

Lanark Place Wii™ 2010 Bowling Tournament by Dominique Whelan

The ladies in pink and turquoise had a ball this year; a virtual ball that is. Well, a virtual bowling ball.

As the third annual Lanark Place Wii Bowling Tournament approached at the end of July the team members were psyched. They had prepped for the event, not knowing that their bowling feathers would be finer this year.

A few weeks before the events, two displays appeared in the hall showing off the previous year's winners along with the tournament trophy. In each of the two displays, directly underneath the 2009 team photos, were unfamiliar piles of pink and turquoise decorated with bowling pins.

Any remaining mystery was dispelled at the town hall meeting three days before the annual tournament. Marie deJong, Food Services Manager, and Dominique Whelan, Marketing Manager, strolled in wearing cheeky 1950's style bowling shirts with retro pin splashes on the shirt back. Marie was in bright pink, Dominique in bright turquoise. And the buzz started...

Reactions to the team apparel were varied but universally positive. The only concern voiced? One resident wondered whether the new shirt would interfere with her swing!

Jen Pearson, Recreation Assistant and organizer of the event, stated "when residents walked into the Tournament lounge they were very excited. They really liked the shirts and felt that they were really bowling. It felt real, not virtual." She added, "After the tournament they wanted to keep the shirts and wear them all the time.

According to Jen, residents were more relaxed and playful this year as compared to the 2009 tournament. "They were more performance-oriented than last year. This year they supported each other no matter what team they were on and cheered each other on." She added, "We took a different approach this year and gave them the option to make up their own teams. They took ownership and made up their own teams. You could feel the difference."

Well the pink ladies won the tournament this year but the atmosphere in the room indicated that everyone felt special, no matter what the colour of their shirt.



Blue Team

Front Row: Jean Mc Math, May Bellingham, Jean Taylor
Back Row: Ella Wagner, Sydney Chapman, Vera Bindernagel



Pink Team

Front Row: Louise Illerbrun, Clara Nagy, Joyce Saunders
Back Row: Helen Schefer, Helen Sprugeon, Mary Wilson