



ELTHAM BOWLING CLUB

Newsletter No 59: November 2013 Editor: Frank Camera



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Eltham wins Parliamentary Challenge Cup!

The Parliamentary Challenge went right down to the last end when the men's team managed to win by one shot in a great comeback to clinch the cup after the lady's team did a great job to win both their games.

The team of Roslyn Camera, Di Debney, Riekie Sloggett and Chris Guest won 11-10 over Heidelberg Golf #2 and 11-8 over Montmorency #1 side. The men's team of Frank Camera, Ray Carroll, Rob Harris and Chris Riddell lost the first game 11-10 to Montmorency #2 and won 10-9 over Heidelberg Golf #1 side. Eltham won with 3 wins to Montmorency 2½ wins.

Steve Herbert put on a great day for the challenge. The green was quite heavy but looked very good and played well enough, and the weather was perfect. We also had a great lunch personally barbequed by Steve with a good assortment of wines, soft drinks and beer. All-in-all a great day out. Many thanks to Steve Herbert and his staff for all the work in organising a very enjoyable and special day for the local bowling clubs.



Top right: Roslyn with the cup acceptance speech, middle right : Steve Herbert on the BBQ, at right: Chris and Riekie having fun while Di in the background is determining the shots up, and above: the victorious Eltham side: Rob, Frank, Riekie, Di, Christine, Ros, Chris and Ray.

President's Report:

Hello everyone and a special welcome to our new Members. I have pleasure in welcoming the following to our club; Heather Hill, Ray Crowe, Graeme Dudley, Alan Medlin, and Kevin and Trish Lowe. This is probably the biggest list of new members in one month for quite a while which is in part, due to our recent successful "Try Bowls" Day. Thanks to the efforts put in by Jenny Millar and David Oliver, it was a very successful day with 22 attendees. Most new members come to the club via our current members which is great, so if you have anyone who may still be interested in coming to play bowls please contact our Coaching coordinator- Graeme Lewis who will organise an accredited coach to provide free coaching.

It is also great to see the response that we have had to our skills development program on Thursdays and for the attendance at our visiting coaches/speakers events- don't forget that all members are welcome to attend these events.

I would also like to thank John Sharp and Greg Patrick for organising the Thursday evening BBQ's which are great for the social aspect of our club.

Don't forget that Twilight bowls has started on Friday evenings with the game starting at 6.00PM, with "chip-in" takeaway available after the game. See the notice down at the club for details. All members welcome.

We also have a Christmas Bowls and Dinner special event coming up on the 15th December. There is a list at the club to put you name down for this special event. Also the Christmas Hamper donation box is out and you will receive some raffle tickets soon, so be in it for some great prizes.

Noel Spargo, President EBC

Secretary's Report:

We have had some problems with the padlocks on both the entrances to the club. It is important that these gates are locked when the last person leaves the club. At times the padlocks need some "graphite" applied, especially after a lot of rain, so let myself or Noel know if you are having trouble locking up. Also we are planning to "fix" the main entrance gate to allow the padlock to be attached in front instead of the rear.

Lost property- I have put out a box that has a number of bowls jackets as well as many hats! Please check the box for any items that may belong to you- this brings me back to our school days- oh dear!

Meryl Spargo (Secretary)

Committee Reports and other News:

Special Events:

Cup Day was another noisy day of bowls, BBQ and horsing around at the club. The weather was perfect and Ann had done a good job with the sweeps. Thanks to the 42 bowlers who participated and to Brent for doing extensive homework in making the Calcutta such fun. Sue, Ann, Maureen, Graeme and Di did a great job with the catering.



Christmas Bowls and Dinner

The Next Special Event is the Christmas get together on Sunday 15th December. The day starts at 2pm with bowls, and the catering committee are providing the dinner - all for \$15! Get your name down on the list at the club. Family most welcome.

Keep your eyes out for SCROUNGERS on Saturday 4th Jan. at 1pm.

Special thanks to all the members of the Special Events Committee who are making a fantastic contribution to the club.

Cath Andrew, Special Events Committee

Forty/40 Bowls at Eltham

Forty/40 Bowls is a fast paced game of two bowls triples with power plays and position rotation. Forty/40 Bowls was developed by Bowls Victoria to introduce community members to lawn bowls. Forty/40 Bowls Competitions have been conducted at the Eltham Bowling Club for a number of years.

A Modified Forty/40 Competition is currently being conducted at the Eltham Bowling Club. This competition concludes before the Christmas/New Year break.

Entries are being sought for another Forty/40 Competition to be held at our Club in February and March of 2014. This Competition will be held between 6.00 pm to 7.30 pm on the following Friday evenings; February 7th (Introductory Night), 14th, 21st, 28th; March 14th, 21st, 28th.

On the Introductory Night, Friday 7th February 2014, a complimentary BBQ will be provided, Bowls Victoria Registration Fees (\$10) will be collected, participants will be issued with their bowls, the competition will be explained and bowlers will be given time to practice their bowling on the green. Any new bowlers will be shown how to bowl.

If you have any friends, family, work colleagues or other community members who you think may be interested in entering a team into the 2014 Forty/40 Bowls Competition at the Eltham Bowling Club please see me for more information and/or an entry form.

