

NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 5 – FEBRUARY

SEASON 2015-16

WEBSITE – www.bowls.wodonga.com.au



FROM CHAIRMAN DAVID

NEW COMPRESSOR: The Board has previously advised members, that in an effort to reduce a cost structure that **“cannot be sustained”**, and improve income from **external sources**, relevant to the future operation of the Wodonga Bowling Club, it has been working with the Bowls Australia Regional Manager, Josh Thornton, on the development of a Strategic Plan, to help with the Club’s ongoing viability.

As an early part of this process the Board advised O’Connell’s Refrigeration on the 15th September 2015, it was seriously considering replacement of the current compressor, ***with a modern, more silent and efficient unit, to reduce operational costs and future maintenance.*** This early advice was provided having regard for the Club’s long association with O’Connell’s Refrigeration, seeking a response aimed at meeting the above stated goal. Quotes were sought and received from two other potential suppliers, but no quote was received from the Club’s long standing contractor.

A decision has now been taken to employ “ColdFlow” to supply and install a semi hermetic unit with a variable speed controller at a cost of \$11, 941.60, with any refrigerant required at \$40 per kg. (This was \$3,800 less than the alternative quote received, although it did include some additional minor work. Also the refrigerant in that quote was \$70 per kg, and the unit to be supplied was 1.5kw less in capacity than the 11.5kw “Cold Flow” purchase.) “ColdFlow” will also be contracted to take over all future maintenance of our refrigeration and air conditioning, on an as need basis, which should also see substantial savings because of the Club’s more modern equipment.

DARTS COMPETITION: As a means of trying to make the Club more inclusive of the community and seek income from external sources, the Clubhouse will be used as a new home for a regular weekly darts competition on both Monday and Wednesday nights, commencing the 1st February. Any bowlers interested in participating in this competition should contact Josh Rudd or Jason McMahan, or organizer Bill Kite on 046 6633 656. This competition has previously been based in the basement of the German/Austrian Club, and our facilities offer a much more appealing environment in which to play, but ultimately it must also prove to be very beneficial to the WBC if the partnership is to be long term.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING: Scheduled to be held on **Thursday the 31st March** – It is now that members urgently need to give serious thought to the Club’s future operation, and to consider nominations for the Board, Match and Selection Committees, and as the constitution currently stands, Ladies’ and Men’s Bowl’s Presidents. **But member support to assist the people who take on these positions is equally important.**

WORKING BEE: The next working bee is scheduled **Monday the 8th February from 9am to 11am** followed by a well-earned coffee. A couple of old mowers would be handy – not much mowing work is required but it is unsuitable for the new Club mower. External washing of some windows was necessary, after the Boxing Day pest control spraying, which was generously carried out by Wally and Allan Bounader.

ROB ASHWORTH: Unfortunately, currently Rob is injured and after touching up our building facade, is unable to continue with the full extent of painting out the “Function” area to brighten up the Club House.

BOWLS CANCELLED DUE TO HOT WEATHER: On the 12th and 19th January Midweek Bowlers ceased playing under the **HEAT RULE following adjudication by the Umpire.** The Wodonga Bowling Club exercising its “duty of care” responsibility advises that when this situation arises the greens are effectively closed for all bowls, and no-one should take to the greens for practice until the temperature has substantially dropped later in the day.

DAVID SWASBRICK & BARRY PINKERTON: It's good to see "DJ" and Barry back around the Club having a light practice, and the Board wishes them continuing progress with their return to good health.

CLUB CHRISTMAS RAFFLE - GOOD NEWS STORY: Thanks to the 80 dedicated members who participated in street selling of tickets in the annual raffle, and the 92% of members who made a special effort to sell or buy their own books, the 2015 financial result was the best ever achieved.

But the highlight of the draw, held at the club on the evening of Friday 18th December, was 1st prize going to a youthful Beau Moss who early in November was married to the lovely Sarah. But approximately a week after the wedding Beau was electrocuted while working on a roof. Airlifted to the Alfred Hospital in Melbourne in a very serious condition Beau is still on crutches and recovering with his long term prognosis remaining uncertain.

