



Shepparton Park Bowls Club
Inc

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 26th May 2021

Annual General Meeting 2021

Agenda

1. Welcome and Apologies
2. Quorum is 29 members, there is no proxy voting
3. Naming of scrutineers
4. Confirm minutes of Annual General Meeting held October 17 2020
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;
8. Two year term: Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Treasurer, Male Bowls Director
9. One year term: Secretary, Membership Director, Greens Director, Female Bowls Director (one year remaining)
10. Election of Managers; Bar Manager, Catering Manager, Sponsorship Manager and Social Activities Manager;
11. Transact any other business affecting the interest and welfare of the Club, of which due notice has been given according to the rules.
12. Election of Auditors.
13. Close of Meeting

Minutes of Annual General Meeting held 17/10/2020

Present:

Barb Allen, Annette Barkley, Marlene Bartley, Ron Bartley, Paul Becroft, Rob Bennett, Elaine Brewster, Brenda Brodie, Peter Brodie, Peter Burns, Kate Bush, Bev Cahill, Joy Cuthbert, Ken Cuthbert, Cathy Dudley, Keith Dudley, Glenn Edwards, Doug Freeman. Leonie Freeman, Joy Gardam, Val Gibbs, Wes Gibbs, Brian Griffiths, Bill Gullick, Di Hands, Ron Holland, Wendy Holland, Stan Hester, Marg Keen, Robyn MacFadyen, Graeme Matthews, Pam McGurgan, Vincent Mazzella, Norm Mitchelmore, Barry Nelson, Marie Nelson, Lorraine Nicholls, Ray Phillips, Murray Phillips, Bill Probst, Kelvin Rogash, Angelo Russo, Graeme Sinclair, Bob Smith, Moira Smith, Denis Smyth, Margaret Smyth, Margaret Stibbard, Margaret Thorne, Rob Thorne, Sandra Wallace, Vicki Whebell, Coral Williams, Greg Williamson.

Apologies:

Dennis Beck, Julie Bennett, Jeff Boyle, Mavis Boyle, Alan Cameron, Ellen Cameron, Alan Davis, Jenni Hill, Lyn Oliver, Jim Oliver, Denis Paul, Helen Paul, Max Steigenberger, Milton Stibbard

These were accepted on the motion of Sandra Wallace and Rob Thorne.

Minutes of meeting held 22/5/2019

These were accepted as a true and accurate record on the motion of Ray Phillips and Greg Williamson.

Reports:

These were distributed with the meeting agenda, and were accepted on a motion from Marlene Bartley and Stan Hester.

Treasurer's Report:

This was accepted on a motion from Kate Bush and Di Hands.

Election of Directors:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Nominator</u>	<u>Seconded by</u>
Secretary	Bill Gullick	Vincent Mazzella	Graeme Sinclair
Female Bowls Director	Sandra Wallace	Marie Nelson	Elaine Brewster
Membership Director	Leonie Freeman	Moira Smith	Bev Thorn
Greens Director	Murray Phillips	Rob Thorne	Graeme Sinclair

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	Bill Gullick	Paul Becroft
Catering Manager	Helen Paul	Bill Gullick	Graeme Sinclair
Social Activities Manager	No nomination		
Sponsorship Manager	No nomination		

As there was only one nomination for the positions of Bar manager and Catering manager the Chairman declared the nominees to be elected.

As there was no nomination for Social manager and Sponsorship manager, the Chairman asked members to consider the positions and speak to him if they might be able to undertake the role.

Election of Auditors:

Goulburn Murray Audit Service were elected as auditors for the next year on the motion of Ray Phillips and Peter Burns.

Close of meeting:

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

The Meeting closed at 3.00pm.

Reports from Board Directors and Bowls Committee

Chairman - Wes Gibbs

It is with pleasure that I am able to present my final report in much better circumstances than last year. We are not completely back to normal, however, many of our competitions are being played.

Finance: This year has been very challenging financially. We lost one of our main sources of income with the cancelling of the Vic. Open. However, we are still financially sound and are continually trying to improve our facilities.

