

Bowls Victoria - Ovens & Murray Region

72/10 HARRISON STREET WANGARATTA 3677

President: - Laureen Smith

Phone: 03 5744 2758

Mobile: 0409 739 459

Email: presidentoandmbowls@gmail.com

Secretary: - Graham Moore

Phone:

Mobile: 0411 090 940

Email: secretaryoandmbowls@gmail.com

Treasurer: Patrick O'Shea

Mobile; 0428 540 855

Email; wandi86@bigpong.net.au

OVENS AND MURRAY BOWLS REGION ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 10.30am. WANGARATTA BC

Sunday 5th June 2022

Minutes

O & M Board members Present on the day;
President Laureen Smith; Vice President Vacant;
Secretary Graham Moore; Treasurer Patrick O'Shea;
Neil Reid, John Fisher & Loraine Stone

Delegates from Clubs To Be Present; Beechworth, Benalla, Bright, Chiltern, Club Mulwala, Corowa Civic, Corowa RSL, Corryong, Dederang, Kiewa Valley, Mansfield, Miliawa,, Moira Benalla, Moyhu, Myrtleford, Rutherglen, St. James, Swanpool, Tallangatta, Tawonga/Mt Beauty, Tungamah, Wangaratta, Wareena, Wodonga, Yackandandah, Yarrawonga & YMGCR

Official Opening; President Laureen to opened the meeting at 10.30am and welcomed all to the meeting
And made a special welcome to our new club coming into the O&M that being **HOWLONG**

President Laureen asked all those present to please stand for a
Minutes Silence for our departed members

Apologies; Board members John White, John Fisher, and Albert Crithclow, along with Otto Kupferle, Noel Murrell, Kerry Kinnane, David Warring

Clubs Present; 19

Delegates Present; 30

Clubs not in attendance; Beechworh, Club Mulwala, Dederang, Corryong, Kiewa Valley, Moira Benalla, Moyhu, St James, Tallangatta, Tawonga Mt. Beauty

Minutes of last year AGM---Moved to be accepted Sec. Graham Moore---

Seconded by Pat O'Shea

Any Business arising from those minutes----NIL

REPORTS;

PRESIDENTS---See attached report

SECRETARY----See attached report

FINANCE—Patrick O’Shea---See attached report----still waiting for Audited report

**BVRR; President & Secretary-----BV new constitution on BV web site
PENNANT COMMITTEE; read out by President Laureen please see attached report**

CHAMPIONSHIP & SELECTION; ; read out by President Laureen please see attached report

UMPIRES; Laureen Smith informed those present what had been happening during the season

GREENS; Patrick O’Shea—nothing much to report

JUNIORS---NA

COACHING---urgently required someone to look at this section

WEBSITE; ; read out by President Laureen please see attached report

NOTICES OF MOTION

**APPOINTMENT OF AN AUDITOR---PARMESAN; Accountants and advisors
57 Standish Street Myrtleford and 20b Wills Street Bright
Proposed bye Patricek O’Shea Seconded Chiltern---carried**

**Honorariums for season 2022/23-----President, Secretary and
Webmaster
President \$1200.00
Secretary \$1200.00
Webmaster \$600.00**

Moved bye Myrtleford Seconded by Bright

President Laureen to ask Office Bearers to step down—and ask someone to take the chair, once the President has been elected she then goes through all other nominations

Election of Office Bearers

O & M NOMINATIONS RECEIVED FOR THE BOARD & O&M COMMITTEES----2021/22

PRESIDENT-- LAUREEN SMITH only nomination was received will be elected un-opposed

VICE PRESIDENT--GRAHAM MOORE only nomination received—will withdraw his nomination

SECRETARY-----GRAHAM MOORE; only nomination received, will be elected unopposed

TREASURER----PATRICK O'SHEA; only nomination received, will be elected unopposed

BOARD MEMBERS [5 REQUIRED]—LORAIN STONE, NEIL READ three more required to be taken from the floor

WEB SITE ADMINISTRATOR/ MEDIA OFFICER; NOEL MURRELL; only one nomination was received, will be elected unopposed

PENNANT COMMITTEE [COMBINED, 7 REQUIRED]—FRAN DON, NOEL MURRELL, BRYAN SMITH, GARETH WILLIAMS, IAN BILNEY, DAVID CROTHERS, one more required

PENNANT COORDINATOR; NOEL MURRELL only nomination received will be elected unopposed

MATCH / CHAMPIONSHIP/ SELECTION COMMITTEE [COMBINED 7 REQUIRED]—ROGER MATHERS, ANNE MILES, CLARE SANDERS, ALBERT CRITHCLOW, KLIVE LINGTON, MARY TRAGARDH, KYLIE WHITEHEAD, No more required

