



# Ovens and Murray Bowls Region Inc

## Bowls Victoria

### PRESIDENT

Maurie Braden

Email: [presidentoandmbowls@gmail.com](mailto:presidentoandmbowls@gmail.com)

Phone: 0493 391 888

### SECRETARY

Glenice Campbell

Email: [secretaryoandmbowls@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryoandmbowls@gmail.com)

Phone: 0408 420 508

## **OVENS AND MURRAY BOWLS REGION DELEGATES MEETING**

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at Wangaratta Bowls Club at 10.30am**

### **MINUTES**

**Present:** Maurie Braden (President), Cheryl Lewis (Vice President), Glenice Campbell (Secretary), Wade MacPherson (Treasurer), John White, Neil Reid, Graham Burrington, Fran Don, Terry Hallinan, Laureen Smith (Umpiring and Laws), Benalla (G Greene, I Hobson), Bright (Otto Kupferle, Julie Ellis), Chiltern (Neil Pryor, John Payne), Club Mulwala (W Dowsey), Commercial Club (D Coventry, K Haberman), Corowa Civic (O&M Board member only), Corowa RSL (Lynne Ewison), Dederang (Lillian Smith, Bryan Smith), Kiewa Valley (Ron Miller), Lavington (D Kefford, B Collins), Mansfield (Vicki Klein, Nick Klein), Milawa (M Walker), Moira Benalla (Rob Jones), Moyhu (Christine Magee, Neil Magee), Myrtleford (Wally Dunstone, Lance Symons), North Albury (F Guivarra), Rutherglen (Nancy Duursma, Nadine Simpson), St James (John Sharp), Swanpool (L Bradshaw, R Mathieson), Tungamah (John Hemphill, Dianne Sampson), Wangaratta (Greg McDonald), Wodonga (Bernie Jones), Yackandandah (Reon Garvey), Yarrawonga (R Tait, J Borg), YMGCR (K Kinnane)

**Apologies:** Wade McPherson (Treasurer), Neil Reid (Board member), Noel Murrell (Website/BowlsLink), Patrick O'Shea (Greens ) Beechworth BC, Corryong BC, Howlong BC, Tallangatta (Email sent but not opened until after meeting), Lief Kamba (Corryong BC), Sue Beer (Wodonga BC), Shane Rosenow (Corowa Civic), Noel Murray, Therese Alexander (Moira Benalla),

Frank Artis (Yackandandah), Observer – Josh Thornton, BV Country Pilot Program Manager

Non Attendance: Tawonga/MtBeauty

**Meeting opened at** 10.30am

**Minutes:** past minutes were attached to the agenda

**Moved as true and correct record:** Wodonga **Seconded:** Chiltern

**Business arising from minutes:** Nil

**Inward Correspondence:**

30/9 – Pennant Committee – Live scoring training dates 7/10 at 10am and 7.30pm and 14/10 at 9.30am and 7.30pm.

3/10 – BowlsVic – notice of AGM on October 24<sup>th</sup>

3/10 – Pennant Committee – Live scoring You Tube tutorial

**Outward Correspondence:**

3/10 – Bowls Vic – amended constitution sent

3/10 – Website – amended constitution sent

**Correspondence be accepted:**

**Moved accepted:** Yarrawonga **Seconded** Corowa RSL

**Finance report:**

Report attached for 1/6/24 to 30/9/24 presented by Glenice Campbell

Total Opening balance \$46,038.74

Opening Balance \$ 32,347.45

Closing balance \$10,969.78

Term deposit Bendigo Bank \$13,691.29

Investment account CMCU \$20,000.00

Total closing balance \$44,661.07

**Moved accepted:** Benalla **Seconded:** Rutherglen

**Reports:**

**President:** Welcome given to new NSW teams of Commercial Club and North Albury

**Match / selection / championship committee:**

- Report attached. Presented by Maurie Braden

- Venues for all State events have now been allocated
- Accommodation for Region Sides in Ballarat will be booked at the same motel
- Will attempt to introduce Live scoring to state events at the post sectional stage

