



bowls victoria

**ANNUAL REPORT
2015-16**



Bowls Victoria Office Bearers for Season 2015-16

Joint Patrons:	The Honourable Linda Dessau, AM Governor of Victoria, and His Honour Judge Anthony Howard John Fisher OAM
President:	Barbara Gilbert
Deputy President:	Phil Gude, Graham Howard (ret), John Inglese, Stuart Kollmorgen, Kevin Pattison, Murray Rowe, Valerie Savage, Pam Van Huizen, Rosemary Varty
Board Members:	Ken Warburton
Finance Director:	Graeme Bridge
Chief Executive:	

Bowls Victoria Regional Representatives

Bendigo Campaspe:	Stephen Piercy, Susan Howes
Central Goulburn Murray:	Lois Tomkins, Stephen McGregor
Central Victoria:	Lee Wesley, Carmel Mitchell
Eastern Ranges:	Ray McDonald, Lyn Baker
Geelong:	Anne Cotterill, John Anwyl
Gippsland:	Don Carmichael, Fay Lewis
Metro West:	Bob Aitken, Catherine Haldane
Murray Mallee:	Geoff McGraw, Elizabeth Smith
Northern Gateway:	Andy Smith, Fran Reid
Ovens & Murray Bowls:	Graham Moore, Lorraine Stone
Peninsula Casey:	Allan Winnett, Judith Thorpe
Sandbelt:	Michael Classon, Lyn Goodchild
Strzelecki:	Rob Stephen, Marj Pearson
West Coast:	David Yandell, Margaret Sumner
Wimmera:	Ann Hunt, Walter Goldsbury
Yarra:	Graham Howard, Lorraine Burton

Bendigo Campaspe:	President Vice President	Charlie Pavone Jean Belt
Central Goulburn Murray:	Chairman Deputy Chairman	Maurie Rowlands Alison Hall
Central Victoria:	Chairman Vice Chairman	Marilyn Blake Gary Dickenson
Eastern Ranges:	President	Ray McDonald
Geelong:	Chairman Deputy President	Jacqueline McLaren Clive Savage
Gippsland:	Chairperson Vice Chairperson	Deidre Relph Terry White
Metro West:	President Vice President	Fred Maddern OBE Catherine Hadane
Murray Mallee:	Chairman Deputy President	John Louttit Roma Opie
Northern Gateway:	Chairman Deputy Chairman	Andy Smith Fran Reid
Ovens & Murray Bowls:	President Vice President	Margaret Isherwood Neil Pryor
Peninsula Casey:	President Sen Vice Pres	Janice Sellers Sandra Lapham
Sandbelt:	Chairperson Vice Chairperson	Daphne Camilleri Brian Howarth
Strzelecki:	President Vice President	Mal Grant Pam Cameron
West Coast:	President Deputy President	Margaret Sumner Peter Inglis
Wimmera:	President Deputy President	Graeme Shalders Colleen Wilkinson
Yarra:	President Vice President	Barrie Ferguson Lorraine Burton

Life Members

Les Baker*, Betty Collins OAM, Maureen Connolly, Max Deason*, Ian Dewar*, Fay Dunn, John Gullan, Graeme Hosken, Doug Kneebone, Norm Knopp OAM*, Valmai Lewis, Arnold O'Brien OAM, Doug Osborne, Ken Shields, Ray Smith*, Ted Whitehead OAM

* Deceased

Delegate to Bowls Australia

John Fisher OAM

Historian

Robert J. Middleton OAM

Auditors

William Buck: Chartered Accountants & Advisors Pty Ltd

Standing and Special Purpose Committees

Awards

Chairman:	Allan Winnett
Members:	Pamela Bryant, Pamela Dind, Ken Lee

Championship

Chairman:	Barbara Gilbert
Members:	Bob Middleton, Allan Winnett

Coaching

Chairman:	Graham Howard (ret)
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Coaching & Development

Advisory Group:	Barry Ferguson, Graham Moore, Tim Nabbs, Arthur Parker, Suzanne Ravailion, Nicole Shortis, Lachlan Tighé
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Disciplinary

Chairman:	Kenneth (Ken) Williams (dec)
Members:	Bob Aitken, Robert Carlson, John Roberts

Event Support

Chairman:	Ken Shields
Members:	Ian Capp, Adrian Graham, Alan Richards

Finance & Audit

Chairman:	Ken Warburton
Members:	Paul Amos, David Beanland, Sally Dobson

Greens

Chairman:	Andy Smith
Members:	Jim Boucher, Peter Bowman, Warren Maynard (VGA), Andrew Ross, Richard Sinclair

Laws & Rules

Chairman:	Robert (Bob) Carlson
Members:	John Christie, John Roberts, Bill Sheedy, Neil Smillie

Metropolitan Pennant

Chairman:	Michael Classon, Meredith Norton (ret)
Members:	Graham Howard, Peter Mitchell, Tim Nabbs, Fran Reid, Sara Rodger, Marilyn Russell (ret), Carol Shipley (ret), Les Stephens

Selection - Men

Chairman:	Arnold O'Brien OAM
Members:	Ashley Bates, Paul Dorgan, Ian Ewing

Selection - Women

Chairman:	Jan Hurst
Members:	Denese Brick, Edith Grinham, Meredith Norton

Umpiring

Chairman:	John Roberts
Members:	Bob Carlson, Lorraine Dowson, Graham Evelyn, Neil Smillie, Doug McConachie, Athol Mills, Marilla Rootsey, Doug Whorlow

Under-18

Chairman:	Doug Kneebone
Members:	Darren Christie, Ken Gullick, John Gregson, Richard Lovell, Louise Morison, Terry Norris, Justine Stokes, Robert (Rob) Wilson

Office Administration

Chief Executive:	Graeme Bridge
Staff:	Peter Delaney (Operations Manager) Betty Fang (Finance & Administration Manager) Guy Hand (Communications and Marketing Manager) Scott Nicholas (Participation & Club Development Manager) Luke Brown, Rebecca Cameron, Karen Gilmartin, Georgina Hodson (res), Amanda James, Peter Loe (res), Sean O'Kane, Joshua Rourke

Social Media

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President's Report



John Fisher OAM

The 2015-16 Season has involved considerable consultation with our membership on matters affecting them now and ways they may improve their operation to increase membership and participation, to ensure a strong and vibrant organisation for the future.

A significant amount of Board and Staff time has been involved in collecting and collating evidence to support Bowls Victoria's application to extend our exemption to conduct Single Gender Championship Events at Club, Division, Region and State levels of our sport as we have been allowed to do for a number of years.

Bowls Victoria is very appreciative of the pro bono legal advice provided to facilitate this application for exemption which has gone on much longer than anticipated, and has saved our organisation significant financial expenditure.

The Chief Executive's report will give an overall perspective of where this matter will head.

Region Meetings throughout State

The Board conducted Region meetings throughout the state in April and May 2016 to impart first hand, actions and activities being undertaken by the Board and seeking feedback from Club, Division and Region leaders on issues affecting their operation and hearing of achievements they have made in their own areas of responsibility and ways Bowls Victoria may be able to assist.

Board Personnel Changes in 2015-16

It was disappointing that following Rosemary Varty and Pam Van Huizen deciding not to renominate for the Board in the 2015 elections there were no female nominations received for these positions, requiring the Board to appoint two directors to fill those vacant positions. We were pleased to welcome Lyn Baker and Marilla Rootsey as directors on to the Bowls Victoria Board. Due to ill health, Murray Rowe did not renominate for the Board. As a result of election with three men nominating for two positions on the board, we welcomed John Inglese and Graeme Howard as directors on to the board. Graeme Howard resigned from the Bowls Victoria Board in April 2016.



John Fisher opening the 2015 Victorian Open

Affiliation and Participation

This being the second year of the Club based affiliation model it is pleasing to see many Clubs enthusiastically taking the opportunity to increase their membership and participation numbers to ensure their success both now and in the future. The Board is also well aware that a number of Clubs with declining membership, some in remote geographic locations and in areas of declining population, combined with those who are not receptive to change in the way they operate are experiencing difficulties with this model.

A fact that needs to be understood is that Bowls Victoria is subject to the same financial pressures and increases in operating costs as any business or household. To provide the level of service our membership expects us to provide our income must keep pace with inflation. During the year we decreased our staff by two, which assisted us to control operating costs, but puts extra workload onto other staff to maintain service delivery.

“ The greatest challenge for our sport is to continually recruit new members and participants. ”

Given that the 85% of our membership fits in to an age demographic of 65 years and over, the greatest challenge for our sport is to continually recruit new members and participants to replace those that are unable to continue either through ageing or passing away.



John Fisher inducting Life Member Ken Shields



Continued

Victorian Open

The Victorian Open was again an outstanding event during 2015, attracting over 1250 entries and with competition conducted at 17 host clubs spread right across the Goulburn Valley showcasing grass roots bowlers from throughout Victoria and interstate. This event provides a great opportunity for all bowlers to achieve an ambition and progress via this pathway to the elite level and the possibility of future state representation.

The continued success and increased participation for this event annually is due largely to the tireless efforts of Championship Committee Chair Barbara Gilbert.

Board

All Directors of the Board have worked well and cohesively to achieve good outcomes for our membership throughout the year and I thank them all for their ongoing support and backing.

Special thanks to Deputy President Barbara Gilbert for her great support and for deputising for me at events and functions throughout the state during the past twelve months.

Staff

Our dedicated staff continues to do a wonderful job. They deal with issues from Clubs and individuals on a daily basis, at times needing to show a great deal of patience and understanding as not all callers or requests are complimentary of Bowls Victoria.

My thanks to Chief Executive Graeme Bridge whose contribution and dedication to Bowls Victoria is way above expectation, working very long hours, ensuring all submissions, applications for funding and reports are completed on time, as well as dealing with the daily issues that occur which is very much appreciated by all.



John Fisher thanks Robert Clough and Bendigo Bowls Club for hosting State Champions Week 2016

Thanks and appreciation also to Karen Gilmartin who provides great assistance and support to the Chief Executive and Directors ensuring accommodation and preparation for events and activities are all in place.

Committees and Volunteers

All Bowls Victoria Committees continue to work tirelessly to ensure the smooth running of our sport and without that support and the dedication from all volunteers our great sport would not survive or prosper.

Representative Sides

It has been a privilege to accompany our Victorian State Sides during interstate series during the past twelve months and although not always achieving the results they would have expected all teams have represented Victoria with great dignity, both on the green competitively and off the green socially.

The Sixty and Over Men's side are to be congratulated on winning the National Sixty and over Sides Championship in Launceston in October 2015 against very strong competition.