LAWS & UMPIRING—ANNE SUMMERHILL, LAUREEN SMITH; MAX DRUMMOND, NEIL PRYOR; only nominations received, more required if possible

COACHING COMMITTEE; TO BE DISCUSSED

GREENS; PATRICK O'SHEA; Help required

JUNIORS; TO BE DISCUSSED

OVENS & MURRAY COMMITTEES FOR 2022/23 SEASON

BOARD

PRESIDENT---LAUREEN SMITH

VICE PRESIDENT---ROGER MATHERS

SECRETARY---GRAHAM MOORE

TREASURER---PATRICK O'SHEA

BOARD MEMBERS; JOHN WHITE, LORAIN STONE, NEIL READ,

GLENICE CAMPBELL & CHERYL LEWIS

WEB-SITE ADMINISTRATOR /MEDIA OFFICER

NOEL MURRELL

PENNANT COMMITTEE

FRAN DON, NOEL MURRELL, BRYAN SMITH, GARETH WILLIAMS,
IAN BILNEY, DAVID CROTHERS & GEORGE PETERSON

PENNANT COORDINATOR; --NOEL MURRELL

MATCH/CHAMPIONSIP/SELECTION COMMITTEE;

ROGER MATHERS, ANNE MILES, CLARE SANDERS, ALBERT CRTHCLOW,
KLIVE LINGTON, MARY TRAGARDH & KYLIE WHITEHEAD

LAWS & UMPIRING

LAUREEN SMITH, ANNE SUMMERHILL, MAX DRUMOND & NEIL PRYOR

GREENS;

PATRICK O'SHEA, NEIL READ & LANCE BRADSHAW

COACHING;--LINK NEIL PRYOR

After several minutes and the Secretary asking around to see if anyone would like to nominate for the vacant positions, the secretary realized he was begging to the converted as all those present already did a lot of work for there clubs, but we managed to get all positions covered in the end,

The above members were elected to serve on the O&M committees for Season 2022/23

Roger Mathers was elected from the floor to serve as Vice President

The Following were elec6ted from the floor to serve on the O&M Board, John White, Glenice Campbell and Cheryl Lewis.

George Peterson was elected from the floor to Serve on the Pennant Committee

Greens; Neil Read & Lance Bradshaw volunteered to help Patrick out

We have a coaching ling this will be done by Neil Pryor from Chiltern

President Annual Report Season 2021-22

After some heavy going COVID times, although not completely finished with us, appear to now have less of an influence on our day to day life- no more check ins and QR codes, no more proof of immunization and no more lockdowns.

Looking back, O&M has been incredibly fortunate to have completed our bowling calendars during the COVID times.

The challenge for the Board is to now restart the process of looking ahead, confidently planning for things that will occur.

In the last year, after the adoption of our new constitution, the Board has developed and endorsed a disciplinary process that we think will work, but it is one that we are quite happy not to put to the test. The region can only deal with disciplinary matters that occur in pennant or in state events and I certainly hope that no matters arise that need to be addressed because everyone will behave themselves, happy to be on the green.

Pennant season ran smoothly with the introduction of “catch up rounds” trying to ensure that the competition is as fair as it can be to every club. The pennant committee certainly has this as one of their mantras when considering their decisions either week to week or from the season perspective. Thank you to Noel and his committee (Ian, Gareth, Fran, Bryan, Kerry and Dave) for the work they do behind the scenes to keep our pennant competition running.

Congratulations to all participants in our pennant, especially to all the Division winners of both comps and particularly to YMGCRC and Wangaratta who were the O&M representatives at State Pennant Weekend and Midweek playoffs at Moama.

Thank you also to John and his team (Roger, Claire, Anne, Maurie, Albert, Mary and Klive) working on the Selection and Championship committee. There were a couple of hiccups in the running of the events and hopefully these will be smoothed out in the future. All events were completed by the due dates and the O&M representatives at State level excelled and as a combined effort brought the Vic Shield home to our region as the best performed region across all State events.

I have posted on our website a rundown of the events and the points that were earned in each event, it is worth noting the number of events where O&M progressed beyond the first round. As I mentioned in that post, the value of strong competition at region level has to have an impact on how our reps perform at state events. Well done to everyone.

Region sides was a difficult time for our Ladies and a close miss on finals for our men, a reversal of last year's results. Representing our region should be one of the highlights of a player's career and I hope that Board support reflects this honor.