Thanks to the Sponsorship Director, Keith Dudley for his continuing good work.

Coach: Our coach, Paul Nichols has had a very challenging year with all the restrictions. Hopefully, he will be able to continue his normal coaching role at our club this year. Thanks, Paul.

Pennant: Our club didn't win any premierships. Congratulations to Division 1 and Division 3 midweek teams for playing in the Grand final. Thank you to all the bowlers who played in the midweek and weekend pennant competitions.

Congratulations to all winners of the Club Championships.

New Members: This year we gained new members, but unfortunately we have lost some members to other clubs. However, Angelo Russo and his assistants continue to increase our membership numbers through the Wednesday night social competition. This is a very important component of our membership drive. Well done to all concerned.

Green Keeper and Greens: Under the guidance of our Greens Director, Murray Phillips and Green Keeper, Rob Thorne and their assistants we were able to host the weekend Pennant Division 1 grand final. A great achievement! As both Murray and Rob are not continuing in these roles I would like to thank them for their dedication to the task of maintaining the greens to a very high standard. I would like to welcome the newly appointed Green Keeper, Shane Walsh, and wish him all the best as he undertakes the Green Keeper role.

Charity Day: We were able to hold a very successful charity day. Under the leadership of Ron Holland and his team of workers we were able to make a donation of \$7,100 to "People supporting people". This was a wonderful effort all round!

Catering: Due to the Covid restrictions the work load of the catering committee was reduced. There was no catering for weekend pennant and the Thursday competition. However, thank you to Helen Paul and her assistant Robyn MacFadyen and their team for the catering duties they have hosted.

Booking Officer: A big thank you, Marg Thorne, for all your efforts during the challenges of Covid.

Bar Manager: Ray Phillips has continued to manage the bar. Thank you for your efforts, Ray.

Best Club person: Congratulations to Angelo Russo for winning this award in the 2019-20 season and Graeme Sinclair in the 2020-21 season. Very well deserved.

Board members: I would like to thank the retiring Board members, Murray Phillips (Greens Director) and Paul Becroft (Male Bowls Director) for their untiring efforts in their positions.

Board Members: Thank you to all the other Board members for their continued support to me over the last 4 years as Chairman. It has been a privilege and honour to have been in the position of Chairman of this great club. I would like to wish the incoming Chairman and new Board members all the best for the coming season. This concludes my final report as Chairman Wesley R. Gibbs

Deputy Chairman - Kelvin Rogash

As with most other things this last year has been reasonably quiet for my role.

Given that the new AFL building works have now been completed we will arrange with Council to further investigate and repair cracks at the Southern end of our building. Even though this area is not used much the upkeep still needs to be done. As part of the AFL upgrade most of the football ground has been converted to pump water and council has also changed the sprinkler system in front of the football rooms to also be pump water, rather than town water, so hopefully this will reduce our water bill somewhat.

Our bird deterrent system on the Rose Green has not been as successful as we hoped so this is still a work in progress. Unfortunately this means a little more work to keep the carpet area clean for bowling. So thank you to those involved.

Internally we have had the automatic flushing system in the mens toilet replaced. After 10 years some parts had started to erode which caused continuous problems. We have also had to replace one of our solar inverters and a compressor on one of our refrigeration units on the roof. Age seems to catch up to everything.

We tried to convert the club microphones to be rechargeable but not successfully so we will now move ahead to purchase a suitable replacement.

As Wes is finishing his term as Chairman I would like to thank him for his support in my role. Kelvin Rogash-Deputy Chair.

Male Bowls Director-Paul Becroft

Another season has finished and it has been a trying and unusual COVID interrupted Bowls season. Many thanks to all members for their patience and adherence to the clubs COVID policies and practices which, unfortunately, are still ongoing. Congratulations to all Midweek and Weekend pennant teams who contested Pennant finals. Just making finals in the COVID season was a great effort.

Thanks to all club Pennant players who made themselves available to play and supported Shepp. Park. To our Midweek and Weekend pennant selectors as usual a job well done.

