



# NEWSLETTER

ISSUE 2 – SEPTEMBER

SEASON 2015-16

## FROM CHAIRMAN DAVID:

*Well here we are on the verge of another Lawn Bowls season with Pennant only weeks away. We welcome back all the grey nomads from time in the sun, and also welcome all our new members. Let us all set out to make 2015-16 a year to remember, firstly for fun and good fellowship, and then competitive team success will surely follow.*

## PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE:

The Board recently held a three hour meeting with Josh Thornton, Regional Bowl's Manager for North East Victoria, to discuss initiatives for how the Wodonga Bowling Club can successfully progress and survive in future years. As part of this process, members are being asked for their thoughts so as any future Strategic Development Plan will hopefully be "owned and respected" by everyone associated with the Club's operation. Accordingly all members are requested to enthusiastically embrace this opportunity to offer any ideas with return of their survey forms by 3<sup>rd</sup> September at the latest. One guiding principle is that the Club currently has a cost structure that in the long term cannot be sustained.

## RECENT PURCHASES & EXPENSES:

Many will have noticed the Club now has a new ride on mower. As repairing the old one was going to be almost 50% of the cost of a new one. It has more power than the old mower, had a changeover cost of just on \$2,500, and should meet our needs for many years to come. Similarly, after an attempted renovation of the old flag pole which led to it falling in halves, a new one is now on order. Depending on a decision re the location remaining the same or being placed in an alternative position, the cost will be between \$1600 and \$2000.

## BAR REQUIREMENTS:

Urgent repairs are now required in the vicinity of the bar, and possibly the back room refrigeration. The Club's current glass chilling units are well beyond their used by date and must be replaced before the hot weather. Overall cost at this stage is unknown.

## MEMBERSHIP CARDS:

Hopefully, all members will be issued with a personalized numbered membership card by the end of September. Social/Junior Members will have a similar but different color card, and in future years it is further hoped to refine our computer/cash register software to allow swiping of membership cards to accrue loyalty points – however this won't be possible during the current year. Cost will be \$400 - \$500.

## CAR PARK:

In order to provide bitumen seal to the new car park area the club has once again applied for a funding grant of \$10,000 under the "Holden Home Ground Advantage Program". The success or otherwise of the submission will not be known until around Oct-Nov. But improved floodlighting of the car park, with new grating over the drainage pit adjacent to the fire track, are tasks now completed.

## WORKING BEES:

9 to 11am – 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of month. The only one held so far in July was poorly attended and I would hope for a far better roll up on the 14<sup>th</sup> September.

## SOLAR PANELS:

Despite the increase cost of electricity, the free installation of the Club's 30KW system has reduced this year's power costs to end of July by \$2,000.

## KYLIE'S INVITATION:



Wodonga's popular Ladies' Singles Champion and regular Victorian State representative Kylie Whitehead recently played in the Invitation Under 25 Prestige Silver Nugget Singles held at Tweed Heads. As only the 12 male and 12 female under 25 players, considered to be the best in Australia, are invited to compete in this prestigious event this indeed was a rare honor to be invited to enter.

Kylie's first game was against fellow Victorian State Teammate Elise Cowan, which Elise won 21-15. She then played Kelly Richard from NSW, which Kylie won 21-10. Her next game was against this year's Australian Open singles winner Ellen Ryan and, although playing highly competitive bowls, Kylie went down to the Australian Champion.

The next day's first game was against Natalie Norohna from NSW which Kylie won comfortably. The last sectional game was against Bolivia Millerick from QLD, in which Kylie again had a comfortable win, 21-9 to give her second place in her section and the opportunity to play in the quarter finals.

In the quarter final Kylie was drawn against the New South Wales girl Samantha Norohna. Unfortunately, in a game that could have gone either way, Kylie went down by just one shot - a tremendous effort.

Kylie didn't win the tournament (the eventual winner was Sarah Boddington from NSW) but considering the standing of her opponents in Australian bowls she did extremely well and all at Wodonga congratulate her. Moreover, the experience gained in this singles tournament is immeasurable.