As a result, any thoughts of a Honeymoon were shelved with health recovery and housing becoming the only priorities. But now with the \$3000 travel prize won in the Bowling Club raffle a Honeymoon is back on the agenda with the booking of trip to Fiji. All at Wodonga Bowling Club sincerely congratulate the lucky couple and wish them a long and happy life together.

Finally a big thank you to the entire district community for once again supporting this annual fundraising effort.

David.



Left:

A delighted Beau and Sarah pictured with Club Chairman David at the club soon after being informed that Beau was the lucky winner of the Christmas raffle.

PS. A wedding photo of Sarah and Beau was published in the *BORDER MAIL* last Saturday – Jan 30th.

WEEKEND SELECTION COMMITTEE:

We are now at the 'Business' end of the season, entering the last couple of rounds before the finals commence. The committee are pleased with the way pennant players have competed in all grades so far this season even with quite a few distractions that have impacted on the way we have had to re adjust some teams. We are thankful that the majority of players do think of the 'Club' before themselves.

Well done to Tony Smedley's rink in the A2 grade claiming an "8" against Benalla at Benalla on the 23rd January. It was in fact a great weekend for Wodonga winning all the A's and also the B4's, the C grade lost narrowly and the B3's had a bye. Overall only five rinks lost, three of them by 3 shots or less.

Saturday the 30th 'WOW' what a difference in a week for the club, unfortunately only three grades in the winner's circle A1, B3 and C grades. The club is still in a strong position in four grades A1, A2, A3 and B3, the A4's now find themselves just outside of the top four, the B4's unfortunately may just miss out and the C grade put up a good fight.

We would like to remind all players that a 'player availability' sheet for the 2016/2017 season is on the weekend pennant board. We urge players wanting to play weekend pennant next season to write your name on the sheet. This selection committee will put an end of season recommendation to the board that the club only submits the number of teams that the 'list' can cover.

Remember you are representing the Wodonga Bowls Club on a Saturday in a team environment, punctuality and teamwork are imperative to a winning formula. Skips are responsible for your rink practising together prior to Saturdays, it is important we all get some time on the practice green leading into the final few weeks of the pennant season. Good luck to all teams in the coming weeks. "Go Doggies", let's hear plenty of voice on the greens on Saturday's.

Weekend Pennant Selectors.



EMAIL - PHONE NUMBERS:

In a bowling club the size of Wodonga communication to and among members is at times fraught with difficulties. The Board would like to make direct communication with members as simple and as cost saving as possible and therefore are planning, wherever possible, at a time in the future to use electronic means (email) to forward notices etc. to members.

Currently, approximately sixty percent of members have recorded email addresses with the club, however, it is thought that there are quite a few members who are "on line" and would prefer to receive correspondence electronically but their addresses are not on club records. Therefore, the club would like all members who are unsure, or know, their email addresses are not recorded and wish to receive correspondence by email to check with John Gill in order that we can bring the records up to date.

From time to time the club also receives complaints that the wrong phone number is published in the club diary or on the club phone list. If the club has got it wrong or you have changed your phone number recently please once again let John know so the matter can be rectified.

O&M CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS AT COROWA CIVIC:

At Corowa Civic, yesterday (Sunday 30th Jan.), Ashley Bates had two convincing wins in the first two rounds of the O&M Men's Champion of Champion Singles and next week plays Ron Boulton from Yack. in the Quarter Final also at Corowa Civic.

Also competing at Corowa Civic next Sunday are Klive Liverton, who will play the long awaited final of the O&M Men's Singles against Ian Brimblecombe from Wangaratta, and the Wodonga triple of Paul Davies, Ray Moon and Chris Bird who will play in the Quarter Final of the O&M Triples against a Myrtleford team skipped by Ian Keats.

In the other championship event held at Corowa Civic yesterday Mary Tragardh and Bruce Paton reached the final of the O&M Mixed Pairs but unfortunately went down to the Yarra Border GCR combination of Les Spencer and Joy Johnson.

WINNERS ARE GRINNERS:

Congratulations to:

Ashley Bates.

