

## The Elm Park Jack Newsletter – coronavirus edition



### *Lawn bowling on hold for now*

How long will our world continue to be turned upside down by this unknown coronavirus?

That is the question many Kerrisdale Lawn Bowling Club members must have on the tip of their tongue these days as the club's official Opening Day approaches and still no end in sight to when gatherings of even small numbers will be allowed by the City of Vancouver.



*David Smith*

The city is, at the time this newsletter was being written, still under a state of emergency and direction from Vancouver's newest hero, B.C.'s provincial health officer Dr. Bonnie Henry, has suggested an early lessening of restrictions is unlikely in the next few months.

What does that mean for KLBC?

Well, in the absence of real play out of doors, some work, part of the Kerrisdale club's 2020 Action Plan, has already been, and continues to be done, off the green.

Our club treasurer, David Smith, ably assisted by Peter Cook, are to be commended for getting a new website up and running over the winter in time for what would have been our Opening Day on April 26.



The new website can be accessed at [krlbc.com](http://krlbc.com).

Click on the first result at the top of the page, *Play Lawn Bowls/Kerrisdale Lawn Bowling Club/* for correct access to the site.



*Rosemary Cryer*

Be advised that when you Google the krlbc url, there is still a Kerrisdale Lawn Bowling Club window that is highly visible on the right hand portion of the page, which will direct you to the old website.

Others, like Rosemary Cryer, working with the club's New Membership Recruitment committee, were hard at work developing strategies for improving club membership.

Last year, Rosemary made initial contact with the Kerrisdale Community Centre and had made great strides in helping devise possible programs at the centre for the coming spring session that would possibly have interested and attracted new members to the club.



*Peter Cook*

### *Club greens are ready to go*

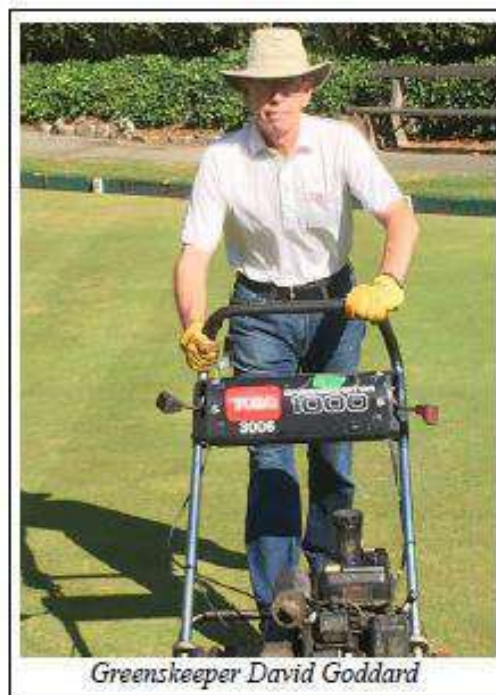
Should the Vancouver and District lawn bowling season get the green light any time soon, club greenskeeper David Goddard is confident the Elm Park green is being well maintained during the self-isolation period and would require little work to bring it up to an acceptable state.

"It wouldn't take too much effort and time to bring the green up to a playable level," David said, in a recent email.



*Thank you, David*

Reseeding, aerating and sanding, and an initial fertilizing back in March, are among the treatments that have already taken place, while David is keeping the grass neatly trimmed with weekly mowings.

