



Shepparton Park Bowls Club Inc

Annual General Meeting

Saturday 17th October 2020

## Annual General Meeting 2020

### Agenda

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. Quorum is 32 members, there is no proxy voting
3. Naming of scrutineers.
4. Confirm minutes of Annual General Meeting held May 22nd 2019
5. Receive reports from the Board Directors and Managers
6. Receive and consider the financial statement submitted by the Club in accordance with Section 30(3) of the act.
7. Election of Directors of the Board; Two year term: Secretary, Female Bowls Director, Membership Director, Greens Director.
8. One year term: Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Treasurer, Male Bowls Director.
9. Election of Managers; Bar Manager, Catering Manager, Sponsorship Manager and Social Activities Manager—all one year terms.
10. Transact any other business affecting the interest and welfare of the Club, of which due notice has been given according to the Rules.

### Minutes of Annual General Meeting held 22/5/2019

#### **Present:**

Barb Allen, Craig Brauman, Elaine Brewster, Brenda Brodie, Peter Brodie, Bev Cahill, Jim Campbell, Graham Cross, Cathy Dudley, Keith Dudley, Glenn Edwards, Leonie Freeman, Val Gibbs, Wes Gibbs, Bill Gullick, Brian Hall, Di Hands, Stan Hester, Jenni Hill, Ron Holland, Norm Mitchelmore, Vince Page, Ray Phillips, John Priestley, Angelo Russo, Jim Shanahan, Graeme Sinclair, Bob Smith, Moira Smith, Dennis Smyth, Margaret Smyth, Max Steigenberger, Margaret Stibbard, Bev Thorn, Margaret Thorne, Robert Thorne, Sandra Wallace, Paul Warren, Ashleigh Williamson, Greg Williamson.

#### **Apologies:**

Barry Armstrong, Marika Armstrong, Betty Bicknell, Allen Cameron, Ellen Cameron, John Davey, Margot Dobson, Brian Hardy, Dave Hardie, Ross Higgins, Ray Hill, Flo Holland, Wendy Holland, Margaret Keen, Robyn MacFadyen, Vince Mazzella, Marie Nelson, Murray Phillips, Kay Pyke-Fernando, Milton Stibbard.

These were accepted on the motion of Keith Dudley and Greg Williamson.

#### **Welcome:**

The Chairman welcomed members in attendance, and advised that a quorum had been achieved.

#### **Scrutineers:**

The Chairman advised that Norm Mitchelmore, Murray Phillips and Jim Shanahan would act as scrutineers for the election on a motion of Brian Hall and Bob Smith.

#### **Minutes of Annual Meeting held 23/5/2019:**

These were accepted as a true and accurate record on the motion of Barb Allen and Norm Allen.

#### **Reports:**

These were distributed with the meeting agenda, and were accepted on a motion from Kate Bush and Ellen Cameron.

**Treasurer's Report:**

This was accepted on a motion from Stan Hester and Ray Phillips..

**Election of Directors:**

<u>Position</u>	<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Nominator</u>	<u>Seconded by</u>
Chairman	Wes Gibbs	Jim Shanahan	Murray Phillips
Deputy Chairman	Kelvin Rogash	Wes Gibbs	Greg Williamson
Treasurer	Margaret Thorne	Murray Phillips	Jim Shanahan
Male Bowls Director	Paul Becroft	Bill Gullick	Ross Higgins

As there was only one nomination for each position the Chairman declared all to be elected.

**Election of Managers:**

<u>Position</u>	<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Nominator</u>	<u>Seconded by</u>
Bar Manager	Ray Phillips	Rob Thorne	Bill Gullick
Catering Manager	Margaret Keen Helen Paul	Bev Cahill Margaret Thorne	Pam McGurgan Robyn MacFadyen
Social Activities Manager	Nil.		
Sponsorship Manager	Nil		

As there was only one nomination for the position of Bar Manager, the Chairman declared the nominee elected.

As there were two nominations for the position of Catering Manager an election was conducted and the successful candidate was Helen Paul.

Following the election the Chairman congratulated those elected and thanked them for offering their services to the Club for the next year.

**Election of Auditors:**

Goulburn Murray Audit Services were elected as auditors for the next year on the motion of Kate Bush and Ellen Cameron.