The highlight of the year was our Senior Men's Side winning the Australian Sides Championship in Queanbeyan in March/April of 2016.

“ The highlight of the year was our Senior Men's Side winning the Australian Sides Championship. ”

A win at this level had not been achieved by Victoria since 2002. Congratulations to players, selectors, coaches, and our manager on this fantastic achievement. Seven wins from as many starts could not have provided a better overall result for Victoria.

The Victorian Arm Bowlers State Side continues to enjoy great success, winning their National Championship Series in Adelaide in 2015 for the third successive year. Their success is greatly enhanced by the number of coaching sessions they conduct around the state and keeping people active in our sport who may otherwise have left the sport prematurely due to ageing, a medical condition requiring use of an arm device or possibly through disability.



Men's Senior State Team win the Australian Sides Championship. Photo courtesy of Bowls Australia

Continued

Awards and Recognition for Achievements

Betty Collins OAM was granted Life Membership of Bowls Australia for her wonderful contribution to Bowls over a long period of time, having served as VLBA President, Director on the first Bowls Victoria Board, Australian Women's Bowls Council President and President of World Bowls. Betty continues to be an outstanding ambassador for our sport and she currently holds the position of President of her very active North Balwyn Bowls Club.

Mathew Flapper was named International Bowler of the Year at the Bowls Australia Awards Night for his outstanding performance at the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

Bob Carlson was awarded the Technical Official of the Year at the Bowls Australia awards for his great contribution as an International Technical Official for bowls at all levels of the sport.

Congratulations, these awards are well deserved and it is great to see these ambassadors for Bowls in Victoria recognised for their contributions.

Appreciation

Sincere thanks to all the Clubs, Divisions and Regions who have invited my wife Jan and I to attend functions held at your Clubs during 2015-16. We've thoroughly enjoyed the hospitality extended to us whilst sharing in the many celebrations and milestone anniversaries conducted throughout Victoria during the year. It has given us a great deal of pleasure to visit Clubs in all corners of the state and experience your outstanding achievements and also to hear first-hand of the challenges you face maintaining and progressing your Clubs.

In conclusion, thank you to my wife Jan for her unwavering support and understanding which has enabled me to hold and serve in this position. It is both an absolute privilege and a great pleasure to serve as President of Bowls Victoria and I wish all members good bowling and good fellowship in season 2016-17



Bowls Australia Life Member Betty Collins OAM



International Bowler of the Year Matthew Flapper



Technical Official of the Year Bob Carlson



Graeme Bridge

For Bowls Victoria, 2015-16 was about further directing energies towards enhancing member's passions for playing and administering our sport and recognising achievements that have been delivered during this period of time. It goes without saying that there has been a tremendous amount of effort exercised right across the entire network of Club Members, Volunteers, Clubs, Divisions, Regions, the Board of Bowls Victoria and Staff.

Bowls Victoria – Your Board

The Board of Bowls Victoria under the leadership of State President John Fisher OAM has continued to direct and focus its energies towards making Bowls Victoria function effectively as a State Sporting Association using its existing abilities and the accessible resources available to everyone to deliver the best possible service it can to the members and stakeholders

Bowls Victoria has undergone Directorship changes at Board level over the period of the 2015-16 Financial Year and the list below highlights the contributions made by Directors.

Bowls Victoria Board of Directors		Attendances at Board Meetings
President:	John Fisher OAM	12/12
Dep. President:	Barbara Gilbert	11/12
Director:	Lyn Baker	4/6
Director:	Phil Gude	9/12
Director:	John Inglese	12/12
Director: (appointed)	Stuart Kollmorgen	7/12
Director:	Kevin Pattison	1/1
Director:	Marilla Rootsey	6/6
Director:	Valerie Savage	11/12
Director: (appointed)	Ken Warburton	10/12
	(BV Finance Director)	
Chief Executive:	Graeme Bridge	11/12

Retiring Bowls Victoria Directors pre AGM (Did not seek re-election)

Director:	(Retired – Murray Rowe)	3/4
Director:	(Retired – Pamela Van Huizen)	2/4
Director:	(Retired – Rosemary Varty)	3/4

Retiring Bowls Victoria Director post AGM (Resigned Directorship)

Director:	(Retired – Graham Howard)	6/6
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Strategically Speaking

Participation continued to be a major focus for Bowls Victoria throughout 2015-16 and as per the Bowls Victoria Strategic Plan 2013-17, Participation is one of the five strategic priorities identified for focus and resourcing over the life of the plan and in to the future.

There have been a number of participation initiatives undertaken during the past twelve months with most notably Sporting Schools officially commencing in July 2015 and it saw Australia's primary school communities delivering more sport to more children.

By bringing local sporting communities such as Bowls Clubs, STA's, NSOs and schools together, Sporting School's aim has been to nurture children's love of sport and develop their lifelong commitment to sport. Bowls Victoria developed its Connecting Clubs with Schools program on this very premise and those Clubs who have made a connection are seeing what advantages can come from building these relationships.

Work also continues through the Australia Sports Commission towards a new national participation survey, AusPlay, to better understand participation trends in Australia, inform policy decisions and guide sports strategy with strong evidence. Information will be widely available to the sport sector to enable informed decision-making and investment into the future.

Bowls Victoria Finances

What remains high on our list of priorities and very much under the watchful eye and guidance of the Bowls Victoria Finance & Audit Committee under the Chairmanship of Finance Director Ken Warburton, the Finance Department Management and Executive Staff is the financial outlook and position for Bowls Victoria moving forward in what have been very unsettled times. Astute budgeting in regards to all areas of operation combined with a strong focus on controlling funds apportioned to all of the associated activities conducted by Bowls Victoria remains a centre-piece of how we see contributed funds by members being administered and managed effectively.

Bowls Victoria has been able to fund its total business operations and work as close to the budgetary considerations apportioned to each area under its financial control as possible. Commentary provided in this Annual Report by the Bowls Victoria Finance Director and supported by our auditors will confirm this to be so.



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In the 2015-16 Financial Year the Operational Costs associated to Bowls Victoria have been reduced from a (\$13,199) deficit in the 2014-15 FY to a \$135,619 positive result in 2015-16. This has been achieved across a number of areas of the business employing further concerted efforts to save funds where possible through reduced spending and savings.

Bowls Victoria's Investment Portfolio has performed well against the uncertainties of fluctuating share and capital markets, with the excellent management of those funds by Hamilton Wealth Management enabling us to do slightly better than just keep pace with inflation whilst also maintaining minimum risk under our current Investment Policies.

The Investment Portfolio performance is regularly monitored by the Investment Committee with face to face quarterly reporting from our current fund management advisors reporting to the Finance & Audit Committee. It is a strong combined effort in the area of finance and the contributions made over time by all members of the Finance & Audit Committee has been greatly appreciated. Many thanks in particular to Chairman Ken Warburton for his watchful eye over all matters relating to finance and to David Beanland, Sally Dobson and Paul Amos who have moved on from the committee to concentrate on other personal pursuits.

It would be remiss of me to not acknowledge the exceptional performance in the role of BV Finance & Administration Manager by former employee Georgina Hodson who resigned from that role in early 2016. Georgina's focus now is on dedicating more time to her young & growing family and the decision she made is understood and appreciated by everyone who worked alongside her during seventeen plus years with the then RVBA and later with Bowls Victoria.

With Georgina's departure came the inclusion of Betty Fang to the area of Finance & Administration and Betty is now moving into establishing herself in this role after having seen the end to this current financial year. There have already been several new initiatives undertaken and introduced in the area of Finance that are complementing previous work practices undertaken over time. Along with very strong reporting mechanisms introduced and in place, Bowls Victoria has begun using MYOB as its preferred accounting package.

Special thanks also to our Independent Auditors William Buck, who have once again audited and reviewed our accounts and practices over the past twelve months and provided us with their Auditor's Statement and sign off.

Government Funding

Many thanks to our State Government Departmental funding partners in Sport & Recreation Victoria and VicHealth who during the past twelve months have been instrumental in assisting Bowls Victoria to provide further opportunities to connect with the wider community through a variety of activities across a number of sectors.

VicHealth's financial contribution to Bowls Victoria through its State Sport Funding program saw a reduction in direct available funds from \$180,000 per year over the three previous years to \$75,000 per year for the next three years to BV at an organisational level.

What has been achieved for sport though is a huge provision of funds directly to Clubs through the VicHealth Active Club Grants, a process that has two rounds per year.

As a direct result of the two periods of 2015-16 accessible funding, eighty four Bowls Clubs were provided with a share of \$248,009 of available funds to support their activity and participation initiatives and equipment needs outlined in their direct applications to VicHealth. Affiliation to Bowls Victoria is a direct requirement from VicHealth before a Club can even be considered for a grant of this type. Bowls Victoria greatly appreciates and acknowledges the continuing support of VicHealth to us as an organisation and also to the network of Clubs across Victoria that it has supported.

Sport and Recreation Victoria funding of the Bowls Victoria - Supporting Victorian Sport & Recreation Program will see funds of \$350,000 assist Bowls Victoria to undertake a number of initiatives through the support of Sport & Recreation Victoria to increase participation in the sport of Bowls.

Linked directly to the Bowls Victoria Strategic Priorities of Participation, Communications, Club Support and Leadership & Governance, these initiatives will strengthen the capacity of Bowls Clubs to deliver sustainable outcomes in participation, and provide a sound base for participation growth in Victoria.

Through workforce development, system improvement and creating greater support mechanisms for all tiers of governance; Clubs, Regions and Divisions will benefit and see greater cohesion between existing and developed programs.

There will be a strong reliance on working collaboratively with key stakeholders such as Regional Bowls Managers, Regional Sports Assemblies, Local Government Agencies and other SSAs to share knowledge and best practise, and ensure that all programs are financially viable and sustainable throughout the Supporting Victorian Sport & Recreation funding program, and into the future.



Volunteer of the Year Award

In 2015 Bowls Victoria instigated a Club Volunteer of the Year Award and the inaugural winner of this award was Greg Ritchie from the City Memorial Bowls Club, Warrnambool.

Mr Ritchie, who won both his club award and then the Regional award for West Coast, helped prepare a new surface and maintain the Club's greens and those at City Memorial estimated he had given more than 1,000 hours of service to his club voluntarily over the past 12 months. A truly remarkable contribution!

Whilst Greg Ritchie's was a great story to tell, we want more Clubs to embrace the message behind this award and for them to recognise the efforts that members have contributed over the last twelve months of their operation. Sincerest thanks to all of the Clubs who have nominated and also to the Regions for determining their Region Finalist for the State Award. The Bowls Victoria Awards Committee narrow the field down from the Region Winners to a short list for consideration by the Bowls Victoria Board and their decision will be announced at the Annual General Meeting in October.

