



From Chairman David:

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Please keep this date and time clearly in mind and the need for nominations for the Board and Committee positions to be submitted at least 7 days prior to the meeting. It's your Club and it needs good people to make it function effectively, both socially and financially. In particular I would like to highlight to members that the makeup of the selection committee is incorrect as it currently appears in the Regulations on the website. In January last year the Board of Management changed from the detailed single selection committee to two non-specific gender committees of five, one for weekend pennant and one midweek, with no restriction on any member being involved in both committees. *This policy was reaffirmed at the last Board meeting.* However, unless both separate five-member committees start to reflect the unification of men's and ladies' bowls, with mixed gender representation the Board is not totally convinced this approach is better than having a single selection committee.

NOTICE OF MOTION TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Moved: DAVID R. BROAD - Member No. 036 - 21st February 2018,

Seconded: CAROLINE TAYLOR

That the Wodonga Bowling Club Constitution be amended to alter the definition of the Club's Financial Year from ending on the 31st December to ending on the 30th June each year, under item 5 (5.1) detailing Interpretation and Definitions.

The benefits of this have been previously detailed at the 9th February Members meeting, and the suggested downside issues really, in my mind, are a plus. The change would also bring us into line with our "Club Membership" year and Bowls Victoria. It does mean however, that all Office Bearers nominating for Board or Committee decisions at this Annual Meeting, are doing so for an 18-month period, although it is effectively only one full bowls season and two off season winter periods.

CLUB MANAGER'S POSITION.

Last week the Club's Manager for the past three and a half years, Bob Ellwood, advised of his decision to resign the position effective from close of business on Wednesday 21st March. The Board on behalf of the membership, wish them both Bob and Deb good health and happiness in all their future endeavours, and thank Bob sincerely for his contribution to the Wodonga Bowling Club since 2014. Coming at Annual Meeting time and the election of a new Board of Management, a "caretaker approach" is being taken to ensure the Club continues to operate, while due consideration is given to exactly how the position should be filled and what the duties of the new appointee should include.

VIC HEALTH GRANT APPLICATION.

Last year we unsuccessfully applied for a grant of \$3000 to purchase eight sets of size 0 & 1 bowls fully inscribed with the Club's name, to suit prospective players with a smaller hand, such as students and ladies. Another application has now been submitted for which we are reasonably optimistic.

MINOR PROJECTS UNDER INVESTIGATION.

Since replacing all 1.2 m fluorescent tubes throughout the Club under a State Government sponsored project with LED tubing, attention has been given to replacing the flimsy ill fitting "plastic like" covers that defuse the light, many of which are cracked or prone to simply fall out. This is a dangerous situation and unsightly, which needs to be rectified as soon as possible.

WINNERS ARE GRINNERS:

Congratulations to:

Kylie Whitehead.

Winner of the *O&M Women's Champion of Champions Singles.*

Leah Venville, Lyn Retallick, Lyn Cook and Pauline Edwards.

Winners of the *Annual Ladies' Medley Fours.*



Annual Ladies Medley:

The Annual Ladies Medley Fours Tournament, held on 23/2/18, attracted nearly 100 bowlers, including teams from 12 different visiting clubs; Albury Commercial, Corowa Services, Corryong, Culcairn, Henty, Kiewa, Lavington, Lockhart, North Albury, Rutherglen, Wagga Rules and Wangaratta.

At the end of the day, the Wodonga team of Leah Venville, Lyn Retallick, Lyn Cook and Pauline Edwards took out first prize from a Wagga Rules combination with Alice Bounader, Dawn Fraser, Caroline Renfrey and Betty Dower of Wodonga in third place. Best Last Game winner was the Wodonga team of Isabel Fleming, Pat Polley, Wendy Mundine and Wendy Kelly.

Many thanks to our sponsors, McHargs Solicitors, Conway Funeral Home and UPA Aged Care Services for their generosity and thanks also to the Match Committee for their organisation of the event and to the ladies who supplied the delicious luncheon.

Cammo

All the Best:

Congratulations and best wishes to our weekend A1 and A4 teams who play in the grand finals at YMGR next Saturday; A1 against Benalla and A4 against Yackandandah, and also to our mid-week A3s who play in the grand final on Tuesday 12th March - opponents and venue yet to be decided.

MEMBERS INFORMATION MEETING

**Monday 5th March
1:00pm**

Board Thanks to Volunteers:

Our Club could not continue without volunteers and the outgoing Board would like to thank all volunteers who assisted the Club during their term in office.

They are reluctant to name individuals (there are so many) for fear of leaving someone off the list so extend a general thank you to all volunteers and to say your assistance was greatly appreciated.

