



NEWSLETTER No3 MAY 2020

Dear Member,

As I said in the last newsletter, "I hope you are all well and coping with the social isolation. It appears as though some of the restrictions are slowly being lifted but I suspect we still have quite some time to go before we can bowl again." Well we have a little bowling with roll-ups allowed. John Osborne, Kevin Dungey and Bill Gomme have all worked hard to organise the setting up of the greens, organizing all many notices about how it operates and coordinating the rosters. So long as we keep to the rules and keep to a minimum of 1.5 metres apart and do not handle the mats or jacks or other people's bowls I am sure it will work well. Although the restrictions are being eased slowly and we can have up to 5 people visiting our homes, we are still not allowed to have more than 10 people involved in outdoor sports. We will modify bowling and social arrangements at the Club as things ease further in the future, whilst ensuring we adhere to the rules. Please still consider using the various social media to keep in touch with friends and family at this difficult time.

There is still no news as to when we will be holding the AGM but all the Directors' reports are nearing completion and we will be in a position to organise the AGM at short notice when restrictions are lifted.

Don't forget that Maree & Steve Rose and Lucrezia Chatham & Warren Wood have offered assistance for anyone in the Club who needs it. **If anyone needs assistance in any way, please contact Marie Rose on Mob: 0419 380 491 or Email: mros0478@bigpond.net.au** I am reliably informed that it appears as though our members are travelling well (while not travelling!) and have not needed any assistance as yet but if you do, please do not hesitate to call Maree.

Ron Turner is actively addressing sponsorship but, as everyone knows, things are very tight at present and he will look at the various opportunities following the relaxing of the current lockdown.

Following up on my last report on the possibility of the Petanque Club joining us, I can report there has been little action. The Petanque Club are putting in a submission to council for a Grant which we are doing on their behalf as we are the leasees of the property and they cannot apply for funds for use at the Bowls Club. The presentation to the Shire Councilors has been delayed until Wednesday 3 June. I must stress that until the Petanque Club can obtain funding for construction of the Terrain AND there is a General Meeting of the members of our Club, nothing will be happening.

Jill Ellis was been able to get a really good deal on some wines and quite a number of our members took advantage of the very cheap prices. Thank you for supporting one of our main sponsors. Jill has another good deal going at present with our stock of beers. If you can, please support this sale as we are not sure how long it will be before we can sell drinks from the bar and we do not want the beers to go beyond their use-by date. Note all our beers are currently still well inside their use-by dates.

Sue Allen is short of stock for the trading table. Now is a good time to look into your cupboards and see if there is something that is surplus to your requirements that she could sell. Please call her if you have goods she could sell.

A big thank you to all those members who have paid their annual fees. This is a big help with our cash flow as we do not have a regular income at the present time as the Club is closed due to Covid-19 restrictions. Can those who have not paid please consider doing so. It would be of great assistance this year. Thanks.

The Rotary Raffle is not finishing for a little while but if you have sold all your allocated tickets, then the stubs and the money can be deposited in our "new" letterbox situated near the end of the East Green where the new hand wash station is at the bottom of the ramp. The letterbox is locked but will be emptied every day.

I ask each and every one of you to look after yourselves and those around you. Keep safe and healthy until we are able to fully utilize the Club facilities again.

Tony Spring
Chairman



WHAT'S HAPPENING AROUND THE GREENS!!

Both greens have been sprayed for algae, moss, etc., an important task to help the greens get through winter in good shape. They will require spraying at least once more and possibly twice, depending on the amount of rain we experience between now and October. With this in mind it is important not only for Coronavirus safety, but because these chemicals are very toxic, that no one licks their fingers when bowling.

To help even out the wear on the greens we will be bowling in an East/West direction as much as possible during winter. This has proved to be very successful so far but I would be interested to hear any negative feedback that you may have. The sun at this time of the year can be difficult to handle in the early morning and late afternoon bowling in this direction, but if we were to play in the North/South direction, the sun can be very difficult for most of the day when playing towards the North.

I hope most of you are able to take advantage of the reduced restrictions by using our greens as much as possible.

If you have some time on your hands and you would like to assist with general maintenance around the Club you would be most welcome. All work is carried out with social distancing etc. in mind.

John Osborne
Greens Director



WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE FACILITIES!!

We have taken the opportunity whilst the Club rooms are in lockdown to have the carpets shampooed. This entailed removing all the furniture which, until we know how the social distancing rules will impact us, there is no point in returning it to the original layout.

