



CLUB NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2022



CHAIRMAN'S REPORT



Hi to all members. This is our first newsletter for some time and one of many to come. At this stage it is planned to create a quarterly newsletter to keep members up to date on the happenings around the club.

Firstly, a thank you to the current and past board members, as your ongoing support is vital for the smooth operation and current and past history of the club.

Also thank you to the staff and the many volunteers. Without your enthusiasm and assistance, the running of the club would fall on too few. The vibe within the club is very positive and your enthusiasm is encouraging new members and creating an enjoyable environment.

We have had the most difficult 18 months due to Covid but have survived and are in a good financial position. We have several major expenditure items arising in the next 18 months so we will be contacting current sponsors regarding ongoing support and soliciting some new sponsors as well.

The newly appointed Board are attempting to settle into their tasks as required. After a fairly busy period around the festive season and new year, we hope to overcome some teething problems and ask the members to be patient and bear with us.

A Volunteer List has been posted on the noticeboard. The number of volunteers is amazing but please alter, delete or add to any section you would be interested in to help. Each section has one or two team leaders so feel free to discuss with them. Good luck to all our bowls teams and enjoy the friendships and camaraderie.

The club is preparing a Sponsors package which will allow us to offer potential and current sponsors to be contacted for ongoing business support.

Also, if any members have constructive suggestions or idea's please let one of Board members know. We have unfortunately delayed Business House bowls until 17th February, but even that is subject to regulation changes of the pandemic situation which we will assess weekly.

Thank you to all, Graham Searle.



Current Board of Management: John Evans Director Finance, David Nichol Director General, Ashley Bates Director Bowls, Louise Farrar Director Admin, Graham Searle Chairman, Ken Barnes Director Internal/Bar.
Absent: David Sully Director Infrastructure/Greens.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

The Christmas raffle was once again well supported with the final result allowing the club to record a profit of \$10,192. This money will be put to specified use within the club. Many thanks to all those members who assisted in the selling of the tickets and appreciation is to go to the chief organisers, Geoff Brown and Colin Webb for their efforts, also the support of Alice Bounader in preparing the tickets for the draw.. A big thanks to the sponsors, Bing Lee, Apco and Coochie Hydrogreen for their ongoing support.



CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP REPORT

The Club's Men's and Ladies Singles Championship Finals were held prior to Christmas. Mason Bayliss and Brian Arundel faced off in the Men's event, while Louise Farrar played Kylie Whitehead in the Ladies event.

Great bowling conditions, supported by an enthusiastic crowd created a great atmosphere for the games. Both Kylie and Mason proved to be too strong on the day. Well played by all four players. **Congratulations** to Mason and Kylie on their wins.



CLEANING DUTIES THANKS

Many thanks to both Noel Murrell and David Sully for undertaking cleaning duties within the club whilst I was on leave over the Christmas period. It was greatly appreciated.

Kerrie Frank – Cleaner

AN UMPIRE'S DILEMMA

It was a beautiful day on the first Saturday of the pennant season. The sun was shining, the birds were singing and there were happy smiles on pennant bowlers' faces.

The biggest smile was on the face of Dopey Dora as she laid the mat ready to deliver the jack. Dopey Dora was Helpful Herbert's lead and he stood at the other end ready to centre the jack. The jack was duly placed on a chalk line and Dopey Dora delivered the first bowl. Joy of Joys! A resting toucher!

Nasty Norm stood beside Helpful Herbert, and he had a big smile on his face too. He had noticed that Dopey Dora had laid the mat on an old chalk line and Helpful Herbert had placed the jack on the corresponding line at the other end.

Nasty Norm told Helpful Herbert that both the jack and the mat had to be shifted to the correct lines. Helpful Herbert disagreed. The umpire was called. The umpire was very new but had studied his law book assiduously. He immediately told the skips that the jack had to stay where it was, but the mat had to be moved to the correct centre line.

Nasty Norm instructed each of his team to "have a look" at Dopey Dora's bowl while Helpful Herbert's team built up a very handy number of shots, which they held at the completion of the end because every bowl from Nasty Norm's team missed!

Was the umpire right? Umpire Ash says he was. Law 9.7 says that after the first player has delivered the first bowl no one has the right to challenge the legality of the original position of the jack. Law 6.2.3 says that if the mat is off the centre line, it must be moved to that line.