Bowls Victoria Committees

To all the Committee Chairmen and their Committee Members we thank you for your valuable contributions in the conduct of your roles and your service to Bowls Victoria in 2015-16. The many hours invested by committee personnel to enable our sport to conduct many of its operations is greatly appreciated and it is widely acknowledged within Bowls Victoria that the Committee Structure saves the organisation many thousands of dollars and man-hours required to administer our sport.

The list of Committees includes:

- Awards Committee
- Championship Committee
- Coaching & Coach Development Committee
- Disability Support Committee
- Disciplinary Committee
- Event Support Committee
- Finance & Audit Committee
- Greens Committee
- Laws and Rules Committee
- Metropolitan Pennant Committee
- State Selection Committee
- Umpiring Committee
- Under 18 Development Committee

“ Eighty-four Bowls Clubs were provided with a share of \$248,009 of available funds to support their activity and participation initiatives and equipment needs outlined in their direct applications to VicHealth. ”

Bowls Victoria Regional Representatives

The work undertaken by the Bowls Victoria Regional Representatives (BVRR's) in their respective areas across Regional Victoria & New South Wales and Metropolitan Melbourne is warmly appreciated by Bowls Victoria and in particular by State President John Fisher and the BV Board they represent when attending official functions to administer awards and other specific presentations. The BVRR's are seen as providing an opportunity for Clubs, Divisions and Regions to have a direct line of communication back to the BV Board who are keen to understand issues that relate to all areas of the membership.

Regional Bowls Managers

Bowls Victoria remains firmly committed to the Regional Bowls Manager Program that from BV's perspective is designed to provide guidance and assistance in many areas directly associated to our sport. The current RBM's namely Paul Holtschke, Barrie Lester, Josh Thornton & John Emerson are there to be called on for advice to Clubs that can make a difference and we encourage all Clubs to embrace any opportunity that may present itself for you to tap into the RBM's valuable reserves of information and ideas.

Communications

Bowls Victoria's methods of communication have undergone significant change with the main areas of focus in the past twelve months being in the area of how we can improve our direct communication methods to all stakeholders and other parties we are endeavouring to attract to the sport of Bowls. A concerted effort has been directed to embracing Social Media through all of the readily identifiable platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, all under the guidance of BV Communications Manager, Guy Hand who has worked hard to establish a firm footing in all of these available mediums for Bowls Victoria.



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Bowls Victoria is also delivering fortnightly its enewsletter Heads-Up to an audience in excess of 13,000 directly in to their inboxes. This news is instantaneous of what is actually happening in regards to announcements and other items of interest and of course updates on events which are occurring on a daily basis. If it's on somewhere, we want to know about it so items can be relayed direct to the membership and our partners.

Major Partners and Sponsors

– Acknowledgement

The generous support of all of our Major Partners and Sponsors during 2015-16 is also warmly appreciated. Ongoing support of our State Teams and Under 25 Development teams by Moama BC, continuing support of the Under 18 State Teams by Bowls Clayton, Taylor Bowls for their backing and branding of the Metropolitan Premier Division competition and Grand Final, Ekeru Dental for their support of Over 60's Bowls in Victoria, Berry Bowling Systems for their generous support of the Pennant Scorecards in use across the state and all the other sponsors and partners associated to our sport.

Bowls Victoria – Our Staff

My sincere thanks to all staff at Bowls Victoria for their devoted service to the membership and all other areas of business during the period of the last twelve months. The Bowls Victoria staff is a dedicated group of people who are striving to service the needs of our entire member network and it goes without saying from my point of view that we'd be only half the organisation without them.

- Executive Assistant – Karen Gilmartin
- Bowls Operations Manager – Peter Delaney
- Finance & Administration Manager – Betty Fang
- Communications & Marketing Manager – Guy Hand
- Participation & Club Development Manager – Scott Nicholas
- Membership & Events Co-Ordinator – Amanda James
- Accounts & Special Projects – Rebecca Cameron
- IT Systems Administrator – Luke Brown
- Graphic Communications – Josh Rourke
- Participation Coordinator – Sean O'Kane

There were changes in the staff structure over the past twelve months and these were both in the areas of management and general staff roles. To those staff who have left Bowls Victoria, we appreciate their input in the roles they've performed on behalf of Bowls Victoria, and in particular the period of service that former Finance & Administration Manager Georgina Hodson contributed to Bowls Victoria and the former RVBA over a period in excess of 17 years. Also to Peter Loe who moved on from his role in Participation and Access for All Abilities to a specific role with Local Government assisting disadvantaged members of the community. We've welcomed Betty Fang and Sean O'Kane into roles within Bowls Victoria and look forward to them also being valued contributors to the organisation.

My sincere thanks to Executive Assistant Karen Gilmartin for her tireless efforts in providing support to not just myself, but all staff at BV and also for her aid and assistance to the Board Members of Bowls Victoria and all of the representative teams that have to be outfitted and travel and accommodation arrangements made. This is a mammoth job at times to undertake and one that is frustrating when trying to organise all elements associated to it.

Supporting the National Sporting Organisation

Bowls Victoria remains committed to working in conjunction with Bowls Australia our National Sporting Organisation in delivering and assisting to deliver a number of ongoing projects. The Bowls Connect system is one of those projects and whilst this has been ongoing over a long period of time, there have been issues conveyed relating to the effectiveness of training and how the system has been embraced by the entire country who have been encouraged to adopt use of the database and other associated activities.

State Representative Teams

In 2015/16 Bowls Victoria was represented at State and National events in the categories of Under 18's Boys and Girls, Under 25's Male & Female, Senior State Sides Male & Female, Over 60's State Sides Male & Female, Bowling Arm State Representative Open Side and Physical Disabilities State Representative Open Side. All teams performed their representative roles with distinction and Bowls Victoria came away from several National Championship events as overall competition winners. Most notable were the performances of the Bowling Arm State Side who recorded their third win in succession in the National Bowling Arm Championships conducted at Tranmere BC in Adelaide in September 2015. A "three-peat" at this level of competition is a truly



remarkable effort and one that was based on a solid foundation of trialling and selecting teams that were versatile over all the events contested.

The Men's Over 60's State Side were victorious in North Launceston TAS in October in the National Over 60's Sides Championship winning six of their seven test matches to secure a coveted win in this event. The Men's Senior State Side recorded an outstanding win in the National Sides Championship conducted in Queanbeyan in March/April of 2016. It had been fourteen years since Victoria had secured this title and this representative team did it in amazing style, going through the entire competition undefeated to win the Alley Shield. There were many other commendable performances displayed throughout 2015/16, these wins highlight only a few of those achievements. Thanks must go to all of the players, team managers, coaches and followers who have supported the endeavours of the Bowls Victoria State Representative teams.

Board Governance Assessment

In early 2016 Bowls Victoria underwent as part of the Australian Sports Commission's Good Governance Project with our National Sporting Body, Bowls Australia, a number of processes whereby our organisational compliance and effectiveness were measured against a defined set of criteria. The Board of Bowls Victoria underwent a Good Governance Education Session that covered Best Practice Guidelines - guidelines to assist the National Sporting Organisation (NSO) and State Sporting Organisations (SSO's) Board Members, CEOs and Executives to develop, implement and maintain a robust system of governance for our sport. Also included was a review of Mandatory Sports Governance Principles (MSGP) – the Principles that are critical to good governance and are mandatory requirements of the top 21 funded NSOs.

All other funded NSOs including Bowls Australia are benchmarked against these. Focus on the Duties of a Director, Roles and Responsibilities within organisations and how parties viewed and adjusted to the changing Commercial Environment were assessed. The second stage of this process was a Board Evaluation where Board members then participated in a Board Effectiveness survey. The directors completed an online survey about how they felt the board as a whole was performing. At the completion of this Board Evaluation results were presented. The evaluation of how Bowls Victoria's Board had functioned over time and its current position relating to compliance and other factors associated to functioning as a State Sporting Association were judged and I'm pleased to say that

“ We encourage all Clubs to embrace any opportunity that may present itself for you to tap into the RBM's valuable reserves of information and ideas. ”

the interim results of our assessment undertaken by the Australian Sports Commission established that we were on a sound footing in respect of our structure and that we were compliant in the majority of areas that were covered. An over all report of the state of the sport of Bowls from a National perspective will be forthcoming at some stage in the future.

Equal Opportunity

– Applications for Exceptions and Exemptions

This item is one that has occupied quite a lot of time and effort from an administrative aspect over a considerable period of time. Bowls Victoria sought to gain a blanket exemption to enable the conduct of single gender bowls events on behalf of all Affiliated Clubs to continue. This function had worked well under an interim exemption order and Bowls Victoria was confident that it could achieve this outcome through the process of formal application. The current interim exemption order that applied to our initial application to VCAT expires on 1 December 2016.

Bowls Victoria has withdrawn its application to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) for a blanket exemption to cover single gender bowls events.

Whilst this is obviously not the simple outcome Bowls Victoria was endeavouring to obtain for the Clubs and their members, we left no stone unturned in seeking to secure this ruling based on new and untested exceptions inserted by the State Government into the Victorian Equal Opportunity Act.” Clubs will now have to individually apply for exemptions for events they wish to conduct on a single gender basis.

Bowls Victoria will consider what other options may be available to seek amendment or change to the Victorian Equal Opportunity Act so that Clubs are not faced with the task of having to individually apply for exemptions for events, as this is the process currently qualified under the Act.

May everyone enjoy a very successful and happy 2016-17 bowls season.



Peter Delaney

The Sport continues to thrive around Australia, the latest Bowls Australia statistics tell us that there were a total of 623,281 (up 3.4%) participants in the sport across all the forms available. In social programs Australia had 364,294 participants.

107,279 players were under 40 years old and 107,168 were over 40 years old making a total of 214,447 participating in competitions. In 2015 here in Victoria we had 181,168 participants in the sport through our 523 clubs affiliated with Bowls Victoria.

The Laws & Rules Committee conducts a review of the Bowls Victoria Rules for Competition annually and updated to be available for download from our website. State Champions Week continues to be very popular with the respective 16 Regional finalists across all the disciplines, the event was conducted at Bendigo East BC with the valuable support of the City of Greater Bendigo.

Coaching accreditation & reaccreditation continues to be a major activity for Bowls Victoria with many Coaching Seminars and Clinics being run around Victoria. Bowls Victoria has accredited Presenters & Assessors to lighten the load of our current incumbents. It is our objective to recruit Coaching Presenters & Assessors in every Region over the next two years so each Region can manage this process locally. For more information please visit the Bowls Victoria website.

