



Newsletter

Special Issue

DECEMBER

SEASON 2017-18



From Chairman David:

At the Board Meeting on the 11th December it was felt that all members should be given an urgent update on the position of the Club's finances and other matters.

Firstly, the Club at present is not trading well, being more than \$10,000 worse off at this stage of the year compared to 2016! This can be attributed to various issues which I detail below: -

- The fact that the Club Membership does not now operate the kitchen would be the principle reason, and it is essential that the Membership resumes operation of the Kitchen for Club Functions and Weekend Pennant in 2018. That not too say we should cater for larger private functions, other than daytime wakes, which are very profitable. The current arrangement is also not that suitable for Tim, who has been forced to seek other work.
- The fact that the Club is constantly required to hire Bar Staff because we now have very few members with RSA certification, and there was a past reluctance by Manager Bob to make use of them when more RSA's were current. This situation must change. We have also not accepted as many Christmas break up functions in 2017.
- Further to this, it has now been worsened by rain wash outs of Jackpot Pairs on the weekend of the Vic Open, Pennant on the 2nd December and private Christmas "break up" bookings on the same weekend and two Thursday night Business House bowls events.
- The condition of our greens is another concern, in that they were not able to be given the minor renovation recently done on an annual basis due to the health of the Greenkeeper, and no major renovation has been carried out since the influx of members from the Country Club. The seriousness of vandalism on the Dunstan Green, as it has been further revealed during the recent Spring, is also extremely disappointing.
- The Club's daily operation is effectively being subsidised by the Bingo & Loan A/C's (Reserved for Capital Works), which is not sustainable!!
- **WHAT ARE THE ACTIONS NECESSARY TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION?**
As mentioned before, the Club Membership resuming occupancy of the Kitchen for Club Functions and relatively minor functions such wakes. Also, more "bring a plate day", to largely eliminate catering costs.

Improved participation in Member Rosters as was the situation in the past, for volunteers behind the Bar, at Bingo, making Pennant Salad Rolls, and looking after group BBQ and BOWL Christmas groups, including ensuring they are both welcomed and looked after on the green.

We currently have the opportunity for Members to undertake RSA certification or renewal, on our own premise, if we have at least 30 participants at a total cost of \$600, which is 25% of the cost a similar course at TAFE.

Looking at playing some Pennant Games on Friday Night under lights which is guaranteed to boost Club revenue because of increased spectator interest, and it frees up Saturdays for all participants.

Continued Overleaf

Making early progress in 2018 with more member participation, in considering actions recently proposed during development of the Strategic Plan, with an “early February Members Meeting”.

While detailing the above situation so all members are fully aware, I would advise that I am still willing to put my “shoulder to the wheel” to assist as a dedicated member, but after five years on the Board and three as Chairman, due to ongoing issues with Christa’s health, which will now become my no one priority, it is not my intention to renominate in any capacity in March,

David

2017 AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S SINGLES CHAMPION



Kylie

Around 7PM on Friday evening 1st December at Merimbula, NSW, Kylie Whitehead from the Wodonga Bowling Club added to her Victorian State Singles Championship win in Bendigo last April and her Victorian Open win in Shepparton last week, by convincingly winning the Australia Women's Singles Championship.

Numerous Wodonga Members made the trip to Merimbula to offer support for Kylie and they were **obviously not disappointed as this quiet, unassuming team mate of theirs, continued her “hot 2017 form streak”** to take out the National Title.

Her 25-13 win in the final over World Champion and Commonwealth Games team member Natasha Scott of NSW was a massive achievement given the quality of her opponent.

Kylie has over recent weeks started skipping one of Wodonga's A1 Pennant Rinks and to date is undefeated. She has also in 2017 just completed her Physiotherapy studies and is now in the employment market. Kylie is a remarkable young ambassador for the Wodonga Bowls Club, the Sport of Bowls in general, and the entire human race!