



# Shepparton Park Bowls Club Inc

Special General Meeting Agenda

Annual General Meeting Agenda

Board of Management Reports

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2008



# Shepparton Park Bowls Club Inc

## Special General Meeting

### May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008

#### Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Quorum is 30 members, there is no proxy voting
3. Naming and appointment of Scrutineers (if required)
4. Business of the Meeting: To consider changes to the Constitution as recommended by the Board of Management.

#### Proposed change 1

Current wording	Proposed wording	Reason
8. (1) Members of other Bowls Clubs present at the Club for the purpose of playing bowls are Honorary Members for that day.	8. (1) Members of other Bowls Clubs present at the Club for the purpose of playing bowls <u>or acting as officials</u> are Honorary Members for that day.	By inserting the words ' <u>or acting as officials</u> ' it puts visiting officials in the same membership category as visiting players so that they fit within our licensing law requirements.

#### Proposed change 2

Current wording	Proposed wording	Reason
22. (1) Two (2) Delegates to the RVBA, GVBA, GVDLBA, or VIBBA, at least one (1) of whom shall be a member of the Committee, shall be elected at the Section Annual General Meeting  (2) Any Delegate absenting himself from two (2) consecutive meetings of the RVBA, GVBA, VIBBA or GVDLBA without good and valid reason to satisfaction of the Committee shall be held to have vacated the office.	22. (1) Two (2) Delegates to the RVBA, GVBA, GVDLBA, <u>VLBA</u> or VIBBA, at least one (1) of whom shall be a member of the Committee, shall be elected at the Section Annual General Meeting  (2) Any Delegate absenting himself from two (2) consecutive meetings of the RVBA, GVBA, VIBBA, <u>VLBA</u> or GVDLBA without good and valid reason to satisfaction of the Committee shall be held to have vacated the office.	The VLBA require that clubs elect delegates to the VLBA, in the same way the RVBA require clubs to elect delegates to the RVBA.  In practice they are rarely called upon to attend these State Association meetings, and usually the delegates elected to the local Associations fulfil this role if required.

# Annual General Meeting

## May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2008

### Agenda & Procedures

1. Welcome
2. Quorum is 30 members, there is no proxy voting
3. Naming and appointment of Scrutineers (if required)
4. Business
  - a) Confirm minutes of Annual General Meeting held May 17<sup>th</sup>, 2007
  - b) Confirm minutes of Special General Meeting held February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008
  - b) Receive reports from;
    - Chairman
    - Secretary
    - Bar Director
    - Social Director
    - Sponsorship Director
    - House Committee
    - Section Presidents
    - Catering Director
    - Greens Director
  - c) Receive Financial Statements and Treasurer's report
  - d) Election of; (the Greens and catering Directors have already been elected at Section AGMs)

	Nominee	Nominated by	Seconded by
Chairman			
Deputy Chairman			
Secretary			
Treasurer			
Bar Director			
Social Director			
Sponsorship Director			

- e) Election of auditors
  - f) Fix amount of annual subscriptions
    - Full membership
    - Junior Membership
    - Social membership
    - Night Pennant membership
    - Indoor bias bowls membership
  - g) Fix amount of green fees and mat fees
5. Close

# SHEPPARTON PARK BOWLS CLUB

ANNUAL MEETING MAY 17<sup>TH</sup> 2007

CHAIRMAN-Lloyd Mawson welcomed members to our Annual General Meeting-May 17<sup>th</sup> 2007

ATTENDANCE- A Dempster, F Holland, A Sutherland, B Smith, A Cameron, C Taylor, J Broadbent, M Swainston, K Murley, B Thorn, F Brooks, D Mackenzie, J Mackenzie, G Mawson, L Mawson, L Walsh, G Lockwood, K Dudley, J Dempster, B Bicknell, F Winter, J Campbell, G Sinclair, A O'Donohue, B O'Donohue, D Calley ,G Calley, B Buchanan, J Buchanan, B Laws, J Laws, B Allen, K Allen, N Mitcellmore, M Dobson, N Dobson, M Davy, J Davy, D Lyons, B Brown, F Murley, B Sinclair, S Sinclair, A Rodda, A Cook, M Smith, W Gibbs, J Cook, G Betts, L Pomeroy, R Bone, T Bone, M Davis, Bill Clark, Bev Clark, D Ward, G Cross.

APOLOGIES- G. Edwards, R Holland, J Shanahan, B Hardy, E Cameron, P Taylor, R Brammer, K Thorn, R Warburton, T McDade, A Meadon, K Hamilton, F Gennari, V Page, I Dempsey, M Steigenberger, L Winter, J Rodda.

Apologies accepted on the Motion of J. Davy seconded by J. Mackenzie.

MINUTES of previous Annual Meeting held Sunday May 17<sup>th</sup> 2006 were accepted on the motion of N. Dobson and J. Cook.

