



Shepparton Park Bowls Club Inc

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March 2021 Newsletter

Host of the Australian Open in 2009 and 2010 : Host of the Victorian Open 2011 - 2021

BOWLS

Thursday pairs will continue for several more weeks before we revert to 4's under the roof.

Thursday weekly.
2X2X2X2s Open pairs. All welcome

Entry \$10 BYO lunch.
A great, fun day is assured.
Contact Graeme Sinclair on 0418395388 to enter.

If you have your name down and you are unable to attend please let Graeme know at the earliest opportunity.

It is very difficult to find a replacement player at short notice.

BOWLS

Our club will be hosting the Victorian Sides Championship on April 30 and May 1 & 2 2021. We do not yet have any information on how this will all operate, but, this should be provided soon.

The Victorian Open Bowls tournament will also be on again this year, Covid permitting. The dates are November 19—26 inclusive. More details as the event approaches.

VOLUNTEER REWARD DAY

The Board will hold an afternoon tea to reward all of our hard working volunteers for their efforts. This will be on Friday April 9 at 2.30pm and board members will arrange and provide finger food, etc for the occasion. All of our valued volunteers are most welcome.

ROSE GREEN

We may have finally had some success with sorting out the quirks in our Rose Green carpet.

The boys from Tiger Turf came up on Tuesday and completed some further stretching and rolling of the carpet.

They discovered that the middle 3 or 4 runs of carpet had not been fully stretched previously. After a complete roll of the carpet they were able to stretch it by about 150mm (6 inches) and this surplus was tucked into the ditch.

Murray rolled a number of bowls across the carpet and we believe it is now drawing much better on the narrow side. The carpet may also be running a little bit quicker .

We hope we are not disappointed. Please give it a go and let us know what you think.

ST PATRICK'S DAY

This great charity day, unfortunately cancelled last year due to Covid, has been run and won again.

In a wonderful effort \$8,600 was raised for the very worthwhile 'People supporting people' charity. 38 teams, 152 bowlers is a testament to the huge effort devoted to attracting teams, prizes, donations and organising catering. A huge thank you to Wes, David and Ron for their work in getting all of those players/teams to come along.

As always the many, many local sponsors and donors have come to the fore with about \$14,000 worth of prizes. Many were held over from last years cancelled event.

Thank you to all members who, as always, pitched in and helped on the day.

PENNANT

The pennant bowls season is over. We congratulate Divisions 1 and 6 in Weekend pennant for reaching the finals, sadly neither team were successful in the premiership race. Midweek pennant had Divisions 1, 3 and 4 all making the finals with Divisions 1 & 3 playing in the grand final. Once again, no luck. We thank all bowlers for their commitment and efforts throughout what was once again a difficult season, with a number of interruptions due to Covid and weather.

MEETINGS

With the conclusion of the pennant season the meeting season is fast approaching.

Our Bowls Committee AGM and Presentation night will be held together and have been set down for 28 April 2021.

The Clubs AGM has been scheduled for 26 May 2021. I believe that these meetings will prove to be extremely important for the future of OUR club.

We really do need more people to come forward to assist with the running of the club. There will be a number of vacancies on the Bowls committee, and on the Club Board. Please consider how you may be able to help secure the future of the club.

Too much is being left to too few of our volunteers , and, we really need more members to get involved.

COACHING

The Board are very pleased to announce that Paul Nichols has committed to Coach our club for another season. Paul will once again provide his Sunday Winter coaching sessions. These popular days were largely ruined by Covid lockdowns last season. Details will be advised when we get a bit closer to winter.

We are also about to commence advertising for an Assistant Coach to assist Paul with coaching duties. Remuneration will be available for this position. If any member has knowledge of likely candidates for the job of assistant coach, or, potential players please let us know.

We need to bolster our playing stocks, preferably in the higher divisions. New players there tend to have a flow down effect through all divisions.

We also ask all existing members to commit to playing pennant bowls next season. The club needs all players fully committed and attending training on a regular basis to achieve improvement. Several other local teams are in the market for coaches and players and our club needs to be active now.

GREENKEEPING

We are also very pleased to announce the appointment of our new greenkeeper, Shane Walsh.

Shane has looked after the terrific greens at Stanhope Bowls Club for the last 5 years.

When the position was advertised we thought it would be a very difficult position to fill and we were not all that confident of finding someone. I don't know what Plan B was. However, within days Shane phoned in answer to our advertisement and here we are.

As with Stanhope, we will be relying on our valued greens workers to complete some of the work, such as, mowing, rolling and linemarking.

Any members who may be able to help us with greens duties would be warmly welcomed.

ROB THORNE

I have previously written about the commitment of Rob to improving our greens, and, the huge amount of other work Rob does around the club.

We are certainly going to need other members to stand up and pick up the slack around our club.

All of the things like cleaning the carpet, putting out mats and kitties, putting them away again, etc., etc., will need to be done by someone.

We wish Rob and Marg all the best with the home renovations. Enjoy the time away from the greens commitment.

CLUB PERSON OF THE YEAR

This prestigious award is now open for nominations. Please consider nominating a person who you consider to be worthwhile of this valued award.

Nomination forms, with the criteria will be pinned on the noticeboard opposite the kitchen door.

Nominations close April 11 2021.

Winner announced at the club AGM on May 26 2021.

CLUB MATTERS

The Board have become increasingly concerned about rising costs imposed on us by the Shepparton Council.

We have been in discussions with Councillor Shane Sali about this issue. In the last few years the Council have been charging us the insurance bill on our premises. This has not happened previously.

In 2019 this amounted to \$8,954.

In 2020 the amount was \$7,145 with a 20% discount allowed as a Covid discount.

In 2021 we can see that figure being around \$10 or \$11 thousand.

Given that we also have to maintain our own policy to cover contents, business interruption and public liability at a cost of \$4,211 last year we can see our club paying around \$14/15 thousand per annum. This translates into a cost of approximately \$66 for every affiliated and social member we have.

We are also being asked to pay larger water bills every year and there is no clear cut way to establish who is actually using this water between ourselves and the surrounding sports ovals.

We will keep prosecuting these arguments as it has a huge impact on the subscription fees of every member.

GVBD 100th ANNIVERSARY BOWLS AND DINNER

On Saturday 20 March our club hosted this event for the GVBD.

During the afternoon bowls were enjoyed by teams from the 20 clubs in the GVBD . This was followed by a well attended celebration dinner and there were speeches and memories presented by various speakers throughout the evening.

The meal was extremely well catered for by Kate Bush's daughters business (sorry I don't know the business name)

Our wonderful catering ladies provided finger food immediately following the bowls, and, dessert for the dinner. Of course, there was then a big cleanup, dishwashing effort completed in record time.

We sincerely thank all of those ladies and our very efficient bar staff on the night, Ray, Marg. and Vince. A great event - well done to you all.