

This weekly update is sent to members of the St Lucia Bowling Club. To contribute Club news or general bowls items of interest to Club members, please email them to the Editor, Pamela Miller – pamela.miller1@bigpond.com

Cyclone Alfred – please stay safe everyone. Let us all look forward to getting to the other side of this weather event and getting back on the greens.

Duchesne Day







Last Sunday 500 students descended on the club for the annual Duchesne Day. By any measure the day was a success. The revenue generated by this event will be critical to the club's ongoing financial health.

The students had a great time and the day was declared the 'best ever'. They were enthusiastic bowlers and they enjoyed all the fun of the day – drinks with friends, music, dancing. Copious amounts of alcohol were consumed, with the deck bar going flat out all afternoon, but the students were always respectful and a pleasure to have at the club.

The success of the day is due to good organisation on both sides; the Duchesne Executive do a great job and our members once again prove how committed and reliable they are. Thanks to Max Grey's past organisation which I followed to the letter, the day goes like a well-oiled machine. Everyone knows their job and they just do it, plus they go above and beyond. We had over 40 members there all doing a wonderful job. I won't name names – you know who you are – I can't thank you all enough! Once again it shows what a strong community we are.

Anne Kuhnemann Functions Director

VALE

It is with sadness that we report that valued club member, Tom Hayes, passed away on Saturday 1 March after being diagnosed with pancreatic cancer six weeks ago. Our thoughts are with his family and friends at this time.

RESULTS

Champion of Club Singles

Men

The final of the CoC Men's Singles was played on Friday morning between Craig Francis and Robin Town.

Robin got away to a brisk start, leading 5-1, before Craig found his line and length.

The game went neck and neck with only two points in it after the 20th end. Just what is expected of a final.

Craig, playing consistent bowls, drew away over the last three ends scoring nine over those ends. Final result -25-17.



Well done to both finalists and congratulations to the 2025 Men's Champion of Club Singles – Craig Francis.

Bruce Holwell – Marker

Women

A semi final was played last Saturday between Judith Beal and Nikki Geran.

Nikki got out of the blocks quickly, hitting an eleven-point lead by the ninth end. She didn't have it all her own way from there, Judith steadily clawed back the difference before Nikki finally got to the winning post – 25-18.

Nikki will meet Loise Bradley/ Robyn Pang in the final.

Novice Singles Competition

The full first-round results of the Novices Competition are available on the notice-board. However, some reports from the markers of the games played last Thursday afternoon include mention of a hard fought game between Peter Broderick and Dympna Maher, which came down to a last few points, Dympna won.

All credit to Mary Tucker for stepping up to play an extremely strong opponent in Bernadette Penrose who took out the match convincingly. Also, in a similar vein, Bill Gray came up against a red-hot Patrick Bailey who won his rubber convincingly

The match-up between Antony Flint and Anita Bolton produced some great 'last' bowl results for both players where either player was holding a handful, but the opposing player's last bowl denied them of anything. Antony came away the winner and progresses to the next round.

Ladies Autumn Pennants

The BDBA Ladies Autumn Pennants second round was played last Friday at Ferny Grove in blustery conditions. The SLBC Saints were up against the Red Hill Rollers and fortunes were not all in the Saints' favour.

Lois Bradley's team, comprising Julie Hawley and Suzanne Jordan had a good win in both sets. Pam Salway's team, comprising Margaret Miller and Josie Caltabiano, easily won the first set, but a Red Hill turn around in the second set meant a tie-break end was needed to determine the winner. The Gods were looking upon the Saints in that tie-break – a win to that combo.

Pam Richardson's team of Rachel Chiang and Judith Beal just didn't have their mojo working for them, going down in both sets, but not without a fight.

That's 2 out of 2 wins for the Saints with a bye next week.

Pam Salway, Margaret Miller & Lois Bradley Selectors

Great 8s

It was an early start for the Great 8 squad, trekking out to Wellington Point (is that still classified as being in Brisbane? – it's so far away) for a 9 am game start time.

All players were astounded by the colour of the green - a yellow particle board would've come close to the best description, so it certainly played differently to our St Lucia greens.

The new combo pairs team of Col Bertwistle and Craig Francis fought hard all the way through, narrowly going down 17-21 in a game that could've gone either way.

Pairs team Pam Salway and Nikki Geran, took the lead early and maintained that lead, winning convincingly 27-18.

The fours combo of Rachel Chiang, Peter Fairchild, Darcy Barry and Pam Richardson, gallantly battled against the Wellington Point fours, who proved just too strong on their home turf. Final result 11-20.

An unanticipated result in the other sectional game between current second place holder, Algester, losing to bottom of the table Darra, means that St Lucia remains at the top of the ladder. Next week sees the final round game versus Algester at home. St Lucia need to win on one rink to maintain the top of the ladder position and progress into the finals. Spectators are welcome to come along and support your home team.