REPORTS- As collated in the Booklet.

Chairman L. Mawson thanked the Board of Management for their commitment to the progress of the Club and informed the Meeting that they had been a happy and productive team. He made mention of the various Sections and their contribution to the overall successful year.

Reports were accepted on the motion of N. Dobson and F. Winter.

TREASURER REPORT- L. Pomeroy reported that it has been a successful year and that we have turned around from a deficit last financial year to a profit of \$66,462.14. He thanked G. Mawson for her efforts in helping with the bulk of the work.

Treasurer's report was accepted on the Motion of L. Pomeroy and B. O'Donohue.

It was moved by G. Mawson seconded by J. Mackenzie that Metzke and Allen be appointed Auditors. Carried.

L. Mawson vacated the Chair

K. Allen took the Chair and as there was only one nomination for Chairman he duly elected L Mawson to the Chair for the ensuing year.

L. Mawson resumed the Chair

ELECTION of Board Members.

Position	Name	Nominated by	Seconded by
Chairman	L. Mawson	J. Dempster	J. Davy
Deputy Chairman	B. Smith	J. Broadbent	M. Smith
Secretary	J. Shanahan	J. Dempster	A. Cameron
Treasurer	L. Pomeroy	J. Davy	F. Winter
Bar Director	G. Edwards	M. Dobson	F. Murley
Social Director	J. Davy	J. Dempster	M. Dobson

As there were no other nominations L. Mawson declared these people duly elected and thanked them for standing for these positions

J. Davy seconded by R. Bone nominated F. Brooks for the vacant position of Funds/Sponsorship Director .

On his acceptance he was duly elected.

#### ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

L. Pomeroy seconded by B. Laws moved that the Club Fees remain the same. \$86 with the new Affiliation Fees added on. Total Fees: Full Membership \$125. Carried

Junior Member \$20

Full Time Student \$20

Social Member \$50

Night Pennant \$10

Indoor Bias Bowls –SPBC Members-no charge-Non members \$10

Green Fees \$5

Half Day Tournaments \$7

Indoor Mat fee \$3

Locker hire \$55

Moved L. Pomeroy seconded by J. Broadbent that these Fees be approved Carried

#### GENERAL DISCUSSION

R. Bone was given approval to organize a mixed triples Tournament over 4 weeks in March next year.

L. Mawson advised that the Stage 2 development is still ongoing slowly and needs to be investigated fully as to its viability etc.

F. Murley requested that we ensure having a Mike and Speaker System for the next meeting as it was difficult to hear.

K. Allen queried the lack of an Electricity Bill as yet. L. Mawson advised that it is for the Council to work out.

T. Bone asked what the Lease from the Council was and L. Mawson advised that it was a small amount and will only increase by the CPI each year.

B. Smith outlined the proposed development of the Western Entrance.

J. Davy outlined the very successful visit from the Yarra Valley Country Club and the National Butchers 3 day Tournament. It involved 600 meals and we made \$7000 profit. It was a first class effort and they wish to return.

The contribution of John and Margaret Davy was noted and the remarks endorsed by W. Gibbs.

L. Mawson thanked the Members for their attendance and closed the Meeting.

## **Shepparton Park Bowls Club Inc** **Minutes of Special General Meeting held 12/2/2008**

### **Present:**

Barb Allen, Ken Allen, Graeme Betts, Betty Bicknell, Rodger Bone, Jeff Boyle, Jim Broadbent, Fred Brooks, Jack Buchanan, Bev Cahill, Dot Calley, Gordon Calley, Alan Cameron, Ellen Cameron, Jim Campbell, Bev Clark, Bill Clark, Ailsa Cook, Jim Cook, Graham Cross, John Davy, Margaret Davy, Ian Dempsey, Aileen Dempster, John Dempster, Don Dickinson, Margot Dobson, Noel Dobson, Catherine Dudley, Keith Dudley, Glenn Edwards, Wes Gibbs, Kevin Hamilton, Dave Hardie, Brian Hardy, Pam Henderson, Flo Holland, Ron Holland, Reg Jeffery, Lorraine Johnson, June Jones, Dora Mackenzie, John Mackenzie, Peter Matthews, Glenice Mawson, Lloyd Mawson, Pam McGurgan, Fred Murley, Kath Murley, Anne O'Donoghue, Ben O'Donoghue, Vince Page, Cec Pearson, Gloria Pearson, Leigh Pomeroy, Bill Raglus, Shirley Raglus, Alby Rodda, June Rodda, Jean Roulston, Trevor Serafini, Jim Shanahan, Bill Sinclair, Graeme Sinclair, Bob Smith, Moira Smith, Max Steigenberger, Alan Sutherland, Max Swainston, Colin Taylor, Pam Taylor, Alex Thorn, Morrie Treble, Wilma Treble, Leo Walsh, Don Williams, Frank Winter, Lorna Winter

### **Apologies:**

Trish Bone, Ron Brammer, Peter Cross, Dulcie Gibson, Jean Glass, Roma Grose, Di Hands, Wendy Holland, Barry Laws, Jenny Laws, Norm Mitchelmore, Shirley Sinclair, Bev Thorn, Kevin Thorn

### **Business: Stage 2 Development**

Chairman Lloyd Mawson welcomed all members to the important meeting.

