price
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>32,541</b>	
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Business fees & licenses	600	Sun Biz, Go Daddy, 990 online submission
Insurance	2,834	GL and D&O (GL coverages meet city specs)
Maintenance - greens	25,960	EPM Monthly fee at \$1630; 1 TopDressing at \$4200; 1 Verticut @ \$600, 1 Core Aerification @ \$1600. Includes \$3484 in chemicals.
Maintenance - equipment, surrounds, structures	4,900	\$75/month gas, oil, parts plus \$1,000 per quarter equip repairs/maintenance incl sprinkler heads
Office supplies, printing & copying	200	
SED and BowlsUSA Dues	1,960	Already paid in early March (\$35 per member on March 1)
POD Rental	2,269	\$189.10 per month
Clean Can Rental	3,250	\$250 per 28 days
BJGC Water Charge	0	Nonpotable irrigation water provide <b>free</b> by City
City Waste Collection and FPL Elec Utilities	1,656	\$43/month waste, \$95/month electricity
Misc Expense	400	e.g., food/cutlery for club events
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>44,029</b>	
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>(11,488)</b>	

Total Chkg and MM balance at beginning of year **40,500**

Projected Chkg and MM at end of year (12.31.25) **29,012**

	Odd Years	Even Years	Two Year Net
<b>Recurring Revenue</b>	32,541	32,541	
<b>Giving Challenge</b>	0	20,000	
<b>Combined Revenue</b>	32,541	52,541	
<b>Recurring Expenses</b>	44,029	44,029	
<b>Net Income (Deficit)</b>	(11,488)	8,512	(2,976)
<i>Need to Solve for Avg \$1500 Income Shortfall per Year (\$2976/2)</i>			



**Addition of 5 new members @\$295 (above 80 projected for 2025) takes club to break-even**

Membership above 85 allows club to fund new projects

**From:** John Garton johnwgarton@icloud.com  
**Subject:** SLBC - AGM Membership Report 3/22/25



**Date:** March 21, 2025 at 9:21 PM

**To:** S Bell Mills and G sgbell44@hotmail.com, Vrba Ilona ilona16v@gmail.com, Krips Charles knirps97@yahoo.com, Beilman Ted tgbeilman@gmail.com, Spann Jeri jeri.spann@gmail.com, Sparrow Jim Jimsparrow1954@gmail.com

**Cc:** marysilverstein@comcast.net, hanspeterson9000@gmail.com

Hi All:

- Current membership is 58 total Full Year Members.  
Additionally, two Winter Monthly Members.

Including this week we have had 58 daily player visits since we officially opened.

Full Membership Rate for 2026 - will remain at \$295 for full year members.

Below are the prorated annual rates for new members only. These are not published on the web, but will be communicated to new members as they join.

Prorated Annual Rates For New Members Only			
Month	Full Year New Mem Prorated by Month	Learn to Bowl or ACE Full Year New Mem	Monthly
November	295	280 (80+200)	140
December	295	280 (80+200)	140
January	295	280 (80+200)	140
February	270	255 (80+175)	140
March	245	230 (80+150)	140
April	210		70
May	180		70
June	150		70
July	135		70
August	120		70
September	120 (Join for 295)		70
October	Join for 295 for 2026		70

Updated 3/6/25

Thanks,  
~John



**John Garton**

SLBC - AGM Tournament Report 3/22/25

To: Sally Mills and G Mills, ILONA VRBA, Charles G. Krips, Ted Beilman, Jeri Spann, Jim Sparrow Cc: & 2 more

Inbox - Gmail.1 March 21, 2025 at 9:33 PM

[Details](#)

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Hi All:

We had no SED Tournaments this year, due to the green being still too immature to be tournament quality.

Next season we anticipate three SED Tournaments - An open pairs in December, an Australian Pairs in January, and the Gerry Smith Triples in February.

Thanks,  
-John