



ELTHAM BOWLING CLUB

Newsletter No 45: February 2012 Editor: Sue Arnott



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Pennant Results

The pennant season is almost finished and our teams in Division 2,3 and 5 on Tuesday and the Division 5 team on Saturday made the final four. The Tuesday Division 2 and 3 teams won their section semi final and earned promotion next season.

In the section finals the Division 2 team came agonisingly close, losing by one shot on the last end of the match. The Div 3 team came back from 17 shots down at the break to win by 3 shots. They will play other section winners next Tuesday 13th March.

Pennant Uniform Survey

The recent survey among pennant bowlers provided clear answers to two questions.

Is there significant interest in having the option of wearing coloured trousers or shorts? The answer was YES. There were 57 votes for "colour" and 44 for white/cream.

If we wear a colour, which colour should we choose? The answer was ROYAL BLUE. Royal Blue achieved 51 votes, Maroon 2 votes and other colours 4 votes.

Under current Bowls Victoria rules and Eltham Bowling Club policy there is no need to choose between Royal Blue and White/Cream.

Eltham pennant bowlers are able to wear either royal blue or white/cream for the

foreseeable future. Navy blue pants with a VLBA logo will also be acceptable until the end of the 2012/13 season. ***All three options will be welcome on the green for pennant matches and club "uniform" days next season.***

Doncaster Bowls Shop in Doncaster Road carries a full range of Royal Blue items and is right up to date with EBC uniform choices.

Future Club Developments

Directors have been debating future developments of the Club's facilities. Possible future projects that have been identified so far are

1. Extending the timber decking in front of the club house to make room for more seating overlooking the new grass green.
2. Installing lights on the synthetic green.
3. Extending the timber decking on the west side of the club rooms.
4. Installing solar panels to generate hot water and electricity.
5. Renovating the bar area.

Work has commenced to define the scope and cost of these projects but Directors would welcome any additional suggestions for consideration.

Your Club Needs You

Formal notice of the Club's Annual General Meeting planned for the 6 May will be sent out during March. Nomination

forms for all elected club positions will be included with that notice.

The current President, Secretary, Greens Director and Special Events Co-ordinator have announced that they will not be seeking re election and there will probably be other members occupying committee positions who will choose to “take a break” or move to other positions within the club.

There will therefore be a number of opportunities for people to become involved in running the Club but if no one nominates, we will have a bit of a problem keeping things running “as usual”.

How involved have you been this season? Are you willing to become more involved next season?

Two Stories of Inspiration

The summer bowling season is coming to a close. If you were disappointed with your progress or performance this season, these two items are for you.

Our secretary was advised by Bowls Victoria that there were very few entries in the Victorian Ladies Pairs Championship and entries were closing within a few days. Encouraged by the small field, Ann persuaded a number of Eltham pairs to enter.

Ann and her pairs partner, Cath Andrew then committed themselves to regular one hour intensive practice sessions during December. Ernie and Noel were recruited to give tactical advice.

During this time the Scroungers special event was held in early January. It is a demanding draw bowling contest. The Division 1 and 3 Saturday teams and the top Tuesday team were well represented in a strong field. Cath came second and Ann came fourth and both put their success down to the regular focused practice.

I have never asked him, but I tended to think that Ernie Richards spent a lot of time practicing because he was a very good bowler and because he was good, he enjoyed practicing. I now suspect that Ernie is a very good bowler because he practices regularly.

The second story of inspiration: If “Crispy” can do it.....At the Australian Open I watched Neil Crisp, a 53 year old bowler from Warrnambool come within a few centimetres of winning the final end of a tie breaker to reach the Singles Final. Prior to the semi final he had put down two wrong bias bowls, suggesting he was not as calm as he looked. He had defeated Aaron Sherriff, Lee Schraner and Leif Selby, surviving three tie breakers in five matches on his path to that Singles Semi-Final .

Neil was not able to bowl last season after injuring his back in an accident. He could only resume bowling if he used a bowling arm. He started practicing with his new arm for the first time last August. He is not currently club champion at Warrnambool.

These are stories to ponder as you polish your bowls for your next match.

Brent Arnott

UMPIRES CORNER

The following situations have occurred during the past season which prompted this explanation:

Skip A on the adjoining rink comes into rink B and kicks away the jack (having just been delivered and staying within its own rink) before it stops. He was worried that the jack would interfere with the delivery of his team player's bowl that was travelling through rink B. Raising the question - is this action of Skip A within the laws of the game and what should happen?

Skip A should not have come into the adjoining rink - law 36.2.1 (a player should not go into a neighbouring rink where play is in progress). The jack should have been left to travel on its course and not be interfered with.

