## **Rhoanna Smith**

to me

Hi Glenice Report for Match/Selection as detailed below. Happy to use this for both, can report on triples and O60s singles for next meeting. Kind regards, Rho

The Match and Selection committee continue to be busy running regional events. So far the Men's and Women's Pairs, Mixed Pairs and Over 60s Men's and Women's pairs events have been completed (full reports from each event available on the O&M website and attached below) Thank you to Wangaratta, Corowa Civic, YMGCR and Club Mulwala for hosting these events.

We were thrilled to invite 24 men and women from across the region to trial for our representative teams, which was held on November 24. Thank you to Rutherglen Bowls club for hosting these trials. The new "Red vs Blue" format was a success, and we anticipate this competitiveness among players to build through the years. Our selected representative teams had success at the annual GMBR vs O&MBR challenge match, with each side winning 2 from 3 games to retain the shield.

Best performed rinks from Ovens and Murray:

Women: Kylie Lavis, Rhoanna Smith, Sarah Matthieson/Kylie Alexander and Peta Kelly

Men: Koby Cromie, Scott Widdison, Sam Beaton, Maurie Braden.

The committee now has the difficult task of cutting these teams back to 12 a side plus emergency for the upcoming region sides at Ballarat.

We have had to order new bowls ring stickers for the region as the remaining supply from last year is insufficient. We took this as an ideal opportunity to update them in line with our new uniform colours which we hope to move forward with soon, pending sponsorships. Josh Thornton from Bowls Vic continues to explore this on our behalf, and we eagerly await his success in securing a deal!

## **Mixed Pairs Report:**

Players persisted through the rain and wind at Corowa Civic this Sunday in the knockout rounds of the Ovens and Murray region mixed pairs.

Play started with two quarter finals of high quality. The first was played between Anne Miles and Ian Brimblecombe (YMGCR) and Laureen Smith (YMGCR) and Les Spencer (Yarrawonga). The scores were tight until end 10. In the end, it was team Brimblecombe that put their foot down to take out the game 17-8. The second quarter final between Rhoanna Smith (Wangaratta) and Mason Bayliss (Rutherglen) and Claire and Garry Sanders (Yarrawonga) started similarly, with scores even after 10 ends. Team Sanders won the next 4 out of 5 to take the win 16-11.

Semi final 1 was played between Roz King and Ian Woods (Yarrawonga) and Miles/Brimblecombe. The quality of bowls was exceptional, but it King/Woods that came up with all the answers. They took the semi 14-5. Team Sanders took on Evelyn Calder and Michael Szabo (Yarrawonga) in the other semi final. Things remained even on the card until a 7 shot score to Calder/Szabo on the 9th end gave them a lead that the Sanders were not able to overcome. Calder/Szabo progressed to the final with a score of 18-13.

The final had all the twists and turns you'd expect, with teams trading blows the whole way. King/Woods held a two shot advantage playing the last end. A single shot was all Calder/Szabo could find – final score; 13-12

The Ovens and Murray Mixed Pairs Champions - Roz King and Ian Woods

Thank you to all involved for playing and umpiring in less than ideal conditions, and to Corowa Civic for hosting the event.

## **O60s Pairs Report**

Thursday saw the completion of the Ovens and Murray O60s Pairs at YMGCR. Women:

The final of the Women's O60s Pairs was played between Sharon Warfe (Moira Benalla)/Anne Miles (YMGCR) and Cheryl Lewis/Mary Paton (Myrtleford). The game started evenly until Lewis/Paton pulled away to a 5 shot lead with 3 ends to play. On the 10th end, a trail of the jack for 4 shots put Warfe/Miles back in the hunt. They ended with a pair of 2 shots to take the title 13-10.

The Ovens and Murray Women's Over 60's Pairs Champions – Sharon Warfe and Anne Miles

## Men:

Play started with two quarter finals. The first between Greg Robbins/Lance Symons (Myrtleford) and Robin Gallagher/Alister Calvert (Commercial Club Albury) went the way of the Myrtleford team 16-4. The second quarter between Wayne Lowrie (sub for Peter Velardo)/Gary Murnane (Yarrawonga) and Ian Woods/Michael Szabo (Yarrawonga) was won by Lowrie/Murnane 17-4.

In the semi-finals, Robbins/Symons took on John Harrison (Commercial Club Albury) and Geoff Kidd (Myrtleford). Scores were locked at 9 all with three ends remaining. It was Harrison/Kidd who managed 3 singles to finish the game and book a place in the final winning 12-9. Lowrie/Murnane played Norm Hallett (Myrtleford) and Gary

Chambers (Moira Benalla). This game came down to the wire, the final end determining the winner of the game. It was Lowrie/Murnane that scored, taking the win 13-11.

The final started with teams trading ends. Lowrie/Murnane strung together three ends in a row to put their noses in front, but 3 shots to Harrison/Kidd on end 8 kick started their unanswered way home. They claimed the win, 15-7.

The Ovens and Murray Men's Over 60's Pairs Champions – John Harrison and Geoff Kidd.