



ELTHAM BOWLING CLUB

Newsletter No 57: September 2013 Editor: Frank Camera



If you have any suggestions on the layout and possible content material of this newsletter please e-mail me at frankc@aanet.com.au

President's Report

With the Midweek Pennant competition already on the way and Saturday Pennant only waiting for the end of the AFL season next weekend before it starts, you could say the season is now in full swing. The Board hopes that all players will support their teams to the best of their abilities and help make it a great year for the Club. Wednesday social bowls should also pick up now with the good spring weather to enjoy the bowling and friendship as always.

Opening day was also a great success, where we were able to use our new extended decking for the first time. With some extra tables and umbrellas out there I am sure it will be a fantastic and very popular addition to the Clubroom facilities in the nice weather to come.

Secretary's Report

Please NOTE Phone Number changes for the 2013 - 2014 Handbook:

Joyce Devine: 9431 4270

Di Debney: 0400 143 187

Kevin O'Brien: 9457 6391

ADD: Cliff Sedgeman 9431 1643

Committee Reports and other News:

TRY BOWLS – OPEN DAY

The Club will be holding an Open Day for new bowlers at 2pm on Sunday 20th October 2013.

We are encouraging existing members to “bring down” a new bowler so they will know someone on the day! There will be a need for help on the afternoon, even if it's only to encourage the new bowlers and tidy up afterwards.

The Bar will be open and we will be having a free sausage sizzle.

Please help us with our efforts to get new members!

Any questions or enquiries can be directed to David Oliver 0407422884 or Jenny Millar 0404850177.

WEDNESDAY WINTER SOCIAL BOWLS:

The Resting Toucher Competition prize money was shared between three bowlers this season. Congratulations go to Cliff Sedgman, Bob Harris and Dennis Woodward who each bowled three resting touchers during the winter season. Each of the winners received a third of the \$120 prize money.

Leon Sinnott

Saturday Winter Bowls:

A very successful Saturday winter bowls competition ended with a record fifty bowlers on Saturday 24th August. A credit to the club, all the bowlers who participated and especially the organisers John, Lorna, Jenny and Bob. A great team effort all winter.

But, after three years, John, Lorna, Jenny & Bob would like a break from organising Saturday Winter Bowls. We need others to make a commitment for next year, so it is organising hat on and get a team together for next year's competition.

Special Events:

The 3rd Monday Triples competition has begun! It is not too late to enter a team if you have not yet done so as it goes right through to March 2014. Format is: 2 games, 2 bowls, 15 ends, Casual dress, \$15 per team per day, with good daily prizes and cumulative season prizes. It is an excellent afternoon of fun, competitive bowls with bowlers from several other clubs participating.

Cath Andrew, Special Events Committee

Special Report#1:

ELTHAM HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS VISIT THE ELTHAM BOWLING CLUB.

During September 70 students Eltham High School, in three separate groups, came to the Eltham Bowling Club to experience the game of lawn bowls. The students are shown how to bowl, practice delivering bowls and then play two one end games. The one hour sessions ended with two games of Spider. The large majority of the students enjoyed their first bowling experience.

Thanks go to Bev Sharp, Sue Arnott, Betty Munro, Rena Baker, Treenah Wadham, Jan McDermott, Edna Roden, Peter Claringbold, Paul Lamotte, Alan Algie and Zoe Sinnott for assisting with the students.

Leon Sinnott.

Special Report#2:

On Saturday the 14th of September, I had the pleasure of participating in the Doreen Relay for life, an 18 hour walk and fund raiser for cancer Research. I was asked to participate by my daughter in law, Erin, and our team's overall theme was M.A.S.H 4077th.

The reason we took part was because Erin's mother passed away from cancer and thus the theme for our team, as Heather was a great fan of MASH. Thousands of people arrives and pitched tents, swags, tarps and chairs for the night. I think in all there were 40 teams.

Raffle tickets were sold, food was sold and a wide variety of novel ideas were happening to raise money for this worthwhile cause.

I played bowls in a practice match at Eltham on Saturday, and was encouraged to ask the players, both from Eltham and from Diamond Creek, for small donations towards the cause.

To my absolute amazement, we gathered a sum of \$300 in about 5 minutes. I am so grateful to these bowlers for their kind donations.

Part of my involvement in team MASH was that I was required to go in the Ms Relay, where blokes dress up as women. Naturally I decided to go as KLINGER, the cross dresser from 4077th.

I unfortunately have a photo of my efforts.

