

WBC 2018/2019 ANNUAL REPORT FOR MID-WEEK PENNANT

This season saw the WBC compete in five grades for the mid-week pennant competition, comprising three 'A' grade sides and two 'B' grade sides. In total, 77 members competed across these teams. On behalf of the selection committee we thank everyone that represented the club in this competition.

The selection policy this season was to field what we believed was the strongest side in A1, this is the only grade that has the opportunity to play for a state title if successful at Region level. This policy, which was agreed to by the club's board prior to the season starting, was to this process through all grades. Another aspect of our policy was to identify certain players to be graded at a different level to allow the selectors flexibility with selection when it came time to play finals. The grading aspect worked well and was utilised when finals commenced. There was criticism from some sections of the club's membership who wanted the teams evened out, to give all players and grades the opportunity to play finals. We stuck to the policy and as a result, all grades did eventually play finals which was a bonus, credit to all players that committed to play mid-week pennant

Due to some persistence by the committee to the board, we were able to have one green available for players to practice on a Monday afternoon. Initially this was welcomed by the players and numbers attending were high up until the Xmas break. Hot weather and some other circumstances saw the attendance numbers dwindle in the new year. However, this initiative I believe should continue for the next pennant season.

Briefly on each grade, the A1's finished the home and away season in 4th position and bowed out in the elimination final, the same result as the previous year. However, I believe the side was much stronger personnel wise and still needs strengthening if it is to compete in the latter stages of the finals. All three clubs that finished above the A1's boasted a minimum six A1 weekend players each, compared to our three.

The A2 side finished top two and eventually got through to the grand final. Unfortunately, they were out-bowled in the closing twelve ends of the final when the game was there to be won. Congratulations on being runner-up, a great effort.

The A3 side was the team that was disrupted so much during the season with unavailability of players in the A1 and A2 teams during the season. However, what a fantastic display in winning straight through to the final and triumphing over a very strong team. Well done and well deserved. The A3's have now gone back to back with mid-week pennant titles.

The B2 side performed very well getting through to the Preliminary final only to be beaten by a handful of shots. Again, this team was swapped around quite a lot throughout the season because of unavailability and grading of players. A great effort by this team.

The B3 side also had a great season making the finals but bowed out in the elimination final. This team also was changed a lot because of circumstances with players. In a tough competition this side performed very well.

A lot has been learnt this season on this committee, we have identified a number of players whom we think should play in a grade higher next season, this information will be passed onto the next selection committee.

The mid-week competition is highly competitive and is a strong comp. This has been my second season playing and I have enjoyed the challenge. I highly recommend any weekend players to consider playing mid-week pennant next season.

I would just like to mention the work done by the weekend selectors, you had a tough season with a fair amount of disruption and negativity levelled at you. There are always hard decisions to be made during a season, this is part of being a selector. Personally, I would like to say well done on a great season of results for the club.

Selection committees are always labelled by members as the worst committee in the club to be on, I for one don't agree with that thought. If you take the negative emotion of the players out of the equation and don't take the criticism levelled at the committee personally, then it is very rewarding when you see a team like the A3's winning the pennant and being presented with their medals. If everyone just played the position and grade that they are selected in, it would make selection so much easier. Let the selectors decide if your form warrants a change.

As the season is winding down, I would like to wish the weekend A1 team all the very best for the state playoffs at Moama in May, if anyone has the time, make the trip over and support your team. Safe travels to those members that are hitting the road on their winter adventures.

There is a player availability list already up for next seasons mid-week pennant. If you are committed to playing next season please put your name on the sheet before you leave tonight, it is just one aspect that helps out your next committee.

Finally, I would like to thank Margaret, Bernie, Helen and Deanna for their contribution to the committee this past season. We certainly had our challenges externally and internally, but we survived, and I believe we did our best for the WBC.

Good luck to all members that have nominated to fill positions within the club for next season. You are the members that hold this club together.

Paul Davies

Chairperson

Mid-Week Pennant Selection Committee.

2018-19 Pennant Selection Team

It has been an honour to be a part of the club's great history this year - we would first like to thank the Wodonga Bowling Club for allowing and supporting us to fulfil the duties for Selection.

Looking back at the year that was, it has been very pleasing to see new faces putting their name up for pennant. Without the injection of new blood into our great sport we wouldn't continue to grow into the mighty Club that we are today, so well done to all the new members, we are happy to have you.

We had approximately 103 people put their name down for Pennant this year. We had 88 spots to fill in pennant teams each weekend, 17 weeks in total, we had 122 names on the unavailability list over the season, some weeks we had 10 and 11 people out, this made selection very challenging but we got there in the end. We want to acknowledge everyone's commitment to pennant as we all know how much time and effort goes into participation.

The Club has had a very exciting year of results. There were some great wins throughout the season and it was good to so many members fill the club each week and enjoy each other's friendship, company and discussion of the Saturday that was.

To all our members who contributed to our six teams over the year, Selection would like to thank you for your ongoing dedication and commitment.
To our five teams that made the finals - how special, what a sterling effort all round.
To the three teams that made the Grand Finals: you are to be congratulated on a great achievement.

For the A1's, we gave people an opportunity throughout the year to develop and show their skills and that they did, we thank all who contributed to the A1s.