### **Pennant Committee:**

Special mention was made of the incredible effort Noel has done to put all the draws together

- Report attached. Presented by Bryan Smith
- Draws have all be released. Delay was due to waiting for outcome of Walla Walla transfer to Victoria. Walla Walla is going to continue to pursue transfer to Victoria
- A1 weekend and A1 midweek are to trial live this season
- BowlsLink now has a shuffle button for drawing of cards
- Clubs should have Side Captains trained to be able to confirm scores at the venue
- Pennant Conditions of Play are on the website
- Side Captains Toolkit will be updated and posted on the website
- All B grades are based geographically so all are equal division. B1 is not senior to B3
- Any run of the mill Pennant issues refer to Noel Murrell Pennant Coordinator

### **Website/BowlsLink/Media Committee:**

- Report prepared by Noel Murrell attached.
- BowlsLink has a major upgrade particularly with the administrative module
- State events are entered by using your NIN
- Club Tournaments continue to be posted on the website

### **Umpires:**

- Report attached. Presented by Laureen Smith
- Ran a successful pre-season information session
- Working through the umpire assessments
- Anyone interested can do the online modules for free with no payment required until wanting to be assessed.
- Club umpires are there to be used if any questions about the Laws of the game

### **Greens:**

- Provided by Patrick O'Shea
- No correspondence has been received from any clubs

- Remember greens that clubs would like to have inspected has to be reported in writing to the Board

### **Coaching:**

- Noel Pryor has offered to be the coaching point of contact

### **Junior Development:**

- Provided by Mitchell Enshaw.
- Nothing arranged yet but hoping for something before Christmas

**Moved reports accepted:** YMGCR    **Seconded:** Bright

### **General Business:**

- 2024-2025 season meeting dates and location of meeting
  - Next meeting will be Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December at 10.30am at Wangaratta to avoid clash with State events on Sundays
  - February meeting and AGM to be decided at later meetings
- Pennant finals fee to remain at \$5.00
  - Confirmation of Board decision following suggestion from AGM
- Entries now open for all Region State events with payment of \$10 per person with entry. Green fees will still be collected on the day.
  - Entries going well at present
- Clubs make use of the Bowls Australia Resource Hub
  - Clubs encouraged to make more use of these valuable resources
- Pennant livescoring for A1 Weekend and A1 Midweek pennant
  - To be trialed this season. Traing sessions have been advised to clubs
- Wodonga – If the Secretary can forward tournament flyers to Clubs as she has the up-to-date email addresses
  - It was agreed that Clubs can now send tournament flyers to the Secretary and they will forwarded to all O&M clubs and the website
- Yarrawonga – Queried why promotion did not happen in all divisions
  - It is expected but not compulsory
  - Can cause problems in clubs when have 2 pennant teams in the one division
- North Albury – Suggested having zoom meetings for delegate meeting so that there is the option for in person or by zoom
  - The Board will discuss at the next meeting
  - Commercial advised they have successfully held zoom meetings
- Benalla – process for Super veteran badges (Bowlers 80 years old or older)

- Bowls Victoria are now going to charge for these badges. Secretary still has a small supply
- Swanpool – suggested O&M purchase the badges as a healthy bank balance. Will be discussed at O&M Board meeting
- Bernie Jones – Will be doing a Saturday Morning Bowls show on 107.3 after the 8am news
- Chiltern – Better reporting of bowls in the Border Mail
  - North Albury advised that Beau Greenway (North Albury bowler who has transferred to Rutherglen) has worked in journalism
  - Lavington – Mark Mulchay used to do the write ups but he has returned. They also recommend Beau
  - To be discussed at the Board meeting for approaching Beau