Laugh you may and put the proverbial on me – but it was worthwhile and I was glad to do it!

Thanks to the generous support of the Eltham and Diamond Creek Bowling Clubs, I was awarded the esteemed award for – Ms. Relay – for funds raised, which just shows – if you want to dress like an idiot – someone will pay you!

Overall the night raised \$122,000, a magnificent effort. Once again, special heartfelt thanks for your assistance

John Sharp



Doreen Relay for Life



Fundraising Committee:

Our little shop has been very busy and we are consequently getting a little low on good quality items to sell. If anyone has any special talents and could make anything to sell we would be very grateful. Any donations of good quality new or second hand items would also be welcome. Please support our Trading Table.

Thanks, Maureen, Riekie, and Jan

Match Committee:

Notices are on the Championships board in the clubhouse for all the club events starting before Christmas.

Pairs, Singles and Century Handicap Championship Competitions will be started by the end of September. Please check the Notice Board in October for more Championship Entry Sheets.

FOR ALL SINGLES GAMES PLEASE REMEMBER TO ORGANISE A MARKER BEFORE THE DAY OF PLAY.

Those members who are interested in the Regional Championships and State Championship Events ; Over 60's , Singles, Pairs and Triples check the notice Board for entry forms ,the closing dates are soon.

Note: The men's Singles entries close on 17th October and the Women's Singles entries close on this Thursday 26th September.

Ros Camera, Coordinator

Catering Committee:

Opening day, Saturday 31st August, was the Clubs first official function for the new season and I would like to thank Riekie, Christine and Di for their great work on the day. And many thanks also to Edna, Sue and Lorna for the delicious food they had prepared. A special thanks to June Beer for her help in the kitchen, and all the other willing workers who also helped to make it a successful day.



Jan McDermott, Catering Committee Convenor

Greens Committee:

The greens committee is still looking for more volunteers to help with the preparation of both greens throughout the season. (Yes, rolling, vacuuming and line marking do not happen by magic!!) If you have time to help out during the week, or

on Pennant mornings, please speak to John Baker. It is not very hard work and we do have a good time doing most of the small but essential tasks.

Please note: Until further notice the grass green must not be used for practice if it is raining or is quite wet after rain. All practice on this green will be in the East/West direction. Only Pennant games will be played in the North/South direction. There is a notice on the Mats and Jacks box to this effect.

Greens Committee: Cliff Lynch, John Baker, Frank Camera

Saturday Pennant:

With only one more practice match to go we expect that most of the playing positions will have been more or less decided for the opening round. All players are reminded that they can approach the selectors at any convenient time if they would still like to discuss their preferences and/or personal aims for the season. The competition is strong for positions at all levels, making selection a very difficult task, so I would ask all bowlers to give it a fair go, put the teams first and enjoy winning at whatever level you are playing. We would hope that all teams will be strong and therefore very successful.

PS: It is great to see so many players at practice sessions on Thursdays. I hope this trend will continue throughout the season and be evident in improved game results. John and Greg think it is great too as their BBQ snags have been a sell-out each day so far.



We will again be providing the very popular finger food after all home pennant games, starting from next Sunday's practice match. For this to work well we will need a few volunteers to help with the cooking and serving. We would hope to get enough willing workers so that you would only be rostered on about once per month. Please speak to Brent Arnott or any of the other selectors if you would like to help.

Frank Camera, Selection Committee

Bar Committee Report:

The Bar Committee would like a few more volunteers to help out at party hires, usually on a Saturday night. We have between two and three parties per month and are getting very short of willing members to work the bar. We will help you get the RSA certificate needed and all new helpers will only get the occasional early shift (about three shifts per year). The extra help would be greatly appreciated as the income from Hall Hires is a great earner for the club.

Lorna Sparke

Coaching Subcommittee:

The Coaches have been working on some Skills Development Programs. The first two Programs have been planned, one in October and the second in November. Up to 24 members will participate in each Program, some invited to join via email and some may nominate to join via a list on the Board.

The 1 hour Skills sessions will be on a Thursday at 4pm and 6pm and will run for 5 weeks.

Coaches will be in attendance to give each player guidance and encouragement as they experience the challenges and benefits offered to them.

We want all members who would like to take part in the Skills Development Program to get the opportunity to do so. The groups must be a manageable size to achieve the best results.

There will also be some Specialist Skills Sessions presented by some of our experienced players and we hope to successfully arrange some professional Coaching presentations. This is currently being followed up.

Ros Camera, Convenor

Coaching tip: try the drills of the month as per Coaches notice board.