Thank you to Patrick and his backstop Elaine, for his work as Treasurer. As we change our focus from “getting through” to looking forward, the management of our finances and developing budgets is a crucial planning tool.

Pat is also taking his Greens committee role seriously and I hope that clubs access the support they may need from the O&M.

The umpire committee (Anne S, Max, and Laureen) has been quietly working on their dual roles- providing support to clubs who host O&M games with officials as required and conducting accreditation and reaccreditation courses. Thank you to Anne Summerill who is the front line in helping clubs with officials.

We are lucky in our region that we have a number of Presenters and Assessors. All are due for reaccreditation when BA finalizes the reaccreditation process. Thank you to those who choose not to reaccredit for their volunteer efforts in training over the past four to five years and to those who are continuing another big thank you.

Thank you to the Board members, Neil, Albert, John and Loraine, who have been diligent in attending and contributing at meetings (COVID permitting) and lastly a big Thank you to Graham.

Graham has been secretary for a good number of years and has expressed his desire to retire from the position whose duties he undertakes willingly and conscientiously.

O&M cannot operate without volunteers and this report has acknowledged the input of many volunteers who work for the good of the region and as players we reap the rewards of their efforts.

My thoughts are that a lot of people doing a little, spreads the workload, no one is lumbered and everyone is happier. When nomination time rolls around (this year, a little later today), please think about what you can contribute to ease the burden on others.

My role as President is one where you can experience many frustrations but this is countered by working with dedicated people all trying their best.

I’m sure we shall all continue trying to do our best

Laureen

SECRETARY' REPORT FOR SEASON 2021/22

Firstly I am sorry that I changed my mind about carry on as Secretary, and re nominating again. Firstly I did change my mind, mainly because of something that happened a few weeks ago I have nominated for two positions, Vice President and Secretary—Vice President because I could help a person who might have nominated for Secretary, if we had both nominations I would have nominated for the Board just to help the new Secretary out, well it never materialized, so I will with draw as VP

This season has been a better one than last years, well done to all sides who won our pennant Championships, well done to all those bowlers who won O&M individual Championships, to those Bowlers who won any BV medals, and championships which helped the O&M win the BV shield for the Best all round region.

I take my hat off to our Pennant Committee run by Noel Murrell, who have done a great job and it is great to see them all re-nominate again. Noel does such a great job behind the scenes we would be lost without him. He his also our Web-master, and looks after Bowls Link for us.

To our Championship, Match and Selection committee once again a great job well done, it's a pity that John Fisher won't be standing again and I know you all will give John all our respect on his fight against his illness.

Our other committees have served our Region with dignity

This season we had a new Treasurer Patrick O'Shea who has done a fantastic job, and it has been a pleasure to work along with you

To our President who is a tireless worker, yes at times we have had our differences, but that's the way it goes, I have told Laureen on a number of times she is doing too much, so why doesn't she delegate some work to our Board Directors

We might have Howlong with us next season, maybe 3 teams, Brad their Bowls manager contacted me, after several conversations in the end I asked him to contact our President as well, along with our Pennant Chairman, but things are moving along very nicely with Howlong.

At our last Board meeting, Laureen raised a point to raise our exposure, this being live streaming, bloody great idea, but it may cost a little, we will look into this, we must also look at a Bowls Coaching Coordinator like other regions have, look into re-starting a junior program again, but we must never forget our grass root bowlers, we could also move like BV have done with President & Secretary being our delegates, as Laureen and I are [BVRR] for BV. I would also like to see Board members given certain job to do each year some just come onto the Board and do nothing

My big beef is when I receive or no details of new contacts for your club, all I really want is President & Secretary names, phone numbers, emails please

I would like to wish you all a great 2022/23 season---Yours Graham Moore

PENNANT COMMITTEE REPORT AGM 2021/2022

As I recently provided a comprehensive Pennant Report at the Delegates Meeting on 24 Apr 22 this report will be an update on what the committee has done since that meeting.

Just to summarise our season – it was certainly challenging having to navigate Covid restrictions and Covid cases in clubs. We were extremely lucky to get a full season in, albeit later than normal. Thanks to all clubs for the patience, cooperation and understanding it certainly made the committee's job easy.

Possibly the biggest piece of news is that the Howlong Bowling Club application to affiliate with Bowls Victoria has now been approved. Following on from the approval means that Howlong is now part of O&M Bowls Region and will enter our Pennant competition for the coming season. The Pennant Committee welcomes the Howlong Bowling Club and look forward to working with them to fit their sides in to our competition.