To our Greens staff, Murray and Rob and their tireless helpers a great effort all season with the Weekend Grand Final being played on an excellent green and the whole club and surrounds being presented in an outstanding manner which all Shepp. Park members should be proud of, as I am.

Thanks to Helen and Robyn and their team, as usual a great and professional effort, carrying out all catering tasks asked of them in a cheerful and competent manner and are a credit to the club.

Well done to Di Hands and the Ladies Match Committee for organising and running our club events. Congratulations to Josh Warren and Di Hands for winning the A grade events, David Slingo and Joy Gardam winning the B grade. Well done to all winners of all club events.

Thanks to Paul Nichols, our club coach, for his efforts and commitment to coaching and endeavours to raise the standards of all our bowlers, whether Div. 1 or 6. It is great to see that he is going to continue coaching next season and I am positive that the club will reap the benefits.

To Bill Gullick, our hard working secretary many thanks for your efforts and support for me and congratulations for your efforts as you are the reason why Shepp. Park is a great place to play lawn bowls, and, a successful club which I am proud to be a member of.

Thanks to Ray Phillips, and his bar staff as usual a job well done. Thanks to Sandra Wallace for your efforts and support for the season, and, I know you will be successful in the coming year as Ladies Bowls Director.

Many thanks to Wes Gibbs and his board who under somewhat trying circumstances have successfully ensured that the club has been run and managed well and a great place to be a lawn bowler, and a member of.

Good luck to all new and current committee members in the upcoming season, I am positive the club is in good hands.

Thanks, and well done to Marg Thorne and Graeme Sinclair for their outstanding efforts and commitment to running social events and ensuring all aspects of running the club have been carried out to everyone's enjoyment and satisfaction.

As I am standing down from my position of Bowls Director many thanks to all members and many thanks to all Board members for all the support for the time of my representing Shepp. Park of which I am very proud to be a member of. I wish the club and all the members good luck and success for the coming season, cheers and good bowling.

Paul Becroft

Female Bowls Director-Sandra Wallace

Firstly I would like to thank Marg. Stibbard for taking this role on for four years prior to myself being elected. Marg did a great job and they are big shoes to fill.

Thank you to the Board and club members for making my transition into the position run smoothly. We have had such an interrupted year with restrictions due to Covid and were lucky enough to have a pennant season.

Midweek pennant teams had a good season with Div. 1 Tan and Div.3 making the Grand Final. Div. 4 Rose made it to the preliminary final. We were unfortunate not to come away with a trophy, but, well done to all players.

Great success was had in our GV State events. Marg. Thorne winning (singles). Marg. Thorne and Sue Tyson (pairs). Di Hands and Kate Bush (over 60's pairs). Marg. Thorne, Sue Tyson and Jenni Hill (triples) Di Hands, Kate Bush, Marg. Thorne and Sue Tyson (Fours). Di and Kate went on to win over 60's Regional pairs and Marg., Sue and Jenni won Regional Triples. These girls now play in State finals in Bendigo in May. We wish them all the best.

Our club events were well supported this year with good entries. Congratulations to Di Hands on winning the "A" Grade singles final and Joy Gardam the "B" Grade.

Thank you to the following committees and volunteers who helped run these positions: Paul Nichols (coach), Rob Thorne (greens), Helen Paul and Robyn MacFadyen (catering), Ray Phillips (bar), Bev Cahill and Wes Gibbs (tournaments) Ron Holland (charity day), over 60's committees, Angelo Russo (social bowls), selection committees, match committees, umpires and markers.

Thank you to Moira Smith for sending out many get well and bereavement cards the past year. I would also like to thank secretaries, Wendy Holland and Bill Gullick for their support. They have made my job easy.

Enjoy your Winter break and I look forward to next season.

Sandra Wallace (Deputy Chairperson-Bowls Committee).

Secretary - Bill Gullick

It is my pleasure to present my report on the goings on at our club over the last 12 months, even though our last AGM was only last October. After being delayed several times we finally managed to complete all of our AGM's and elections in October 2020. The Board has worked

very hard and in a most unified manner to guide the club through the last Covid affected 12 months. Unfortunately Covid has taken a large chunk out of our revenue across 2 financial years. However, the Treasurer will advise more on that.

