

Play Safe and Play Smart

It is your responsibility as a player to make sure that everyone ahead of you on the road is **facing** you. **NEVER** throw your bullet to a person's back. **Do not be shy about yelling "Rolling!" or "Clear the way!"** or **"Faugh a ballach!"**

Never stop the bullet with your foot or hand. Those really are cannonballs and they were designed for mortal combat.

Be careful out there!

Terms to Know

- Bowl or Bullet** - the small 28 oz. cannonball
- Butt** - the throwing mark on the road. To step over the mark before releasing the bowl is to "break butt."
- Craic** - fun or good time
- Faugh a Ballach!** - Clear the Way! A traditional Irish battle cry
- Kitter-Paw** - a left-handed thrower
- Stroke** - a smooth Irish stroke with accuracy and topspin will gain more distance than a clumsy powerful throw
- Stylish Bowler** - a bowler with a smooth well-coordinated delivery

Day of the Event

Registration begins at 11:00 at the Willow Bay shelter. Teams will begin play at noon. Plan to park one car at the start and one at the finish-- make it easier on your tired muscles at the end of the day.

You will receive an email message with the order of team "tee times." Arrive onsite early enough to register, cheer on other teams, and enjoy the fun.

March 14, 2010

A great craic brought to you by the Friends of Historic Onondaga Lake!



Still have questions?

Contact Buffy at 315-380-7086

Need a registration form? Visit our website: www.irishroadbowling.org

Want to see other people bowl? Check out www.youtube.com and search for "Irish road bowling"

FAUGH A BALLAGH!

Clear the way! Get a team & try out the latest Irish import...

Irish Road Bowling

Irish road bowling has been popular in Ireland for over 300 years. Historians are not clear as to its true origins, but it is believed to be invented by Irish soldiers who used the most readily available playing piece — the cannonball. Part golf, part bocce, part bowling. The rules are simple - hurl a small 28 oz. cannonball along a two mile country road.

The toss is similar to bowling, and players must throw underhanded. But scoring is more akin to golf. Teams of four will compete against other teams to see who can cross the finish line in the fewest number of throws.

We are using “American” rules that allow for teams of four. Traditional Irish road bowling — or long bullets — is an individual sport.

Rules of Play

The Start:

The thrower marks his or her start point with a chalk line and stands behind this line. The thrower’s team mates (called the “showers”) stand 20-30 yards down the road to mark the desired path of the bowl and alert spectators and other players that the bowl is coming.

The Grip:

Players should grip the bowl with the thumb and index and/or middle finger. The bowl should be thrown from the fingers, not from the palm.

The Throw:

Experienced bowlers will take a running start and release the bowl at the start line. Novice players find that taking two or three steps is sufficient. The bowl should fly through the air for a few yards before striking the road surface. Don’t cross your chalk line and “break the butt.”

The Shot:

From wherever the bowl stops — not where it leaves the road surface — is where it is taken directly to the nearest point on the road. Mark the “butt” so the next player can throw from that point.

The Finish:

After your team’s last shot, turn in your score card and clear the way for incoming bullets!



Feeling creative?

Consider decorating your bowl for a chance at an additional prize. We will photograph your decorated bowl before the first throw — because it won’t stay pretty for long!

FoHOL

The Friends of Historic Onondaga Lake have worked diligently to preserve the historic traditions surrounding Onondaga Lake.

Today we continue to stay true to our mission of connecting with the past and creating an achievable vision for the future of our lake community.