The Pennant Committee met on the 22nd October to identify positives and negatives of the past season and commence the planning for the 2022/23 season. A copy of the Meeting Notes can be found on the Region's website under the heading 'PENNANT'. Some discussion points and outcomes were:

- Draft Divisions developed but will not be released until after Howlong Bowling Club sides are incorporated. At this time 6 clubs (Bright, Tawonga Mt Beauty, Tallangatta, Dederang, Tungamah, Wangaratta) have indicated that they would be interested in fielding sides in a Triples Pennant Competition if established next season.
- The committee agreed that the commencing date for Pennant for the coming season will be early October, and the programme established around the Victorian Open 18-25 Nov 22 and 24 Mar-2 Apr 23,
- Chiltern BC requested that the Pennant points system be reviewed, specifically where it impacts on Divisions with a bye. Additionally, they were concerned that only one B Division Side is considered for promotion to Division A. The committee has reviewed both issues raised and determined that the current points system will be retained but continue to be reviewed. Additionally, it was decided that all B Division Sides finishing on top, of their Divisions, at the end of the Home and Away season be invited to provide an expression of interest for promotion to Division A with the committee deciding on the side to be promoted.
- The current vaccine mandate should be rescinded.
- The washout/heat-out rule trialled during the 2021/22 season will be retained for the coming season but modified to have catchup games played within 7 days of the programmed date.

REPORT FOR CHAMPIONSHIP & SECTION COMMITTEE

Although the season had a late due to COVID restrictions all our competitions were completed on time, for the results to be sent into BV for Champions Week.

Congratulations to our Region winners, who represented the Region with great pride, with Jodie Fruend winning the Women's State Singles, and Adrian Pantling and Ethan Fruend winning the Men's Pairs Championship. We wish these players well when they represent Victoria in the National Championships later this year.

Ian Brimblecombe & Ann Miles were runners up in the Stae Mixed Pairs, Anne Miles, Laureen Smith & Clare Sanders were runner up in the Womens Triples and Dave Allan was runner up in the State Novice Singles, with the Ovens & Murray Region winning the Region Trophy

The Men's region side were runner up in their half of the draw at the Region SWides Championships, pny loosing one round of the play offs, which was a great effort from the side

I would like to thank all the members of the committee for their efforts during the season, in what was a hectic schedule

I will not be seeking election to the committee for the coming season due to ill health but I wish the committee well for the coming season

John Fisher

Chairman Championship and Selection Committee

Ovens and Murray Bowls Delegates Meeting

Sunday 5th June 2022 at Wangaratta Bowling Club

Following the AGM, delegates from all clubs were invited to submit or present any items or matters from their respective clubs.

Bernie Jones (Delegate Wodonga Bowling Club)

As a delegate from Wodonga Bowling Club Bernie presented the following thoughts and ideas for discussion and consideration by the O and M Board and Committees.

Weekend and Midweek Pennant.

- Victoria is divided into 16 Regions: 5 Metropolitan and 11 Regional.
- Some Regions due to their size and area are further divided into 'Playing Areas'.
- Every Region in Victoria (and possibly all Regions or Zones in Australia), except the Ovens and Murray Region consist of Divisions numbered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, etc.
- The question is asked why doesn't the O and M Region align with and be consistent with all other Regions in Victoria and have Divisions 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, etc. and not A1, A2, A3, A4, B1, B2 etc that we currently have?
- Lower Divisions could still consist of pennant teams of 12 if required.
- Promotion and relegation should be enforced between divisions. Without wishing to be too critical I gave the example where Corryong virtually win the premiership each year and most clubs in their division are unhappy with their domination each year.
- I suggested that if the Grand Final winner in whatever division chooses not to be promoted to a higher division due to that club already having a team in that higher division then the 'runner up' be given the option for promotion. This would be a much fairer system especially for the smaller clubs.
- Due to previous experience Wodonga, and I would think other clubs also, would be very reluctant to agree to have two teams in the one division.
- Travelling distances should not be a reason for refusing promotion. Playing some games could be arranged at a club mid-way between the respective clubs and this has been arranged before over many years. Mansfield teams for example travel long distances every second week and do not complain.

Pennant and Bowlslink.

The O and M Board and Clubs should ensure pennant managers in all divisions for both weekend and midweek are trained and capable of inputting teams and results, especially after games, on Bowlslink.

Response from O and M Bowls President Laureen Smith.

Laureen advised that currently promotion and relegation only applies to weekend pennant Divisions A1, A2, A3 and A4.

Weekend Divisions B1, B2, B3 and B4 are structured according to the clubs geographical location.

Secretary will pass this on to our pennant committee

Being no more Business meeting closed at 12.15pm