



Doncaster Bowling Club
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Club Bulletin

October 2017

SUMMER PENNANT SEASON UNDERWAY

Both the Midweek and Saturday Pennant competitions are now off and running. Let us make this season an even better one than the last one by winning all those close games and getting more teams into the finals. Remember that pennant training is on every Thursday from 11:30am, and all pennant players are encouraged to participate in the training. If you are a regular pennant player and are unavailable, please do let the selectors know of this as soon as possible. If you are not playing pennant but would like to, do let the selectors know.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Entries for all the Club Championship events are now open. Entries closing soon include:

- Women's Singles October 17th, Women's Pairs Oct 31st.
- Men's Singles October 21st
- Open Singles 100 UP, November 11th and Open Novice Competition on November 4th.

Details of the all the club championship events including deadlines are in the Club Programme Book.

YARRA REGION CHAMPIONSHIPS

Entries for the Yarra Region Championship events are also open. Information on this is on our club noticeboard and also on the Yarra Region website at <http://www.yarra.vic.bowls.net.au>
Our club will play host to some of these events, the first of which is the Over 60s Pairs finals on Friday 27th October commencing at 10am.

VICTORIAN OPEN

The 2017 Victorian Open will be held in Greater Shepparton from November 18 to 24. The tournament features Singles, Pairs and Triples for both men and women, and mixed pairs. No pennant matches are scheduled during the Victorian Open. However, scheduled club matches will still be held.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

At long last it seems that spring has finally sprung and our members will now look like bowlers on the greens and not Antarctic explorers. AFL has finished with the Tigers triumphant and Rugby League's top honours went to the Storm. We can now concentrate on what really matters, Bowls!

The Club can settle back into the routine of midweek and Saturday Pennant, Thursday night meals and the several sponsored Tournaments that provide us with so much enjoyment and fellowship. Training on Thursdays will keep us sharp and competitive as we build on last year's Pennant success. The old adage that "more sweat in training means less blood on the battlefield" applies equally to success on the Green! Even for the social players. With success comes pleasure, just ask any Tiger fan.

Despite the desire to win it is just as important to enjoy your bowling. Respect your team mates whatever their skill level, be polite to your opponents and do not let frustration develop into cross words or poor sportsmanship. Each of you represent our Club and our reputation, a fragile thing, depends on your behaviour.

Good bowling and good fortune to each of you in the season ahead.

CUP EVE FUNCTION

The social committee extend their thanks to all members and friends who participated in the Grand Final Eve function. Mouth-watering football food was served followed by a handball competition - awards were presented but regrettably no one made the AFL draft. Regardless, a wonderful night was had by all. The hamper was won by David Southwood, also prizes to Graeme Warren & Carolyn Wiltshire. The next big event is only weeks away – the Melbourne Cup Eve function on November 6th, so get those special costumes and hats ready for the big night.

LAWN BOWLS ETIQUETTE REVISITED

Now that the summer pennant season is underway, it is a good time to revisit some of the etiquettes of our game.

1. Players and spectators at the head end should stand still and keep quiet.
2. When it's your team's turn to bowl it's your mat and head, your opponents should be away from both, if they are not ask them nicely to move.
3. Wait for your skip to tell you which shot you should play, keep up with play at all times.
4. There should be no trespassing into neighbouring rinks; this includes going to or from the clubhouse, moving to better see the jack, and particularly when walking from one end of your green to the other. Please be aware of others playing. If you are helping your teammate aim, do not infringe upon neighbouring rinks.
5. After bowling each bowl, step off the mat to the right. As you approach the mat to bowl, do so from the rear left. Though not essential, this is a useful habit of convenience to avoid collisions!
6. Always show good sportsmanship by acknowledging a display of good skill by another bowler.
7. Never applaud lucky shots, never complain about lucky shots, and admit a lucky shot with good grace. Do not say thanks for a bad shot that goes your way.
8. Do not wander around or move about the head when a player is about to deliver a bowl, and do not stand in line with the boundary pegs. Keep still and silent when a bowl is about to be delivered.
9. Do not criticise the playing surface. Observe closely and learn to adjust to the intricacies of the green you are on.
10. Do not criticise the performance of your colleagues. No one plays a bad bowl on purpose.
11. Avoid delaying play by leaving the rink without the knowledge of the other players.
12. Avoid interfering with the head until the result of the end has been decided.
13. If an umpire is called, move away, you're done, his/her decision is final.
14. Bowlers should shake hands at the end of a game.
15. Leads should promptly return the mats and the jack to their designated location at the end of the match.

The club's top bowler, a guy who had won every club championship numerous times, was known for carrying a little black book which regularly consulted during games. Whenever he stood on the mat, with a particularly difficult situation, he would take out this little book and then make a brilliant shot. Eventually he died and there was great interest in this book. Many of the club's members approached the man's widow asking what she was planning to do with this legendary book. As a shrewd woman who was also in need of funds, she decided to auction the book off to the highest bidder. The auction was held at the club and after some very spirited bidding a member, who had often finished second to the now deceased champion, took possession of the much sought after and now quite expensive book. He could scarcely wait to take the book home and peruse its pages at leisure. He sat himself down in his study and began to leaf through the pages - and he found that the pages were blank! He finally came to a single page that had one sentence on it. It said:

"Small circle on the inside."