

Southern Tasmanian Bowls Association Inc.

Trading as:

Bowls Tasmania South

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President: Peter Kirby

Secretary: Rob McGuire



July 2016

NEWSLETTER TO ALL CLUBS

NEW BTS BOARD:

BTS has a new Board following its Annual General Meeting in May 2016:

President	Peter Kirby
Deputy President	Shirley Hay
Secretary	Rob McGuire
Treasurer	Tony Fulton OAM
Chair, Women's Match Committee	Ailsa Milburn
Chair, Men's Match Committee	Ross Bannister
Umpires Representative	Leonie Price
Coaches Representative	Ross Bannister
Elected Members	Ken Copleman (Beltana), Paula Hadley (Howrah), Ailsa Milburn (Rosny Park) and Malcolm Salier (Royal Hobart).
Executive Assistant	Paul Hoddy

DELEGATES MEETING:

A Delegates Meeting (for Club President's and Secretaries) will be held on Monday 26 September 2016 at the St John's Park Bowls Club, St John's Avenue, New Town at 1pm.

FEES:

The following registration, affiliation and championship entry fees (including GST) will apply for the 2016-17 season:-

1.	Registration fee for adult members	\$72.00
2.	Registration fee for Junior Members	\$36.00
3.	Club Affiliation fee	\$50.00 per team
4.	Championship entry fee (Open and B Grade events)	\$10.00 per player

Registrations and affiliation fees must be lodged with the Secretary by 1 October 2016.

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EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TASMANIA COMPLAINT – SANDY BAY v's BTS

In March 2016 the Sandy Bay Bowls Club lodged a complaint with Equal Opportunity Tasmania following the dismissal of an appeal against a Bowls Tasmania South decision to penalise it for playing a Women's Pennant Division 2 player in a Saturday Pennant Division 6 game on 28 November 2015 which was contrary to BTS Conditions of Play 4.6.

Sandy Bay claimed that BTS Conditions of Play are contrary to the *Tasmanian Anti-Discrimination Act 1998* and are therefore null and void. Sandy Bay sought to remove all restrictions on women playing in Saturday Pennant.

BTS argued that, if it didn't have restrictions in place in lower divisions, it would be discriminating against men and women with lower skill levels who would be forced to play against those women whose skill levels are too good for those lower divisions. The purpose of the restrictions is to apply the attributes of fairness and equity in the Saturday Pennants divisions to which the restrictions apply, based on the actual skill and proficiency of registered players who would, on merit, usually play in those divisions.

BTS did acknowledge that there are currently no such restrictions on men players and this needs to be addressed.

The complaint from Sandy Bay was resolved between the parties at an Equal Opportunity Tasmania Conciliation Conference held on 2 June 2016.

BTS has agreed that its Conditions of Play will be amended as follow – current Conditions of Play 4.6 (b) to (f) will be removed and will be replaced with the following:

- (b) Regular# Premier Division and Division 1 players (from either Saturday or Thursday pennant) can play in any position in Saturday Pennant Premier Division or Divisions 1, 2, 3 and 4 but are ineligible to play in Saturday Divisions 5, 6 and 7.
- (c) Regular# Division 2 players (from either Saturday or Thursday pennant) can play in any position in Saturday Pennant Premier Division or Divisions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 but are ineligible to play in Saturday Divisions 6 and 7.

The logo features the text "Love this bowls" in a colorful, hand-drawn style. "Love" is in red, "this" is in yellow, and "bowls" is in blue. The letters are slightly irregular and overlapping, giving it a casual, friendly appearance.

- (d) The BTS Match Committee shall have discretion to consider special or exceptional circumstances to grant a dispensation to Conditions of Play 4.6 (b) and (c) for smaller clubs.
- (e) The penalty for playing an ineligible player under this condition is the loss of all match points for the game in which the infringement occurs.

Note:

Regular is defined as “someone who has played 50% or more of their games in the current season in that Division (or higher).

The agreement reached is enforceable as if it were an order made by the Ant-Discrimination Tribunal under Section 89 (1) of the *Anti-Discrimination Act 1998 (Tas)*.

Conditions of Play for 2016-17 will be amended accordingly in accordance with the agreement reached above.

DATES FOR 2016-17 PENNANT

Saturday Pennant will commence on 15 October 2016. Semi-Finals will be played on Saturday 18 March 2017, Preliminary Finals the next day on Sunday 19 March 2017 and Grand Finals on Saturday 25 March 2017 with the exception of the Premier Division Grand Final which will be played on Sunday 26 March 2017. A reserve day for finals if required is Sunday 26 March 2017. In the event of adverse weather conditions the Premier Division Grand Final will be played at an Indoors Centre. There are no double-header roster games during the season.