Lloyd outlined the history of the development and the Shepparton Park Bowls Club, up to the present. He explained the cost of the full development as per the original Memorandum of Understanding with the Council, and the requirements of the Club if it were to go ahead. He then outlined the proposal put to the Council, and to which they had developed a concept design, viz that it would not be an indoor complex, but and undercover artificial bowling green.

Bob Smith then gave an outline of the proposed concept design, emphasising that it was still at the concept stage, and that fine tuning and detail were to come if the members agreed with it.

Questions were taken from members. These covered topics such as; lighting, heating, joining the two buildings (current clubhouse and the undercover structure), structures between the two buildings, ventilation, the foundation under the mat, disposal of rain water, leasing arrangements from Council, cost of the project, possibility of adding walls later, RVBA approval for use for Pennant games, speed of the mat, the surface to be used on the surrounds, birds getting under the roof, similarities with Mooroopna BC project, and the building materials used in the building.

At the end of this discussion, the following motion was moved by Leigh Pomeroy and Jim Cook:

1. The Shepparton Park Bowls Club agrees to the modification of the Memorandum of Understanding signed on 18/12/2003 between Greater Shepparton City Council, Shepparton Bowling Club, Kialla Park Bowls Club and the Kialla Park Recreation Reserve Committee in the following terms;
  - Instead of the indoor bowling complex outlined in the Memorandum, the Club accepts the Council proposal to fund and build an undercover complex, as per the *Concept Site Development Plan*, with an artificial bowling green,
  - The Club acknowledges that the fourth green as planned will not be constructed, and
  - The Council agrees that the land proposed for this fourth green be reserved for the Club to construct this green as its own expense in the future.
2. This meeting of members authorises the Board of Management to sign any agreement on this modified Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of the Club.

The motion was carried unanimously.

Lloyd thanked everyone for their attendance and interest and closed the meeting at 8.30pm.

# **Report to Members from the Board of Management**

## **Chairman, Board of Management**

It is with much pleasure I submit this report of our Clubs activities and finances for the Season 2007/08. In my opinion we have had a highly successful season both on and off the greens.

Our pennant teams enjoyed mixed success with the Ladies Division One Red starring and winning the GVLBA pennant, then going on to win at group level and finally going down in the semi finals of the state pennant finals at Benalla. An exceptional achievement. Well done Ladies.

Our Division One Men's team were competition leaders for much of the season only to experience a disappointing result in the semi finals. Bad luck boys, we look forward to you taking further steps next season. In both Men's and Ladies Pennant competition our Club filled our allocated teams each week and competed with mixed success. We can reasonably expect improved results next season as the depth in our Clubs bowlers improve.

Our representatives in the Men's Champion Pairs, Brett & John Foley went on to win the GVBA and State Pairs titles. Congratulations boys on a great achievement.

At our Club level I must thank the Men's and Ladies Section under the astute Presidency of Moira Smith and Wes Gibbs for all the many and varied tasks that need to be performed so that Members can enjoy the full programme of bowling including the Club Championships and the Minor Club Events. It was pleasing to see these events well supported by our Members. Congratulations to all the winners and runners up and well done to all who participated.

Our Board has had a policy of encouraging people to come and try out at the game of bowls and to this end we have been pleased with the efforts of Ron Holland and his helpers in introducing and organising programmes such as Get on the Green and Trade Pennant. These programmes have succeeded in introducing many new faces to our Club and we do hope that these people will continue to enjoy the sport and will in the future will become Members of our Club.

I would also like to acknowledge the very important contribution the Ladies in the kitchen made to our successful season. They were called upon on numerous occasions this year and never failed to produce excellent results. Well done Ladies, thank you.

Our Bar is also a very important part of our Clubs success and this year it has operated and traded very successfully. Thank you to the Bar Manager, Glen Edwards and his team of helpers.

Our Club House has continued to mature and the addition of the new lounge style table and chairs has enhanced the atmosphere of our Club House. A special thanks to Chairman of the Club House Committee Bob Smith for his diligent attention to all the maintenance matters that require attention to keep the Club House up to the mark.

A feature of this season has been our social / Chicken Dinners held throughout the season, they have provided Members and their Guests with wonderful opportunities to meet and to expand their friendships. Also we were privileged to have such events as our Progressive Dinner and Jazz on the Green arranged for us by the Social Committee under the Chairmanship of John Davy, and the willing band of workers. Thank you one and all.