## CLUB WEB SITE/NEWSLETTER:

The Board of Management is extremely appreciative of the work Noel Murrell has undertaken in developing a club website and encourages as many members as possible to view and make use of the endless information available on the website. To gain entry to the website one only has to log on to [www.wodonga.bowls.com.au](http://www.wodonga.bowls.com.au) Over time, when fully developed, and more and more members have access to a computer and "go on line" it is expected the website will be a major means of communication within the club.

The Board also expects to once again publish a monthly newsletter. Previously, all members who had an email address registered with the Club were sent a copy of the newsletter via email. Now with the development of the Club website the Club will not be following this procedure as all members with access to computers can read the Newsletter on the website. The Club will still print a number of hard copies of the Newsletter which (we hope) will be available at the beginning of each month at the Club.

Currently a little more than half of our membership has not registered an email address with the Club. Any member who has an email address and hasn't bothered to inform the Club is earnestly requested to let our Director of Admin., John Gill, know because as we have previously indicated in the future the Club expects more and more to communicate to members via the "web".

## NEW MEMBERS

At the August meeting the Board of Management formally approved applications for membership from Helen Milbourne, Shawn McMahon and Shannon Reece.

Helen is a new bowler while Shawn and Shannon are experienced bowlers. Last season Shawn played for Corowa Civic while Shannon hails from Tallangatta.

All at the Wodonga warmly welcome them and hope they will enjoy the facilities and activities provided by our club.

## WEEKEND SELECTION:

Below is a copy of the Weekend Selection Committee's Policy for the 2015-16 season previously published on the Club website.

To all Wodonga Bowls Club members who are committing to another season of weekend pennant we as your selection committee welcome you and we hope you not only enjoy the season but it is also a very successful season in all grades.

We hope everyone enjoys their time on the green and collectively we should strive for harmonious enjoyment and comradery with plenty of encouragement and some excitement during the games. We will be fielding teams in A1, A2, A3, A4, B3, B4, and C1, this means the club will require a total of 96 players every weekend.

Our aim is to pick compatible rinks (as much as possible) and depending on availability, maintain stability in the rinks. Depending on numbers, we will aim to use a reserve list as much as possible to fill vacancies and avoid disruptions to a rink.

Some players may not be playing in their preferred positions however; we expect every player to fulfil their commitment to the Club and strive to be the best you can in your given position. Any player not performing will be notified of the committee's concerns prior to any action being taken. Any player moved to another position will be notified by a selector. Players need to be aware that unavailability may result in a return to a lower grade.

The selectors will be conducting skills/training sessions leading up to and during the course of the pennant season, with a view of improving our skills. Players will be notified of these sessions in due course by way of the website/newsletter or the noticeboard. Participation in these sessions is encouraged for all members.

We will be running a pennant managers workshop prior to the start of the season, for members that may be interested in this role. We will also be looking at the possibility of perhaps having some non-playing managers to help out the club. Again we will be keeping members up to date with the progress of these ideas.

Selectors have been assigned a grade or grades throughout the pennant season. Any player with issues will be invited to address the full committee. Committee members will also be in contact with each rink at some time after the game and prior to the next selection meeting. They will be asking one or two players and not necessarily the Skipper, a set number of questions to which we hope you, if contacted will give a true and accurate response. This will hopefully give us a good idea how the teams are combining and identifying any flaws that may need altering.

The grade and member responsible is as follows:

A1. Chris Bird.

A3. Klive Liverton.

B3. Col Fitzmaurice & Rick Gillman.

C1. Col Fitzmaurice & Rick Gillman.

A2. Paul Davies & Chris Bird.

A4. Paul Davies & Klive Liverton.

B4. Col Fitzmaurice & Rick Gillman.

We anticipate conducting a series of practice matches for all grades in the weeks leading up to the commencement of the pennant season. Again, we will be notifying players well in advance of dates and times via the webpage, newsletter and notice board.

While the Committee is pleased with the number of members who have already indicated they intend playing pennant this season more players are required to fill the teams and provide a "buffer" of emergencies. All members who have paid their membership fees and haven't yet indicated whether or not they intend to play pennant this season, will be contacted to gauge their intentions.