Teams for 8 March vs Algester – 1 pm at St Lucia

Pairs:

Warren Garnham, Craig Francis (S) Pam Salway, Nikki Geran (S)

Fours:

Rachel Chiang, Col Bertwistle, Darcy Barry, Pam Richardson (S)

Substitute – Tony Burton

Merlo Coffee Cup

Division 2

The win on Saturday (65-46) put SLBC just one point behind Northern Suburbs who are in 4th place. Lois Bradley, Ken Harvey and Robin Town had a good game holding the lead all the way with the final score 30-7.

Bruce Holwell, Dicky Ng and Suzanne Jordan looked as though they were in for a tough match being down 0-7 after four ends. However, scoring two fours in quick time saw them gain the lead 10-8 after 8 ends. They did not lose the lead and eventually won 23-18.

In the pairs game Mark Benson and Clive Hamlin fought hard to be 11 all after 14 ends. Unfortunately, they were outplayed in the last seven ends to eventually go down 21-12.

Division 3

St Lucia were successful, winning over second placed Windsor 69-40, with two rink wins and a draw.

John Stack, Brian Vandersee and Paul Keane had a close battle all morning only to lose a shot on ends 20 and 21 to come up with a draw.

Antony Flint and Julie Hawley continued their winning form to have a 22-15 win.

Doug Buchbach commented that his team of Robyn Pang and Joanne Annan played very well to secure a very comfortable 31-9 victory.

St Lucia is now in 3rd place just .5 behind second-placed Windsor.

Team for this week are:

ST LUCIA BOWLING CLUB - BDBA MERLO COFFEE CUP COMPE 8-Mar-25

MERLO COFFEE CUP	Div 2 GOLD	CHERMSIDE AT CHERMSIDE 9am			res NG Sui Hong HAMLIN Clive JORDAN Peter
PAIRS HOSKIN Robert BENSON Mark	TRIPLES HARVEY Kenneth TOWN Robin BRADLEY Lois	TRIPLES JORDAN Suzanne TONIOTTI Fulvio Manager: Peter Jordan HOLWELL Bruce			
MERLO COFFEE CUP	Div 3 GOLD	NEW FARM AT NEW	FARM	9am	
PAIRS	TRIPLES	TRIPLES			res
HAWLEY Julienne	WARK Francis	ANNAN Joanne			STACK John
FLINT Antony	THOMAS Vaughan	CALTABINO Josephine SALWAY Timothy	Manager:	SALWAY Timothy	PANG Robyn KEANE Paul

EVENTS COMING UP SOON - **INCLUDED AS A REMINDER**

Champion of Champion Events – Nomination details

St Lucia Champion of Club Pairs 2025

Nominations are now open for both the women and men's St Lucia Champion of Club Pairs. Entries may be made by a nomination sheet posted to the ladies' notice board, or via the nomination box (men). Nominations will close on Tuesday 11th March (Ladies) and 12th March (Men), with play commencing the week of 19th March. Please ensure you register yours and your partner's name on the nomination form by 5pm on the closing date.

St Lucia Champion of Club Mixed Pairs 2025

Nominations are now open for the St Lucia Champion of Club Mixed Pairs. Entries may be made by the nomination box. Nominations will close on 14th March. The competition will be played on Sunday 23rd (rounds) and Sunday 30th March (semi & finals). Please note: depending on the number of entries, you will likely be required to play more than 1 game each day. Play for the day is likely to commence at 9 am. Please ensure you register your team's names by 5pm the closing date.

St Lucia Champion of Club Fours 2025

Nominations will open during week commencing 10th March for both the women and men's St Lucia Champion of Club Fours. Entries may be made by a nomination sheet posted to the ladies' notice board, or via the nomination box (men). **Nominations will close on Tuesday 25th March (ladies) and Wednesday 26th March (men)**. Competition play will commence on week beginning 14 April. Please ensure you register your team's names by 5pm the closing date.

SPONSORSHIP

I would like to highlight the great job that Ian Thomas is doing in regards to our sponsorship. donated articles from our sponsors for our raffles and for various events and the effect that it has on our income stream.

For sponsorship in 2024 our income was \$8,890.00 for 12 months in 2025 \$14,103 for 11 months.

With raffles in 2024, income was \$14,001 for 12 months, and in 2025 \$14,921 for 11 months.

The raffle outgoings for 2024 was \$6,975 for 12 months and in 2025 \$4,826 for 11 months.

The means we had a net gain of \$16,915 in 2024 for the full year and \$25,007 for 11 months in 2025.

Ian also made available numerous donations from sponsors for some of our special events such as the Financial Day, our Christmas Party, and some bowls competition prizes etc.

It is very important that as members we support our sponsors where we can as there are difficult times out there in small business world and thanks to Ian's persistence, he has been able to convince sponsors to support our Club.

It is disappointing to hear that the Dominoes vouchers are not being welcomed by some of the members. For a \$5 ticket the winner gets \$16 of value and the Club makes \$10.00 profit. To date Dominoes has donated almost \$900 worth of vouchers. Whilst the winner may not want to make use of the voucher, I'm sure that there is a family member somewhere that would.

Without our support as noted above, it makes Ian's job more difficult when negotiating with potential sponsors and getting existing sponsors to renew.