During the past 12 months the office has dealt with hundreds of enquiries from affiliated members, clubs, divisions and regions on all kinds of matters from discrimination, discipline, affiliation, disputes, queries on Laws or Rules and related matters. In relation to the affiliated members & club enquiries 90% of the queries could have been responded to quickly & efficiently by the local Region and/or Division & we encourage enquiries to be directed there in the first instance.

There have been several disciplinary matters dealt with by the Disciplinary Committee resulting in suspensions & fines being handed down. Matters that came to BV's attention included assault, being denied natural justice by a club's "kangaroo court" in addition to general and sexual discrimination. Affiliated players are reminded that the following behaviours have substantial penalties if an appeal is upheld: (a) acts in a threatening manner towards any person, (b) uses obscene, offensive, abusive, threatening or intimidating language towards any person, (c) acts in an unsportsmanlike manner, (d) threatens any person with physical violence or assault, (e) assaults any person and (f) acts in a manner likely to bring the sport of bowls into disrepute.

The Victorian Open was once again held at the Shepparton Park Bowls Club with support from other clubs in the district and with the support of the Greater Shepparton City Council. Many games continued well into the night. There were many brilliant performances at Shepparton Park Bowls Club that helped make this seven-day extravaganza a great success. Along the way there were local heroes, a host of youngsters stamping their mark on the sport, with international competitors using this event to warm up for the Commonwealth Games to be played on the Gold Coast in 2018. In summary seventeen local clubs hosted sections of the event, seven state titles were up for grabs and seven days of sensational bowls.

It's hard to overstate the contributions made to the running of this event by a huge team of volunteers that make it tick over, supporting Bowls Victoria with countless hours of their time. At all eighteen clubs volunteers helped the event go smoothly and while we can't name all of them here Bowls Victoria would like to extend our thanks on behalf of ourselves and the competitors.

Thanks in particular must go to Championship Committee Chair Barbara Gilbert for her sterling efforts



throughout the tournament.

Other major events conducted by Bowls Victoria were:

- November 2015 – Victorian Open at Shepparton Park & seventeen local clubs
- November 2015 – International Day at Mulgrave Country Club
- January 2016 – Integrated Pairs Tournament at Berwick BC
- February 2016 – School Pennant played for 5 rounds Saturday mornings
- March 2016 – Metro Saturday Premier Division Final & Brunch at Mulgrave Country Club
- March 2016 – Women's Regional Sides Championships at Murray Downs Golf & Bowls
- April 2016 - BV Multi Disabilities Championships at Yarraville/Footscray
- April 2016 – Men's Regional Sides Championships at Corowa Civic BC

“ Along the way there were local heroes, a host of youngsters stamping their mark on the sport. ”

I would like to thank our great staff at Bowls Victoria for all their assistance with the preparation for these events and especially the Communications team with the real time scoring that makes results available world-wide instantly online and on your smart phone. Special thanks go to the venue Club Committees and their numerous bands of volunteers in and around the club that makes the Bowls Victoria events the best run in Australia. Finally, thank you to the Metropolitan and Regional Umpiring Committees who supply their best Umpires, ITO's and Markers for these special events that do require and deserve the best officials Victoria has.



Taylor Bowls Premier Division Grand Final 2015-16

Communication & Marketing



Guy Hand

Bowls Victoria has kept one thing at the front of its mind with regards to communications over the past 12 months.

Now more than ever, people turn to their mobile phone, tablet, or computer when they want information about something they're interested in.

Want information? You Google it. You quickly arrive at a specific news or information source on the web for the information you want. Or you go to your Facebook news feed, or to other social media.

Bowls is no different.

For us, this year has been all about better, quicker, more effective communication with our Members, Clubs, Regions and Divisions. Letting you know what you want to know, when you want to know it, as quickly as possible, on a variety of digital platforms.

We hope as well as being the sport's governing body, Bowls Victoria now provides you a reliable, go-to news and information source for everything you need to know about Victorian bowls via our website www.bowlsvic.org.au, our fortnightly e-newsletter Heads Up, the Bowls Victoria Facebook page, Twitter feed and Instagram, and regular email updates to club decision-makers and CCOs.

Go online, get connected, and it's there 24/7.

The Bowls Victoria website www.bowlsvic.org.au has undergone significant change in design and with a focus on regularly updated content. You should be able to find something new on the site most days. The idea has been to make everything easier to find and access.

Our fortnightly e-newsletter Heads Up was launched in July 2015. Every second Friday, the newsletter is sent via email direct to members' inboxes. We've done special daily editions during the Victorian Open and State Champions Week which have also been well received. Heads Up aims to provide interesting, entertaining and informative content, and has gained remarkable traction within the Victorian bowls community. We're proud to say Heads Up has one of the highest open rates (the metric by which email newsletters are judged) of any e-newsletter in Australia – sporting or otherwise. Be assured we're constantly aiming to improve it.



May 27 2016

LATEST NEWS



2016-17 Club Affiliation Fees

Bowls Victoria has determined Club Affiliation Fees for the 2016-17 season.

[Read more](#)

LATEST NEWS



Member survey closing soon

Last chance to have your say on your Region and Division.

[Read more](#)

LATEST NEWS

LIGHTHOUSE CLUB



WOMEN'S



Best in triples

Nathan Murray, Jamie Ball shone in the men's at 2016 State Champions

became State men's with a procession of strong minating in a win over
rap features a rundown of mixed pairs competition.



NEWS



Victorian national champs

years, Victoria's men fielded at the Australian
in their seven matches, and territories in the Championships in a



NEWS



Roadshows on the way

all Roadshows will you.
ohn Fisher speaks pits, and other this fortnight's From



NEWS



Champs crowned

2015 Elera Dental champions.
is after two days of the Bowls Club?



NEWS



Victorian Open

entries
ann and this year's



NEWS



Victorian Open

entries
ann and this year's

Our Facebook page, Twitter and Instagram feeds and YouTube channel are all media outlets in themselves.

The idea is if you connect to Bowls Victoria via all these media, you'll have a full and complete picture of everything you need to know about Victorian bowls.

If you're finding out more information, quicker, and more effectively from Bowls Victoria than 12 months ago, we're succeeding.

The statistics show we are. During 2015-16, Bowls Victoria's website had more than 1.68 million page views. That's 1,680,000 pages of content on Victorian bowls viewed over a 12-month period - a 30% increase on the previous year. Things like how Victorians fared at key tournaments, how our State teams and players are doing, who's in our teams from Under 18 to Over 60, Pennant results, draws and information, and the latest as it happens from the Victorian Open, State Champions Week and Men's and Women's Region Sides.

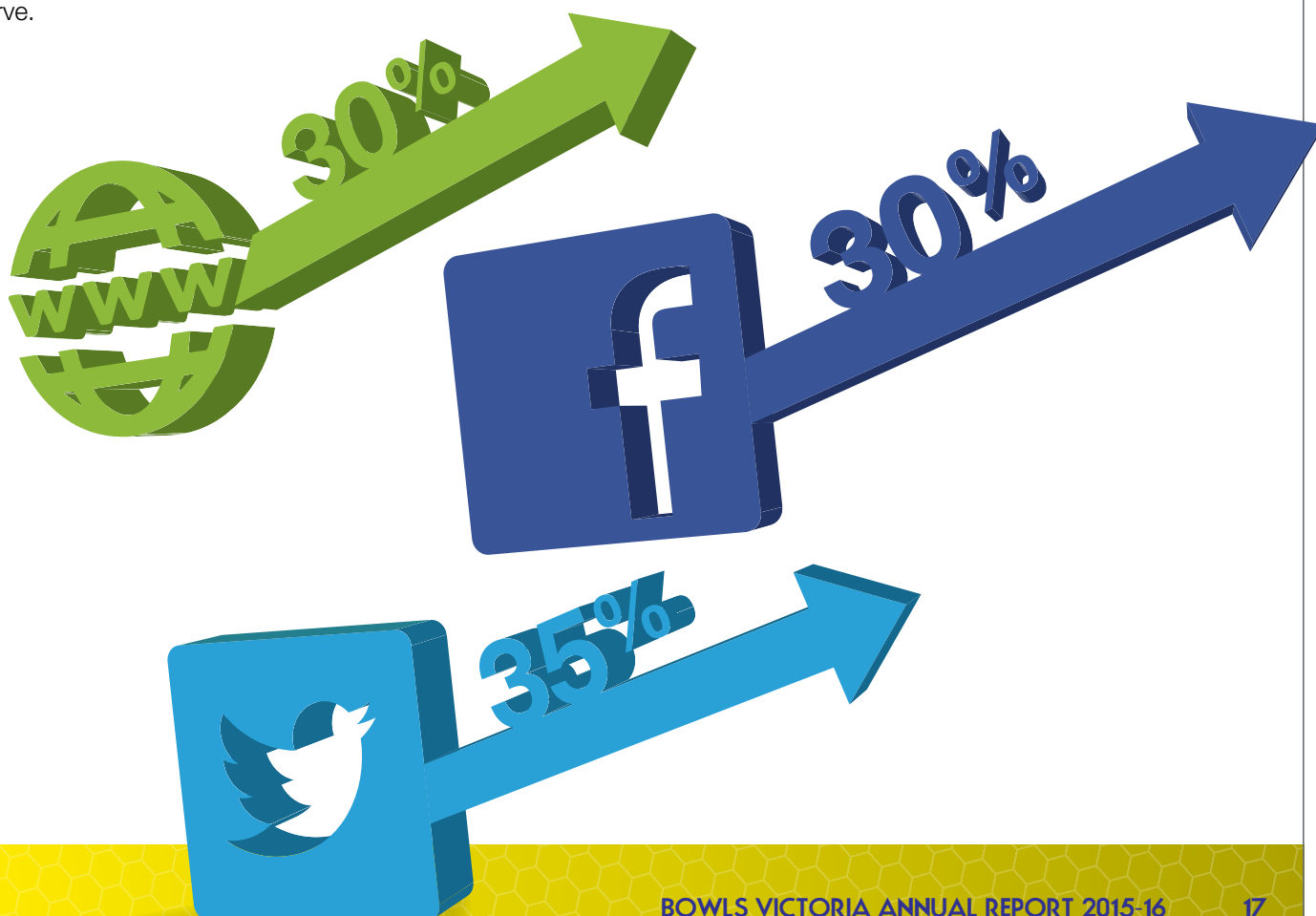
Our Facebook reach and engagement, and page likes, have grown by 30% from 2014-15 to 2015-16. Bowls Victoria's Twitter growth has been 35% year-on-year. Bowls Victoria is active on both platforms most days, as well as Instagram and LinkedIn.