I will not go over the last 12 months, but, all members will be well aware of all the problems and interruptions we have all been through. Hopefully, those times are now gone, but we urge everyone to continue to follow Covid protocols, and, to be careful and vigilant at all times.

All members of this club, and visitors, are to be congratulated for quickly adapting to changing restrictions and conditions around Covid. The compliance has been excellent, and, thankfully we have had no problems at Shepparton Park.

I do believe the past 12 months did have a detrimental effect on many people, and, that it was at times a battle to turn up each weekend and there did not seem to be a lot of excitement around playing bowls. This is just my personal observation, and, I am hopeful that everyone will turn up this year with renewed enthusiasm.

With that in mind it is time to talk about the future.

- The Victorian Open will be with us again from November 19-26. As always this is of huge financial benefit to our club and will require a massive effort from all members.
- The Rose Green carpet was stretched again during March and it still does not seem to be ideal. We will continue to monitor this and get Tiger Turf back before the Vic. Open.
- Rob Thorne has stood down from greenkeeping, and, it is worth reminding members of the poor state of our greens after the previous person left. Rob and Ray Phillips, and then Rob alone took on the greens, and, it has been a massive effort to get them back to where they are now.
- We did not have much confidence in finding a new greenkeeper, however, we were most fortunate to secure the services of Shane Walsh to look after our greens. We welcome Shane to Shepparton Park.
- We are also very pleased to announce that Paul Nichols has agreed to coach us for another season. Like the Club, Paul has endured an impossible year due to Covid travel restrictions and lockdowns. Paul is raring to go and will once again hold his popular Sunday coaching sessions and SPARKS program. Start is June, keep an eye out for dates.
- We have also advertised for an assistant coach with very little success. It is very difficult to recruit bowlers from other clubs without overpaying. Most bowlers are loyal to their clubs, and, that is a good thing.

With this in mind we are delighted to announce that Josh Warren has accepted our offer to become our assistant coach. Josh's main areas of responsibility will be to provide coaching for our midweek bowlers and Wednesday night social bowlers. He will also assist Paul Nichols with coaching duties, as, and when, required.

- Angelo Russo is doing a wonderful job of running our Wednesday night bowls and introducing new bowlers and potential members to our club. We believe this is our most likely avenue of increasing our membership, and, hopefully members introduced via this program are more likely to be loyal, long term members. There are a number of bowlers showing great promise and ability and if we can continue to foster them we could see great rewards. Thank you to Angelo, his helpers and our own Members who join in and provide guidance to new bowlers.
- I would like to sincerely thank our wonderful band of willing volunteers who continue to work extremely hard for the good of the club. More workers are always needed, and, too much is being left to too few. We implore all members to see what time they can spare to help our club. I will congratulate two of our valued volunteers for their continued efforts for our club. Jeff Boyle has been doing our bowls notes for the Shepparton News and compiling the statistics for our Thursday Pairs for a long time. Also, our go to man, Graeme Sinclair, for doing anything and everything around the club. Well done to the two of you.
- I will finish with the following. We do desperately need a few more people to help out

around the club. We have a great band of greens workers, but, more are always welcome. The catering committee would always welcome more helpers, we need a few people to look after the Rose Green carpet. It would be wonderful to have some volunteers take on the positions of : Booking officer, and sponsorship manager and to form a social committee and take on the running of our Thursday bowls.

Without being too dramatic some events may not run if more help is not forthcoming. You may need to clean the Rose Green before play and get out your own mats and kitties.

These things do not just happen. "Someone" does all these jobs everytime.

Good things are happening at our Club, and, we should all be enthusiastic and positive about our future prospects. Please encourage our newer bowlers, and, invite anyone you know, who may be interested in bowls, to come to our club. We really do need to continue to increase our membership base.

Wes is also finishing his second term as Chairman and I will congratulate Wes on his stewardship of the Board, and Club, over the last 4 years. The Board has always operated in a most cohesive manner and all decisions taken after appropriate consideration and discussion. Well done, Wes.

