



ELTHAM RECREATION BOWLING CLUB

Newsletter No 37: December, 2010. Editor: Garry Battershell



From The Chairperson

Ho Ho Ho. This feels a little like writing the Queens Christmas message, except I do not feel very regal or Queen like, but I do wish you a very happy Christmas time with your family and friends. Those of you lucky enough to have “believing” grand children and children will have no trouble being swept up in the magic of Christmas but those having a quieter time may be grateful for a little less noisy magic and enjoy some warm adult time. No matter how you plan to spend Christmas I hope you will be back fit and happy in January.....your Club needs you for Tuesday and Saturday teams.

Christmas Function

Sixty people enjoyed a delicious meal prepared by Marj Bauszman and her band of helpers last Sunday night. A flattering number of non bowling partners and family members joined us along with Lexie and Don McVeigh and new members Chris and Ron Guest. Paul Hickey won the coveted deluxe bowling bag as first prize in the Christmas raffle, Vern Sharp (“I never win anything”) won second prize in the raffle and one of the \$100 Athletes Foot vouchers, and many others shared a selection of other raffle prizes and sponsors vouchers.

New Green.

The grass has gone, along with 40mm of top dressings, and grass roots that had built up over the years. The build up of grass roots made the grass “spongy” no matter how much it was rolled. Some members enjoyed the benefit of free or inexpensive soil and disposed of the soil, thus saving the club money compared to paying to have it carted away. Slow release fertilisers have been added based on soil testing results, the whole surface rotary hoed and the green laser levelled. The regular heavy rain confirmed that the existing drainage system is still working very well which avoided a much more extensive and expensive renovation.

The green is now settling with the help of regular rain. During the second week of January, the green will be re levelled again and sprayed with fine shavings of couch grass, probably from a relatively new tift dwarf green at Bennetswood. It is important to “plant” the couch shavings during warm weather to promote vigorous growth.

Provided we enjoy a good growing season between January and May and have some good sunshine next spring I am advised that our new green will be “ready” for the start of the 2011 pennant season, although the speed will steadily increase over the following twelve months.

New Constitution.

After a wide ranging discussion the ERBC Committee decided to ask the constitution sub-committee to proceed to the next stage of detail in drafting a constitution based around “option 3”, the management structure preferred by the majority of members in the recent survey. There are still many details to be decided before the draft will be ready for circulation among members and the sub-committee will be meeting over Christmas to meet the tight timetable. The preferred option of changing the name of the club to The Eltham Bowling Club will also be included in the new draft.

Brent Arnott.....Chairperson



Secretary's Report – December 2010.

A warm welcome to five new members. Heather Hill, John and Joy Quinn, Ron and Christine Guest have all recently joined our Club.

Three new rules will operate in both Pennant Competitions and all other bowling events as from 1st January, 2011.

They are

The minimum length will be 21 metres. This is a domestic regulation.

The winner of a previous end will no longer have the choice to give the mat away, but will be compelled to take it.

The skip's duties will now include marking the scorecard across all formats (pairs, triples and fours), this duty cannot be delegated as per Law 37.1.9.

Bowls Victoria has introduced a 30/30 rule for Thunder and Lightning.

When the time interval between the lightning and the accompanying thunder is 30 seconds or less, then play must be stopped and bowlers (and others) should immediately seek shelter.

Play is to remain suspended for a minimum of 30 minutes after the last sighting of lightning or sound of thunder.

This 30/30 rule is currently used by the AFL. Bowls Victoria has requested clubs to follow the rule. They plan to include the rule in their regulations soon.

The ERBC Board is expecting Side Captains, Umpires and Event Organisers to follow this rule. Please co-operate with them should they need to implement the 30/30 rule. It is a sensible rule that is designed to ensure your safety.

Each of the last four Bowls Victoria Weekly Bulletins have included items of a general nature about Tuesday Pennant. Bulletin No 15 included "The (Bowls Victoria) Board discussed the matter of Tuesday Pennant in depth on Wednesday 17 November. They are investigating options in relation to the matter, including seeking legal advice on Tuesday Pennant Memo (29.9.10). The Chief Executive and President are also meeting with the Victorian Equal Opportunity Commission on 30 November to explore options available to Bowls Victoria in relation to the running of pennant competitions."

Bulletin No 18 included " concerns in relation to a number of (particularly senior) female members reportedly losing interest in pennant due to their inability to simply socialise with other ladies independent of male bowlers, the more aggressive manner of men bowlers, the larger bowls that men often use in comparison to those of many women bowlers, even to the point of saying they will not play next season."