But while traffic is growing and numbers are up, the hard work's just beginning. Media and the platforms it's consumed on shift daily. We need to be ahead of the curve.

“For us, this year has been all about better, quicker, more effective communication with our Members, Clubs, Regions and Divisions.”

Our next big challenge is video, and using it effectively. The most common cry I've heard in my first year on the job has been – why isn't bowls on television any more? Well, why don't we just do it ourselves?

Televising sport isn't what it used be. Technology means that you don't have to get a mainstream network to shell out for your rights, or pay a network to broadcast your product, to have people see it. Nor does it have to be seen via a box on your entertainment unit or screen on your wall.



Communication & Marketing



Continued

Live-streaming bowls events via our website is our next step, and the 2016 Victorian Open will be our first attempt. We've already streamed ends of big matches via the excellent Facebook Live Videos, and via Twitter's Periscope app. We already publish video of key shots during matches via Twitter and Facebook, plus video highlights packages on Bowls Victoria's YouTube channel.

Just recently, we reached a significant milestone. More than 50% of the people who use Bowls Victoria's website now do so via a mobile phone or tablet. That number will only increase. So making sure any products Bowls Victoria is involved with going forward are mobile-friendly is critical. All our decisions with regard to communication strategy will be done with this in mind.

While there's been significant change in how we handle our internal communications, external communications haven't been ignored.

We've had great support from local and regional media in covering our game, in particular our major tournaments like the Victorian Open and State Champions Week, plus weekly Pennant.

The Bendigo Advertiser, Shepparton News, WIN TV, Leader Newspapers, Star Weekly and a host of brilliant community radio stations around Victoria are among those who've led the way providing exceptional, regular coverage of our sport.

From an external communications standpoint, we've embraced the media outlets who embrace us and our sport, rather than spend time worrying about those who don't. Those who cover bowls in media outlets like these that I've mentioned (and several I haven't) do a mighty job.

Bowls Victoria has also realised we have to become more corporately active, trying to go out and secure partners for the sport to increase the amount of funding coming in.

In March 2016, Bowls Victoria launched its Partnership Prospectus.

It's a document which explains what Bowls Victoria does, what we offer potential sponsors, with packages, price points and inclusions. It's the first step in marketing the sport better.

We're proud to say our existing partners coming out of contract in 2015-16 have all agreed to sign on once more.

And we're speaking regularly to would-be new partners.

Not everyone we speak to will decide to become a sponsor, or financially support our game. There's a lot of door-knocking and pitching involved.





But we're out there exploring every avenue to bring in businesses who want to be associated with our 46,000 members and our 520+ clubs, and our organisation with them, at a market value which reflects what our sport is worth.

From an IT perspective, it's been great to see Clubs, Regions and Divisions accessing the free websites available via the State and Territory Associations' technology alliance with Bowls Australia - Bowls Connect.

Bowls Connect's website component and content management system – which also powers www.bowlsvic.org.au – has been well received by our stakeholders and allows them, and Bowls Victoria, to produce terrific websites on a robust platform.

In other areas aside from the websites, Bowls Connect is certainly not perfect and we recognise this at Bowls Victoria.

Elements of the system simply don't function as they should, or don't provide the best experience possible for those using it. Alongside Bowls Australia and our sister State and Territory Associations, we're working closely with the sport's provider of this service SportsTG (formerly IMG) to improve Bowls Connect and the end experience for our members and Clubs, Regions and Divisions.

Many of you who have required help with Bowls Connect or establishing a Club, Region and Division website will have come across one member of my team, IT systems administrator Luke Brown.

“ We're proud to say our existing partners coming out of contract in 2015-16 have all agreed to sign on once more. ”

Luke leads the way nationally in his understanding of Bowls Connect, what it can do and what it can't, often finding intelligent ways to compensate for its flaws. He has great patience and an enjoyment in helping others whatever their technical capabilities get to grips with the system.

When you look at the design of our website and Heads Up and the high-quality images and graphics we use, or even the design and imagery around this report you're reading, you can thank the other member of my team - graphic communications co-ordinator Josh Rourke. Ever the perfectionist, it's Josh who sprinkles the visual magic dust on the content we produce.

Josh and Luke's help and hard work in my first 12 months in this role has been much appreciated.

Wherever digital communication goes next, rest assured Bowls Victoria will strive to be at its forefront to keep our Members, Clubs, Regions and Divisions informed in the most timely and up-to-date manner possible.



Participation & Club Development



Scott Nicholas

Bowls is changing and clubs are growing. The sport of bowls is embracing the opportunities laid before it, and over the past 12 months we've continued to see clubs adapt and do more to connect with people within their communities, with many seeing the benefits.

Never before have so many people experienced and participated in our sport, in one form or another. No longer are clubs exclusive members-only establishments, and no longer is the sport considered reserved for the elderly as it once was.

The barefoot bowls phenomenon continues to grow with an increased number of clubs providing flexible introductions to our sport. Through the support of VicHealth, Bowls Victoria launched Play Bowls Month which is estimated to see more than 3,000 Victorian's active through bowls, many for the first time, with over 150 events happening throughout the state in October 2016. Clubs are using this to kick-start participation at their clubs for the start of the season, adopting Participation Action Plans to ensure they capitalise on interest and provide flexible membership options and 'the next step' for budding new bowlers.

Bowls Victoria took another leap forward in 2015 when the Disability Support Committee found its feet and established itself to operate alongside BV's other committees. Tony Scott (Lake Boga) was named the inaugural chairperson and other members included Mark Walker, Tim Nield (Disability Sport & Recreation), Len O'Brien, Trevor Nelson, Lyn Baker and Nicole Shortis. We'd also like to thank Nicole for all the work she's done as State coach for a number of years. Nicole has been a huge contributor and advocate for bowlers with a disability and the sport is in a better place because of her.

The formation of the committee has highlighted Bowls Victoria's commitment to leading Victoria's most accessible sport, and has already built upon the organisation's work under Sport & Recreation Victoria's Access for All Abilities program. Major events such as the Integrated Pairs Tournament and Multi-Disabilities Championships have gone from strength to strength through the committee's guidance, and were able to secure sponsorship for the first time. Along with this the committee is working closely with Regional Sports Assemblies throughout regional Victoria, to provide opportunities for people with a disability to experience our sport.



Scott Nicholas visits our smallest Club in Tambo Valley

Bowlers are getting younger, and throughout the state clubs are doing a fantastic job of building links with their local schools. Schools programs have increased at both the club and state level with Bowls Victoria securing links with a number of key school sports organisations. Our partnership with School Sport Victoria (SSV) continues to foster positive outcomes and through the support of SSVs network of Region Sport Coordinators, we trialled a new format for a Primary State Championship pathway. The All Abilities Bowls program continued to grow as we trained 105 RMIT students to visit 17 specialist schools and deliver 60 bowls sessions for 250 students with a disability. Bowls Victoria's Participation Coordinator Sean O'Kane has hit the ground running forming new links with Associated Public Schools of Victoria (APS) and Associated Grammar Schools of Victoria (AGS) with new competitions and more structured links with Victoria's Junior Development Squads.

In order to continue to build participation in the sport, collaborating with Bowls Australia is crucial. National Participation programs such as Jack Attack and Jr. Jack Attack continue to grow, and with the Australian Sports Commission's Sporting Schools programme now into its second year, this is only expected to continue. There are now 30 clubs in Victoria who have participated in Jack Attack, with clubs such as Wangaratta, Avenue and Highbury, having great success. The Regional Bowls Manager program is a vital resource for clubs, with each of Victoria's RBMs continuing to assist clubs develop Club Business Plans, and take strategic steps forward to improve their governance, operations and marketing within their communities.

Coaches are continuing to have a profound impact within their clubs. The number of coaches in Victoria has risen to 1,328 in total. This includes Advanced, Club & Introductory Coaches. Regions and Divisions are playing a bigger role in the organisation of courses under the National Coaching Accreditation Scheme (NCAS), and we will continue to form stronger links with these groups to form Regional Coaching Committees and a stronger network of coaches in Victoria. Our focus for the upcoming season will be on developing the team of Presenters & Assessors to assist in the delivery of courses throughout the state.

The sport is in a strong position and clubs in many areas of the state are strong and prospering. In saying this there are still challenges that face the sport. There are clubs facing financial difficulty, there are still clubs who are run by a small number of hardworking volunteers, and there are still clubs existing in small, dwindling regional communities.

“ The barefoot bowls phenomenon continues to grow with an increased number of clubs providing flexible introductions to our sport. ”

In saying this never before have clubs been so open in sharing their experiences and through our Lighthouse Club program, we will continue to praise clubs doing fantastic things and share important learnings with the broader bowls community.

We're here to help; if your club is doing something well we'd love to hear about it, if your club needs some assistance, we'd love to hear from you.

Finally I'd like to take this opportunity to thank the four Regional Bowls Managers; John Emerson, Paul Holtschke, Josh Thornton and Barrie Lester for the considerable work and fantastic outcomes they're achieving with Victorian bowls clubs, in particular within the past 12 months. I'd also like to acknowledge the hard-working volunteers who are the cornerstone of the sport here in Victoria. There are too many to name individually but I would like to thank and acknowledge Lucas Protopapas and Laurie Browell who have done a considerable amount of work helping the Bowls Victoria team in the past 12 months.



Ken Argent doing us proud at the 2016 Multi Bowl Nationals

State Championship Committee

Barbara Gilbert

To be a champion of our great sport is an honour and we sincerely congratulate our champions. Our sport produces champions of all ages and this proves that Bowls is a sport for life. To have the opportunity to represent your region, all you have to do is enter. We encourage you all to participate.

We wish to thank the many wonderful clubs around Victoria that hosted the events. Without your support in providing your venues and volunteers it would be impossible to run these events. We are very fortunate to have so many willing helpers and the standard of the greens has been fantastic.

We wish to thank and acknowledge the many hours put in by the Divisions and Regions in running the events to obtain their Region Winners. It is not an easy task to schedule and run the events.

To Peter Delaney, Guy Hand and the staff at Bowls Victoria we thank you sincerely for the massive efforts put in by each of you to facilitate the smooth running of our State events.

To John Roberts and his team of technical officials we thank you for your support and appreciate the many hours put in. It has been very easy and a pleasure to work with you all.

One player in Victoria achieved the pinnacle and qualified in all six events at State Championship Week and it would be remiss not to acknowledge Joy Johnson (dec). Joy was a great champion and will be sadly missed by all.

We wish Carla Krizanic and Paul Twyerould good luck and fantastic bowling when they represent Victoria in the National Champion of Champion Singles at Keilor in October.

It is very pleasing to see the growth in number of spectators coming to support their champions at each event. The buzz around the greens is a real highlight and appreciated by all.