IF YOU DO INTEND TO PLAY PENNANT AND HAVEN'T INDICATED THIS TO THE SELECTORS  
PLEASE ADD YOUR NAME TO THE LIST ON THE NOTICE BOARD.

Chris Bird: Chairman

## SEPTEMBER DATES TO HIGHLIGHT IN YOUR DIARY:

|     |    |  |         |
|-----|----|--|---------|
| Thu | 3  | Hec Stuart Mens Triples                            | 12.00pm |
| Fri | 4  | Spring Open Singles                                | 2.00pm  |
| Sat | 5  | Invitation Men's Spring Triples Tournament         | 9.30am  |
| Sun | 6  | Invitation Men's Spring Triples Tournament         | 9.30am  |
| Sun | 13 | Opening Day (Incorporating BRAIN RESEARCH Charity) | 10.00am |
| Tue | 15 | O & M Ladies Opening Day – Corowa Civic            | 10.00am |
| Fri | 18 | “GENERATIONS” Wodonga Ladies’ Fours                | 10.00am |
| Sun | 20 | “BORDER CARPETS” Hilda Hawkins Mixed Pairs         | 12.30pm |
| Mon | 21 | Ladies’ State Novice Singles - Rutherglen          | 10.00am |
| Tue | 22 | Ladies’ Consistency Rnds 1 & 2                     | 10.00am |
| Thu | 24 | Ladies’ Consistency Rnds 3 & 4                     | 10.00am |
| Sun | 27 | Mens State Pairs - Sectional at Corowa Civic       | 10.00am |
| Tue | 29 | Ladies’ Consistency Final                          | 10.00am |
|     |    | Mid-Week Pennant Practice                          | 10.00am |



### OPENING DAY

#### SUNDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER:

This year the Club is breaking with tradition and combining the Opening Day with a Charity Day to raise funds for brain cancer research

Most members would be aware our hard working and popular Treasurer David Hillas was recently diagnosed with brain cancer and while “back on deck” is still undergoing treatment. Another of our member’s family was seriously affected some years ago when they lost a daughter to this blight.

While considerable funding is directed overall to cancer research only a very small proportion of it is directed to brain cancer research. Accordingly, our Club, with assistance from sponsors and hopefully the entire Ovens & Murray and Riverina Bowl’s community, is running this day to raise funds specifically for brain cancer research.

Your support and attendance will greatly assist in the success of the day for this very worthy cause. Starting time is 10:00am, entry is \$12 per person which includes continuous available BBQ & Salad with every participant being a winner



**LADIES FOURS**  
**FRI. 18<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**  
**10:00am**



**BORDER CARPETS**  
**HILDA HAWKINS**  
**MIXED PAIRS**  
**SUN. 20<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**  
**12:30pm**

### LADIES' MEETINGS:

Last season the lady members met once a month with these meetings proving very popular, well attended and a great means of communication. The Ladies will again conduct similar meetings once a month which again should prove to be very popular with the first one being held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September.

# MEN'S SPRING TWO BOWL TRIPLES TOURNAMENT

There are still a few vacancies for teams to be entered In the Club Spring Triples Tournament to be held at the Club over the weekend of Saturday 5th & Sunday 6th September.

The prize money is excellent and the tournament would have to rate as one of the best, if not the best, in the state.

The Men's Match Committee have put a great deal of work into organising this major tournament and alongside the sponsors FINER EMBROIDERY & WESTMONT RETIREMENT are to be congratulated for their effort.

All details are to be found in the publicity flyer and entry list for this tournament and for the "warm-up" singles to be conducted on the Friday prior to the tournament are on the notice board.

## SKILLS TRAINING:

Skills training sessions will start at Wodonga B.C. on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at 4pm. All players are welcome to attend these sessions especially players who have indicated they are playing pennant.

The sessions will be conducted by the selection committee and we are hopeful that some of the club coaches will be there to assist. We will be running these sessions weekly and depending on the popularity of the concept we are looking at continuing throughout the pennant season.

## MANAGER'S WORKSHOP:

Players who have been managers of pennant teams in the past and players that are interested in fulfilling the role this season are invited to a manager's workshop will be held at the club on Monday 21st September at 7pm.

There will be some additional responsibilities with the manager's roles this year. Again the more people we have involved the better.

