



ELTHAM RECREATION BOWLING CLUB

Newsletter No 40: August 2011 Editor: Sue Arnott



PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Welcome to another summer bowling season everyone. The official opening of the season takes place this Saturday afternoon commencing at 1 PM. We start the new season with high hopes for our new green and new teams.

Thank you to the members who have organised bowling on Wednesday and Saturday during winter and to the garden crew who have been transforming the surrounds.

Thank you also to those members who have volunteered to take responsibility for helping with some aspect of the Club's many activities for the first time this season and to those who have "signed up" again this season.

The Green.

You will notice that our new couch has woken up from its winter hibernation. The invading weeds have been sprayed with a selective herbicide and you should see them going brown during the next four weeks.

The green will be given a light top dressing in November to fill any local settling. We expect it to be ready for bowling after Christmas although in its first year the speed is predicted to be less than thirteen seconds. Because we cannot confidently predict how the green will play, three of the Saturday pennant teams have been entered to play all of their home games at either Diamond Creek or Greensborough. If we have a warm spring and the green is "pennant standard" we have the option of switching remaining home games back to Eltham after Christmas.

SES Neighbours.

The Eltham SES has lodged a planning permit setting out significant changes planned for the land to the north of the Club fence. A series of large sheds will be built to house four trucks and two trailers. These units are required to handle the 800 emergency calls the volunteer unit receives each year.

The plans as presented will take over the car park area and the current sand storage area. One of the conditions imposed by Melbourne Water is the construction of a concrete flood wall along our northern boundary.

The Club lodged a formal objection based on the loss of car parking and access but after meeting with the Nillumbik Mayor, Helen Coleman and the local SES leader I expect to be able to negotiate some parking access and suitable alternative arrangements for storage and access. If the project is approved, construction should be completed this year.

TV Coverage.

Bowls Australia have recently announced that the TV coverage agreement with the ABC that showed elite bowling at 5PM on Saturdays will not be renewed in 2012. Bowls Australia contributed \$40,000 each year towards the cost of the coverage but the ABC has declined to renew the agreement. It is possible that coverage will continue on Foxtel.

Handbook.

This year club members have again arranged the advertising and printing of the Club handbook. Our local printer is trying to print and staple our books with

only a weeks notice which has enabled us to delay printing until we had the pennant draw, an accurate list of opposing teams and an up to date membership list week on the website soon after the selection meetings.

this to be available. Handbooks will now be available "soon". At the time of publishing this newsletter, we still hope to have the new Handbooks available for the Opening weekend.

STOP PRESS. Unfortunately the Saturday Division 8 draw has to be changed and on Tuesday morning we are still waiting for the revised draw from Bowls Vic.

Website.

Our new website editor, Julie Pattison has been updating the Club website. You can find it at www.elthambowlsclub.com.au . The selectors and Julie hope to be able to post the pennant teams for the following week on the website soon after the selection meeting.

New Members

We welcome new members to the club - Neilson Love, Shane Waddington, Graeme Abblitt, Brian King, Jenny King, Patty Williams, Neville Jenkin, Steven Spargo, Daniel Henery, Nat Shieavello and apologies to anyone that I have missed.

Sadly we farewell Ros and Brian Wilson who are moving closer to their family down Pakenham way. In spite of determined rumours about termites and lousy neighbours their house still sold and they are off in a couple of months.

Brent Arnott

WINTER SOCIAL BOWLS

Although this has been a cold wet winter, about 30 brave souls came each week for bowls and a yummy soup lunch. There was only one occasion when it was too

horrible to play and one week when it looked as though we were going to resort to indoor bowls and a few games of cards. The winner of the \$100 toucher prize will not be determined until the penultimate week, but it is a close call to date. Many thanks to all those who put in heaps of work organizing bowls, greens, lunch and prizes.

Next years' winter bowls will follow the same format, starting in May at 10.30am.

Cath Andrew & Di Debney

TUESDAY PENNANT

Tuesday Pennant practice games/ matches will begin on

30th August

at Eltham 10am start BYO lunch

September 6th

In-house practice @ Eltham 10am start
BYO lunch information session

September 13th

All teams - Diamond Creek @ Diamond Creek 9.30 start BYO lunch

September 20th

All teams - Yarra Valley Shield @ Eltham 9.30 start BYO lunch

September 27th

Blue & Maroon Day 10 am start BYO lunch

The New Season's Draw has just come through and Eltham has nominated 4 teams in the Competition:

Tuesday Women only side Div 1 Sect 2

Tuesday Open Div 2 Section 3

Tuesday Open Div 3 Section 5

Tuesday Open 8 a-side Div 5 Section 2

The full draw of all clubs can be seen on the Bowls Vic web site.