Teamwork is very important and to everyone who participated in any way we say a big thank you!





Michael Classon

The implementation of a Region based Metropolitan Pennant Committee, comprising a male and a female member from each of the five Metropolitan Regions, has proved to be extremely productive.

Committee Members by Region

Eastern Ranges	Marilyn Russell Les Stephens	Glen Waverley (ret) Ferntree Gully
Metro West	Carol Shipley Tim Nabbs	Yarraville/Footscray Deer Park
Northern Gateway	Fran Reid Peter Mitchell	Essendon Princes Park Carlton
Sandbelt	Sara Rodger Michael Classon	St Kilda Malvern
Yarra	Meredith Norton Peter Russell Graham Howard	Ivanhoe Bundoora RSL (ret)

In its first season of operation the Committee has developed and introduced a number of important initiatives in line with its Terms of Reference which include:

- Ensuring that Metropolitan Pennant competitions are reviewed annually to ensure that they meet the needs of bowlers
- Making recommendations to the Board on areas of improvement for all

Pennant Competitions

In this regard it is vital to acknowledge and thank the members of the Board of Bowls Victoria for their support in approving the implementation of these changes.

Pennant draws

The release of a provisional draw for lower Divisions was extremely successful, giving clubs the opportunity to review Saturday Divisions 6 to 8 and Midweek Divisions 4 to 5 prior to making a firm commitment for teams and if it was felt that there were insufficient players to support the existing entries withdraw teams from the competition without penalty.

As a consequence more clubs entered new teams than those who withdrew teams resulting in a significant number of byes being filled by the additional entries.

Committee members were acutely aware that travel to pennant matches has become a major issue for many clubs. The introduction of Google mapping in developing the pennant sections has been instrumental in minimizing travel. While it is recognized that the layout of sections will never be perfect, this methodology has been reflected in a significant reduction in the number of complaints about travel.

Pennant Fines

A new structure for fines for forfeits has been adopted for the coming season. A flat rate structure will replace the previous progressive scale of fines.

It is hoped that clubs may be able retain sides if they are able to wait a little longer to gain or regain players to fill the team, while having to pay significantly reduced fines in the meantime.

Triples Competitions

The committee responded to many requests from clubs and participants by reducing the duration of the triples competitions from twenty five ends to twenty one ends.

Women's Only Bowls

Unfortunately the Women's Only Midweek competition continues to shrink despite the efforts of the committee in offering alternatives to the existing competition. The committee will continue to work with the participant clubs in seeking ways to maintain this important aspect of our pennant bowls program.

Midweek Open Competition

In what has been designed to improve competitiveness and enjoyment for participants, Division 1 of the Midweek Open Competition will be reduced to forty clubs from the existing eighty from season 2017-18. This restructure will flow down through each of the twelve per side Divisions.

Provision of flags to Division winners

Prize money for Division finalists has been discontinued and replaced by the presentation of a full sized flag to Division winners. These will be presented by a Bowls Victoria representative on the day of the grand final.

Notification of pennant results

Clubs will be able to submit pennant results via mail, direct data entry to the Bowls Connect IT system and in addition, via other electronic means such as scan and email or facsimile.

Circulation of minutes to regions

We have received very positive feedback from Clubs and Regions regarding the circulation of the pennant committee's minutes. This measure will help keep participants up to date with the committee's deliberations and decisions.

Finally, I extend my thanks to each committee member for their contribution, also to the Bowls Victoria staff for dealing with an incredible number of issues and on behalf of the committee wish our clubs and bowlers an enjoyable and successful season.

Umpiring Committee



John Roberts

The umpiring committee consisted of Doug Maconachie, Lorraine Dowson, Neil Smillie, Graham Evely, Bob Gilham, Doug Whorlow, Marilla Rootsey (Board representative), Bob Carlson, and Peter Delaney. The Committee met eight times on a monthly basis.

The Bowls Victoria Umpiring Committee has continued working across the State in delivering seminars and assisting Regions and Divisions implement the new National Accreditation Scheme.

The implementation of the new umpires, markers and measurers course has required that members of respective bowls regions and divisions have undergone a 2 day facilitator and assessor training program run by Scott Nicholas from Bowls Victoria, followed by a day delivered by Bob Carlson (Chairman of Rules and Laws Committee). This program has now produced 68 facilitator and assessors across Victoria. A fantastic effort by all.

The Committee acknowledge the large numbers of umpires, markers and measurers across the State who so kindly volunteer their time and skills to support Regional, State and interstate bowls events, not to mention their local Pennant. Without your participation it couldn't happen.

Our future plans include recruitment of more officials, the continuous improvement of skills through officiating and umpires seminars across the State, along with the introduction of a National Umpires shirt and continuing improvements to communications with all Umpiring Directors and Officials.



John Roberts rallies his troops at the Vic Open 2015



Bob Carlson

The objective of the Laws and Rules Committee is to assist the Bowls Victoria Operations Manager in writing, editing, reviewing, and publishing of the Bowls Victoria Rules for Competition, Pennant Procedures and Conditions of Play for Championship Events. In addition, the Committee is responsible for coordinating recommendations for proposed changes or amendments to the Laws of the Sport of Bowls.

The Laws and Rules Committee Members for the 2015-16 season were:

- Bob Carlson (Sunbury BC) Chairman
- Julia Bolch (Mulgrave Country Club BC) Deputy Chair
- John Christie (Dunolly BC)
- John Roberts (Bundoora RSL BC)
- Bill Sheedy (Blue Hills BC) and
- Pete Delaney (Bowls Victoria Operations Manager)

The Operations Manager and Laws & Rules Committee continue to receive numerous requests for clarification and/or interpretation of the Laws of the Game and Rules for Competition from players, Clubs, Divisions and Regions. As in the past, many of the requests are elevated to State level because the advocate is seeking an alternative response to what has been provided at a lower level, even where this initial response was correct. The expertise that exists at Region, Division and Club level should be respected and issues escalated only when absolutely necessary.

During the season, a number of written requests were received for changes to the Rules for Competition. Although such requests received the full consideration of the Committee, it is not always practicable to accept proposals which appear highly appropriate to the proponent but may result in an unintended impact to the competition. Such decisions by the Committee can be extremely disappointing to those advocating for the change, however the overall practicality of the Rules must be maintained.





Arnold O'Brien

The season commenced with trials for the 60 and Over Team at Bundoora RSL in September and for the Senior and Under 25 squads at Shepparton Park in October. The first series for the season was the Australian Senior Sides Championship (60 and over) at the North Launceston Bowls Club in Tasmania from 12 to 15 October 2015. The Victorian Side with several new inclusions performed brilliantly to go through the series undefeated to win the Championship for the first time since 2010. Mario Cipolla was named Player of the Series.

The State Side's first series was against Tasmania at Clayton from 2 to 4 December 2015 with Victoria winning 4 tests to 1. Josh Corless (Bundoora RSL), Dale Jones (Mentone) and Brad Orr (Shepparton Golf) debuted in the side. Aaron Wilson played his 100th game and Brett Spurr was named Player of the Series. We then played New South Wales at Mulgrave Country Club on 20-21 January 2016 with a twilight game played under lights but were beaten 3 tests to nil. Player of the Series was Barrie Lester.

The Under 25 Team won their series 3 tests to nil to retain the Arnold O'Brien Shield which was won last year for the first time in many years. The team included two new players in Nathan Lynch (Moonee Valley) and Josh Rudd (Wodonga). The next series was against South Australia in Adelaide in February where we lost a very tight series 2 tests to 3. Player of the Series was Dale Jones.

The final event of the season was the Australian Sides Championship in ACT played at the Queanbeyan and Queanbeyan RSL Memorial Clubs. Following a practice game against Queensland which Victoria won 57/49 the side went on to be undefeated in the round robin series to take out the championship – a great way to finish the season!

In conclusion I would like to thank Karen Gilmartin for her ongoing assistance within the office, Moama Bowls Club for their continued support and Team Manager Pat Clark and fellow Selectors Ashley Bates, Ian Ewing and Paul Dorgan for their co-operation and assistance throughout the season.



Our Senior Men's State Team get ready to compete against South Australia



Jan Hurst

The 2015-16 season commenced with the 60 and Over Trials held at Bundoora RSL in September followed by the 60 and Over Sides Championships conducted at the North Launceston Bowls Club in Tasmania during October. The games were hard fought and the women went into the last day with the possibility of a medal. Unfortunately the Vics went down to Queensland, who had been undefeated in an extremely close game. The Series was won by Queensland and Victoria finished third with three wins and three losses.

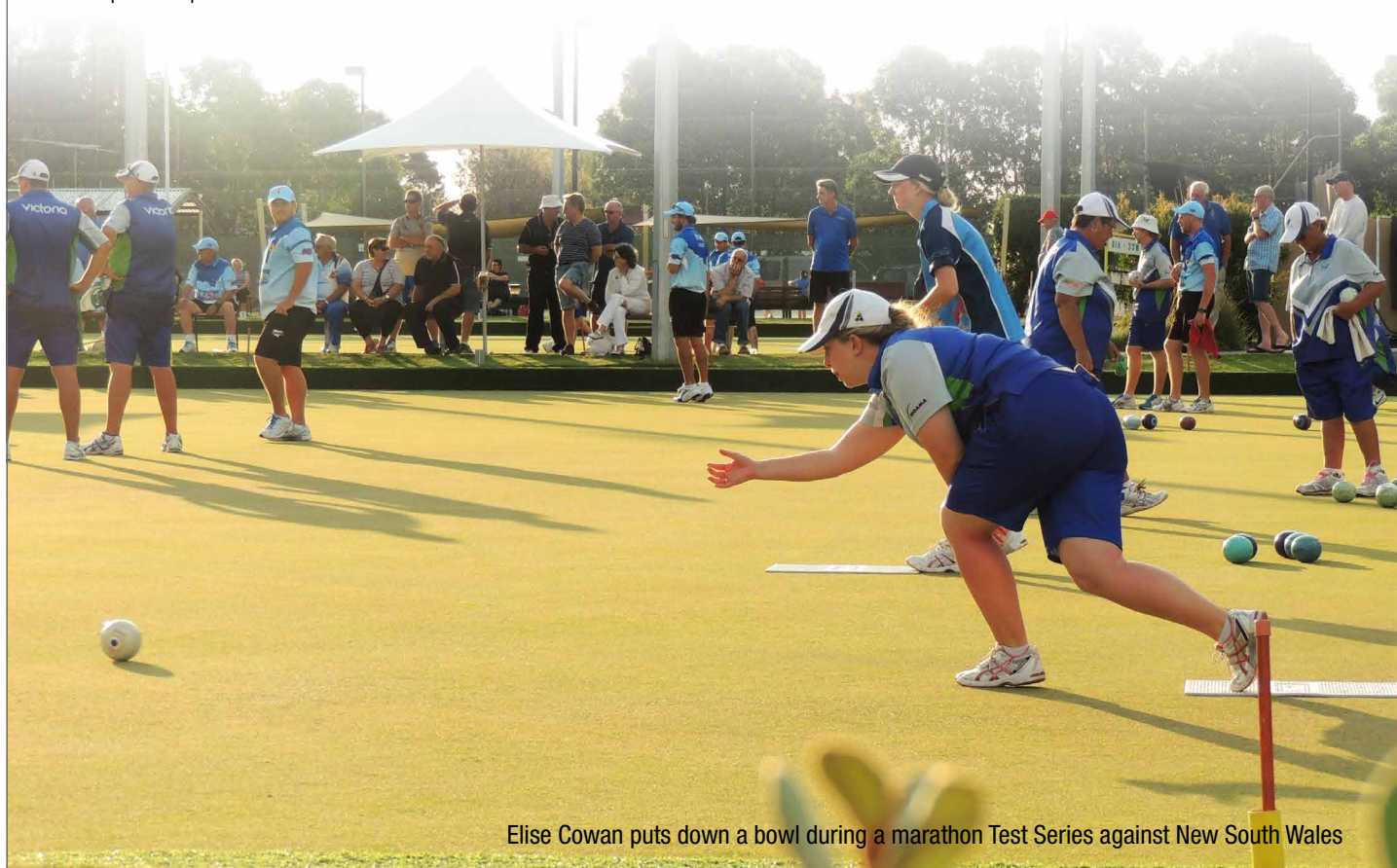
The trials for the Senior State Side and the Under 25's took place at Shepparton Park Bowls Club in early October. The first Series for the Senior Side was played at Bowls Clayton in December in fine conditions. There was some excellent bowling by all participants and Victoria won the Series 5 tests to zero and retained the Perpetual Rose Bowl Trophy. The second Series was held at Mulgrave Country Club against the very strong New South Wales contingent.