In the above incident the jack was redelivered in line with Law 33.3.1 (if a jack in its original course is displaced by a neutral person or neutral object, it should be redelivered by the same player. A neutral person is someone who is not playing on that rink).

The second situation involved the lead of Team A moving the mat from its original position which was on the incorrect line after the lead of Team B had delivered a legal roll of the jack (within rink and the correct length).

Law 19.2.1 states "If the mat is displaced, it should be replaced in its original position (or as close to the position as lead of Team B can recall).

WHICH ARE YOU

Are you an active member, the kind that would be missed
Or are you just contented your name is on the list
Do you attend meetings and mingle with the flock
Or do you stay at home and criticize and knock

Do you take an active part to help the work along
Or are you satisfied to be the kind that just belong
Do you push the cause along and make things really tick
Or leave the work to just a few and talk about the "clique"

Think this over member, you know right from wrong
Are you a member or do you just belong

THE HISTORY OF WRONG BIAS

The bowling of a wrong bias always occasions much merriment around the green. Let us therefore reflect on the interest that the bias of the bowl has added to the game.

The bias originated from the game played by sailors on the poop decks of becalmed Elizabethan galleons. A jolly jack-tar was stationed at one end of the deck and nicely judging the roll of the vessel the player had to roll a cannon ball to his feet. (In the shore game a small white ball known to this day as the Jack is rolled to a point indicated by the big flat feet of the skipper.)

Over long periods of play much misjudgment of the roll of the ship meant a calamitous loss of the ships ammunition. As a deterrent to careless play, a bowler who misjudged the roll was penalized by having his rum ration distributed among the crew.

This custom is still observed today when the bowler of a wrong bias is required to shout for the mob. Hence the tradition of shouting the team drinks or paying a fine for delivery of wrong bias.

Mmmmmmm.....

Sponsorship - Deloraine Aged Care

Most Eltham members are physically active and are still some years away from needing to move to an assisted living facility like Deloraine Aged Care but a number of members have parents who are at or are approaching that stage of life.

Most people favour moving to assisted accommodation close to where they have been living. While it is understandable that people are attracted to the familiar, from my personal experience, older relatives are not able to walk around outside and become increasingly dependent on friends and family visiting them.

Having your parents and relatives living close to where YOU live, making it easier for you to visit them regularly may turn out to be a more important consideration than where they have been living.

Deloraine Aged Care is located within easy walking distance of the Greensborough shopping centre so is the closest facility to Eltham. Deloraine is a Club sponsor and you will find the contact details for Jenny Parfett, our contact at Deloraine on the inside front cover of the handbook.

Time for a Laugh

When looking through the funnies for this month the choices were all between taking a shot at one group or another. So, with no intention to cause distress amongst any group we will take that poke at ENGINEERS.

Understanding Engineers: One

Two engineering students were walking across a university campus when one said, "Where did you get such a great bike?"

The second engineer replied, "Well, I was walking along yesterday, minding my own business, when a beautiful woman rode up on this bike, threw it to the ground, took off all her clothes and said, "Take what you want."

The first engineer nodded approvingly and said, "Good choice; the clothes probably wouldn't fit you anyway".

Understanding Engineers: Two

To the optimist, the glass is half-full

To the pessimist, the glass is half-empty

To the engineer, the glass is twice as big as it needs to be.

Understanding Engineers: Three

A priest, a doctor and an engineer were waiting one morning for a particularly slow group of golfers.

The engineer fumed, "What's with those guys? We must have been waiting for fifteen minutes!"

The doctor chimed in, "I don't know, but I've never seen such inept golf!"

The priest said, "Here comes the green-keeper. Let's have a word with him."

He said: "Hello George, what's wrong with that group ahead of us? They're rather slow, aren't they?"

The green-keeper replied, "Oh yes. That's a group of blind firemen. They lost their sight saving our clubhouse from a fire last year, so we always let them play for free anytime."

The group fell silent for a moment.

The priest said, "That's so sad. I think I will say a special prayer for them tonight."

The doctor said, "Good idea. I'm going to contact my ophthalmologist colleague and see if there's anything he can do for them."

The engineer said, "Why can't they play at night?"

Understanding Engineers: Four

What is the difference between mechanical engineers and civil engineers?

Mechanical engineers build weapons. Civil engineers build targets.

Understanding Engineers: Five

Normal people believe that if it ain't broke, don't fix it.

Engineers believe that if it ain't broke, it doesn't have enough features yet.

Understanding Engineers: Six

Three engineering students were gathered together discussing who must have designed the human body. One said, "It was a mechanical engineer. Just look at all the joints."

Another said, "No it was an electrical engineer. The nervous system has many thousands of electrical connections."

The last one said, "No, actually it had to have been a civil engineer. Who else would run a toxic waste pipeline through a recreational area?"

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