



NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2020

Dear Member,

On Sunday afternoon, the Premier, Dan Andrews, announced a State of Disaster and increased the restrictions across the whole of Victoria. As a result, we have completely closed the Club to all bowling activities. It is disappointing to me that we have had to stop all roll-ups but it is imperative that we look after the health of all our members. Hopefully we can get back to some bowling following the 6 weeks State of Disaster.

Our AGM is done and dusted. What a great turnout last Thursday! I was really pleased to have 71 people attend our first AGM held via ZOOM and, along with 34 proxies, we easily met our minimum number of 44 to make a quorum. Considering it was the first or second time some people had experienced ZOOM, I am very grateful to those who attended. I was particularly pleased to see both Val and Gordon Stanley in attendance as Val was in hospital recovering knee surgery and Gordon is just out of hospital but doing well.

As I mentioned at the meeting, I had asked our Board Members to stay on past May until we had our AGM. All of them were happy to do that, for which I thank them very much. I also asked them to consider staying on for one more year as it would be difficult for a new Board member to take on the various jobs at such a difficult time with the ongoing issues brought about by Covid-19. Of those Board members who were going to retire, Kevin Dungey, Ron Turner and myself, all agreed to nominate again. I thank Kevin and Ron very much for extending their term on the Board. Lesley Eade stepped down from the Board after two excellent years as the Bowls Section Vice President. Thank you Lesley for all you have done. I am pleased that Jan Bettess has taken on the role of Bowls Section Vice President and I wish her well. The other Board member who has retired is Jeanette Vakatovola who resigned due to ill health. She did a great job and has been very difficult to replace. We are still looking for a person to take on the position of Director of Food & Catering. If anyone is interested in helping out, please contact me or Secretary Geoff King.

At the AGM, Kevin Dungey and Bill Gomme were made life members. Both these men have made very significant contributions to the Club for many years. Both are currently on the Board and continue to be extremely active in the management of the Club. My congratulations to both Kevin and Bill.

The following is the Board for 2020-2021:

Chairman – Tony Spring

Secretary – Geoff King

Treasurer – Celia Patrick

Bowls Section President – Kevin Dungey

Bowls Section Vice President – Jan Bettess

Facilities Director – Elizabeth Gomme

Membership Director – Bill Gomme

Sponsorship Director – Ron Turner

Greens Director – John Osborne

Food & Catering Director - Vacant

Following the success of the ZOOM meetings we held last week, we thought that the members might like to chat to their friends on a more regular basis so we thought we would run some more ZOOM “social”

meetings. We are going to try a Friday “Happy Hour” at 5.30pm this week for anyone who wants to join for a drink, nibble and chat (see below for more information).

Please keep socially distancing, wear masks when outside and keep good personal hygiene and stay healthy.

Tony Spring
Chairman



WHAT’S HAPPENING AROUND THE GREENS!!

Both greens have been resprayed for algae which leaves bad stains on the green that are difficult to remove if it takes hold. The best way to handle algae is to spray for the problem before it develops.

Algae are a diverse group of aquatic organisms occurring in fresh or salt water or moist ground. The algae on our greens initially appears as a dark patch that could be mistaken for dirt. After an application of poison, the patch turns dark brown so it is easy to identify untreated algae.

The other issue we have at this time of year is a variety of moss, which we need to spot spray. I am constantly on the lookout for this pest as it is difficult to see in its early stages.

When we resume bowling we will continue to roll up in an East/West direction with the exception that if we need 5 rinks we will play North/South.

One very conscientious member made a special trip to the Club as soon as the Stage 4 announcement was made, to mow his special project appropriately named “The Patch”. Great loyalty - well done.

John Osborne
Greens Director



WHAT’S HAPPENING WITH BOWLING!!

The AGM via zoom was a success and good to see so many people logged on. I would also like to thank members for their acceptance of the nomination for bestowing Life Membership to me. It was a complete surprise and a bit overwhelming but I am honoured and deeply appreciate the award.

The various committees have now been finalised with the additional nominations from the meeting. Thank you to Glenda Marsh joining Wayne Taylor on the Community Bowls Committee, and Hank Dankers joining Danny Tamburrini on the Competitions Committee. Greg Pound will also join the Mid-Week Selection Committee and his input for the Open competition will be valuable. Also not to be forgotten is Greg Cripps who has again stepped up to take on the Social Bowls Convenor and with the support of Jennifer Cripps and Jan Bettess will ensure that our Social Bowls programme is well run. The well attended Night Owls will again be coordinated by Di and Ben Bennett.

Fortunately, we were able to get a nomination for the position of Tournament Convenor after the meeting and I thank Bob Russo for volunteering. Bob was already a member of the Tournament Committee.

Last year’s pennant Grand Finals have finally been cancelled resulting in Mid-Week Restricted Division 1 and Mid-Week Open Division 6 being declared Premiers. Pennant numbers are down from last year at this stage and anyone wishing to play either Mid-Week or Saturday pennant should contact Lesley Eade or Milton

Maunder respectively. I have been informed by MPB that there will be a Mid-Week Restricted competition but depending on final numbers may be limited to just one division. Current numbers for Saturday Pennant will only support 4 teams so need a further 20 names before we can consider 5 teams.

Unfortunately, not all Club Championships were able to be completed before the lockdowns commenced but we are hopeful that they will be completed by October. Men's and Mixed Pairs were finished with winners being Gary Williams / Peter Jones and Pam & Klevo Takanen. Wayne Taylor won the Men's Minor.

