



ELTHAM BOWLING CLUB

Newsletter No 46: March/April 2012 Editor: Sue Arnott



FROM THE PRES

Welcome to the last newsletter of the season.

Pennant Results

The Tuesday Div 3 team played off against other section winners chasing the Club's second metropolitan pennant. After the surprising comeback from 17 shots down in the Section final it was difficult to feel too confident but the quarter final was a convincing win with the lead increasing throughout the match. The bubble burst in the next match when a very even and consistent team from Pakenham won all rinks, but the Eltham team was very pleased to have reached the metropolitan semi-finals.

Next Season

Members will need to decide how many teams to enter in the Tuesday and Saturday competitions at the AGM on the 6 May. Lists for both days are up in the club rooms. Please indicate your plans for next season if you have not already done so.

The Club usually faces a difficult choice between risking playing some matches without a full team or not being able to offer everyone a position in every match. These team lists are very important in deciding how many teams to enter.

Championships

Since the last newsletter a number of Club championships have been completed.

Jenny Millar finished a great season by defeating Ros Camera in the ladies' Century Handicap final.

Cliff Lynch defeated Hugh Robertson in the men's Century Handicap final.

Ernie Richards defeated Ian Jones in the Mixed Singles final.

Ladies singles champion, Rina Baker and runner up, Cath Andrew played in the Invitation Sinclair Shield ladies pairs competition against other club champions and runners up. The Eltham pair won all three of their matches and came third only because they had won a few less ends.

Forty/40

The second series of a very successful Forty/40 season was completed last Friday night. Thank you to the large group of Eltham members who have made Forty/40 possible. We have recently learnt that we are one of only a small number of clubs that has run a successful Forty/40 program, a compliment to Leon Sinnott's pioneering team last year and Scott Jarred's team this year.

Bar Business

At the next meeting of the Bar Committee there will be a discussion on future bar prices. The purchase price of all alcoholic drinks has increased by between 10% and 18% in the past three months and there is no sign these increases are "temporary".

Brent Arnott

The Century Handicap: Is it unfair, and if so, to whom?

Occasionally it has been said that the maximum handicap of 30 is far too big, it's unfair. On the surface, this complaint seems reasonable; surely 30 is a big number? But when we look more closely, I believe we will see this is not so.

Firstly, let's consider the purpose of a handicap event. Such events are far from rare in other sports, for example amateur golf, professional athletics (e.g. Stawell Gift), most horse races, etc. The aim is surely to give all competitors a fairly equal chance of winning. Thus the weaker players (horses) are given some help.

How has this worked out in our men's Century Handicap competition? Over the last five years, of all matches, 60% have been won by the player with the bigger handicap. Even more telling, the winner has always come from players in the top two Saturday pennant teams, never from players in the bottom two teams.

Why is this so? Some simple arithmetic may help explain.

In each end, the closest four bowls are scored 4,3,2,1 (a total of 10). The first player to reach 100 plus their handicap wins. For example, if on a 30 handicap, they must start at minus 30.

Let us suppose two players, one from the top pennant team on a 30 handicap, the other from the bottom team on 0. Let us make the supposition that on average the more skilful player gets 6 to the other's 4, per end. This is surely a reasonable assumption; indeed I would expect the average margin to be bigger.

After 15 ends in this game the scores will be 60 – 60. That is, they are level. After 22 ends, the adjusted scores are 102 to 88. The top-team player wins easily!

Thus I think that far from 30 being too much of a handicap for a Division 1 player, both the evidence of past results plus the mathematics involved suggest that perhaps 30 should become 40, or even 50.

Bruce Goodman

STATE WOMEN'S PAIRS FINAL

Last January several women's pairs teams from EBC entered the State Championships. Unfortunately none were successful but the final of this championship is being held at Bendigo East Bowling Club. Some of us are considering watching the Bundoora team, who have made it to the final, play on Thursday 12 April. We have not yet decided whether to go by train (dept Eltham 6.33am then taxi from Bendigo station) or to drive.

If you are interested in a day out, ring Cath 94393089, 0408346079 (leave a message) or Anne 94315463.

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

Enjoy the great Autumn weather and take part in either the Easter tournament or Anzac Day events.

Easter (Saturday 7th April and/or Monday 9th April) as in past years will be held over two days - however if you are able to manage only one that is fine. The format is 3 bowl progressive triples. Notices are on the boards down at the club for you to enter. Starting time is 1pm for both days.

Anzac Day (Wednesday 25th April) bowls will start at 1pm. The format is dependent on numbers but will be something challenging. Notice on the boards for your entry as usual.



EBC



END OF SEASON BREAKUP AND PRESENTATION NIGHT

Date / Time:	SATURDAY 5 MAY	<u>2PM start</u>
Closing Date:	SATURDAY 28TH APRIL 4PM (FOR CATERING PURPOSES)	
Dress Code:	WHITES/UNIFORM	
Format:	BOWLS, DINNER AND TROPHIES	
Entry:	BOWLING – FREE. \$10.00 pp for DINNER	

LAST DAY OF THE SEASON AND PRESENTATION NIGHT.

2pm for bowls, finish 5pm FREE

5-6pm drinks and door prizes, followed by yummy dinner – 6PM

Meal will include beef and Guinness pie, vegies and dessert.

(Ring Edna Roden 9439 5668 for any special dietary requirements)

Presentation of trophies and DVD review of the past season at 7.30.

**(If your phone number is not in the club handbook,
please write it beside your name on the entry.)**

BAPTIZING AN IRISHMAN

An Irish man is stumbling through the woods, totally drunk, when he comes upon a preacher baptizing people in the river. He proceeds into the water, subsequently bumping into the preacher.

The preacher turns around and is almost overcome by the smell of alcohol, whereupon he asked the drunk, "Are you ready to find Jesus?"

The drunk shouts, "Yes, oi am".

So the preacher grabs him and dunks him in the water.

He pulls him back and asks, "Brother, have you found Jesus?"

The drunk replies, "No, oi haven't found Jesus!"

The preacher, shocked at the answer, dunks him again for longer.

He again pulls him out of the water and asks, "Have you found Jesus me brother?"

The drunk answers, "No, oi haven't found Jesus!"

By this time, the preacher is at his wits end and dunks the drunk again - but this time holds him down for about 30 seconds, and when he begins kicking his arms and legs about, he pulls him up.

The preacher again asks the drunk, "For the love of God, have you found Jesus?"

The drunk staggers upright, wipes his eyes, coughs up a bit of water and catches his breath and says to the preacher

"Are you sure this is where he fell in?"

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