Unfortunately NSW won the series three tests to zero but there was great endeavour and determination displayed by the Vics and the exciting twilight test was decided by one shot only and could have gone either way. The third and final Test series was held against South Australia at Marion Bowling Club in SA. Unfortunately the Vics lost the Series 2 tests to 3 but it made the team more determined to redeem themselves at the Australian Sides Championships.

The Australian Sides Championships were held at Queanbeyan Bowls Club and Queanbeyan RSL Memorial Bowls Club in April. The women were off to a great start winning their first three rounds. It was extremely disappointing to then lose the next three rounds by small margins. The side finished third overall with the very strong NSW side once again the gold medallists and Western Australia second. The women were jubilant that the Victorian Men's Side claimed the Alley Shield after winning all their games. Our goal is to return with the Marj Morris Trophy next year.

Unfortunately the only series played by the Under 25's was against NSW at Mulgrave Country Club and on this occasion the NSW team were victorious. The younger players do however have the opportunity to be selected on merit for the Senior team, and in each of the test series approximately a third of the team were under 25.

During the season Rebecca McMahon was recognised for playing 200 games for Victoria and Elise Cowan for 100 games. Both being magnificent achievements. Congratulations go to all of the women who have had the privilege to represent Victoria this year. Players are always highly motivated, professional in their approach, appreciative of the support received from Bowls Victoria and most importantly, always display great sportsmanship. They are fantastic ambassadors for our great game and will be aiming to emulate the fantastic successes of the Victorian men this season.



Elise Cowan puts down a bowl during a marathon Test Series against New South Wales



Louise Morison

Our year kicked off with the National Championships held at Tuggeranong Bowls Club in Canberra ACT. Victoria were represented by Tiffany Brodie (Fitzroy Victoria), Amelia Bruggy (Bendigo), Mikayla Long (Glenroy), Tayla Morison (Melbourne), Natasha Russell (Clayton) and the boys Jayden Christie (Werribee), Joshua Corless (Bundoora), Curtis Hanley (Melbourne), Todd Trewarne (Glenroy) and Jordan Yates (Glenroy).

All players performed excellently once again but fell short of the medals this time around winning a Bronze in the Pairs, Silver in the Triples and Silver in the Singles.

The Boys were a little disappointed taking out a Bronze in the Singles and a Bronze in Fours.

This Nationals saw us go into the National Championships with very high hopes on the back of a stellar couple of years but were left a little disappointed in the final overall.

At the end of the championship Tayla Morison, Tiffany Brodie, Amelia Bruggy, Jayden Christie and Joshua Corless were selected in the Australian under 18 Squad which was increased to twelve this year.

After the National Championships in Canberra Rob Wilson decided to hang his boots up on the coaching role of the Under 18 State Side. Rob had given us 3 years of excellent coaching which saw our squad improve from year to year.



The Committee asked current National Training Centre Coach Mark Cowan if he was interested in taking on the role as the Under 18 state coach. We were delighted Mark accepted.

December saw us play our Under 18 Tasmanian Test held at Bowls Clayton. This year saw a different line up as we lost Tayla Morison and Tiffany Brodie to the Senior Side. The girls were represented by Mikayla Long, Jordan Long, Kira Bourke, Natasha Russell, and Amelia Bruggy. Our team were much stronger than the Tasmanian representatives, winning the three tests comfortably to retain the Bev Shanahan Perpetual Shield.

This Test series saw our boys line-up had changed considerably as well and we were represented by Curtis Hanley, Grant McLaren, Ty King, Brody Harker and Riley Hodgson. The boys showed excellent promise but our inexperience told on the scoreboard and the Tasmanian boys won the Test series 2 to 1.

The Under 18 Championships saw good entries in most of our disciplines. The event culminated with the finals being held at Clayton Bowls Club in early April.

In the Girls Singles Tiffany Brodie defeated Kira Bourke and the Girl's Pairs saw Mikayla Long and Lisa Trewarne defeat Natasha Russell and Mikayla Gibson. The Boys Singles was won by Jarryd Davies defeating Blake Andrews, the Boys Pairs were won by Todd Trewarne and Curtis Hanley defeating Kyle Kraus and Jarryd Davies. The Open Triples resulted in a win for Hamish Beecroft, Jarrod Grigg and Sarah Ashby defeating Patrick Lewis, Joshua Kennedy and Matt Leicester.

The Junior Development Squads are increasing their numbers, we would like to see Clubs and Regions give more support to these squads. We would like to thank all the coaches and support people who help to run our squads in which helps feed the State Squad. Keep up the good work.

The Annual 2 Bowl Championship was again held in April at North Bendigo and resulted with Bendigo Dragons winning this year with Diamond Valley Vipers Runners Up again.

The South Australian Test Series were held at Holdfast Bay in January 2016 with Victoria represented by the girls of Amelia Bruggy (Bendigo), Mikayla Long (Glenroy), Tayla Morison (Melbourne), Emma Simmonds (Mildura) and Eve Van Rhine (Kilmore) and the boys, Curtis Hanley (Melbourne), Lachlan Morison (Melbourne), Grant McLaren (Colac City), Ty King (Deniliquin) and Riley Hodgson (Bundoora RSL). The girls won the series 3 tests to South Australia's nil with the boys losing the series nil to South Australia 3 tests.



We had 2 Observation days this year with 33 new comers attend which was really encouraging to see. We also had an Observation Day for the current Silver Squad to look at putting some of the boys and girls into our Gold Squad after the National Championships in September 2016.

This year saw our Regional Challenge held at Ferntree Gully Bowls Club this was a great practice for our experienced Gold Squad. Unfortunately 2 years in a row saw us play through some rough weather and finish up a little early, we were playing on carpet.

The Committee this year saw our long time committee members resigning to enjoy their retirement. At the North Bendigo weekend we had a great send off to Doug and Joy Kneebone, John and Pam Gregson, Ken and Margaret Gullick and Terry Norris with a bbq and a few little presents from all the parents and players.

We continue to express gratitude to the parents, grandparents and guardians for their support and assistance with the transporting all our under 18 competitors to the many competitions that we run. Without their support these competitions could not take place.

We also would like to thank all the Bowling Clubs who allowed us to use their greens and facilities for the Activity Days and Championships. We sincerely thank you and look forward to your support next season.

Many thanks to committee members Ken Gullick, John Gregson, Terry Norris, Rob Wilson, Doug Kneebone, Justine Stokes, Richard Lovell for commitment and assistance throughout the year. To our outgoing Coach Rob Wilson, thank you for a fantastic 3 years of successful coaching. To our new Coach Mark Cowan we look forward to working with you and trying to achieve the best for our State Squad. To our retiring committee members, we thank you all for the support, tireless work and commitments over the years. We are going to miss you all, good luck in your retirement.



Under 18 State Team win the Bev Shannahan Perpetual Shield against Tasmania
Clockwise - Louise Morison, Natasha Russell, Kira Bourke, Mikayla Long, Lisa Trewarne, Amelia Bruggy



Andrew Smith

Only one Pennant game was lost to the Metropolitan heat policy providing mainly ideal conditions for our sport. However for the last Pennant Round prior to Christmas three Clubs recorded a Green Pace under thirteen seconds, but for the first Round of 2016 over thirty clubs recorded green paces of under thirteen seconds. This was due to tiddwarf greens not having ample time to recover after renovations during the Christmas break, a problem we shall have to live with in the foreseeable future. One solution is to top dress after the last round of Pennant in late February.

Throughout the year twenty-eight new or reconstructed greens were inspected by members of the Greens Committee or by authorized Regional inspectors on our behalf. Of these eight were in the Metropolitan area and the remainder in Country Regions. The installation of woven carpet took place for ten greens, the installation of needle-punched carpet took place for six greens, the installation of sand infill surfaces took place for three greens, the installation of a new bent green occurred for two and the other seven were installations of new tiddwarf couch greens. Greens inspected were spread throughout the State from Bairnsdale in the East to City Memorial (Warnambool) in the West, and from Murtoa in the Wimmera to Benalla in the North East.

Interestingly the number of bent greens in the Metropolitan Regions has reduced markedly, over the past few years, with more synthetic and couch greens being installed. In fact, with the exception of the Sandbelt Bowls Region I venture to say that in respect of grass greens elsewhere the majority are now tiddwarf couch.