## COUNCIL PLANS FOR HAVELOCK STREET:

A meeting was recently held with Council engineers to discuss aspects of the Club's car park redevelopment and traffic flow. Part of the meeting also looked at the possible impact on the Club as a result of any extension of Havelock Street through to Osburn Street. A "Draft Plan" of the proposal is now on display in the outside display cabinet.



## PENANNANT TEAMS PUBLICITY:

This season the club was going to have published both midweek and weekend pennant teams in the Thursday Border Mail. Mark Mulcahy who for many years covered sport, particularly bowls, for the Border has recently retired and has told us the newspaper is no longer interested in reporting on lawn bowls in the area, which is indeed unfortunate. At this stage we are unsure if they will be publishing pennant teams so it is important for all pennant players to call into the club after Tuesdays to check on the teams. We are also looking at having the team's listed on the club's website.

## PENNANT PRACTICE:

Pennant practice matches will be organised towards the end of September so again check the noticeboard inside the club and also the club's website for details and updates.

# Galaxy of Stars



LINDSAY  
BUTLER OAM



SHAZA  
LEIGH



GREG  
BAIN



PEGGY  
GILCHRIST

## Wodonga Bowling Club

**Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October – 7.30pm**

**Adult \$20    Child \$5 (under 10 Free)    BYO Nibbles**

**Tickets & Info at the club: 02-60241554 or Bernie Jones:  
0438411488**

### UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT

**FRIDAY 27th NOVEMBER @ 7:30 pm**

*'Multi Award Winning'*

### **Amber Joy Poulton & Band**

*'A Tribute to the First Queens of Country'*

*Songs by Tammy Wynette, Linda Ronstadt, Dolly Parton, Patsy Cline & more*

*Plus the touching story of Loretta Lynn*

**Tickets \$15**

# SEPTEMBER

"FRIDGE CALENDAR"

| MON                        | TUES   | WED                               | THURS   | FRI   | SAT   | SUN   |
|----------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|
|                            | <b>1</b><br>Ladies' Social<br>10:00am                                    | <b>2</b><br>Men's Pairs<br>2:4:2  | <b>3</b><br>Hec Stuart Men's Triples<br>12:00noon                           | <b>4</b><br>Spring Open Singles<br>2:00pm<br><br>Happy Hour & Raffles       | <b>5</b><br>Men's Spring Triples Tournament<br>9:30am | <b>6</b><br>Men's Spring Triples Tournament<br>9:30am               |
| <b>7</b><br>Greens Closed  | <b>8</b><br>Ladies Social<br>10:00am                                     | <b>9</b><br>Men's Pairs<br>2:4:2  | <b>10</b><br>Ladies Social  | <b>11</b><br>Happy Hour & Raffles   | <b>12</b><br>Jackpot Pairs<br>2:4:2                   | <b>13</b><br>Opening Day Incorporating Brain Research Charity       |
| <b>14</b><br>Greens Closed | <b>15</b><br>Ladies Social<br>10:00am                                    | <b>16</b><br>Men's Pairs<br>2:4:2 | <b>17</b>   | <b>18</b><br>GEN'RATION Ladies Fours<br>10:00am<br><br>Happy Hour & Raffles | <b>19</b><br>Jackpot Pairs<br>2:4:2                   | <b>20</b><br>BORDER CARPETS<br>Hilda Hawkins Mixed Pairs<br>12:30pm |
| <b>21</b><br>Greens Closed | <b>22</b><br>Ladies Consistency R'nds 1 & 2                              | <b>23</b><br>Men's Pairs<br>2:4:2 | <b>24</b><br>Ladies Consistency R'nds 3 & 4<br><br>Ladies Social<br>10:00am | <b>25</b><br>Happy Hour & Raffles   | <b>26</b><br>Jackpot Pairs<br>2:4:2                   | <b>27</b><br>Men's State Pairs At Corowa Civic                      |
| <b>28</b><br>Greens Closed | <b>29</b><br>Ladies Consistency Final<br><br>Pennant Practice<br>10:00am | <b>30</b><br>Men's Pairs<br>2:4:2 |   |   |   |   |