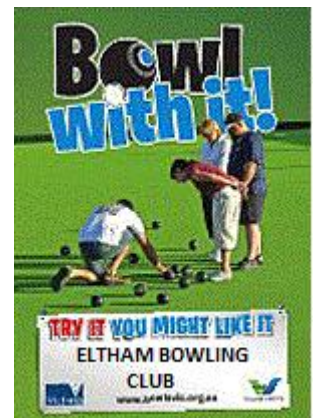
Leon Sinnott. Convenor, Forty/40 Organising Group.

Try Bowls Day:

The club's try bowls open day on the 20th October was a great success.

Many thanks to those members who brought along family and friends to give it a go, 22 people in total. The local paper and the club website were also an immense help. At the end of the day we had five new members sign up, which is a great achievement. Many thanks also to all those members who helped out on the day.

Jenny Millar and David Oliver



Greens Committee:

The recent wet weather and lack of warmth has been doing our grass green no favours. The bare patches are much less serious than they look, however, as Michael Jones has assured us there are runners below the surface which just need some warm weather to sprout. In the meantime please avoid standing on the bare patches.

Until further notice, the only time the green can be played north-south is for Tuesday Pennant, Saturday Pennant and the fixtured Sunday Club Championship games that appear in the handbook for that day. At all other times, play is only to be east-west, even if the Greens Committee has forgotten to move the boundary pegs and numbers.

Cliff Lynch, Greens Coordinator

Saturday Pennant:

Saturday Pennant has been a mixed bag so far this year with good weeks of 4 and 5 wins. All teams have started off well with the third and fourth sides first and second on their respective ladders and all other sides well placed.

Experienced new members in Ron Stafford, David Smith, Rod Kelley and Wayne "chuckles" Wilson have fitted in wonderfully and are all very valuable contributors. We also have two very enthusiastic new bowlers in James Owen and Chris Riddell, and our other two almost new players in Nino and Daryl, bowling regularly and contributing well. Bob Harris has just recently started bowling Saturday Pennant, enjoying it and also bowling quite well.

The selectors would also like to acknowledge the contribution the Club coaches have made to Thursday night practice and have noted much larger numbers practising both Thursday and Fridays this year. And not forgetting the very positive contribution of the John Sharp and Greg Patrick BBQ sausages each week.

We hope that all sides will maintain their current generally good form for the rest of the season.

Frank Camera, Selection Committee

Fundraising Committee:

There is a large box near the trading table for donations to the Christmas Hamper raffle. All donations gratefully received, please speak to Jan, Riekie or Maureen if you would an idea on what you can put in.

Don't forget the sausage sizzle at Bunnings on the 24th of November. If you are in the area or need a cheap lunch/snack why not drop in and have a sausage.

Thanks Jan, Riekie, and Maureen

Special Report#1:

"96 years young and still as bright as a button!"



Last Friday Roslyn and I visited an old friend at Wilandra House, Melbourne City Mission, in Eltham. Joyce Wharton, who was one of the earliest members of the Eltham Recreational Bowling Club (1983-



84), still has lots of fond memories of her many years at the club.

Joyce and her husband Arthur had been bowling at the Bundoora BC but chose the much closer ERBC when it was established with a bowling green in 1982. She has only just moved into a low care room after many years in an independent unit where she was well known as the "garden lady". Joyce even managed the small bowling green at the complex until it became too much for her to look after, having very little help from the other resident bowlers. She still has her own small wheel barrow and tools to tend the garden beds around her small unit.

It was a fascinating 2 hours chatting about the old days of social bowls, the many personalities, and even a club trip to Central Australia. Joyce was a social member until 2007-2008 and was able to bowl with the help of her good friend and driver Marg Rouse. Thanks largely to a chance encounter with Joyce's daughter Lesley at a Probus club trivia night we had a very enjoyable Friday afternoon with a lovely lady and long time EBC member.

Frank Camera, Editor

Special Report#2:



CUP DAY FUN...From our Cup Day roving reporter – Sue Arnott

On Tuesday 5th November, 44 members gathered at the Club to celebrate the Melbourne Cup. Much fun was had with bowls, barbeque lunch, and a "Calcutta" auction of the horses in the big race. Jenny Millar was looking very chic with her fascinator (hat, not Bob).



The Calcutta prize pool was very good for the day and following the race the big winners were Di Debney, Bruce Hill, and Jim Williams.

The other sweeps winners and placegetters were: Don Rogers, Kay Sharp, Mike Theodore, Ros Camera, Anna Lewis, Jade Sharp, Amelie Judge, June Beer, Brian Gillard, David Cripps, Barb Woodward and Bob Cairns. Many thanks to the Special Events Crew under the horsewhip of Cath Andrews.



Coaching Subcommittee:

The Coaches have worked successfully to have a Skills Development Program available this Season.

The first group of 24 players started a 5 week program in October, and the second group started in November. It is expected that 2 more groups will complete the program in the New Year.

The feedback has been good, very encouraging praise and appreciation has been passed on to us.