**Close of meeting:**

The Chairman then thanked members for their attendance and attention and declared the meeting closed.

The meeting closed at 7.33pm.

## **Reports from Board Directors and Managers.**

### **Chairman-Wes Gibbs**

I have pleasure in presenting my report, which would have been totally different if written before the beginning of March. Unfortunately we have been greatly effected by the restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Finance:**

The Club is still stable financially, but costs of running are continuing to increase.

Our sponsorship director, Keith Dudley, has done a wonderful job in this role and has gained new sponsors for us. Thank you Keith.

The new carpet is being laid as I write this report. The cost of this is already covered. Due to the lack of income in the later part of season, the balance sheet will not look as good as it would have. Even though our income is down on last year, we are in a good financial position due to the astute management of our finances over the last few years. Thank you to all the business and people who have sponsored our club in any way.

### **Vic Open:**

Another successful Vic Open was held in November last year. Thank you to the dedicated members who worked tirelessly to make this a great success. This event is very important to the finances of our club.

### **Coach:**

Paul Nichols has completed his second year as our coach. During the Winter, Paul's coaching was very beneficial to many members. Our club has performed very well in both Midweek and Weekend pennant. Thank you, Paul. We look forward to another successful year under your guidance.

### **Pennant:**

The 14 week pennant season is a concern in some aspects to our club. Congratulations to Division 2 midweek in winning the flag. Division 4 midweek and Division 1 & 6 weekend teams were unsuccessful in the grand final. All these teams put up a great performance.

### **Club Championship:**

Due to the COVID19 virus not all club competitions were completed. These will be completed at a later date. Congratulations to all winners and participants in the Club events.

### **New members:**

As usual we have gained some new members and lost members. The Wednesday night social competition led by Angelo Russo and his assistants continues to increase our membership. Unfortunately, this Wednesday competition was not completed due to COVID19.

### **Green keeper and greens:**

It has been a very hard year for our green keeper Rob Thorne and his assistant Craig Brauman. Many new insects and diseases have surfaced this season on the greens. Murray Phillips (Greens Director ) and the band of willing workers have worked tirelessly to maintain our greens throughout the year. A big thank you to you all.

### **Charity Day:**

After a lot of planning and organization by Ron Holland and his committee, this day was postponed due to the Covid19 virus. Hopefully, this will be able to be run, at a later date.

**Catering:**

Catering is a very important part of our club. Helen Paul and her assistant Robyn MacFadyen and their team of workers were responsible for the afternoon teas and other catering events. Thank you Helen and Robyn and the catering committee for all your hard work. Thank you to the men who assisted in cooking barbecues for different events. The Saturday night meals after weekend pennant were greatly appreciated by those who attended. Thank you to Marg and Rob Thorne for providing the majority of the meals.

**Booking Officer:**

Thank you Marg Thorne for being our Booking Officer. I believe more people need to be involved in the running of the events that have been booked.

**Bar Manager:**

Ray Phillips took over the role as Bar Manager. He provided a variety of drinks that were always readily available and achieved a wonderful financial result for the Club. Thank you Ray, and your assistants.

**Best Club person award:**

Due to the COVID-19 virus this award has not been announced as yet.

**Board Members:**

The Board continually strives to make decisions that are beneficial to the Club. I personally would like to thank all Board members for their ongoing support to me during the year. The members of the Board for 2020-21 will not be known until after the postponed AGM has been held. To any retiring members from the present Board my sincere thanks to you for your commitment. Our Club faces unpredictable challenges ahead, due to COVID-19. Difficult decisions may need to be made and I urge all members to support the Board on these decisions.

This concludes my report as Chairman of the Board.  
Wesley Gibbs.

**Deputy Chairman-Kelvin Rogash**

Some of the signs of ageing that were alluded to last year have started to appear and have been attended to as they arose.

Ground movement at the Southern entrance and some drainage issues have resulted in some cracking in the walls and doors jamming. When the new AFL building works have finished and the movement settles down the council will repair the walls. In the meantime the doors have been fixed.

The passageway from the clubrooms to the plaza has also experienced some water damage resulting in the doors having to be realigned and some plaster repairs done.

Following all the works on the nearby football oval, and the associated dust, the air-conditioning units were given a full clean and service which will benefit us all in the warmer months. Likewise the solar panels have had a good clean.