Two rotted out verandah upright posts were replaced by Council - a job we have been asking to be done for some time.

Now that restrictions are slightly reduced we would be very grateful if any member has an hour to spare there are many gardening jobs required. Much weeding is needed, from the front gate, through the upper car park and around the greens. Also John would like some of the trees and shrubs around the greens trimmed. Our thanks go to John Foster for what he already has accomplished. You would be able to maintain the necessary social distancing and the Club would certainly benefit from any of your efforts.

Elizabeth Gomme
Facilities Director



WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH FINANCES!!

A further update on our financial position during the Covid-19 closure of the Bowls Club.

Membership Fees:

This year the accounts were emailed to all members on 1 May, 2020. They were sent separately to each member but can be added together for payment. Payments can be made directly into our Bank A/C if possible. **Please do not forget to use the Invoice No. as your reference.**

Cheque payments can still be mailed to the Club & Cash payments can also be made into our A/C at any branch of the Bendigo Bank. Bill Gomme is also accepting Eftpos payments.

A great response to date with 83 payments received. Thank You.

Loan Repayments:

With the membership payments received we have been able to bank \$9,000.00 into our Loan Account which represents the suspended payments for March, April and May which the Bendigo Bank allowed the Club. Hopefully we can continue to repay our loan each month now as the membership fees are received.

Wine Sales:

Thank you to Angoves, one of our major sponsors for this initiative. 26 members so far have ordered wine. I can recommend the Mondiale Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc. **At \$7.00 a bottle it is not a bad drop.** If you are quick, ring Jill Ellis on 0433 404 707 to place an order.

Beer Sales:

This offer has just gone out to the Members. **"Free Home Delivery" is offered.** It is me, Jill & the Sat Nav!!

Payment: COD or pay your invoice directly into our bank account.

All varieties of beer are at "Cost Price" and many have 5-6 months life. Just another excellent offer to our members while the Club is closed. Contact Jill on 0433 404 707 to place an order.

No Bowls, but we do have 1 hour Roll-ups which is a good start. Keep "Well"

Celia Patrick
Club Treasurer



WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH MEMBERSHIP!!



it's time to
**RENEW YOUR
MEMBERSHIP**

Firstly, a sincere thank you to all of you that have already paid their fees and thanks to your wonderful response as you will have read elsewhere we have been able to maintain our loan repayment plan for the centre green.

Secondly, you will be aware that Bowls Australia is heading towards you being responsible for updating your personal records on their Bowls Link website. You may have also read that 60% of affiliated members do not have their email addresses recorded on their system, but this is not the case with us, and this is why you are all now receiving direct communication. You can now go to the Bowls Link Website enter your email address and then reset your password to gain access to your

records including any certifications. Please note you will probably need to update your birthdates as these were not automatically brought across from their old database. If you share an email address only one of you can log on at the same time, but each of you will require their own password.

As we maintain our own database just a reminder to keep the club updated with any changes in your personal details such phone numbers and addresses.

It is very pleasing to see your ongoing support for the Rotary Raffle. I know recent emails have jogged a few memories for members to return the tickets and the monies to the club. In the meantime, whilst the Clubhouse is closed, you can do this by placing them in the letterbox set up by the hand wash area near the east green.

Lastly please do not forget that new members are the lifeblood of our club. Although events may be several weeks away, we can still offer coaching to prospective members and we are continuing our very attractive new member offer including affiliation and a club shirt for \$160.

Bill Gomme
Membership Director



WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH BOWLING!!

We already have 33 orders for the new caps and will expect to order 50 at the end of next week so please get your order in to Marg McInerney early next week. Once this order has been delivered we will need a minimum of 20 to reorder so don't miss out on the first order else there may be a wait list.

Thank you to everyone for following the guidelines with rollups. It is essential that we maintain the limitation on numbers and social distancing for the health and safety of all our members. Hopefully we will be able to further ease restrictions after June 1. Until we hear otherwise the current guidelines will remain in place.

We can still accept nominations for the various Bowls Section Committees. Convenors for the Tournament Committee and Social Bowls are still vacant. There are also places for people to nominate to be part of the Social Bowls roster during the summer season on Wednesday or Saturday so please let me know if you are able to assist. Since the AGM is still some time away we will be finalising the committees for next season by the end of next week so please register your interest with me early next week. Your assistance will be much appreciated.

Kevin Dungey
President Bowls Section