And, "Many clubs and bowlers are quite happy with pennant as it is,Many clubs would be unable to enter sides but for the fact that sides are mixed"

And. "Bowls Victoria's Board is very well informed on the breadth of attitudes in relation to pennant – from wanting to have men's, ladies, and mixed pennant available, to being perfectly comfortable with the status quo (mixed), to wanting to have a code of behaviour implemented which mitigates against the oafish behaviour of some male bowlers when playing against frail, elderly women"

And. "Bowls Victoria Board representatives through further meetings next week continue explore legal options available to us in an effort to enable Bowls Victoria to better manage the environment in the interest of all bowlers....."

I would like to wish all members a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy 2011.

Leon Sinnott.....Club Secretary.

Tuesday Bowlers.

Don't forget our Christmas lunch this year at the Eltham Hotel, on December 21st at 12 noon. List is up on notice board for names, due 14 December.

HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A WONDERFUL NEW YEAR to all Eltham bowlers and their families.

Jenny Millar.....VLBA President

Hello to male club members,

A reminder that entries for both the Men's Metropolitan 60 & Over Singles and the Australian Open Victorian Qualifying Event, close with me at 6.30 pm this Saturday 18.12.10 at 6.30 pm. The slips to accompany your \$6 entry fee are on the notice board in back right hand corner of the clubrooms.

Thanks,

Leon Sinnott.....Club Secretary.

Men's Singles Championship.

This intensely interesting and competitive event reached its climax on the first Sunday in December. Cliff Lynch had ended Brent Blackwell's giant killing run in one semi final and Damien Jardine had defeated Eric Butcher with some accurate aggressive play in the other.

The final shaped up as a contest between Cliff's draw bowling consistency and Damien's accuracy and aggression. A nervous start saw Cliff 0-5. The body language of both players suggested a quick result but as the game proceeded Cliff found his drawing rhythm and Damien could not match the driving accuracy he displayed against Eric. After reaching 15-15 Cliff seemed to have the momentum when he opened up a dangerous lead but Damien closed the gap with some great pressure bowls.

In a very tense conclusion Cliff won 25-24. Congratulations to Cliff and Damien for reaching the final in the strongest field for many years. Thanks for putting on such a high standard and exciting final.

Brent Arnott.....Chairperson

Special Events.

Last day on the grass. 26 bowlers joined in the fun to test unusual bowling skills in an event that saw the end of the grass green. Activities included playing around the edge of the green from one corner to another, bowling with the non-preferred hand, bowling blind, hole in 1, and driving. Ros Camera took out the overall best score, closely followed by Meryl Spargo, Graeme Lewis, John Elliott, and Trevor Pulham. Jenny Millar excelled at bowling blind (even before a glass of wine), Anna is preparing her career in golf as a champion at hole in one and, a new club member, Ron Guest, can bowl both left and right handed. Thank you to everyone who made the evening possible.

End of the year Bowls. 30 bowlers fronted for a coolish afternoon of bowls, which extended the skills of skips and leads alike. Positions were rotated after each of the 3 games and running for cover was included in the final game. Congratulations to Ann Climas, Bruce Goodman and Nyra Crimmins as the overall leaders. Graeme Lewis, Colin Hines, and Brent Arnott were runners up. Everyone deserved the yummy dinner that followed.

Scroungers. 8th January 2011, 1pm. It's a fun day where everyone has the chance to win over 3 games. The notice is up inside and outside the club rooms, so come and work off some New Years' cheer.

A peaceful and safe holiday to everyone. From your Special events Committee

Cath Andrew.....Special Events Committee

Sponsorship.

Deloraine Aged Care who have sponsored the inside front cover of our handbook are located in a quiet street in Greensborough. The special features of Deloraine are listed on that handbook page.

When I went to visit Jenny Parfett, Administration manager and had a walk around I understood the "home away from home" comment in the advertisement. Deloraine is a relatively small facility compared to others I have visited so it is easier to get to know everyone and to quickly feel at home.

I did not have the opportunity to have a meal there but I understand the significance of all meals being freshly prepared on site.

Jenny has encouraged me to invite anyone who would like to know more about one of our closest assisted living accommodation facilities to contact her.

Brent Arnott.....Chairperson

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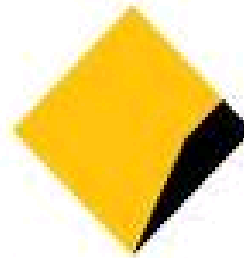
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