The large assortment of prize winning plaques that have been accumulated over the years have been reorganised and now form an impressive surround to the large honour board. As plaques are no longer being presented it was time they were displayed in a more presentable manner. Thanks to Rob Thorne for the re-hanging.

Gladly we have not needed to use the defibrillator but it was telling everybody that it needed a recharge of its own. The new battery will last for 5 years. There will be a demonstration/training session during the coming season.

Following requests from some members the central section of lights on the Rose Green have been

put on a one hour timer switch to allow their use when needed for practising. Also on the Rose Green we have installed an electronic system aimed at keeping the birds away from the green as they have been a constant problem when trying to keep the carpet clean. So you may hear some bird calling while bowling, but don't fear, you won't be attacked.

We have had discussions within the board about access to the club and decided to stay with the present key system given that most people are doing the right thing and closing the gates when leaving. Please remember if you leave Shepparton Park Bowls Club then you need to return any keys that you have. Our facilities are for the use of our members. Whilst on our facilities some members are not aware that we have lockers available for hire at a cost of \$25p.a.

We are also investigating alternative cover for the pathway from the western entrance to the club house. The lockdown has not helped with this but it is more for the long term benefit so we will continue this pursuit when time allows.

By the time we have our AGM the new carpet should be in place. This has been well planned for financially and I'm sure will be well received by all members and visitors.

Finally to all who help in keeping our facilities in top condition and to those who have mentioned items that need fixing—Thank you.

## **Kelvin Rogash**

### **Secretary– Bill Gullick**

Another very busy and difficult year has passed.

The Board have continued to function in a very cohesive and efficient manner, and, as always, all decisions are made with the very best interests of our Club at number 1.

There have been many issues through the year and I will provide a short overview of these:-

- We have had ongoing issues with Council regarding our water supply and the cost thereof. There have been emails, meetings and discussions, and as yet there is no satisfactory solution. With the above in mind the Board did give serious consideration to the possibility of setting up large tanks and an irrigation system to drought proof our greens.
- After much angst our dishwasher was eventually fixed and is still working well (touch wood).
- Craig Brauman was appointed as our deputy green keeper. Craig has advised that he will be leaving this position to take up another job offer. We thank Craig for his efforts.
- The G.V. Indoor Bowls approached us with a request for some relief on their rental payments to our Club. The Board agreed to a substantial reduction in their payment , however, their season never got going due to COVID-19.
- The Board approved the purchase of a new green roller ( half cost provided by a Council grant ), a new Lawn edger and a new Stihl blower for the Rose Green.
- We hosted the Northern Rivers District Bowls Association for a day of social bowls and fellowship. A great day was had by about 80 bowlers from both clubs.
- We have had several informal discussions with East Shepparton Bowls Club about how we may help each other in a spirit of co-operation. They very kindly donated 4 steel shelters to us, and, we allowed them to use our greens whilst theirs were being renovated.
- A Board member suggested that we could provide a game of bowls on pennant day for some of our older bowlers who can no longer compete in pennant. This was very well received, and enjoyed, by those participants.
- A number of bowlers arms have been purchased for our members to practice with.
- The Stirling Institute made an agreement for the use of our Members Lounge for 37 weeks at \$150 per week. This was curtailed by COVID-19.
- The RSL Bowls Club made the very difficult decision to cease operating at the end of the season just concluded. We wish their members all the best.
- 5 Club members completed the Responsible Service of Alcohol course and obtained their

certificate. Most have worked bar shifts already.

- Our solar panels were thoroughly cleaned by Rob and Craig. Well done.
- Our air conditioning was cleaned and serviced.
- The Board have decided that disposable cups will no longer be provided at our drink fountains from next season. A large number of cups are left lying around after every bowls day and it is left to our greens staff to pick them up. There is a lot of waste with the cups, and, they are costly. We urge everyone to bring a drink bottle in future.

Due to the arrival of COVID-19 our bowls season was curtailed in mid March just prior to our Annual Charity Day. A lot of hard work and organization had gone in to this day, and, it is hoped to reschedule it if circumstances allow.