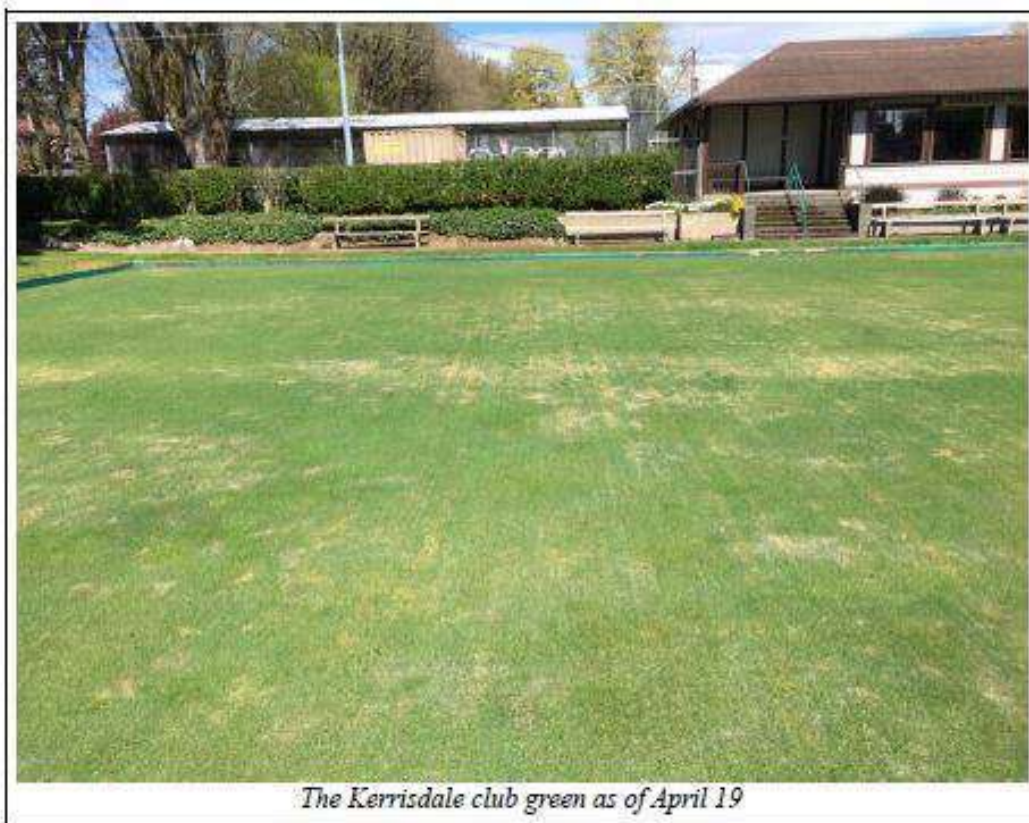


*Greenskeeper David Goddard*

Worked commenced at our Elm Park green in the first week of March with a fungicide and moss treatment in anticipation for a successful April opening.

But when the world took an unexpected turn and Vancouver was put on lockdown on March 21, a decision was made by the club board to keep the green in a reasonable condition with modest investments in lawncare.





*The Kerrisdale club green as of April 19*

Towards the end of March, that investment included a decision to aerate the grass, since it had been 18 months since the green was last cored.

The aeration process involves poking the soil with small holes to allow air, water and nutrients to penetrate down to the grass roots.

The main reason for aeration, besides helping strengthen the lawn's root structure, is to prevent the soil from becoming too densely packed.

At the same time, a soil treatment was also done to balance the pH of the soil, along with spreading a healthy dosage of fertilizer.

A week or two later, the green was reseeded and a dump of sand was spread throughout the ground.



*What sort of member are you?*

Hanging solitarily on a wall away from plain view to the right of the west side door of the clubhouse is an anonymous piece of prose that is arguably more applicable now than ever.

The 12-line ditty of rhyming couplets asks the reader in it's simplistic way to question what being part of a club is all about.

Although at this time, we are unable to get together and bowl, take a moment to ponder other ways we might find purpose in the club.





*Seldom seen at PIBC, indoor greens vacant due to coronavirus*

### *Winter winners indoors at PIBC*

Many Kerrisdale club members kept active bowling over the winter months at the Pacific Indoor Bowling club at Hillcrest Park in Vancouver.



*Linda Ng*

Some, too, were even fortunate enough to come away winners in the seasonal leagues.

Associate member Linda Ng was among the big winners, sharing top spot in two pairs leagues – the Sunday morning and the virus-shortened Wednesday afternoon 3-bowl pairs.

Friday night was also Miller time for skip Graham, second Matt and mother Linda Miller at lead in the Friday evening triples league.

The Miller threesome placed first overall in the A division playoff, which was one of a number of leagues that were suspended after the March 15 shutdown at the club.

David Smith, wife Chris and Alan Wass of Dunbar were also money winners at PIBC, taking home the third-place prize in the B division in the Monday morning triples league.

### *Fountain repair, no pipe dream*

The water fountain at the Elm Park green will be flowing again, whenever play commences at the Kerrisdale club.

While the club green is shutdown due to the closure of all public park facilities from COVID-19, city workers have been hard at work repairing the damaged water pipe that caused the fountain to be turned off last year.

Members will remember the pipe leak that created puddles under the bench at rink 4 all last year.

It was a reminder to us all that an earlier repair to the old water pipe from the water source on 43<sup>rd</sup> Avenue to the club fountain was in need of a second look.



*Fountainhead Revisited*



Good on the city for using this down time to work on low priority projects such as ours.



*PIBC#2 Ultimate runners-up*

*Now, isn't this the Ultimate?*

Yours truly was a certain convert to the newest lawn bowling craze to hit the Lower Mainland.

The Pacific Indoor Lawn Bowling club experimented with the Down Under game of Ultimate, holding a pair of Saturday night matches to test the interest of its membership.

Both evenings proved wildly successful, and fruitful for the writer of this newsletter, who won second-place prize money with skip and former Kerrisdale member David Girard following the

second such night in mid January.

A third night of Ultimate bowls was scheduled for March 14 at PIBC but was one of the early casualties brought on by the growing COVID-19 scare.

The game of Ultimate bowls has its origin in Australia and New Zealand and its fun, fast-paced matches and innovative multi-point scoring system is designed to attract a new segment of society to the sport.

### *Design it yourself*

Have you ever wondered what it takes to be a designer?

Just last year, we bought a new set of white Kerrisdale club kit to offset the darker purple jerseys we often wore when playing in Vancouver and District competitions.

Now, there is a site that caters to the would-be costumier.

It is called BLK Design Your Own at [dvo.blksport.com](http://dvo.blksport.com), an interactive teamwear design portal that includes a wide variety of sports, including lawn bowls.

Inside, are more than three dozen pre-selected 3D jersey designs, each easily manouvered by hand mouse to reveal front, back and side views of your creation.

Close at hand is a colour indicator chart for selection of main colour and appropriate detailing, including collar and BLK company logo to your selected teamwear.

There are also four separate choices for club and sport affiliation logo placement on chest, sleeves and/or back of jersey, if desired.

It's great fun and totally applicable for these long days of self isolation. Try it and see what creation you can come up with.



*My design dvo.blksport.com*