



Shepparton Park Bowls Club Inc

Incorporation No: A0045877T

ABN 87 296 478 522

P.O. Box 1796

SHEPPARTON 3632

Phone: 5823 1731

Fax: 5823 2333

Web: www.sheppartonparkbowls.com.au

Email: secretary@sheppartonparkbowls.com.au

January
2021
Newsletter

Host of the Australian Open in 2009 and 2010 : Host of the Victorian Open 2011 - 2020

CHRISTMAS PARTY

On Saturday December 19 the club held a Christmas party that was very well attended by about 90 members, families and friends.

We were very well catered for by our catering staff and their helpers. Thank you all for a great meal, and a great night.

It was also terrific to see Marg Stibbard, and her family, in attendance and enjoying the social atmosphere.

PENNANT BOWLS

With only 5 pennant games before the finals our teams are situated as follows.

Midweek

Division 1 Tan 4th, Gold 7th

Division 3 Top of ladder

Division 4 Rose 3rd Plum 7th

Weekend

Division 1 2nd

Division 2 6th

Division 3 7th

Division 4 7th

Division 6 4th

Some teams are doing well, others are competitive and some struggling. With the Christmas break over we hope that all players can lift their game and try to improve the team performances.

We are particularly keen to avoid any teams being relegated as having 2 teams in a division never works, and, leaves gaps in your player promotion/relegation pathways.

CLUB BOOKLET

As always if there is an error in your phone numbers, or, your name is not listed please tell the Secretary now.

HOUSEKEEPING

I probably sound like an old nag, but, I would like to ask all members if they can assist with basic housekeeping duties around the club.

These include: sanitising mats and kitties and putting them away after use.

If you take a tea/coffee cup outside please return it to the kitchen sink after use. Many coffee cups are still being left outside.

Please close our boundary gates on your way out.

That famous person 'someone else' has to do these little things if you don't.

QR Code

We now have a club QR code that can be scanned as you enter the club. If your phone has the capability to use this service please do so.

All other visitors should continue to write their name, phone number, and arrival/departure times in the book provided.

We thank everyone for their continued compliance with Covid requirements.

The response has been excellent throughout.

ROSE GREEN

At this stage the Rose Green carpet will be stretched on Friday January 22nd. We are not aware of the start time, and, how long the job will take, so, I think we can assume that the carpet will be out of action for a fair portion of the day.

PENNANT PRACTICE

At a well attended meeting on Tuesday January 12th. Paul Nichols

addressed those in attendance regarding pennant practice. The main session will be on Tuesday evening from 4 o'clock. Paul will set up drills for all bowlers to practice for half an hour. You can, of course, stay for longer. There will be a BBQ after training. The aim is to improve the skills of all bowlers as this is the only way our teams will improve. Paul and our selectors have been disappointed with the poor numbers at our training sessions. If everyone can attend whenever possible this should increase our skills and enthusiasm as our teams push towards the finals.

We will be taking active steps to attract a top line assistant coach to our club. Stay tuned.

BEREAVEMENTS

Over the last several weeks we have lost a number of our members and former members.

Milton Stibbard a very well regarded member and friend to us all.

David Lyons at the grand age of 100 years and five months.

Noel Dobson a well respected former member and greenkeeper.

Ray Quirk a member from some years ago.

Des Dunne a past member and mainly a 60 & Over player.

Sadly, Janece Nelson, wife of our recent past member, Vic, passed away on January 9.

Deepest sympathy is extended to the families of the above from all members at Shepparton Park Bowls Club.

GREENS/GREENKEEPING

The club is seeking a new greenkeeper to take over the maintenance of our 2 grass greens.

If any member knows of a likely prospect for this job please let me know and we will take it from there.

Rob Thorne is retiring at the end of this season after taking over the job, in conjunction with Ray Phillips, a few years ago. After the initial year Rob took over on his own and has done a great job to bring our greens back to a standard as good as I have seen.

The greens are looking and running very nicely and are a credit to Rob, Murray and their merry band of helpers. There have been many problems since Ben left our greens in a shocking state a few years.

There are any number of pests, bugs and diseases that can get into a bowls green, and, we seem to have had them all.

I cannot finish without mentioning the HUGE amount of work that Rob has taken on, not only on the greens, but on the Rose Green, the surrounds, and in and around the clubhouse. Rob is a very accomplished tradesman and can turn his hand to anything.

Rob and Marg have a house that needs renovating and that will be Rob's main focus over the next period.

We hope and trust that Rob can continue to join us playing bowls in future.

STATE EVENTS

Sandra Wallace reported to our recent board meeting the following "Our ladies have excelled in the State Events this year. Di, Kate, Marg and Sue won the 4's event just prior to Christmas. The only event the Shepparton Park ladies didn't win was the singles which Olivia Cartwright won. Our ladies 4's and pairs winners from last season are competing at Warrnambool this week which is a great achievement". The late news is that our ladies at Warrnambool did not proceed past the first round. An excellent effort to reach the state finals.

Annette Barkley and Joy Gardam are competing in the ladies Novice singles event at East Shepparton this Sunday the 17th. Good luck ladies.

The Stirrers event will not be held this season due to a number of factors.

The Men's A & B Grade championship games will be played on a Friday night on a date to be advised.

The 5 a Side Tournament will be held on Thursday February 11. Wes is still looking for 2 or 3 teams, or, tell Wes you are a single entry and you should be able to fit into a team somewhere.

The St Patricks Charity Day is scheduled for Thursday March 18. We are aiming to get this up and running in the very near future.

A great, fun day where everyone wins, and a large amount of money is raised for a local charity.

GVBD BOOKLET

All members should have a copy of the above booklet that the GVBD put out every season.

Towards the back of the booklet you will find a set of rules for bowls in this region. This includes rules on washouts, the heat rule and many others.

One rule states that visiting teams must NOT practice at the venue they are playing their next pennant game at on the day of the game. If you do not follow this rule it will mean a loss of all points your team may win on the day.

We ask all members to familiarise themselves with the rules as far as practicable. If you do not have a book please see Bill and he will get a copy for you. There are spare copies in the Tournament office.

P.A. SYSTEM

We are still taking steps to find answers to the poor performance of our P.A. System. As we are all aware the system has let us down often and usually at the most inopportune times. Hopefully it will be sorted out in the near future.

CHANGE OF BOUNDARIES

The process to change the boundaries is still proceeding and nothing concrete has yet been finalised. I think members can be reasonably assured that we will not be travelling to Yea, Eildon or Alexandra.

Bowls Victoria are conducting an information session in Tatura on February 1. They will answer questions from our member clubs and explain where the process is at. There is some disquiet from other regions and it will be interesting to see where it all ends up.

We will be represented at that meeting, and, will report back to our members in due course.

BOWLS

From time to time we hold events such as the BPL Cup finals that were conducted at Shepp Park last Sunday. This does impact our members when they turn up to have a roll and we have to turn them away. We apologise for doing that and in future we will seriously reconsider our hosting of some of these events as the rewards to the club are minimal in terms of finances and the time committed by our volunteers. Last Sunday I had to turn a few of our members away. I am sorry for doing that, but, when I considered it I thought it was wonderful to see several couples turn up for a social roll, a bit of fun and then off to have a coffee together.

I think that is fantastic for our club. It can't all be practice/ pennant/ practice again. Well done to those involved and may it continue and grow.

We always have to remember to enjoy our bowls and have fun.