All bowls and tournaments, such as, Anzac Day, Memorial Day, Ladies Invitation Triples and our ongoing Thursday Pairs were cancelled. We also lost important bookings in our Club Presentation night, Bowls Committee and Club AGM's, the GVBD Presentation night and the Victorian Sides Championships. It is difficult to accurately estimate the financial loss to the club, but, I would guess at a loss of turnover of approximately \$15,000.

We have a number of challenges regarding declining membership, and, we hope and trust that all existing members will return to the club and get back into bowls when the virus recedes.

All clubs will be in the same difficult situation, and, it would be wonderful to see everyone back around the club and ready to return to bowls. Our new undercover green will be finished and ready for members to enjoy.

We will also need members to really think about where they may be able to step up and volunteer to help out around the club. We will desperately need new workers in the following areas:- greens and surrounds assistance, 2 /3 people to take on the care and maintenance of the Rose Green, more members to assist on the kitchen roster, several members to run the Saturday evening meals & a Booking Officer.

With the CORONAVIRUS still bubbling along we are all unsure about what form our bowls will take in the immediate future.

**Bill Gullick—Secretary**

### **Bowls Committee Chairman's Report 2019-2020**

**Marg Stibbard**

Thank you for the support that I have received as Female Bowls Director. I especially want to thank Robyn MacFadyen our bowls committee secretary for her invaluable help to me. I could not have done it without her. Thank you, Paul Becroft for taking on the role of Male Bowls Director, Paul has been a very supportive bowls director. Paul, all the best for the coming year.

Many thanks to the members of the Board, especially Bill Gullick who has been wonderful in helping me with just about everything.

Thank you, Rob Thorne, Craig Brauman and your greens committee, especially during the winter when I ran the "2 Bowl triples Tournament". I would also like to thank my helpers Glen Edwards, Graeme Sinclair, Elaine Brewster and Marie Nelson, these wonderful members were terrific in shopping for me, serving the lunch and cleaning up after lunch. I am very grateful for your help.

What a wonderful club we are, especially to all who took on a committee position, without you we would not be the successful club that we are. Tournament Committee Sandra Wallace and Joy Cuthbert. Match Committee Di Hands, Val Gibbs and Vicki Whebell. Bev Cahill Ladies Winter 4's. The men's very successful 2X2's both summer and winter, Ross Higgins, Brian Hall, Graeme Sinclair and Doug Freeman. Wednesday Night Social Bowls Angelo Russo, what a wonderful effort you have put in to encourage new bowlers. A very big thank you. Over 60's Ladies and Men's , thank you Moira Smith. Murray Phillips and Norm Mitchelmore.

Congratulations to Di Hands on winning the Ladies Open Singles, it was a wonderful game between Di and Marg Thorne. The Ladies B grade Singles was also a terrific game between Robyn MacFadyen and Vicki Whebell, Robyn won the title with a very close game, well done

girls.

Congratulations to Josh Warren for his great achievements this year, winning the Men's Open Singles at our club and G.V. Events. Kelvin Rogash winning the Men's B Grade well done guys. Well done to all our members who played in G.V. & State Events.

Helen Paul and Robyn MacFadyen and the ladies on the catering committee have worked very hard all year and have made our club proud, especially during the Vic. Open, staying late to supply our members and guests with an evening meal. There were many accolades for this extra work, this also with the BBQ run by Murray Phillips from around 6.30am until late. We were very well catered for, thanks everyone.

Ray Phillips our bar manager has done a wonderful job in keeping us well hydrated with a great stocked bar, a big effort, well done Ray.

Great effort Bill Chilcott and the committee of the "Vic Open", a lot of work but very successful for our club and our district.

Selection Committees both Midweek and Weekend did a sterling job to get all games going every week, especially when at times some people were unable to play, sometimes for sickness and holidays.

Midweek pennant, well done Div 2 on winning the grand final. They played great bowls all season. Div. 4A played in the final but were just not good enough on the day. Congratulations to all our midweek teams for the great bowls you played all season.

Well done to Weekend pennant teams Div. 1 and Div. 6 for getting to the final, unfortunately they were not successful on the day but great effort.

Thanks to Bev Cahill and her helpers giving us a midweek pennant break-up, great night Bev.

The combined pennant break-up, chicken and salad night dinner was very well supported.

Thanks to Robyn & Hughie MacFadyen for their work behind the scenes in helping me with this night and to the helpers in the kitchen also Ray & Jim in the bar.