Moral: When placing the mat always face the rink number at the mat end and when the jack is being centred always face the rink number at the head end.

LADIES MATCH REPORT

Hi everyone. On behalf of the match committee, I would like to thank members for their patience and understanding this season. We have had to change dates as the year has gone along due to various factors arising from time to time.

The Ladies Pairs will be played in February and hopefully the Triples will follow. This season we have joined up with the Men's Match Committee which is going well.

We had to cancel the McHarg's Tournament this season because of the covid situation. We'd like to pass on our gratitude to McHarg's for their generous sponsorship to our club.

The Twin City Pest Control Day is planned for 25 March 2022 and we are looking forward to that event.

In closing, I'd like to thank Shirley, Cathy and Carolyn for their great work which helps things roll along as smoothly as possible.

Four of our newest Lady Bowlers are competing in the State Novice Championships Regional Division in Rutherglen this Sunday. They are: Maureen Williams, Di Taylor, Pam Stewart and Carolyn Webster. We wish them the very best of luck and good bowling.

Sue Beer

GREENS REPORT



Prior to the Christmas break, the Denis Mahony Green had important laser levelling work undertaken and we hope to have the green back in action by late January. Many thanks to all the volunteers that assisted in transporting sand to the green and the continued preparation work that needed to be undertaken afterwards. It was all very much appreciated by the club. The Club purchased an as-new mower from Corryong Bowls Club which has been a real asset to us.



CATERING HELP THANKS

The club would like to show their utmost appreciation to Maxine Bounader and her jolly group of loyal helpers in the kitchen, BBQ and general setting areas, especially over the past couple of busy months. The catering needs of the club play a very important part of the continuity of the standing the club holds within the general community. Well done to all concerned, you know who you are.

NEWS FROM THE SELECTION TABLE

As we approach the midway point of the Pennant Season the time has come to try and ensure that all Divisions from A1 through to B4, Weekend and Midweek, have sufficient players qualified to play finals. At the time of going to press all Wodonga teams in the weekend competition lie 3rd in their respective divisions, with the Midweek A3's on top, and the A1's in third spot This is a great effort which we hope to maintain, and thus have all bowlers playing in the first week of finals.

Because of the requirement to have played 4 games in a lower division to be eligible to play in that division come finals we are currently in the process of doing this. This enables the Club to have the strongest possible sides in the finals. To this end, the selectors have met with A1 & A2 skippers (weekend) to get their view on who they perceive to be the best players in those divisions. This means that some players will be asked to qualify in the next division down. The selectors will soon be meeting with the Skips in A3, A4, & B4 to go through the same process. Midweek selectors have met with their A1 skips, and will meet with A2, A3 & B2 skips, to do the same.

I respectfully ask that members who are asked to qualify in a lower division accept the fact that for 4 weeks they may be playing in a lower division than they have been. Also, take into account that if you are moved to a lower division, you will be strengthening that division. Because there is no requirement to qualify for a higher division, there is no reason why you cannot go back up.

Getting upset over the decision will just reflect that you are playing for yourself, and not for the Wodonga Bowling Club. Selectors give up a lot of their time to do this job and will not accept being individually verbally abused over decisions that more than one person makes. Please relax and talk to the responsible selector and you will be given an opportunity to discuss it and so we can give you explanation on the decision.

Of course, all the above can change quickly due to unavailability, sudden or planned, and teams are constantly being changed on a daily basis, with Covid very much a determining factor. Only last week, we had to make 6 changes from the Monday selections. We make every attempt to talk to each player prior to making changes, but this is not always possible.

If selected as a reserve, please ensure that you remain available because as stated above situations change quickly. If you decide "oh I've only been selected as a reserve, I'll go away for a couple of days" please let the selectors know. If you have decided not to play pennant for whatever reason this year, may I ask you to reconsider, especially weekend players, where numbers have become critical because of unavailability.

Finally, may I wish everybody good bowling for the remainder of the season and help us try to bring several flags home to the Wodonga Bowling Club.

Don Driver
Chairman of Selectors.

FOOTY TIPPING

John Howes hopes to get the AFL tipping competition back up and running this year if the Covid situation allows. So keep your eyes out later next month for details at the club.

NEW BAR MANAGER



Late in 2021 the club appointed Tony Cook, to the vacant bar managers position and he is picking up the needs of the club well, despite a busy period heading into the festive season.