We hope there will be a continuation of practicing the skills participants have tackled. We would like everyone to take the opportunity to attend upcoming presentations by Guest Coaches visiting the club.

The Coaches have also been very busy teaching quite a number a new bowlers , 5 of whom came along to the Try Bowls Day in October.

Ros Camera, coaching Convenor

GUEST PRESENTER: CRAIG FOX on MENTAL GAME STRENGTH.

THIS THURSDAY 28.11.13 at 7.30 pm in the CLUBROOMS, Craig Fox, a Lecturer at the Victorian Institute of Sport, will speak to members about how to develop their "mental game strength".

In the recent past Craig has worked with the Victorian, South Australian and Australian Bowling Squads during State and International Competitions. He has also produced a CD on the "mental strength game" that many of Australia's premier bowlers use.

All members are invited to attend Craig Fox's presentation.

Please write your name on the list in the Clubrooms if you are going to attend.

A light supper will be provided at the end of the presentation.

As Thursday 28.11.13 is a practice night, a light meal of crumbed chicken tenderloins and salad will be provided for interested members. This light meal will be provided at 6.45 pm for members who write their names in the appropriate column on the list in the Clubrooms by Tuesday 26.11.13. The cost of the light meal will be \$8.

Please note that the BBQ sausages John Sharp and Greg Patrick cook each Thursday will still be available.

Leon Sinnott, coaching sub-committee

Coaching tip:



Ron Stafford's monthly coaching notice board.

This month Ron has some very interesting quotes from our visiting coach in October, Nicole Shortis. Nicole had a lot of very good advice, so if you missed that session or would like to refresh your memory, check out the green sheet on the board.

He also has some good advice on coping with stress "on the mat", watching your bowls and how to go about new bowl selection.

For new (and some "old" bowlers) there is a good picture and description of Ernie's delivery action. Something which I am sure we can all learn from.

Pennant Bowls Special Member Profile for October: Joyce Devine



Joyce Devine, well where does one start describing an incredible contribution to the Eltham Bowling Club. ERBC board for 7 years, VLBA committee for 15 years including 2 as President, selection committee 11 years, Match committee 14 years, social bowls committee 3 years, club delegate 1

year and social committee 1 year. Played in 4 midweek premierships, club mixed pairs champion once, club mixed fours champion twice, 437 midweek pennant games and 21 Saturday pennant games. Joyce has been an EBC Life Member since 2007.



Joyce at 18.

Joyce's family moved from a share farm in Carpendeit, near Cobden in Western Victoria, to Collingwood when she was very young, and then to Eltham in 1945.

Joyce was an office worker until marrying her much loved and missed late husband, Anthony "Tuppy" Devine, at 21.

Their first house was 807 Main Road Eltham, which is now an empty block, opposite the old RSL building. They were forced to sell in 1972 to allow for the widening of Main road. We are still waiting for this "wide" road!

The house itself is actually still standing - in Hurstbridge.

Joyce played basketball in her younger days and then tennis before bowls became her sport of choice in 1987. An excellent one too, having seen her list of achievements at the Eltham Bowling Club over the past 26 years.



Joyce is still enjoying her bowls, and now even bowls on Saturdays as well. Which brings me to a very interesting encounter just over a year ago:

- Me (first Saturday practice match last season, on the bank getting ready to bowl when Joyce walks past dragging her bowls bag): *“Joyce! What are you doing here?”*
- Joyce (stopping for a moment): *“I’ve never been allowed to before, have I!”*
- Me: lost for words...!
- Joyce (walks on a bit and turns back): *“And if you hear a lot of noise from up there”* (pointing upwards), *“you’ll know who it is!”*

Still no noise Joyce, I’m sure Tuppy approves!

PS: Tuppy played in over 200 A-grade games for Eltham, was Best and Fairest 7 times, captain/coach twice, played in 2 premierships and was a Life member of the Eltham Football Club.

Frank Camera

Match Committee:

Men’s and Women’s Pairs Final SUNDAY DECEMBER 8TH AT 1.00PM

Men’s and Women’s Singles Final SUNDAY DECEMBER 22ND AT 1.00PM

Please check the Notice board for:

1. The draw of the Mixed President’s Trophy and Mixed Vice President’s Trophy.
2. Men’s and Women’s Triples Entry Sheets

Please note it is very important to notify the Match Committee in certain circumstances as there are rules which apply:

- When you are playing a game before a set date.
- When a rink is required on a Sunday which has scheduled games in the handbook.
- When a game cannot be played on or before a set date.
- When the grass needs maintenance to be carried out before play.

Could all members who wish to play their championship games ahead of the selected date, or in the afternoon of the nominated Sunday, please advise the Match committee as early as possible. This will help us coordinate the Sunday morning greens and rink allocations much more efficiently.

Ros Camera, Coordinator

Pennant Game Milestones:

Congratulations to the following members who have just passed significant milestones:

Lee Williams (300) Cliff Lynch (250) Brent Arnott (200) Graeme Climas (150)

David Gillespie (100) David Oliver (50) Riekie Sloggett (50) Steve Spargo (50)

Quote of the month:

The difference between stupidity and genius is that genius has its limits.

Albert Einstein

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