Bill Gullick
Secretary

Greens Director-Murray Phillips

The year commenced with the re-appointment of Rob Thorne as Green Keeper ably assisted by a committee consisting of Graeme Sinclair, Bill Probst, Barry Hubble, Graham Ball, Denis Beck, Wes Gibbs, Vincent Mazzella, Alan Davis, Paul Becroft, Kelvin Rogash, Bill Gullick, Doug Freeman, Ray Phillips and Barry Nelson. Each of these members carried out their duties each week keeping the Greens, Carpet and surrounds to the highest standard.

During the year we weren't confronted with the problems of the previous year, as a defensive treatment program was put in place by Rob which was very effective in controlling problems before they started.

Thank you to the Friday mowing team, organised by Vincent, for turning out each week to mow the surrounds, your efforts were very much appreciated.

I would like to give a special mention to Barry Hubble who gave tremendous service to the Greens. Barry attended Monday and Friday mornings to cut and roll the Foundation Green. This was a huge effort on your part considering your health, we all acknowledge your commitment to this Club.

Rob Thorne has done a remarkable job over the last few years, keeping our greens up to a standard fit to host Vic. Open Tournaments, Regional events and GVBA finals. This year's presentation of greens for the finals especially the Division one Grand Final was a credit to you.

Unfortunately, Rob is unable to continue as our Greens Keeper due to his time being consumed doing house renovations. We wish him well in his endeavours and hope to see him around the Club in 2021.

The Board have appointed Shane Walsh as our new Greens Keeper.

For the coming season we will require extra members to join the Greens Committee to assist with the maintenance of the Carpet, Greens and surrounds. We need a couple of members to blow off the rubbish that seems to accumulate during the week.

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

Murray Phillips Greens Director

Membership Director-Leonie Freeman

It is with pleasure that I present this report.

Our current Membership is as follows:-

Full memberships 143 includes two life members

Social memberships 53

Our Social memberships are increasing largely due to the work Angelo Russo has put in by recruiting players for the Wednesday Evening Sessions. The interest created will result in full memberships next season. Angelo has also run a few nights that have been skill based and these were greatly appreciated by the social members.

It is up to all of us to try to encourage friends and neighbours to come along and try bowls. Just an invite could result in a new membership which would enhance our club.

In Spring, the local tennis players and football players will be invited to join us for a fun evening and hopefully this will encourage them to think about joining bowls when their playing days are over. Our newer members are joining in, offering their assistance and taking responsibility and this will ensure a strong club in the future.

Work hard everyone and we will have a great 2021-22 season.

Leonie Freeman
Membership Director

Catering Report-Helen Paul

We would like to present the 2020-21 annual report. The year started very slowly due to COVID restrictions. We organised the cheese and biscuits for the Saturday, Tuesday and Thursday bowlers. Once restrictions eased we were able to resume some catering again.

We have catered for outside businesses, a wake, Turkey Triples, Christmas Dinner, Five a side, Ladies Triples, G.V. Bowls 100 year celebration (with nibbles), Charity Day and Memorial night.

We would like to thank all of the committee for their help and support. You make our job so much easier. Also to members who are more than willing to help when asked.

Thank you all
Helen and Robyn

Bar report 2020-21

Once again we have had a very difficult year because of Covid. We have had a couple of lock downs across our state and they have taken a toll on our club, but we stuck with things out of our control and are still here.

We were not permitted to use our clubhouse inside, but, as our bar is also an outdoor bar we were able to use this when bowls were able to go ahead once more, we had a menu of hot dogs and dim sims so bowlers could still have something to eat as they had a drink when their games were finished.

I would like to thank all those who came along to help with bar duty, more hands make light work. Once again with the great work done by Angelo Russo and his team on Wednesday social bowls we had Graeme Sinclair and Vince Mazzella who do such a great job on Wednesday nights as well as many other occasions.

I would also like to say a big thank you to Marg Stibbard for all that she does in the bar through the season, every Saturday and Thursday. You do an excellent job Marg. Thank you.

Ray Phillips Bar Manager.

