



NTLBC News

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May 2024

www.newtorontolawnbowlingclub.ca

Welcome members to the beginning of a new season with our opening date of May 18th fast approaching. We have had a busy Spring behind the scenes and following our Spring Meeting held April 16th at the Long Branch Legion. Members in attendance had their say and gave full support to the re-instatement of the draw method for setting up games in lieu of Sign Up Genius.

CHANGES TO THE USE OF SIGN UP GENIUS (SUG)

The SUG online registration was launched during COVID days to meet the strict requirements of having records of who was playing and when for tracking purposes which we no longer need. Over the last few years we've had feedback on using SUG and after reviewing the comments and running it by the members in attendance at the meeting it was agreed that we could resume the draw method of setting up games which allows for members to just show up for a game without pre-registering.

After further review there was a sense that SUG has an advantage in that the Game Co-ordinator and Opener/Closer could be pre-assigned as these positions are still required each session of play. In addition it allows for a head count to get an estimate of the number of greens that need to be set up. It is NOT COMPULSORY that you pre-register on Sign Up Genius—BUT if you are able to sign up please do by simply indicating YES on the scheduled night and consider volunteering for either Draw Master or Opener/Closer. Help is needed for these roles and your participation and assistance is appreciated.

DRAWMASTER GAME SET UP METHOD

There are two ways to set up the games. Firstly (and the method used pre-COVID days) the Draw Master sets up the players on the greens. Each player had a token with their name and colour code showing their preferred position as Lead, Vice or Skip. Upon entry you place your token in a basket marked with the position you will play. There is a physical wooden board with pegs and the Draw Master places each token under a green number and lines up the teams and positions. The Draw Master sets up the board RANDOMLY and has the only say in how players are teamed up. This keeps a rotation of newer players participating with more seasoned players, helps to develop skills and allows for mix and mingle of members to meet other players throughout the season.

POSITION BUCKET RANDOM PULL METHOD

The other method (used at some curling clubs) uses a

trio of buckets identified by position—Lead, Vice and Skip. In the bucket there are identifiers for the green you will be playing on. For example 1A LEAD and 1B LEAD. The player draws a slip and that will be the location of your green. This is a complete random method of setting up teams, let's the player identify their location and quickly and easily allocates and moves everyone into their positions.

OPENING DAY GAME SET UP

When we begin our games with our official opening we will start with POSITION BUCKET RANDOM PULL METHOD which will be co-ordinated by the Draw Master.

When you arrive go to the bucket that identifies your position, draw a slip to identify your green and team. For example pull from the LEAD position bucket and if you get LEAD 1A you know you are on Green 1 and the A team and so on for all positions. We can determine the number of greens and positions needed from those who have advised on SUG they are playing on a specific night.

There will be some learning curves as we reinstate either of these Draw Master co-ordinated games. Our intention is to ensure everyone comes to play whether it's pre-booked or last minute, all players get to circulate with other players and we respond to the feedback of our members. We look forward to seeing you on the greens soon and your feedback, support and volunteering to help with games set up is most welcome, appreciated and vital.

POSITIONS TO FILL

As the season starts we are seeking a candidate for the position of Vice-President. This is the time to come forward and have the full season to shadow our Executive and Committee Leads to get an understanding of our club operations. We have to roll the positions with new candidates to keep ideas fresh and continue to have a strong team in place and keep things moving. We also seek help in the Hospitality and Newsletter Committees and will be sending out more info on how you can get involved.

OLBA SIGN UP—The OLBA is our source for information we HIGHLY RECOMMEND you register for the latest news at www.olba.ca and read up on the recent AGM with important news on operations and activities in the Lawn Bowling community.