Winner of the Men's Club Singles Championship.

Kylie Whitehead.

Winner of the Ladies' Club Singles Championship.

Paul Davies and Ray Moon.

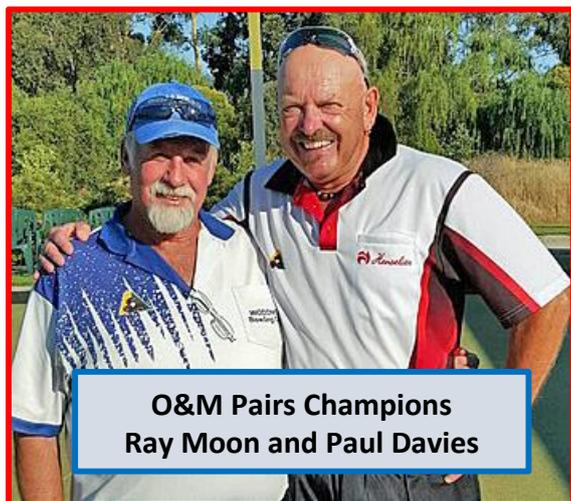
Winners of the O&M Pairs Championship.

John Dawson, Peter McLarty, Klive Liverton and Les Spencer.

Winners of the O&M Fours Championship.

John Dawson and Peter McLarty.

Winners of the GET OFF ROAD 4x4 Major/Minor Pairs.



**O&M Pairs Champions
Ray Moon and Paul Davies**



**O&M Fours Champions
Les Spencer, Klive Liverton, Peter McLarty, John Dawson**

O&M CHAMPIONSHIPS:

In the final of the O&M Pairs Championship held recently at Wodonga, Wodonga's Paul Davies and Ray Moon were successful against another Wodonga pair Ric Gillman and Shannon Reece.

Earlier in December the combined side of Les Spencer, from YMGCR, together with the Wodonga trio of Klive Liverton, Peter McLarty and John Dawson were too strong in the final of the O&M Fours Championship, held at Wangaratta, against a Wangaratta four skipped by well renowned O&M bowler Ian Brimblecombe.

Both these successful teams will go on to play for state titles in State Championship Week to be held in Bendigo April 16-22.

CLUB SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIPS:

In hot, windy conditions the Men's and Ladies' Singles Championship Finals were played concurrently in front of good turnout of spectators at the Club on Sunday, 20th December. Despite the extremely unpleasant weather both matches were full of interest and the bowling, considering the inconsistent hot gusty wind, was of a high standard with all four bowlers playing extremely competitive bowls.

In the Ladies', current state representative, Kylie Whitehead was victorious against past state and club singles champion Margaret Bedford.

In the early stages the match was closely contested with at times the lead seesawing but in the final stages with more consistent and excellent draw bowling Kylie forged ahead and although Marg never gave in Kylie took out her third successive title with a 26 shots to 16 victory.

The Men's event held the interest of the spectators until the last bowl with Ashley Bates and Klive Liverton having a three hour battle that until the last few of ends saw the lead consistently swap from one to the other. In the final stages Ashley, who having won the title eleven times previously, called on his experience to play a number of high pressure shots to win the last two ends and capture his 12th Club title by four shots.



Margaret & Kylie



Margaret and Kylie presented with bouquets by Ladies' President Joan after playing the final of the Ladies' Singles Championship.

FEBRUARY DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Thu 4**
O & M Ladies' Champion of Champion Singles (Day 1)
- Fri 5**
O & M Ladies' Champion of Champion Singles (Day 2)
- Sun 7**
Club Mixed Pairs Championship - Rnd. 1
Club Ladies' Pairs Championship - Rnd. 2
- Sun 14**
Club Mixed Pairs Championship – Rnd. 2
Club Men's Pairs Championship – Rnd. 4
- Thu 18**
Club Ladies' Pairs Championship – Rnd. 3
- Sat 20**
Weekend Pennant Elimination Finals
- Sun 21**
Club Mixed Pairs Championship – Rnd. 3
Men's President Handicap Singles Championship – Rnd. 1
- Tue 23**
Mid-Week Pennant Finals
- Thu 25**
Men's **ALBURY WODONGA RV WORLD** Triples
- Fri 26**
Ladies' **McHARGS SOLICITORS** Medley Tournament
- Sat 27**
Weekend Pennant Preliminary Final
- Sun 28**
Club Mixed Pairs Championship Final
Club Men's Pairs Championship Final
Club Ladies' Pairs Championship Final
Men's President Handicap Singles – Rnd. 2