Our greens have made significant progress throughout the season under the dedicated directions of Greens Director Noel Dobson. The quality of our greens were recognised by the GVBA and the RVBA in allocating us prestige events. A real highlight of the Season was the staging of the RVBA and RVLBA State Finals, it did our Club proud to receive the compliments from the visiting Officials and Players. Well done to all concerned.

Indoor Bowls Competitions were successfully conducted within our Club House and gave our Members and visitors an opportunity to keep their eye in during the off season. It appears that the new Club Rooms have proved to be a successful venue for Indoor Bowling as the numbers of Players have continued to increase. We commend the game to our newer members and suggest you may contact Keith Dudley or Glen Edwards for information on how you can be a part of this winter competition.

Our Club has traded successfully in the past season and can afford to invest in further improvements to our Complex. With this in mind the Board proposes to extend a covered walkway and shelters to the area on the South side of the Foundation Members Green and connect up with the Northern Entrance to the Club House. We also propose to upgrade the lighting on the Foundation Members Green. These works are planned to be completed before the Opening of the new bowling season.

During the Season the Board was able to negotiate a reasonable solution to the outstanding issue of Stage Two of the development of our Complex. We expect that work will commence on the Stage 2 section at the end of 2008/09 bowling season and be completed for the opening of the 2009/10 bowling season. At present we have a Committee inspecting and assessing the various synthetic surfaces so that we may be in a position to recommend to the Council our preferred option.

At the commencement of the past season the Board was pleased to welcome Fred Brooks as the Sponsorship Director. Fred has done an outstanding job in attracting over \$15,000 in Sponsorship for our Club and for taking the extra steps to see that our Sponsors receive value for their money and are truly recognised by our Members. Thank you Fred on an excellent season's work.

Finally I would like to thank all Members of the Board for their regular attendance at Meetings, for their thoughtful consideration of the issues involved and for the meticulous way they administrated their various portfolios. I would particularly like to thank Secretary Jim Shanahan for his dedicated service, and to our Treasurers Leigh Pomeroy and Glenice Mawson for their attention to detail in collecting and accounting for the various streams of income to our Club.

For those Members travelling away for their winter holidays, safe travelling, good health and I look forward to meeting with you again at the start of the new season.

*Lloyd Mawson*



## **Secretary, Board of Management**

It is with pleasure that I present this report to the Club's 2008 Annual General Meeting. Firstly I must apologise for my non-attendance, and I would like to thank John Dempster for filling in for me.

It has certainly been a busy, but very productive year for the Club. Other Board members have highlighted aspects relevant to their 'portfolios' in their reports, and I don't wish to duplicate these, however some deserve extra emphasis.

The development of the greens and surrounds has provided the Club with facilities that we can all be proud of, and that don't fail to impress the many visitors we have had at the Club. Congratulations must go to Noel and his team for their efforts in preparing the greens. They have presented consistently good greens all season, and removed any excuses we may have had for bad bowling.

The western entrance looks and works brilliantly, and gives a real focus to the Club. During the coming winter, work will commence on continuing the development in front of the Clubhouse. The Board has adopted a masterplan for this development, so that when it is eventually completed we will have the best facility in the district. Congratulations to Bob on his foresight and design of this work.

Work has progressed on making the interior of the Clubhouse more user friendly. Simple things like extra powerpoints, plants and new tables and chairs make the rooms more comfortable for users, and easier for those working.

The Club has completed a healthy year financially. As highlighted by Leigh and Glenice, even with a considerable amount spent on capital improvements, we still have finished the year with a healthy bottom line. This was helped by the sponsorship gathering efforts of Fred. It certainly took a lot of pressure off members to have this extra money coming to the Club.

Our membership has remained at a static level this year. Our current membership is 180. We have welcomed twenty four new members which is great, but we also lost a few for various reasons. This is something that we must continue to work at. We must find new and possibly inventive ways to attract new members. If we could attract some younger members it would be good for the long term future of the Club. Programs such as Night Pennant, Get on the Green and the Trade Nights have been good at introducing new members in the past, and the organisers of these events must be congratulated for their efforts.

We were proud to be able to hold two major State bowls events this year. Hosting these events was a result of all the great work done around the Club by many people. The feedback we have received from the RVBA and the VLBA was most positive, and I'm sure we'll see more of these events in the future. Part of their success was the fantastic catering work done by Flo and her team. Well done to all.