Terrific effort everyone.

Thank you to our coach Paul Nichols, umpires and markers.

I am not standing for any position on the committee or board next season, please give everyone who does your full support.

We are in uncertain territory with the "Coronavirus" that is all over the world. I hope everyone keeps safe and well.

Good bowling all.

Marg Stibbard

## **Bowls Committee Vice-Chair Report 2019-20**

### **Paul Becroft**

Firstly, many thanks to all members for their help and support during the year and special thanks to Marg Stibbard, Wes and all Board members.

Congratulations to club champions A grade Josh Warren and Di Hands, B Grade Kelvin Rogash and Robyn MacFadyen and all the other winners of club and state events.

Special thanks to Ray Phillips and his bar staff for running a very successful bar always providing an excellent service for members and visitors.

Thanks to Helen and Robyn and their helpers for a wonderful effort from the kitchen, all their catering has been of a very high standard whether it was a humble sandwich or a 3 course meal prepared and presented perfectly. Thanks to Rob Thorne, Craig and their helpers for preparing and presenting the surrounds and greens at a very high standard under sometimes difficult circumstances beyond their control. Thanks Ross Higgins and Di Hands and her ladies match committee for organising and running all club events, the only disappointment was lack of numbers of members contesting events so I think this is a challenge to all members to increase participation in all club events.

Thanks to coach Paul Nichols for another successful and great year, succeeding in midweek pennant teams making finals with Div. 2 winning the grand final, well done ladies and gentlemen. Weekend pennant also having a great year with Div.6 and Div.1 playing grand finals although losing. The players deserve high praise for their efforts throughout the year and in the grand final. Thanks to our club selectors Paul Nichols, Paul Warren, Brian Hall, Vince Mazzella and Ash Williamson for another excellent effort as I know being a selector just how difficult the job can be at times. Thanks to all our members who have made themselves available to play pennant throughout the season and I sincerely hope that they all stick with the club next season which I think will be a very trying time for the club and all other clubs in the G.V.

As this is Marg Stibbard's last year as Bowls Director I would sincerely like to thank her for her support for me in my first year as Men's Bowls Director and commend her for her efforts in the time she was in office helping to make Shepp Park Lawn Bowls club a successful and happy club which I am proud to be a member, stay safe.

Regards

Paul Becroft

Men's Bowls Director

### **Membership Director—Leonie Freeman**

I wish to thank Paul Warren who on his retirement kindly shared his membership data which enabled a particularly easy changeover.

Due to the current situation with Coronavirus, it remains to be seen how many members re-join or change clubs for the coming season. I will issue up to date membership numbers for full and social members at the commencement of the season via our newsletter.

At the present time our 2019-20 membership consists of:-

Affiliated Members Full: 147

Life members: 2

Social members: 28

Total combined membership: 177

I have made contact with the mature footballers who meet in our building and this may prove very worthwhile as they come to the end of their footy careers. Their President is very keen to keep some form of club social interaction during their off season and bowls is a way to achieve this.

Our sincere thanks go to Angelo Russo for organising the Wednesday evening competition which saw over 72 players enjoying and learning our sport. Some of these have taken out social or full memberships already.

Our terrific club performed remarkably last season however, as our membership is largely in the higher age bracket we must entice new members if we are to remain viable. All of us must play a part in gaining new members so please make approaches to your friends or likely acquaintances, invite them down for a roll on the grass greens ( when we are allowed to do so ) and hopefully they will ultimately make the decision to join us.

Leonie Freeman

### **Greens Director—Murray Phillips**

The year commenced with the re-appointment of Rob Thorne as Green Keeper and Craig Brauman as Rob's assistant. They were ably assisted by a committee consisting of Graeme Sinclair, Bill Probst, Barry Hubble, Richard Hansen, Dennis Paul & Graham Ball. Each of these members carried out duties each week keeping the Greens, Carpet and surrounds to the highest order.

During the year we were confronted with several problems on the Foundation green and they all presented at the time that the green was being renovated. They included, Nematodes, Pythium, Couch Mites, Stem Weevils and other pests. The Members green also had patches show up. After soil and plant tests were carried out, a treatment plan was recommended and put into action which seems to have been beneficial to both greens.