March Diary Dates:

Sat 3
Weekend Pennant Grand Finals
Sun 4
Ladies' Club Pairs Championship Final
Mon 5
Members' Meeting
Tues 6
Mid-week Pennant Preliminary Finals
Thur 8
Ladies' Club Triples Rnd 1
Sat 10
Men's Club Pairs Rnd 3
Mon 12
Dunstan Day Men's Fours
Tues 13
Mid-week Pennant Grand Finals
Fri 16
Ladies' Club Triples Rnd 2
Sat 17
Men's Club Triples Sectional Play
Sun 18
Men's Club Pairs Rnd 4
Club Mixed Pairs Final
Thurs 22
Annual General Meeting
Ladies' Club Triples Rnd 3
Fri 23
Ladies' **Twin City Pest Control** Triples
Sat 24
Men's Club Triples Post Sec. & Final
Sun 25
Ratcliffe Funerals Open Pairs
Fri 30 Good Friday
Westmont Open Pairs 2:2:2:2
Sat 31 Easter Saturday
Conway Funeral Home Open Pairs 2:4:2

Annual General Meeting:

The *Associations Incorporated Reform Act 2012* deem it obligatory for all incorporated organisations, such as the Wodonga Bowling Club, to conduct their Annual General Meeting within five months of the end of their financial year. For many years now, our Club's financial year has concluded on the 31st December and to meet this requirement the Club generally conducts the AGM on the third Thursday in March; hence this year's AGM is on the 22nd March. And as we said in last month's Newsletter "While no era in a club's history is more important than another it cannot be overstressed the importance of the need for careful management of the club at this stage of its development." Therefore, members are counselled give deep thought to whom they vote into office.

At next month's AGM, as well as electing next season's office bearers, members will be asked to vote on a special resolution to change the Club's constitution so that the Club's financial year, which is currently from the 1st January to the 31st December, is changed to the 1st of July to the 30th June. To make this change 75 per cent of the members who vote at the meeting will have to vote in favour of the resolution. However, just as there are a number of reasons to vote in favour of this resolution there are a number of reasons not to support this change, consequently, careful consideration is again warranted.

Listed below some of the benefits for a change and some points on the down side:

BENEFITS:

- Assist with business compliance reporting to the Australian Taxation Office, the Australian Securities and Investment Commission and Consumer Affairs.
- Assist with taxation reporting of GST.
- Bring Club into line with government June 30 payroll obligations of payroll summaries and superannuation reporting.
- Consistency between Club Accounts. We hold a gaming license to enable us to run Bingo at the Club and part of the legal requirements of that license is that audits be complete by August each year and as a result the Bingo account runs to June 30.
- Bowl's program would be drafted up by the experienced outgoing committee ready for the new committees to "tweak" for the new bowls season.
- Budgets would be compiled by outgoing committees ready to hand to new Board for the coming bowls season.
- Bring Club into line with Bowls Australia and Bowls Victoria financial years.

DOWN SIDE

- The AGM would be held in September instead of March and unless another Special Meeting was held at another time to select bowls Soffice bearers the match committees and selection committees would be elected at that September meeting.
- Match committees and selection committees elected in September, probably after the Club opening day, would have to implement programs drawn-up by the previous committee.
- Outgoing selection and match committees would be required to complete program and budgets before handing over to new committee.
- To meet legal requirements all audits would need to be completed by August/September, the busy period for auditors, which may present problems in the auditing being completed in time for the AGM.

Administration staff have indicated that with our financial year ending on December 31 over past years they have experienced extreme difficulty in mandatory reporting of financial matters to the various authorities. It is predicted that selectors and match committees could also face problems implementing programs they were not involved in drawing-up if the financial year is changed to end on June 30 and they don't take up office until the end of September.

Of course, if the special resolution is adopted the Club could hold two general meetings a year. The AGM in September to meet Consumer Affairs requirements, vote-in new Board and deal with financial matters, and a Special General Meeting in March/April to elect selectors and match committees and deal only with bowling matters.

It is recognised there could be problems with the above suggestion - attendance at two meetings, etc. but perhaps its an idea worthy of further discussion and consideration.

Club Constitution / Regulations:

As with 38,000 other Victorian clubs or community groups, operating not-for-profit, Wodonga Bowling Club is an incorporated association. As such it is a legal entity that stays the same even if its members change with the Club permitted do the following things in own name:

- invest and borrow money
- open a bank account
- buy and sell property
- accept gifts or bequests
- sue or be sued
- take out public liability insurance with greater ease
- buy equipment.

More importantly, however, individual members and office bearers of the club are protected against personal liability from the club's debts and are not personally liable if the club incurs debts or has legal problems.

As an incorporated association the club and its office bearers must comply with requirements set out in the *Associations Incorporated Reform Act 2012*, including accounting, auditing and annual reporting requirements. Furthermore, every incorporated association must have rules (club constitution) that legally must be adhered to.

The Club's Constitution:

- is a written document
- is a guide to how the Club operates
- is a contract between the Club and its members
- sets out the Club's purposes
- lists the rights and responsibilities of members and office holders

The Club's Constitution can only be changed at a Club general meeting e.g. AGM, of all members:

- a) with members being made aware of the proposed changes 21 days prior to the meeting
- b) at the meeting the proposed changes, be considered a special resolution
- c) 75 per cent of the members who vote at the meeting vote in favour of the resolution to change the constitution.