The future looks as bright as the past for many reasons. Here are a few;

1. Apart from the development of the area in front of the Clubhouse, we have the completion of Stage 2 (the under cover artificial green) to look forward to. Meetings have continued with Council staff on what is required. We have also conducted a briefing session with the City Councillors, and are hopeful that money will be allocated in this year's budget for the work to start. We have conducted visits to other clubs with artificial greens to try and decide which would be the best for us. Quotes are being obtained at the moment.
2. We have lodged an expression of interest to Bowls Australia, in partnership with Mooroopna Bowls Club and the City Council, in hosting the 2009 Australian Open. Hopefully by the time this meeting is held we will know the result of that submission. If we are successful it will be a

great thing for the whole Goulburn Valley bowls community and the City. It will also mean a lot of work, but the results will be well worth it. If we are unsuccessful, we will still have established good links to Mooroopna, with talks already in the pipeline for shared tournaments, etc. We will have also developed a good relationship with the Council's Major Events staff. This will assist us in the future when (not if) we host State events. They can provide support we didn't realise was available. In any eventuality, the whole process has benefited the Club.

3. We now have a web presence. Looking to next season, it is hoped to have team selections, club event draws, etc on the internet for all to see. There are also copies of the Club Newsletter and other information available so that members can be better informed. It may also be possible to enter tournaments on line. How far we can go is only limited by the willingness of people to use the technology available. The web address is [www.sheppartonparkbowls.com.au](http://www.sheppartonparkbowls.com.au)

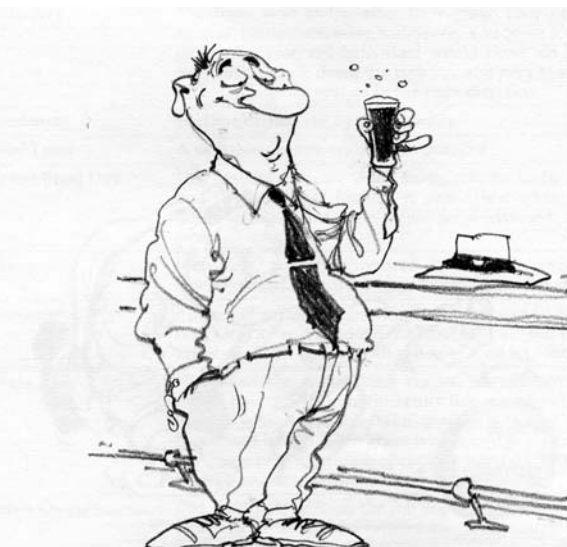
To finish, I would like to thank all members who have contributed so much to the Club over the past year. We are a volunteer based Club, and we should strive to maintain this approach. When we work together we can achieve great things, as witnessed by what we have achieved in the four years this Club has been in existence. When you look at the number of committees and groups who are actively engaged in working for the Club, you realise that we are very much alive and vibrant.

Special thanks must go my fellow Board members. We have met on no fewer than 13 occasions, with many informal meetings between times. The aim of the Board is to keep the Club functioning and progressing, so that the Section Committees only need to worry about the bowls aspects of the Club. I feel that they do an admirable job in this. I have enjoyed my first year as Club Secretary, and if re-elected, look forward to the next year.

*Jim Shanahan*

### **Bar Director**

Overall trading for this season was very similar to the previous trading year, for final expenditure and income figures refer to the treasures report. This consistent result is good as it gives a fair indication of the level of profit the Club can expect, and rely on, for future budgeting. Despite the slight increase of cost of some of our drinks over the season our prices are comparable with other Bowls Clubs and a lot cheaper than Pubs or local Restaurants where I paid \$10 for a glass of wine and a stubby, our price would be half this figure.



Once again I must thank the dedicated group who make themselves available for the "Bar Roster." Their efforts make my job a lot easier and enjoyable. I would like to have another "Responsible Serving of Alcohol" program run later this year and get another six to eight more members qualified to serve behind the bar, as this would be very helpful in easing the workload.

The bar was designed for the installation of a commercial Espresso Coffee machine on the north end of the bar and I think it would be popular and profitable for the Club to have one installed, the main problem is cost but if you know of a cheap one in good condition please let me know.

*Glenn Edwards*

## **Catering Director**

Another year has passed us by, but not without a lot of work. We have had a very constant year.

We commenced with Bingo at the end of April and indoor each Friday from mid-May until mid-August. Bingo was held each month for five months, this earned us a lot of money and was looked forward to by our patrons.

Catering for the indoor was constant each week for nine weeks, again very profitable.

We had State events which we coped with admirably. A lot of ladies were required for the days and members were always willing workers, as well as some outsiders who helped with cooking, etc.

With Men's Pennant, 2x2s, suppers, etc, we have served 3944 players, plus the larger events.

None of this could have been achieved without a good committee and help from our members who are always willingly ready to help. Thanks have to go to Anne O'Donoghue, Aileen Dempster, Barb Allen, Dot Calley, Jan Gay, June Jones and anyone else who made soup and slices for Friday lunches.