A supporter of North Melbourne who has a liking for fake tans, Fords and body art, we hope the members work with Tony and allow the bar area to run as smoothly as possible.

The bar refrigeration renewal is currently underway and this should be completed soon.

NEW FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION OFFICER

With the departure of Caroline Taylor in this role after many years, the club recently appointed Mark Morgan to the position and he has taken on the tasks well. Mark is a former Federal Public Servant who worked in a couple of different departments, had his own trivia business, and has a keen interest in the Blues music scene.

We thank Caroline for her excellent past service and wish Mark well in his new role.

WELFARE OFFICER

Members are advised that Joan Boyd has volunteered to be the clubs Welfare Officer, which is an important aspect of being members of a bowling club.

There is a Members Welfare whiteboard located near the pennant score whiteboard and door to the toilet areas. This is to keep members up to date on the welfare of fellow bowlers and if any member is aware of a member's situation, feel free to put it on the board.

SUNDAY SOCIAL

Many thanks to ever reliable Marg Vlacci and her helpers who continue with the Sunday morning social bowls for novice bowlers. This important gathering assists in bringing new members into the club and allows them to partake in a sporting and social environment.

HAPPY HOUR and MEMBERS DRAW

The Friday night Happy Hour and Members Draw is continuing in 2022 for all members. Come down and enjoy a friendly drink and social gathering with the popular raffles drawn on the night.

On the last Friday of each month there is also a \$10 meal and members draw, currently stands at \$200.



MENS OPEN CLUB FOURS CHAMPIONSHIP

The club fours championships were recently played under warm and humid conditions using a sectional format for the first time. 16 players entered into the event to allow it to go ahead after a break of 8 to 9 years. All teams played 3 games of 10 ends and the end result, decided on the final end was:

Winners: Josh Rudd (S), David Nichol, Don Driver and Brett Barton with 3 wins +16.

Runners Up: David King (S), Garry Howlett, Bob Harbridge and David Sully with 1.5 wins +14.

Well done to all those who participated.

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

Here are the dates for the upcoming club events.

All events will be sectional and played on the dates nominated, so that more games can be played and we can all have a good time in each other's company.

All events will have a BBQ lunch provided and if the bar isn't open there will be an esky available with drinks.

23 January - Handicap Singles - Sections of 3. 2 games and 1 game as a marker.

30 January - Club Triples - Drawn teams, Single entries. Sections of 4 or 6 depending on entries.

6 February - Club Mixed Pairs - Nominated teams, Sections of 4 or 6.

27 February (to be confirmed) - Men's Club Pairs - Nominated teams, Sections of 4 or 6.

All knockout games are to be played the next Sunday if possible. If not, any Thursday or Friday that suits, with approval of the greens staff.

Josh Rudd
Chairman of Match



**GET OFF ROAD
4x4
WODONGA**

Australia Day

MAJORMINOR Pairs

One player in each team must not of won a singles or pairs title, Club or higher (Region District/State)

\$1350 prize money

Wednesday 26th of January

9:30am start **Entry Fee \$50 per team**

BYO lunch or salad rolls available for order prior to 1st game.

4 games of 10 ends of 3 x 3 pairs.
(1 dead end per team per game, after which jack re-spotted on 'T')

All 4 game winners will play off over 4 live ends

1st: \$500 2nd: \$300 3rd: \$200 4th: \$150

Plus each game (4) best margins of \$50 each game.

Entries close Monday 24th of January @ 5:00 pm

Entries to Josh Rudd on 0447114750
Garry Howlett 0427244120 or
Wodonga Bowls (02) 8024 1554 (12 noon – 5pm weekdays)

COVID UPDATE AND REMINDERS

With the prevalence of the virus currently on the border, we must be vigilant in adhering to restrictions,

particularly **WEARING A MASK WHEN ORDERING DRINKS AT THE BAR**

– NO MASK, NO SERVICE.

CHRISTMAS HAMPER DRAWN MIXED TRIPLES

A wonderful day which was well supported by members was enjoyed for our Christmas breakup. The weather was a bit hit and miss but could not dampen the spirits of the bowlers.



Winners:
John Horne, Cheryl Morgan (S),
Ken Farrar



Second:
Paul Smythe, Lyn Winter (S),
Pam Morris



Third:
Alan Morgan, Maxine Bounader (S),
Dave Nichol

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