If at a Club general meeting a special resolution is passed, within 28 days the Club must inform Consumer Affairs, Victoria and pay a fee.

Regulations, on the other hand, while technically not legally binding are a set of rules to be followed for the day to day smooth running of the Club. Regulations are drawn-up by the Board and Club members and from time to time can be altered by the Board e.g. the introduction last season to have separate selection committees for mid-week and weekend pennant, with the Board having the power to see that the regulations are strictly adhered to.

Are you a Club volunteer?

If so:



Do you hold any of the following?

- RSA (Responsible Service of Alcohol)
- Working with Children Check Card
- Food Handling Certificate

In order to keep our records up to date if you hold one, or all of the above, could you please let Caroline have a copy.

Ladies Match Committee:

I am pleased to advise that the **Final** of the **Ladies Pairs** will be held on Sunday 4th March at 9.30 between Marlene Ellis/Deanna Gardiner and Kylie Whitehead/Margo Howe. I wish all ladies good bowling and a great match.

We held our Fours Medley Tournament last Friday, 23rd February 2018 and had a great field of 96 players (18 visiting teams and 6 club teams). The weather was perfect, the lunch provided by the members was exceptional and a terrific day was had by all. Winning teams were: Leah Venville, Lyn Retallick, Lyn Cook, Pauline Edwards; Second: Michelle Henderson, Marlene Ellis, Raelene Woodbury, Muriel Telford from Wagga Rules and Third: Alice Bounader, Dawn Fraser, Carolyn Renfrey, Betty Dower with Best Last Game going to Isabel Pleming, Pat Polly, Wendy Mundie, Wendy Kelly. Many thanks to the ladies who worked in the kitchen, Alan Bounader for the cleanup, DJ for preparing the greens and Bob and Kate for providing refreshments. Also, the umpires Maxine Neilson and Margo Howe. A great day was had by all. Thank you everyone.

Our Club Triples is due to start next week, so if you haven't got your name down please do so before next Tuesday, 6th March.

The sheet is also up for our Twin City Pest Control two Bowl Triples event to be held on 23rd March 2018. Hope we can get as big a field as last week, so please put your names down.

Not many names down for Match Committee next year, with elections just around the corner. Please give this some serious thought as Lesley Duncan will need some help.

Congratulations once again to Kylie Whitehead who won the Champion of Champions for the region recently. Kylie is certainly in good form. Well done Kylie, we are all very proud of you.

Louise

FINANCIAL INFORMATION FOR MEMBERS FOLLOWING MEETING 9th FEBRUARY

SHADE SAIL REPLACEMENT:

Old shade sail was damaged last year during a storm. An insurance claim was made for \$4450.00. Our excess is \$1000.00 and so we received \$3450.00. Universal Upholstery were selected by the Board to replace shade at a cost of \$4450.00.

RAFFLES:

Raffles are a profitable area for the Club. The Club has a rule in place that states raffle prizes must not exceed 50% of the actual ticket sales. The 50% does include the value of any donated prizes.

BINGO:

The local area has seen a decline in the number of people playing bingo. This has also been noticed at our Club.

OUTSIDE GROUPS:

All groups using the Club pay a hire fee. These groups include Zumba Dance Fitness, Ulysses Group, St Kilda Fan Club etc. Social Bowling groups pay \$10.00 per person to play bowls and any catering required is charged accordingly. A revised list of charges will be compiled and placed in the external notice board and will also be available from the office.

STAFF:

All staff hired by the Club hold the relevant certificates to do their jobs. This includes RSA certificates for all bar persons.

Provisions for long service leave are held in a term deposit and reviewed every twelve months.

Bar Opening Times:

An issue that is of some concern to the current Board, and expected to be some concern to the new Board, is the opening of the bar on Monday evenings and on Sunday during the winter months. Figures indicate that having to pay staff to provide this service during these times, particularly with the departure of Manger Bob, is just not viable. On the other hand, the Board is fully aware that a small group of members like to frequent the Club on Monday evenings and on Sundays during the winter months.

A few years ago, a loyal member, with RSA accreditation, volunteered his services on a Monday evening to keep the bar open and this worked well. The situation is being reviewed but currently the thinking is that unless a volunteer, with RSA accreditation steps up the Club, in order not to lose money, will have to keep the bar closed all day on Mondays.



and our sponsors



invite entries to the 56th running of the

DUNSTAN DAY MENS FOURS

\$2120 Prize Money

WINNERS \$760 2ND \$360 3RD \$240 4th \$160 5th \$100 6th \$100
Best Each Game \$100 (excludes major prize winners)

Monday 12th March 2018

Commencing at - 9:30am

4 Games of 10 Ends (Play off for Winners if necessary)

Entry fee \$100 per team (includes lunch)

Entries Close Thursday March 8th 2018 at 5pm

Postal Entries:- Wodonga Bowling Club Cnr Hovell & Osbourn Sts. Wodonga Vic 3690

Phone Entries:- 02 6024 1554

Email Entries:- wbcmatch@dodo.com.au

For Information: Bob Ellwood 02 6024 1554 or David King 0407 261 188