Thanks to the Catering Committee for all their help during the year, as none of this would have been achieved without your co-operation at all times. Thanks to the members who so willingly came to help when asked.

Although it is getting harder with rising costs, I have done my best to keep costs down. I have enjoyed the year.

*Flo Holland*

## **Greens Director**

Another year has seen the club greens and surrounds improved dramatically, thanks to the full support of all members. We were fortunate to stage various Association and State events, including VLBA State Fours finals, RVBA State Pairs final and the Under 18 Boys State Pairs group finals. Considering, that we really only had 2 greens available for most of the season, they have all stood up very well to the heavy traffic. I am confident that the new green should be in reasonable condition come early November.

The surrounds have been improved greatly with new shelters and synthetic grass. We hope that this continues along the front of the Foundation Green during this winter. Some of our irrigation material has been replaced with new equipment. New sponsors signs were placed along the western side together with new trees. The northern end of the Members' Green has been prepared to plant shrubs as soon as we get a break in the weather. So all of those members who donated a plant to put in this area will see those planted in the near future.

Our water supply was a concern early in the season and the Board saw fit to purchase 4 megalitres of temporary water to get us through the season. We may be in the same situation next season. This season we used 6.75 megalitres of water on the greens and surrounds. The servicing of all machinery was carried out during the season.

We are very thankful to have Mr Les Walles from Rochester as our greens consultant. Les comes every two weeks to advise and inspect our greens and gives us a written report every time he attends. It would be my recommendation to the board that we employ this gentleman next season on the same basis. A report on the greens for the year from Les follows my report. Graeme Cross, as

our green keeper, has done a wonderful job and is always enthusiastic in his commitment to his work. Graeme has offered his services again for next season.

Finally, I could not end this report without personally thanking four guys who gave me 100% support over the year. Thank you Jim, Frank, John and Brian. Your support was invaluable. To all members who assisted in many working bees, the guys who helped on Friday rosters thank you all. Every member should be very proud of this great club.

*Noel Dobson*

### **Greens Consultant Report**

The season is slowly coming to an end and the following is where I believe we are in regard to greens for next season.

Rose Green: This shows the benefit of renovations which needed to be carried out in the middle of the playing season. This green is now in very good condition and it seems a shame to turn it into a synthetic surface when it is so good.

Foundation Green: This is also very good and the grass cover is ideal for protection against the winter elements as it slowly goes into dormancy.

Members Green: This has been very disappointing again this season but has improved slightly with flood watering. Unfortunately, sandy profile greens are difficult to maintain as all nutrients are quickly leached out through the soil profile before they are properly taken up by plants. My recommendation for next season would be to heavily renovate early in the season (as per Rose Green this season) and backfill core holes with a loam type soil that will hold fertilizers, etc, for plants to feed on and create a better surface to play bowls on.

If the program, and time permits, I would also like to lightly renovate the Foundation Green to help maintain the good surface this green has, as it is the green that gets the most play on it.

I would like to see the club purchase a wire brush reel (fat boy) as I think this is one of the best pieces of equipment invented for couch bowling greens. The reel would fit into the spare mower that exists in the shed, and I would be happy to fit it and set it up for use.

It has been a good year for the club with a lot of progress made outside to the greens and surrounds, and I have enjoyed my side of work done in these areas. I am available for next season should my services be required.

*Les Walles*



## **House Committee Chairman**

The continued development of amenity in the club house and surrounds has been the main objective of the House Committee this past year.

The shade covers, synthetic grass areas and the new west gate has transformed the west side of our greens area, and drawn many favourable comments from members and visitors. The Board has approved extending this upgrade treatment to the forecourt and edge of the Foundation Green this coming recess period to add further to the surrounds ambience.

The project to divide the clubroom up to eating and relaxing areas has been successful and the cane chairs and occasional tables are quite well used. They are also handy to set up for socializing outside on good weather days. The planter dividers inside have helped to soften the decor and add a homely touch to things.

Two new notice boards, one inside and one outside have helped to consolidate our information dispersal, but we still have a way to go before information hiccups are solved.

Lockers are available to members and should be used more than they are.

My thanks go out to all the members who helped with housekeeping, construction and installing works throughout the year and in particular Jim Broadbent, Max Steigenberger, Graham Sinclair and Fred Murley who seem to have borne the bulk of the work this year.



*Bob Smith*

## **Social Director**

Our social calendar for 2007-2008 commenced on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> August with a well attended Chicken and Salad night. These evenings have proved to be so popular that we continued them on the last Friday of each month throughout the Season. They have brought a much needed warm social atmosphere, and enabled members and their families to enjoy each other's company in the pleasant surrounds of our Club Rooms.

On the weekend of 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of October a trip to Rich River Country Club was planned. This included dinner, bed and breakfast and two games of bowls. However, due to lack of numbers, arrangements had to be cancelled.