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

In his notes on page 1 Chairman David gave us an early reminder that the club's Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday 30th March. As yet we have no indication from current office bearers who may or may not be seeking re-election nor from any other member who is thinking of standing but as all positions must be filled it is fair to say all positions are open. Consequently, members are requested to take this matter very seriously and are reminded (it cannot be over stressed) the importance of the need for careful management of the club at this stage of its development and therefore give a great deal of consideration to the nomination of potential office bearers.

Positions to be filled are as follows:

- Chairman of the Board:
- Director of Administration:
- Director of Finance:
- Four (4) "General" Directors:
- President Ladies:
- Deputy President Ladies:
- President Men's:
- Deputy President Men's:
- Selection Committee:
- Ten (10) – five (5) ladies and five (5) men:
- Match Committee:
- Ten (10) – five (5) ladies and five (5) men:
- Delegates:
- Two (2) – one (1) lady and one (1) man:



PLAYING FOR THE BIG V:

Congratulations to Josh Rudd who made his debut at state level when selected to play in the Victorian Under 25 side when Victoria played NSW at Mulgrave Country Club on 20-21 January. According to all reports Josh grasped the opportunity to impress the state selectors with both hands and played outstanding bowls in all his games resulting in him being named the Under 25 Victorian Player of the Series. Josh's great performance at Mulgrave is further indication that his future in bowls could be extremely bright and if he maintains a positive attitude towards the game it shouldn't be long before we see him bowling at a much higher level.

Kylie Whitehead, who played lead for Carla Odgers, and Mary Tragardh who played second for Chloe Stewart, also played at Mulgrave against NSW as members of the Victorian Ladies' Open side. Unfortunately, the Victorian Ladies didn't meet with a great deal of success and only fared a little better than the Victorian men whom it was said by a leading official "were truly outclassed".



HEAT RULE:

The recent adjudication by the umpires on the heat rule in mid-week pennant was the centre of a great deal of controversy.

Rules pertaining to heat on pennant days are clearly outlined in **Rule 12 INCLEMENT WEATHER** on pages 39 – 40 of the Ovens & Murray Bowls Region *BOWLER'S HANDBOOK Season 2015-16*. These hand books are available at the club.

It should be noted that the rules relating to inclement weather, particularly in regards to heat, are not universal and are determined by each region and therefore can differ from region to region. More importantly, the rules differ for midweek pennant and weekend pennant which greatly contributes to confusion and controversy!

Rule 12.1.3 **Midweek Pennant** states "Play will be cancelled once the temperature reaches 36

degrees Celsius." There is no mention of finishing ends – when the temperature reaches 36 play is cancelled no matter what the state of the game.

On the other hand Rule 12.1.2.2 in regard to **Weekend Pennant** states "After the commencement of play if the temperature reaches 40 degrees Celsius, play will be postponed until the temperature drops below 40 degrees Celsius."

There is a big difference between a game being cancelled and play being postponed just as there is a big difference between 36 degrees and 40 degrees!

Why the difference? It is said it is a carryover from when weekend pennant was for men only and midweek pennant was for women only. Today men play midweek pennant and women play weekend pennant. It is also argued that one is a morning game and the other is

an afternoon game. But a temperature of 36 is still 36 whether it is reached in the morning or reached in the afternoon. Likewise 40degrees in the morning is the same as 40degrees in the afternoon.

Another area leading to confusion relates to completion of ends at cessation of play. As stated previously, when play is cancelled in midweek pennant because of inclement weather there is no mention of completing ends, however, under weekend pennant rules if a postponed game resumes it must cease, if not completed, at 6:30pm, "but any ends in progress – shall be completed."