**Meeting closed at 11.15am**

**NEXT MEETING:**

Wednesday December 18<sup>th</sup> at 10.30am at Wangaratta BC



# Ovens and Murray Bowls Region Inc Bowls Victoria

## OVENS AND MURRAY BOWLS REGION TREASURER'S REPORT

<b>JUNE 1 TO SEPTEMBER 30</b>	
<b>DEPOSITS</b>	<b>EXPENDITURE</b>
<b>Opening balance: \$46,038.74</b>	
SAVINGS ACCOUNT \$32,347.45	TERM DEPOSIT \$13,691.29
INTEREST \$1.07	CONSUMER AFFAIRS \$475.60
	AUDIT \$550.00
	NEW ABN \$220.00
	WANG ROOM HIRE \$125.00
SAVINGS \$10969.78	
TERM DEPOSIT \$13691.29	MATURES 08/11
NEW TERM DESOPIT \$20,000	CMCU
SETEMBER 30TH: \$44661.07	
<b>Closing balance: \$44,661.07</b>	

## GENERAL (DELEGATES) MEETING – 6 OCT 24

### PENNANT REPORT

Following is a summary of what has been happening around Pennant since the AGM.

#### **Pennant Planning**

**Release of Draws.** The Pennant Committee apologises for the delay in releasing the final Draws for both Pennant competitions. The delay was as a result of Bowls NSW's rejecting the application from Walla Walla to transfer to Victoria, even after an appeal. Unfortunately, Walla Walla ran out of time to appeal to Bowls Australia before our Pennant commences. Walla Walla intends to pursue their transfer effective in 2025..

Additionally, a withdrawal of a Side at the last moment certainly did not help. Clubs need to understand that the Pennant Committee now has the power to fine a club up to \$600 once the Draws have been completed. Fortunately the committee had prepared two sets of Draws due to the Walla Walla uncertainty, however the Side withdrawal was an extra spike requiring the Midweek B Division to be restructured and a 3<sup>rd</sup> Draw to be generated.

**Live Scoring.** Bowls Vic has requested that Live Scoring be rolled out in the Region's. The Pennant Committee has decided to trial Live Scoring in Both Weekend and Midweek Pennant A1 Divisions. Training is being provided to clubs in these Divisions. To assist the roll out anyone in the Sides can do the scoring – not limited to the 2nds. The idea is to identify someone in the rink that is tech savvy – not that the use of the Scoring App is difficult.

**Shuffle.** A new innovation to BowlsLink is the ability to 'shuffle' the cards once both Sides have been entered in each Round. This capability has now been switched on in our Draws. How it works is that once both sets of teams have been entered either Side Captain (Side Administrator) can complete the shuffle. The committees proposal is that the Home Side completes the shuffle. Be advised that whoever completes the shuffle is recorded in BowlsLink.

**Results Entry.** The Pennant Committee requests that all clubs appoint Side Captains who have been trained to enter players to teams and scores entry. This season is expected that all scores and confirmation is completed prior to leaving the Home Side venue.

**Pennant Conditions of Play (CoP).** The Conditions of Play are mandated by Bowls Vic have been updated. Region's can only amend Sections 2, 3 and 4. It is recommended that all clubs familiarise themselves with the updated Pennant Conditions of Play.

**Side Captains Toolkit.** Now that the Fixtures are out and the Conditions of Play are completed the Side Captains Toolbox will be updated and sent to clubs prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> Round of Pennant.

**B Division.** There is still confusion among bowlers on the construct of B Divisions. All clubs should be aware that the B Divisions are set up in geographic regions to avoid travel

and as a result these divisions do see minor structural changes. It would be appreciated if all clubs can brief their members that Division B1 is not senior to Division B3 – they have equal status.

**BowlsLink.** As in recent years BowlsLink is the official record for managing our Pennant competition. It is essential that all clubs have sufficient trained managers capable of entering/confirming their Sides results at the venues immediately after the games.

### **Summary**

Hopefully all our plans have now come together and we have a successful season. Weekend Pennant gets underway next Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> October with Midweek getting underway on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> October.

Please note that all documents pertaining to Pennant can be found on the Region's website under the heading **PENNANT**.

Chairman of the Pennant Committee for this season is Bryan Smith with Noel Murrell appointed the Pennant Coordinator.

For any run of the mill Pennant issues refer to Noel as the Pennant Coordinator.