The ongoing chaos caused by COVID 19 will be with us for some time yet and will undoubtedly affect our bowling activities in many ways. I thank all members for following the guidelines so that we can enjoy some bowling activities. Now face masks are making the task more difficult but we must adhere to the restrictions if we are to remain safe and well. It is also important to ensure that you register your name on the booking sheet although the latest restrictions will force the club back into lockdown so no bowling for the next six weeks.

This year marks the 40th Anniversary of the Mt Martha Bowls Club and we are planning to have celebrations over three days of bowls from Thursday November 19th to Saturday 21st. Thursday will be \$1000 Founders Day Medley sponsored by Rymans; Friday will be Triples followed by a dinner sponsored by Warlimott & Nutt, and Saturday will be \$2000 Open Triples sponsored by RCA. More details as they are finalised and hopefully the virus restrictions will have eased by then to allow the events to take place. Keep our fingers crossed.

I welcome Jan Bettess to the team as Vice President and a big thankyou to Lesley Eade for her valued support and contributions as Vice President over the past two years.

Kevin Dungey
Bowls President



WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH SPONSORSHIP!!

Since the time of the last Newsletter securing our sponsorship for the 2020 / 2021 has been going ahead at a very fast pace especially during the brief time when Stage 3 restrictions were eased somewhat. As a result, we were able to secure 52 of our sponsors for another year. I am still awaiting responses from six more.

Since the beginning of the year and with Covid19 we have lost ten sponsors but have recently gained two. The total negative impact on sponsorship income has been just over \$5,500.

Whilst loss of any sponsorship is to be regretted, I am pleased we have been able to maintain a lot larger percentage of our portfolio than I envisaged three months ago.

We are in the enviable position even at this early stage to have all our nominated days allocated.

However, if the Club is to maintain its loyal sponsors it is down to you the members to support them especially in these difficult times. Please always look in your Club Diary before you buy. As I have said before, "Sponsorship is a two-way street"

Please keep safe and well.

Ron Turner
Sponsorship Director



WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH MEMBERSHIP!!

How many times have I read the words “Just when we thought the restrictions would be lifted” to only find we are actually doing a U-Turn which are further adding to the challenges the Club is facing.

Thanks to all our members who paid their fees by the due date we are better placed to ride out the storm than many other clubs. To the handful yet to pay it will be wonderful if you can do so as soon as possible.

Whilst we have had to say farewell to Bill & Sandra Stirling and Klevo & Pam Takanen who have sold their homes and moving interstate I am delighted to report that we have 3 new members.

So please extend a warm Mount Martha welcome to Susan Walker, Hayden Rees and Daryl Henwood, who we trust will have a long and happy association with the Club.

Hayden has some ideas on how to encourage 45 – 60 year olds to play the game of bowls and so increase our membership with this age group. This of course must be the aim of not just Mount Martha but all bowls clubs so hopefully we can develop a program that we can put into practice when restrictions are finally lifted. The social side of bowls is something I am sure we are all missing and the move to Stage 4 restrictions means it is even more important to keep in touch with one another. Hence, we are working towards a number of online events to “Stay Connected”.

Jill Ellis was preparing another Beer Sale but that will have to be put on hold until we can organise delivery of your orders. In the mean time she is talking to Courtney at Vintage House about another Wine Deal, assuming they can arrange deliveries.

You will have read elsewhere about virtual Friday Happy Hours and based on the enthusiastic interchanges from you during the zoom practice session and after the AGM’s we should be in for some fun and friendly jibes.

Finally, we are exploring the possibility of running online raffles.

Speaking of raffles, we are close to winding up our involvement in the Rotary Raffle we have 85% of the books in and it is pleasing to report that we have exceeded last year’s result which will mean a contribution of over \$1200 to the club. If I can have the remaining tickets and monies back in the next couple of weeks it will be much appreciated.

Thought you might enjoy this story.

Brian invited his mother over for dinner. During the course of the meal Brian's mother couldn't help but keep noticing how beautiful Brian's flat-mate Stephanie was. Brian's mum had long been suspicious of a relationship between Brian and Stephanie and this invitation had only made her more curious. Over the course of the evening, while watching the two react, she concluded that there was more between Brian and Stephanie than met the eye. Reading his mum's thoughts, Brian volunteered, "I know what you must be thinking, but I assure you Stephanie and I are just friends."

About a week later, Stephanie said to Brian, "Ever since your mother came to dinner, I've been unable to find the silver gravy ladle. I don't suppose she took it, do you?". "I doubt it," Brian said, "but I'll send her an e-mail just to be sure".

So he sat down and wrote:

"Dear Mother, I'm not saying that you did take the gravy ladle from our house, and I'm not saying that you did not take the gravy ladle. The fact remains that it has been missing ever since you were here for dinner. Love, Brian"

The following day Brian received a reply from his mother, which read:

"My Dear Son, I'm not saying that you do sleep with Stephanie, and I'm not saying that you do not sleep with Stephanie. But the fact remains that if she were sleeping in her own bed, she would have found the gravy ladle by now. Love, Mom. Keep safe and healthy.

Bill Gomme
Membership Director

*There's even a new cocktail emerging online: the "quarantini."
Although its recipe varies, it is best served chilled in front of a
laptop or smartphone camera and enjoyed with a twist of levity*