Perhaps it is time Wodonga applied some pressure to have the O&M Bowls Association to change the rules in regard to heat rule on pennant days so that there is some degree of uniformity.

COACHING:

Clive Dowell has received notification from Bowls Victoria that he is now an accredited coach and therefore can be called on to assist new bowlers or experienced bowlers with their problems. Clive is particularly familiar with the intricacies in using a bowling arm so if you are thinking of switching to an arm contact Clive.

MAJOR / MINOR PAIRS:

The annual Australia Day Major/Minor Pairs tournament, generously sponsored by **GET OFF ROAD 4x4**, once again proved to be a very popular event with thirty-four teams playing four ten end games. Four teams won all four games so it made for an uncomplicated two game four end play-off draw which saw Mason Bayliss and Ian Soulsby from Beechworth play Ric Gillman and Don Cameron and Josh Rudd and Garry Howlett play Steve Broad and Eddie Simmons from North Albury.

As Ric and Don won their game and Josh and Garry were also successful it meant an all Wodonga final play-off and far greater interest in the result for the Wodonga members watching on.

With Garry and Don leading well and Josh and Ric playing good bowls there wasn't a great difference in scores with Ric leading after the third end. In the last end, with Ric in front on the score board and holding two it was thought Josh, noted for his excellent driving, with the last bowl would go for the kill but chose instead an attempt move opposition bowls. A very close miss meant the major prize went to Ric and Don. (No pun intended!)



RIC CONCENTRATING

In an attempt to share in the \$1000 prize money as usual there was some lucky bowling, some brilliant bowling, some good bowling and some bowling not so good with some bowlers in the running to take out the NABA prize if one had been awarded? Not all gained any financial reward for their efforts but most, if not all, enjoyed the day's bowling and because of the humidity had by the end of the day developed a man-size thirst.



KYLIE'S PROGRAM:

Next Thursday Kylie Whitehead will play in the Ladies O&M Singles Champion of Champions at Myrtleford and if successful will go on to play for the state title during State Championship Week at Bendigo April 16 – 22.

Having previously won all her preliminary rounds of the Women's State Under 25 Singles Kylie is already booked to play in the State Championships so she may have a busy schedule.

EIGHT:

As mentioned in the Weekend Selector's Report last week Tony Smedley's rink scored an "8" against Benalla.

Other members of the rink were John Van Nispen, David Christie and Bill Luty. One member of the rink (modestly) informed us this was a case of supreme reading of the head and precision bowling which led to great positioning of bowls.

**LIVE EACH DAY
LIKE IT'S YOUR LAST.**

One day, you'll get it right.



www.cafepress.com/GeezerShop

FEBRUARY

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	Sun
1 Greens Closed Maintenance	2 Midweek Pennant Ladies' Social	3 Men's Social Pairs 2x4x2	4 Over 60 Men's Pairs	5 Happy Hour & Raffles	6 Weekend Pennant	7 Club Mixed Pairs Rnd 1
8 Greens Closed Maintenance	9 Midweek Pennant Ladies' Social	10 Men's Social Pairs 2x4x2	11 Ladies' Club Pairs Rnd 2 Ladies' Social	12 Happy Hour & Raffles	13 Weekend Pennant	14 Club Mixed Pairs Rnd 2 Club Men's Pairs Rnd 4
15 Greens Closed Maintenance	16 Midweek Pennant	17 Men's Social Pairs 2x4x2	18 Ladies' Club Pairs Rnd 3 Ladies' Social	19 Happy Hour & Raffles	20 Weekend Pennant Elim/Qual Finals	21 Club Mixed Pairs Rnd 3 Men's Handicap Singles Rnd 1
22 Greens Closed Maintenance	23 Midweek Pennant	24 Men's Social Pairs 2x4x2	25 RV WORLD Men's Triples	26 McHARGS Ladies' Medley Happy Hour & Raffles	27 Weekend Pennant Prelim Finals	28 Ladies' Club Men's Club Mixed Club Pairs Finals
29 Greens Closed Maintenance						