Finally, the Pennant Committee wishes all clubs the very best for the coming season and hopes all players enjoy their game of bowls.

### **B. Smith**

Chairman

Pennant Committee

Ovens and Murray Bowls Region Inc

Oct 24



## Match & Selection Committee Report

6/10/24 Delegates Meeting

- All venues for State Events have now been decided (Mixed Pairs at Corowa Civic)  
O&M Trial matches the only venue to be allocated (at Pairs 27<sup>th</sup> Oct)
- Will also elect a chairperson at first State Event
- New committee members Michelle Van Praagh and Jan Hermassoo
- Accommodation for Region Sides will be ratified at tomorrow's Board Meeting  
(same venue as last year)
- Change in format for Region Sides this year (3 x games of 21 ends – 1 x Friday  
afternoon and 2 x Saturday)
- We will attempt to introduce "Live Scoring" at State Events (Most likely in the  
Post Sectional stage)

Maurie Braden

Match and Selection Committee

Umpire report for delegate meeting 6<sup>th</sup> October 2024

As we get ready for a new season of bowls, umpires gathered to discuss any issues that arose last season and to have a look at the Conditions of Play for Pennant in the coming season.

Approximately 20 umpires attended with a good representation from across the region. It was great to meet our new clubs from NSW, all were represented.

Our discussion raised a few questions that have been forwarded to the pennant committee to be clarified.

The other aspect of our work is the training and reaccreditation of new and continuing officials-umpires, markers and measurers. I have recently made contact with all applicants that I have received since BV moved to the online gathering of applications.

We have a date to start the accreditation of three new officials in Yackandandah on the 7<sup>th</sup> Nov, and are working towards a date for reaccredits to take place in Benalla within the next six weeks.

It is likely that another session will be held in Yarrawonga for two new accredits but that one is slightly further back in the planning stages.

We also have a small number of applications lodged in the paper days that I hope we manage to clear in this season.

As you can tell, the system is that I receive an application and then work towards organising the appropriate sessions.

If you have any members who are interested in starting their officiating journey, please encourage them to lodge their online application with BV.

Remember your umpires are there to be used, so if you have any questions about the Laws of the game, ask.

You can always contact me on 0409739459, (will get it corrected on the website) and if I don't answer I will return your call when I can.

Good Bowling to all

Laureen

DUP O&M

## Ovens and Murray Bowls Region Inc

### General Meeting (Delegates) 6 Oct 24

#### WEBSITE/BOWLSLINK REPORT

A brief update on the Region's Website and BowlsLink and any issues experienced are detailed below:

- **Website**

No major upgrades to the website has occurred since the last report provided at the recent AGM.

The Region's website is still doing its job to communicate the Region's activities, especially regarding Pennant, State Events and Club tournaments.

Whilst clubs do have their own websites not all our region's bowlers visit these sites. Any information or articles pertaining to your clubs are welcome and can be replicated on the Region's website.

As bowlers are aware the off season is very quiet and very little gets reported through the website. However, as the season gets underway the information posted to the website picks up.

I often get requests from clubs regarding a wide range of information, most questions can normally be answered from information on the website.

- **BowlsLink.** BowlsLink has had a major upgrade, particularly within the administrative module. I commend clubs to look at the upgrade webinars found on the Bowls Vic website under BowlsLink.
- **Pennant.** Two new upgrades to Pennant are great innovations, one that allows Sides to be Shuffled online without the need to draw scorecards. The other is the ability to use live scoring within games eliminating the need for hard copy scorecards.
- **State Events.** Using your NIN is the mandated way to now enter State Events. I had some reservations that it may effect entries but at this early stage it does not appear the case.
- **Club Tournaments.** As I reported at the AGM clubs should consider using BowlsLink for tournament entries. More and more clubs are going this way

Once again, I thank clubs for their cooperation in both BowlsLink and website administration. Finally, as I have stated in the past, should you require assistance on any matter relating to the websites or BowlsLink do not hesitate to contact me.

**Noel Murrell**

Website/BowlsLink Administrator.

Ovens and Murray Bowls Region Inc

3 Oct 24