Women’s Thursday Pennant will commence on Tuesday 18 October 2016 (Royal Hobart Show is on Thursday 20 October 2016) with Semi-Finals to be played on Thursday 16 March 2017, Preliminary Finals on Tuesday 21 March 2017 and Grand Finals on Thursday 23 March 2017.

Men’s Midweek Pennant will commence on Wednesday 12 October 2016 with Semi-Finals to be played on Wednesday 8 March 2017, Preliminary Finals on Wednesday 15 March 2017 and Grand Finals on Wednesday 22 March 2017. Please note that Midweek Pennant will be played on Wednesday 21 December 2016. Following submissions from a number of Clubs, the BTS Board has agreed that for Midweek Pennant, B Grade will be deemed to be Saturday Pennant Division 2 and below.

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NOMINATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL PENNANT TEAMS:

Clubs should soon know numbers available for pennant for the 2016-17 season and are requested to submit nominations for Women's Division 5, Saturday Pennant – Divisions 6 and 7 and Men's Midweek Divisions 3 and 4 by Saturday 1 October 2016 at the latest. If Clubs have already nominated teams for these divisions, it would be appreciated if they could be confirmed or otherwise by Saturday 1 October 2016.

Draws for these divisions will be prepared and circulated to Clubs by Friday 7 October 2016.

Clubs are requested to contact their members to determine who will be playing and where for the 2016-17 season - please do not make a guess and then disrupt rosters by withdrawing teams after the season commences due to lack of players.

CHAMPIONSHIP ENTRY FORMS:

Entry forms for all BTS Championships have been distributed to Clubs and copies of the entry forms are available for downloading from the BTS website.

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS:

BTS Champion of Champions Open and B Grade Singles Championships will be played as follows:

- Women's 24 February 2017, 1 and 3 March 2017.
- Men's 1, 2 and 3 March 2017.

Bowls Tasmania has advised that the Bowls Tasmania Champion of Champion Singles Championships (Men and Women) will in future be held over the same weekend as the Tasmanian State Triples Championships which this season will be held from 11 - 13 March 2017.

It is requested that Clubs schedule their Singles Championships to finish prior to commencement of the BTS Champion of Champions events to enable your Club Champions to participate in the BTS events.

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Clubs are reminded that players are not eligible to compete in the BTS Men's B Grade Champion of Champion Singles Championships if they have played four games in the current season in Division 2 or above.

NEW FRIDAY NIGHT COMPETITION:

BTS has decided to determine interest from Clubs in an exciting new short, sharp game on Friday nights similar to the Australian Premier League concept.

Basic details are as follows:

- The competition will be run for eight weeks from January 2017 to early March 2017.
- Teams of four players playing two bowl triples with substitutions required, two sets of five ends with a sudden death tie breaker if required, one power play per set for each team when shots scored earn double points. Detailed rules still to be developed.
- Divisions in Premier League, Open and B Grade Divisions if enough interest is shown – with each division limited to one entry per Club.
- All games from each Division will be played at the one Club – each Club gets a Friday night over the length of the Pennant. It will be up to the host Club to promote their night, run BBQ and raffle etc. Clubs may be able to sell sponsorship of their night to a local sponsor to raise additional funds for Club.
- Teams will be charged an entry fee and all entry fees will be returned to players in prize money. Additional prize money may be obtained through sponsorship.

More information will be forwarded to Clubs before the start of the season.

USE OF NON-ACCREDITED COACHES:

Bowls Australia require all coaches to be accredited to coach at Clubs and particularly if coaching in pennant or championship games. If coaches are working with children then they also need to have a working with children check as well.

The BTS Board has agreed that non-accredited coaches should not act as a coach in such situations as it could leave them and their club liable in the event of an incident occurring whilst they were acting as a coach. Can Clubs please ensure that all your coaches are suitable accredited.

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FOR YOUR DIARY:

- a) Monday 26 September 2016 – Delegates Meeting at the St John’s Park Bowls Club.
- b) Saturday 1 October 2016 - Entries close for Women’s Division 5, Saturday Pennant Divisions 6 and 7 and Men’s Midweek Divisions 3 and 4.
- c) Saturday 1 October 2016 - Per Capitation fees due and payable.
- d) Monday 17 October 2016 - Opening Day at the Howrah Bowls Club

Rob McGuire
Secretary
Bowls Tasmania South

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