Our newest and very experienced coach, Ron Stafford, has taken over the Coaching Information Board which located behind the Midweek Pennant Selection Board in the North-West corner of the Clubroom. Please take time to check out his “tip of the Month” and all the other fantastic tips and drills that Ron has posted. The board will be updated each month so make you don’t miss out on any of the great advice that Ron and the coaches have provided.

Coach’s notice board

Special Report#3: Bowling Arms

Some of you may remember the problem we had with an umpires ruling at the Sunday final last year at Darebin regarding the use of a “bowling arm”. That ruling was wrong and unfortunately disadvantaged the user and our team. I have been following up on this problem and have managed to get two statements that clarify the use of these “arms”, hopefully the situation will not occur again. There will also be an article on this in the next Bowls magazine “The Shot”.

The first comment is from Peter Delaney, Chairman of the Laws and Rules Committee:

“The Bowlers Arm Permit allows the nominee to use the arm as required, some people may start of the game using it and then put it away if their disability is not interfering with their game, on the other hand a player may start off without it then suffer some pain/distress and start using it – all of the above are OK. A player with a permit may not even use it from one day to the other but all is in order.”

Pete Delaney, Chairman: Laws & Rules Committee

The second is from Ken Chapman who is on the Umpiring Committee and runs the Level 2 Umpires Accreditation courses:

Law 38.6 states "For domestic play, Member National Authorities can approve the use of artificial devices for delivering the jack or a bowl."

Your views on when it may be used are correct.

The operative words here are "or & a".

There is nothing to say that once started it must be used for both the jack and all bowls or the jack only or the bowls only or all bowls.

And this comment has only just arrived in an email from Haydn Williams:

Artificial Device Policy - minor update

The NOC recommend the following be added to the policy.

“The choice to use the bowlers arm for any part or all of the game is at the discretion of the user at any stage of the game.”

Haydn Williams

Chairman,Bowls Victoria Umpiring Committee



Approved Bowlers Arms

Midweek Pennant Organising Committee:

It is an early start this season with Round 2 already played. Thank you to those who were available to attend the (wet) Thursday Information session. It is always interesting to revise some basic rules which are often a challenge to get correct, thank you umpires. I hope the explanation of the Performance Card (tick system) was helpful; please ask for any help if you are unsure how it works. It seems that every Season has a difficult start, absentees, sickness and injuries take their toll. Get well soon and come back soon.

A great result also on Tuesday 10th September when both Eltham sides won well to regain the Yarra Valley Shield. Well done to all players involved.

Ros Camera Convenor, Selection Committee

Social Bowls Special Member Profile for September: Ron Lawrence



Ron, at left, ready to send another close one down, and below, you can always tell if Ron is at social bowls, before you walk in the gate!



Ron has lived in Eltham for about 40 years and has been a member of the Eltham Bowls Club for ten years. Prior to this he was a foundation member of the Lalor Bowling Club (1962) and a member of the Montmorency Bowling Club for about 5 years. Ron spent the last half of his working life as a salesman (“sell anything for a quid”) but his early life was the most interesting. Ron joined the RAN and trained as a maintenance diver, large helmet and full pressurised suit. He has many interesting stories to tell about his experiences, including working under large navy vessels in shark infested waters around New Guinea.

These days Ron is happy with his social bowls and keeping fit walking around Eltham. Where he claims to know and be known by just about every shopkeeper and business owner in town and spends a lot of time chatting. He is also a well sought after lead for the Wednesday social bowls as his great old standard bowls always seem to find the jack.



Left: A diving suit similar to one Ron would have used. I saw this one in a museum in Greymouth, New Zealand. The window at the top makes it an American model according to Ron.

Right: I went along to the Wednesday Social bowls last week to speak to Ron and yes they are Ron’s two bowls next to the jack that opposition skip Peter Osborne is worried about at the crossover.

Pennant Game Milestones:

Congratulations to Carol Schilling-Collins who has just played her 200th game of pennant with our club.

Some significant milestones coming up soon:

Harry Ophetveld (697) Neville Fraser (496) Don White (495) Ernie Richards (298)

Lee Williams (294) Lorna Sparke (148) Jan McDermott (98) Cliff Sloggett (48)

John Baker, Assistant Secretary

Quote of the month:

“I am so clever that sometimes I don't understand a single word of what I am saying.”

— [*Oscar Wilde, The Happy Prince and Other Stories*](#)

Next Newsletter will be due late October. Please send any items of interest to frankc@aanet.com.au