By the end of the year with a couple of changes, Selection felt we had the right combination of players and in the last two games of the season everyone started to pick up some real momentum. The four teams were gelling well together, they went into the first final quietly confident and had a great win there, and we all know what happened in the final! Well done to a real work horse of a team. Fantastic work.

In closing there are people we would like to thank for their ongoing support.

Team Managers, what a great job, well done.

Steve Coulston for doing the team entry's each week, thanks mate.

Eddie Bulman for coordinating Team managers paperwork each week,

well done. Gary King for Stats, Josh for posting the teams online each Monday, Noel Murrell for support on the ovens and murray website, everyone that helped out in the kitchen, best salad rolls ever and anyone I may have missed, thank you. It's a big group effort.

Kylie, Mark, Eddie, John Evans, well done guys job well done to another successful year at Wodonga Bowling Club.

Thank you

John Hodson

Men's Match Committee Report 2018

Another successful year on the greens thanks to a dedicated and reasonably efficient Match Committee.

Most Club and Tournament events have been completed. Club events have been quite well supported. Congratulations to all winners.

Tournaments have been solid but we still look for more support from other Clubs and members. Most events this year have been open and it is good to see a mix of men, women and mixed teams competing. To Brian Gilby and Bill Miller in particular I thank them for their excellent efforts in gaining sponsorships. I encourage all members and visitors to support these sponsors where they can.

A sincere thank you to Col Fitzmaurice and Ron Harrison who have done a mighty job over many years on Wednesdays and Jackpot Pairs. To other members of the committee, John Boyd, Rob Taylor, Alec Green, Swassie, Dave Jackaman and others who have contributed a big thank you for your efforts during the year.

Thanks David King for his untiring paperwork duties and excellent understanding of planning tournaments and other events for another helpful year.

If members have ideas or opinions of how we may improve events, change events or increase participation we'd love your input and ideas.

Ashley Bates

Chairman Men Match Committee

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ashley Bates', written over a horizontal line.

Ladies Match Committee Report for AGM 2019

Committee Members: Lesley Duncan, Marg Vlacci, Leah Venville, Ruth Smedley and Wendy Mundie

The Ladies Match Committee have organised several Tournaments in the last year with mixed success.

Opening Day: Hilda Hawkins Mixed Pairs: Sunday September 9 2018: was well attended by all club members.

Generations Ladies 4s: Friday September 14 2019: unfortunately, this Tournament was cancelled for lack of entries. Generations have also decided to withdraw their sponsorship- a new sponsor will have to be found if this tournament is to go ahead next year.

Melbourne Cup Mixed Triples: Tuesday November 6 2018: Although we were unable to bowl on this day due to wet weather, all but one team still attended the day. 22 teams were entered with 21 taking part in the alternative activities. The new sponsor MTA Travel agreed to transfer their sponsorship to the Valentines Day Tournament.

McHarg's Ladies Medley: Thursday March 7 2019: 16 teams entered, nine visiting and seven Wodonga teams. The format for this tournament was changed from 4s to Triples in the hope of gaining more entries. Entries were down on last year.

Twin City Pest Control Ladies Triples: Friday April 5 2019 (To Be Played)

Valentines Day Tournament: Thursday February 14 2019: was a new tournament introduced this year. Twenty-two teams entered, four were visiting teams. The event was sponsored by Sally Stein of MTA Travel.

Another new Tournament is the ANZAC Day Tournament, sponsored by the Bodman Family and held in memory of Mike Bodman. The Bodman Family have put up a substantial prize money and the Club hopes to make this event a very successful one. It is also highly likely the Bodman Family will continue to sponsor this event on an annual basis. Many thanks to Brian Gilby, Caroline Taylor and Noel Murrell for their work in establishing this tournament.

After discussions with the Men's Match Committee it was agreed that the Ladies Closing Day Tournament would be re-scheduled and the format changed to include bowls, BBQ tea and Presentation Night. A proposed date is Saturday April 13 or Sunday April 14- this needs to be confirmed. Also, all Club Championships need to be concluded by this date.

Ladies Club Championships

Ladies Singles and Consistency had good entries this year. Entries for Ladies Pairs were down on last year but games played have been great competitions. Kylie Whitehead won the Ladies Singles and Ladies Consistency was won by Alice Bounader. The Ladies Pairs final is yet to be played.

The Men's and Ladies Singles Final was played on a Friday Afternoon leading into Happy Hour. It was a great success and well supported by Club members. A similar evening is proposed for the Ladies and Men's Pairs as well as the Mixed Pairs- depending on who is playing.

The Ladies Triples was cancelled due to lack of entries.

The Future

There has been a lot of discussions regarding the merging of both the Ladies and Men's Match Committees. I personally believe that this would be a positive step. Joint co-ordination of Tournaments and Club Championships and a closer working relationship between the two sections can only be of a benefit to the Club.

I also believe that given the diminishing number of entries to tournaments- not just ours- but reported by other clubs in the district- that the Match Committees could look at reducing the number of Tournaments and therefore be in a position to offer higher prize money- this seems to attract a larger number of entries.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Marg, Leah, Ruth and Wendy for their work and support over the last 12 months.

I wish the incoming Match Committee every success in the forthcoming year.

Lesley Duncan
On behalf of the Ladies Match Committee