It looks a fair selection of local clubs with a few different clubs included. There will be some extra travelling for all teams but overall much better than some predictions .

Please get your names on the sheets for the Practice games/matches, ASAP. As there are 5 opportunities for Pennant practice we hope to get a good start into Pennant preparation and the Selection Committee will be assessing the structure of teams during these weeks.

Looking forward to an enjoyable Season and catching up with everyone.

Ros Camera

SATURDAY PENNANT

Your Saturday Pennant Committee has been meeting throughout winter and planning is going well. We urge all Saturday players to indicate their availability both for practice matches and prior to the first official match, and for the remainder of the season. The notices for both are on the notice board. Planning each week is much easier if we know in advance when players are unable to play on a given Saturday.

Practice Matches are now confirmed as follows:

3rd September

10th September

17th September

24th September

Just where you will be playing is still awaiting confirmation from other clubs and will be clearly noted on the selection board each week. Publication of weekly selection on the club website is under consideration.

As there is no provision for afternoon tea during a 21 end match, there will be snacks available at the clubhouse for a small cost, after each Saturday match, for the very important post mortem drinks and chat.

Colin Hines

SPECIAL EVENTS

The 2011-2012 season is kicking off with Open day on Saturday 27 August with bowls and a delicious afternoon tea.

The 3rd Monday triples will be held again this season. Although we will once again be restricted to one green. We anticipate good support and competition from other clubs.

Cup Day on Tuesday 1 November will involve the usual sweeps, Calcutta auction of horses, bowls and lots of shouting.

The new calendar year will begin with Scroungers January 7th and Australia Day Mixed Medley on Thursday January 26th.

Further into the season 12 March Labor Day event and Easter Tournaments on Saturday 7th and Monday 9th April. One of the last events of the calendar for 2011/12 will be Anzac day Wednesday 25th April.

Until the new grass surface is playable we will not be able to run our invitational triples.

Please keep your eyes open for the entry sheets on the notice boards for all the above events. We welcome participation of all club members for our programs.

Your Special Events team are **Cath Andrew, Garry Battershell, Di Debney, Bruce Goodman, Nyra Crimmins.**

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FUND RAISING

Marj Baussman and Phyllis Dight have taken on the role of fund-raising for the coming season. Our first endeavour is to up-grade the "Trading Table". In the past it has been rather non-descript. We would like to see it furnished with articles both pretty and practical.

To this end we are asking members (both male and female) if they could contribute items that they have made themselves. Perhaps some of the ladies may be into knitting, sewing, embroidery, coat-hangers, wheat heat packs for sore muscles, etc. Gents may enjoy woodworking etc.(key-hangers, triffids) or are able to provide attractive potted plants.

If you are able to help please talk to **Marj or Phyllis**.

KEEP YOUR SHIRT ON

Following an appeal to club members to let us know if they are in need of a club shirt and to accommodate new members who are as yet to be covered for pennant, an order has been placed. Our previous supplier has gone out of business and a determined search for a replacement took place. We are happy to report that everything is well underway now with the new shirts due to arrive in September. We concentrated on finding a fabric that breathes and fits properly. The best news is that the price is considerably lower.

There is a small number of extra stock shirts that are available should you have missed the earlier call. Lead time for any sizes that we do not have in stock is about

8 weeks and we are happy to place orders throughout the year if needed.

**Nyra Crimmins, Di Debney, Ann Klimas &
Sue Arnott**

NEW BABY

The last newsletter had been issued when news from Damien and his wife Tanya of the arrival of new baby Isabella Darcey reached my ears. Isabella was born on the 15th of May, weighing in at 7lb and 1oz. and is a baby sister for India.

Damien is a valued member of our first Saturday pennant team. The club and the first team is really grateful that the birth was arranged outside the pennant season! We hope you are managing some solid overnight sleeps by now. Damien and Tanya - well done.

Editor

I would welcome your news and any items of interest for publication to club members in the next newsletter. I hope this will be a monthly event during the summer bowling season.

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