Barbara and Ken Allen kindly provided the venue in their garden for first course of drinks and nibbles for our successful Progressive Dinner on 26<sup>th</sup> of October. Main course was served at the Club, and dessert and coffee were enjoyed in the ideal surrounds of the Windmill Cafe.

On 14<sup>th</sup> December our Christmas Party was held in our Clubrooms with 108 members and friends attending. Paul Stephens Roving Roast provided a very enjoyable meal and Paul Burchell had many couples up dancing to his music. All agreed it was a great evening.

Our Sponsors were invited to join our highly successful “Jazz on the Green” night on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March, where in excess of 100 members and friends sat, ate, drank and listened to Pat Quinn’s Jazz Band. Apart from the beautiful balmy night, the floodlit greens and outside lights made it an ideal setting for the occasion.

Social Bowls and BBQ functions were hosted for Social Clubs belonging to Delta Electrics, Young Sheppartonians and Watters Electrical. Apart from being an enjoyable evening for all concerned, they also proved to be very beneficial financially. My thanks to the members who cooked BBQ's and participated in the running of these nights.

Trish and Rodger Bone ran a great support network to our regular Friday evening “Happy Hour.” Trish ran a raffle and provided biscuits and cheese and Rodger a Spinning Wheel. Together they raised nearly \$3,000.00! Congratulations, and thank you both for your great effort. Rodger wishes to acknowledge the sponsorship of the Shepparton Club, the Peppermill Inn Hotel/Motel and Video Ezy and Trish, sponsorship from Colliver Road Butchers.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all those who both supported and assisted with our numerous Social events. In particular my special thanks to Margot and Ailsa and my wife Margaret. Their combined efforts with organization and catering greatly enhanced the success of our social activities throughout the year.

*John Davy*

### **Sponsorship Director**

It was a very good year with many new sponsors. They have contributed money totaling \$15,154.55 plus \$500 for advertising signs, advertising from the Shepparton News, meat trays, raffles and vouchers for Night Pennant.

Expenses: Tournaments \$6,557, Night Pennant \$1,350, Printing 4,000 club brochures \$789.80 and printing 1,000 sheets of bowls discs \$895. This totals \$9,591.80. Net revenue to the Club is \$5,562.75

I was disappointed with four tournaments being cancelled this season, having to go back to the sponsors to tell them that their tournament was cancelled and then having to double up with another sponsor. Maybe we should look at not having so many tournaments next season.

The outstanding tournament this season was Bob and Moira Smith’s Riverside Gardens Tournament. Thirty eight teams had a great day. The presentation of the clubrooms was a picture with flowers on each table. The winner and runner-up prizes were great. Congratulations.

I would like to thank and congratulate Margot Dobson and Betty Bicknell for taking over our Tournament Secretary’s position after Roger Bone’s ill health. A job well done Margot.

Thanks to Leigh Pomeroy for his valuable help this season arranging tournaments.

Many thanks to Jim Shanahan for drafting letters, sponsorship agreements and certificates of appreciation.

Jazz on the Green was a great night. The sponsors who attended had a good night and thanked our club for the invitation. Hope we can do the same next season.

*Fred Brooks*

## **RVBA Section President**

It is very pleasing to report that the club has had a very successful and enjoyable year. Our pennant sides were very competitive with Division 1 finishing in 4th place. The other divisions did not make the finals, but finished mid-field. Many thanks to the Chairman of selectors, Jim Cook, and his co-selectors for a job well done under difficult circumstances. As Jim is not re-nominating this year, I would like to thank him for his year of service on this committee.

The 2x2 bowls held on Thursdays have again been very successful. Thank you to Jeff Boyle and David Slings for running the event.

Our tournaments have generally been well supported. There has been a great combined effort from Roger Bone, Leigh Pomeroy, Betty Bicknell and Margot Dobson in the organization and running of the tournaments. Fred Brooks has done a great job in getting sponsors for all the tournaments.

We saw a large increase in numbers playing Night Pennant due to two greens being available. Congratulations to Maulers on winning and to the Watt'lys on being runners-up. Trevor Hogben, Jim Shanahan, Leo Walsh and Bill Clarke put in a great effort in running the night pennant.

60 and Over is an important part of our club. Bill Clarke and Jim Broadbent do a great job in this department.

Congratulations to all club event winners. Colin Power in the "A" Grade Singles and Jim Shanahan in the "B" Grade Singles. Brett and John Foley won the Pairs in fine style. Noel Dobson, John King and Col Taylor were successful in the Drawn Triples. The winner of the 100 Up was Ray Hill, and Ray Hill was also successful in the 21 Up.