Early in the year the carpet was to be lifted and the base screeded and repaired. The Tiger Turf repairers examined the condition of the carpet and recommended not to lift the entire carpet as they were not confident that it would survive that type of handling. Whilst the south west corner was rolled back and the base in that area was repaired we were advised to leave the rest of the carpet alone.

The Board was then asked to consider a replacement carpet for 2020 season. This request was agreed to and at the time of writing this report the replacement work is being carried out.

During the year new equipment was purchased, this included a new irrigation system, a new additional Greens Roller giving us the capacity to roll both greens at once and a new lawn edger. Another addition was shelters along the West side of the Members Green thanks to the generosity of East Shepparton Bowls Club.

New shrubs were planted along the North end of the Members Green, thanks to Lloyd Mawson for arranging the removal of the old stumps.

A big thank you to the Friday mowing team for turning out each week to mow the surrounds, your efforts were very much appreciated.

Finally, I would like to give a special mention to Barry Hubble who gave tremendous service to the greens, considering he was forced to give up playing pennant due to ill health, Barry still attending Monday and Friday mornings to cut and roll the Foundation green. This was a huge effort on your part, we all acknowledge your commitment to this Club.

For the coming season we will require extra members to join the Greens Committee to assist with the maintenance of the new carpet, greens and surrounds.

Thanks to everyone who has helped in anyway during the past year.

### **Murray Phillips-Greens Director**

#### **Catering Committee**

On behalf of Robyn and I, I would like to present the 2019-20 report.

We have had a busy year catering for various tournaments, a funeral wake, 60 & over, Vic. Open and 22 outside functions.

We trialled a new system for Saturday rolls by making them in the morning, and this worked well. We would like to especially thank our committee, and the Board for their support and help over the year.

A huge thank you to the members and the men who helped out when asked, especially to Graeme and Vince and their helpers for the BBQ's. Also to the Wednesday night social bowlers who have been great supporters and helpers when we have asked for additional helpers.

Unfortunately our year ended abruptly, with the remainder of our catering cancelled, Robyn and I took this opportunity to give the kitchen a thorough clean.

Thank you all once again.

### **Helen Paul**

#### **Bar Manager—Ray Phillips**

This has been a different year to say the least, the bar has a very successful year for the first 10 months but then came COVID 19 and as we all know that shut our lives down for the foreseeable future, we can only hope that we get back to some form of normality whatever that may be.

I would like to thank all those that have worked in the bar throughout the year. We have seen a very busy time, e.g. Vic. Open and quite a few corporate and Christmas functions. Thanks to Marg. Thorne, our club booking officer, also to Angelo Russo who has done a wonderful job in growing our Wednesday night bowls and Graeme Sinclair and Vince Mazzella who worked the bar for the Wednesday night bowls, great job by all who have worked for the club on these nights. A special thank you to Marg Stibbard for the work in the bar. It has been a pleasure to work with you Marg. To have you working the till while others can serve the drinks makes it so easy.

### **Ray Phillips-Bar Manager**

### **Sponsorship**

Our sponsorship manager, Keith Dudley, has done a wonderful job for our club. As always it is very difficult to keep approaching business people with requests for sponsorship. Keith has worked very hard for our club, and, he has achieved a great result with several new sponsors coming on board. Unfortunately, a number of vouchers and gifts, were unable to be used this year due to the onset of Covid19 and the subsequent cancellation of our Charity Day and other tournaments. We anticipate that the upcoming season will prove very difficult to obtain sponsorship due to the ongoing effects of the Coronavirus.

As always we ask that members support our valued sponsors who are listed below.  
Thank you Keith for your endeavours this past season.

### **Our Valued Sponsors - Please support them.**

Merritt Funeral Services	Aspect Sportswear	Statewide Pest Control
Lifestyle Communities	Retzos Group (KFC)	Shepparton News
Kensington Gardens	Country Healthcare	Shepparton Carpet Court
Kruegers Fine Meats	Peppermill Inn	GV Engineering
Mawson's Supermix	Central Tyre Service	GMCU
Shepparton Bowls Shop	Kebabboyz	Shepparton Food Services
Mooroopna Pizzeria & Wine Bar	Shepparton Fresh Baked Foods	

Norvec Electrical Contractors.

Plus the many other businesses that support our Club  
Tournaments and annual Charity Day.