



ABERFELDIE  
BOWLS CLUB INC

# Introduction for New Members

Welcome to the Club. We hope you enjoy your bowling with us. The following notes are intended to assist you find your way around the Club, and make you feel at home. In a club our size you should expect to get to know everyone within a short period of time. Current members are encouraged to make new members welcome.

## **Around the Club**

When you join, an existing Member will be appointed as your Mentor. This appointment is made simply to assist you in familiarising yourself with the Club as quickly as possible.

We are very proud of our Club's history and hope that you will become also. Note this rich history by reading the Honour Boards showing Office Bearers and Club Champions over the past 103 years. Note also the Club Greeting Board, and the list of current Club Office Bearers.

Make sure you see the locker room, the kitchen, the store room, the notice board, the Pennant selection board, the office, the location of water fountains, mats, jacks, and the layout of the Green (scoreboards and rink orientation).

It is suggested that you regularly look at the Club's website [www.aberfeldie.bowls.com.au](http://www.aberfeldie.bowls.com.au)

## **Getting Started**

Obtain a copy of the Club booklet. This lists the phone numbers of all members and much important information.

You can order your name badge, which you should wear on the green.

You will be advised about the Club uniform which is required for all Pennant matches.

Grippo is available at the bar.

## **Bowls Programme**

**Tuesday:** Midweek pennant

**Wednesday:** Night Pennant during Night Pennant season.

**Thursdays:** 12 noon to 3pm every week. Social bowls. Mufti.

**Saturday:** Pennant matches during Pennant season.

At all other times Full Members have access to the Club room and Green.

## **Pennant**

All members are encouraged to play Pennant as it is the fastest way to improve your game. If you wish to play, put your name on the relevant list on the Notice Board or speak to one of the selectors.

### ***Selection for Pennant***

The selectors have been elected by the Board and, accordingly, the Club expects that you respect their decisions. If you are not happy with your selected position, it is very important for you and the Club that you speak to a selector. If you remain particularly aggrieved after talking to the selectors, you should raise your concerns with a Board member, but you need to be aware that this is not an appeals process; it is a relief valve which may assist in some cases.

### ***Availability for Pennant***

Pennant players are expected to be available nearly every week during the season, so if that does not apply to you, please advise the selectors so they can accommodate you as best they can.

### ***Unavailability for Pennant.***

There are lists on the Club Notice Board which allow players to indicate to the selectors when they are unavailable during the season. If you are not available for a Saturday game please do your best to advise the selectors by the prior-Wednesday as teams are normally selected on Wednesday evenings. If you become unavailable after being selected, please contact a selector immediately. If a team plays one short, there is a substantial penalty, so maximising notice to the selectors is very important in ensuring we can arrange an emergency.

### **Players Advocate**

The Club has an elected "Players advocate", to whom you will be introduced. The Players Advocate will assist you, in an intermediary role, should any dispute arise between yourself and another member.

### **Club Championships**

The Club organises various (internal) championships throughout the year and you are encouraged to enter them even if you are a relatively new bowler. It provides a great learning opportunity and is played in a friendly manner. Put your name on the lists on the Notice Board when the lists are posted.

### **Helping around the Club**

Aberfeldie Bowls Club is a private Club and receives no assistance from Councils. We have Advertisers who support us financially by advertising in our Handbook and on the Club fencing, but all the work involved in keeping the Club running efficiently is done by its Members.

Please look out for opportunities to do the small but important jobs around the Club, such as putting out and taking in the flags; setting up the rinks; putting away mats, kitties, markers, tables and chairs after matches; picking up rubbish; washing, drying and putting away crockery and cutlery, etc. A little help from everyone is all that is needed to make things work smoothly.

### **Ideas**

Our Club is 108 years old and some of our members have years of experience playing bowls with us. However, this does **not** imply we know all the answers!!

If you have any ideas to improve the Club and make it better – let us know! Even asking the question 'why do you do it that way' can lead to some great improvements.

### **Last but not least – Etiquette**

Bowls is supposed to be played in a spirit of co-operation at all times, and fortunately it is rare that this does not happen.

When playing at home, always welcome players from other teams and visitors who may come along to watch.

Bowling is a team sport, so support your team members – especially if someone is having an 'off' day!

Always Bowl to win but, when the game is over, win or lose, shake hands with the opposition AND your own team – and share a friendly drink together before heading home!

No bad language please and show respect for others.

It is customary to remove headwear upon entering the Club rooms.

Also, please keep in mind that we are in a residential area and we work hard to be a 'Good Neighbour'. When leaving the Club late at night, please keep noise to a minimum. Remember that the Club is judged by its members' behaviour on and off the rink.

**THANK YOU FOR JOINING US**