The "Get on the Green", social and Trade Nights saw many new bowlers on the greens. These events will hopefully lead to the club gaining new members. Many hours were spent organizing and running these events. To all those who helped in anyway, a big thank you. However, I must single out Ron Holland for his wonderful contribution in time and effort.

To Noel Dobson and his helpers, thank-you for the presentation of the greens and surrounds. The State Men's Pairs and Women's Fours being played on our greens is a true indication of the wonderful condition of them. We are very fortunate to have such wonderful greens to play on.

Thank you to Brian Hardy for your role as Welfare Officer and to Ken Allen as Protection Officer.

John Davy, our Vice President, has greatly assisted me many times. Thank you to Ron Holland, as Secretary. Your effort and contributions can only be described as fantastic.

To the Ladies under the leadership of Flo Holland, your efforts in catering for all the events is really appreciated.

We are fortunate to be members of a great club and let's strive to make it even better.

*Wesley R. Gibbs*

## **VIBBA Section President**

This season we were more settled with both teams enjoying the company of each other. The Pennant results for Monday night were not the best but we were very competitive. In the Friday competition we fared a bit better and the round robin event was a total success.

Each year a lot of work goes into the catering side of things, which is run by Flo Holland. It has made us a good profit, plus the customers are very happy with the standard of the food.

Thank you to all the others who helped me this season, as it made it more pleasurable. A special thanks to Vince Page who has stepped down from the secretary's position which he has held for many years. As a player, secretary plus selector you have been a valuable member of our club.

Finally I wish every indoor bowler the best for the coming season.

*Keith Dudley*

## **VLBA Section President**

What a big year it has been, not only with Bowls but in all areas of the club. The early part of the year and throughout the winter months was taken up with Indoor Bowls, providing soup and sandwiches every Friday, at a cost of course. This kept Flo and her girls busy. Next there was Bingo. This was very successful, and added a nice amount to our coffers. The small group involved in the Bingo are to be congratulated.

Then on to the opening of the Lawn Bowls season. The first thing we had to deal with was a shortage of Pennant teams and an excess of ladies wanting to play. Our selectors did a great job under trying circumstances, selecting teams and trying to make sure everyone got the opportunity to play at least a few games of Pennant. This wasn't an easy thing to do and they did their very best. We did try very hard to get another team in, but were unsuccessful.

However, we struggled on and although Division 1 Gold, Divisions 2, 3 and 4 all ended the season in the bottom half of the ladder, our Div 1 Reds went on to win the flag and then Group Final. A large contingent of supporters travelled to Benalla to support our team in the State Pennant Finals. They went down by only 2 shots in what was a very good, but tense, game. Although disappointed we returned home feeling it was a great game and our ladies had done us proud. Next year the title will be ours.

Our ladies also contributed in a big way towards several social events such as the Brendan Scott concert, Jazz on the Green, happy hours, chicken and salad nights, etc, etc. Trish Bone did a great job running the raffles and bringing in a tidy sum of money. Likewise Judy Trevena and her helpers with the trading table.

The highlight of our year would have to be the hosting of the VLBA State Fours Finals. What a wonderful 2 days it was and what a big achievement by all the ladies who also received tremendous support from our men members. Everything was 'top class' from the flowers to the catering and our cafe for the public, trading table, barbeque, raffles and so on. Our flower arrangements were something to see and were much photographed. I have deliberately refrained from mentioning names for fear of leaving someone out, there were so many involved. Thank you to all. In saying that I must mention how stunning our main table looked with the 'Royal Albert' dinner set, together with the 'Gold Cutlery.' Thanks to Betty Bicknell who graciously offered us its use. The VLBA was very impressed with all aspects of the event and it was rated a great success.



We were all sorry that Betty Bicknell was unable to continue as Tournament Secretary due to ill health. How lucky we were that Margot was willing to take over and successfully run the many tournaments that followed.

Our Match Committee, led by Anne O'Donoghue, did a great job with the running of the Club Championships, etc. They also made a great effort to get Ladies Social up and running. All who attended these Thursday mornings enjoyed themselves, it's just a shame that they are not supported as well as they should be, but we will keep working on it.

What an enormous year it has been for our caterers. What a wonderful job they did day after day. Congratulations Flo and your team.

Looking back on my year as Ladies Section President I have to say I have enjoyed the challenge of the position and appreciated all the help so cheerfully given, whenever needed. We have welcomed seven new lady members this year although we have lost lady members. Sadly one of whom is long time member Joyce Rose who is moving to Queensland.

Of course the ladies were triumphant in the Stirrers event, and we look forward to defending this title next season.

Now what President could live without her executive? A big 'Thankyou' to Ellen, Jean and Vice President Pam and all committees for all your help and support given to me throughout my year as your President.

*Moira Smith*

### Mixed Bowls

Type of team play in which you discover that one sex is not as helpless, unskilled, gentle, or loving as you once thought.