Two members of the Greens Committee are both stepping down this year, namely John Frew and Jim Boucher. John joined the Greens Committee in 2007 and Jim joined in 2010. I thank them both for their commitment and service over the time they have been on the Committee and wish them all the best for the future.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank those authorised Regional Inspectors who took the time to inspect greens on our behalf this year and especially thank Ron Hainst of Ballan Bowls Club who had to retire suddenly during the year, owing to ill health, and wish him a speedy recovery and best wishes for the years ahead. I also thank him for his efforts over the past four years. In Ron's place I have appointed Michael Trickey of Midlands Golf Bowls Club and Ian Hedger from Sebastapol Bowls Club) to cover the Ballarat District Bowls Division and surrounding areas.

Finally I thank the remaining members of my Committee for their efforts throughout the year all done on a voluntary basis.



Tallygaroopna Bowling Club

Event Support Committee



Ken Shields

The 42nd International Day was played with 120 players representing various nations entered. Congratulations to the winners Hungary, runners up Cypress together with the minor winners and all competitors for the friendship under which this tournament is played.

It was extremely pleasing to the committee for the continued support received from the international bowlers following the cancellation of the event the previous year owing to inclement weather.

Our appreciation is extended to the Mulgrave Country Club for their professionalism in hosting this prestigious event.

The committee continues to provide logistic support for both the Women's and Men's Region Sides Championships which were once again held at Murray Downs and Corowa Civic Bowls Clubs.

Both tournaments are highlights of the Bowls Victoria calendar year and are keenly contested. The support provided by the host clubs is appreciated by all officials, players and supporters.

Disciplinary Committee

Peter Delaney

The Committee was saddened by the passing of Chairman Ken Williams after a illness. Ken had chaired the Disciplinary Committee from inception of Bowls Victoria, his experience as a long serving member of the police force was an asset to the Committee.

The Disciplinary Committee dealt with many disciplinary breaches during the period of review including players assaulting each other, assault of an umpire, threatening and intimidating behaviour towards other players and other offences in breach of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls and the Bowls Victoria Rules for Competition. Long periods of suspension were imposed on offenders who as a result were found guilty.

In an unfortunate incident a player was found guilty of assaulting a 75 year old female umpire who was a volunteer at the Victorian Open - the offender received a lengthy suspension.

It is timely to remind all affiliated players that any bad behaviour during a game that may bring either the sport or Bowls Victoria into disrepute will be dealt with severely if the case against the offender is proven after due process.

Every affiliated member undertakes to conduct themselves in a polite and sportsman like manner when participating in any bowls event anywhere in Australia. It is worth once again mentioning the Bowls Victoria list of offences that may result in a suspension covered in the Bowls Victoria Rule for Competition 1.5.1.



Finance Director's Report



Ken Warburton

Year under review

The activities of Bowls Victoria have resulted in a Total Comprehensive Income of \$379,278 comprising:-

<u>\$ 2015</u>		<u>\$ 2016</u>
(13,199)	Gain/(loss) on bowling activities	135,619
	Net gain on investing activities	
723,523	Income and realised gains	331,373
(98,324)	Fair value gains/(losses) on available-for-sale assets	(87,714)
(232,209)	Write back of unrealized gains on disposal of investments	-
<u>392,990</u>		<u>243,659</u>
\$379,791	Total Comprehensive Income	\$379 278

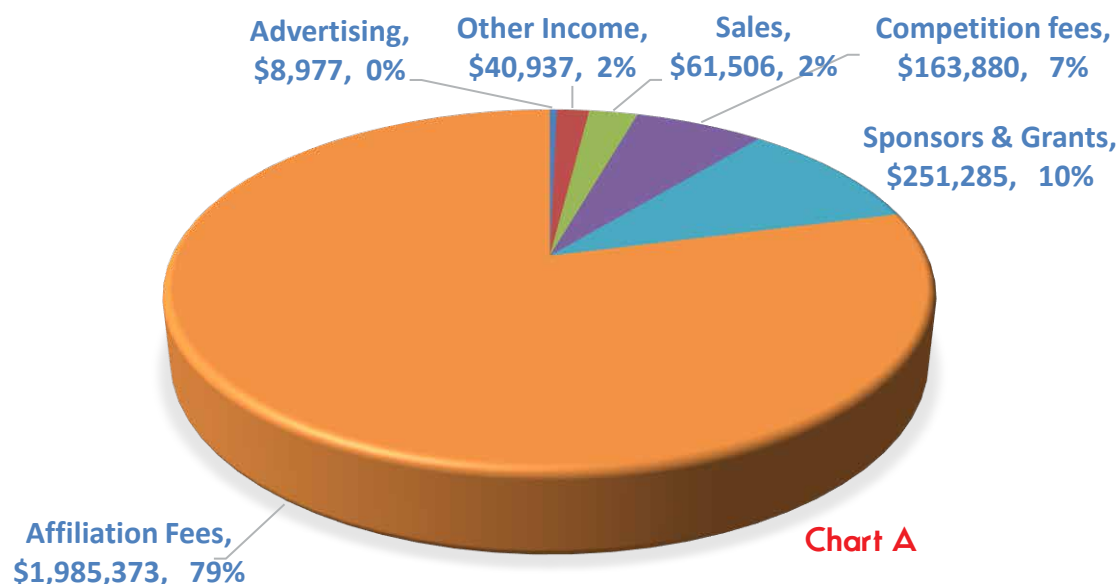
Income

In summary, the association's income was \$565K lower in 2016 primarily due to no advertising income (2015 \$167K) on cessation of The Shot magazine and a \$392K reduction in investment income.

Other variances were the 4.3% or \$82K increase in annual affiliation fees to \$1.985 million (2015 \$1.903 million) offset by a net \$76K reduction in overall sponsorships and grants.

Our VicHealth grant declined from \$180K in the year to only \$75K, a clear indication of the shrinking support from government for our sport.

Bowling Income by source 2016





Income from bowling activities

Chart A displays Income by Source for bowling activities with 79% (2015 71%) of our income now from club affiliation fees. We have needed to and will need to increasingly be funded by our club membership.

Affiliation fees

The Board in adopting the new club based affiliation fee model made it simpler for club officials and enabled clubs to add new members without additional fees as a significant recruiting opportunity.

With the affiliation fee being club based, it is then a matter for individual clubs to determine whether the club absorbs the affiliation fee 100% as part of their operating costs or how, to what extent and when they recoup this through their various types of memberships.

Anecdotal evidence suggests club affiliation fees are generally below <10% of club revenue while Bowls Australia provides a guideline that suggests clubs need to increase their membership 10% each year for transfers, deaths etc. to maintain their member base.

Income from investing activities

Our investment managers and advisers, Hamilton Wealth Management, have achieved a 3.63% time weighted return (TWR) on our investment portfolio for the year compared to 0.55% for the ASX200 Accumulation Index and 2.24% for Bloomberg's Ausbond Bank Bill Index.

They have constantly updated our asset allocation to reflect global and local political uncertainty, weak global economic growth, low interest rates and market volatility.

The Australian market has reacted and rebounded to numerous sensitivities throughout the year ranging from global central bank quantitative easing, negative interest rates, reductions in interest rates or deferral of interest rate increases, a collapse in commodity prices, particularly oil, currency wars, China manufacturing, Brexit and the like.

While the portfolio is structured conservatively to minimise the risk of loss of capital, it must be noted that with some exposure to shares the portfolio has the potential to generate a negative return.

The Investment Committee will continue to monitor our performance including quarterly reviews with the investment manager and advisors consistent with their Statement of Advice and our Investment Policy Statement.

Investment Return over time

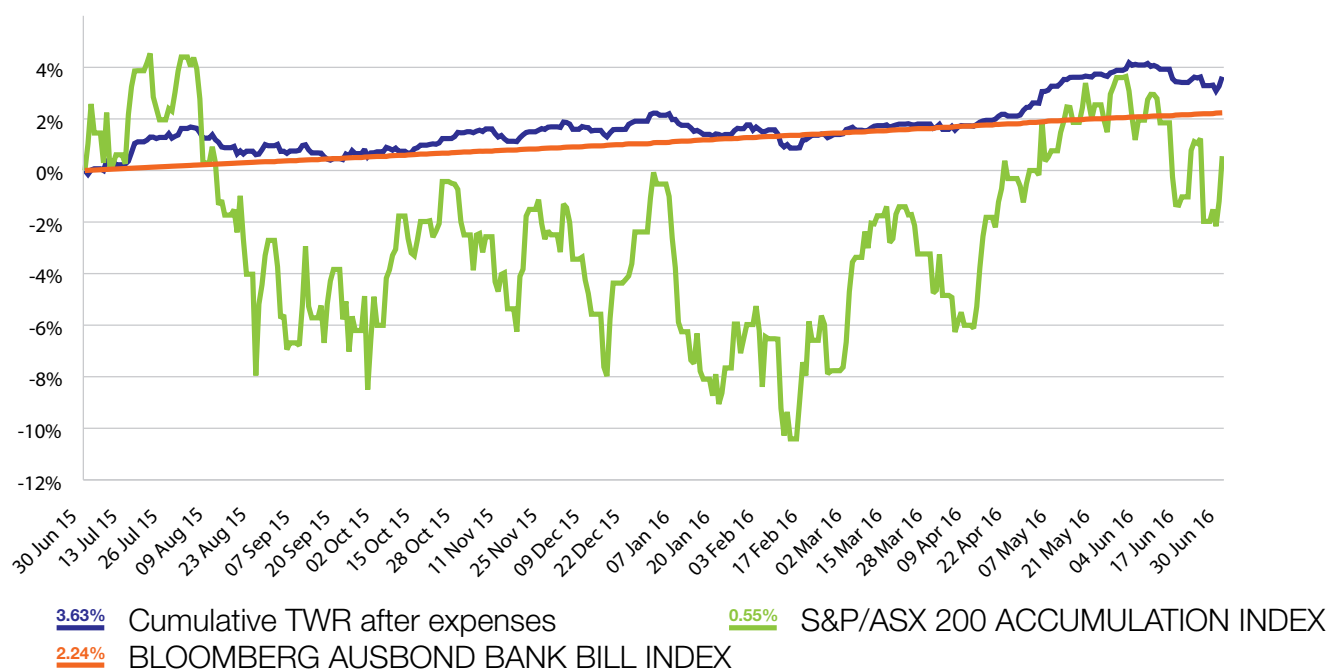


Chart B



Continued

Expenses

Expenditure decreased this year due to increased Executive focus on cost management leading to sizeable reductions in State Sides travel & accommodation due to most games in the 2015-2016 season being played in Victoria, travel and sundry committee expenses, trophies and pennants and the magazine production costs.

With the cessation of The Shot magazine we saved \$273K in expenditure, offset by no advertising income for a net overall saving of \$106K.

Employee benefits for the eleven full time employees increased \$45K overall to \$822K with our 2015 skills and positions review leading to a lean organisation and the appointment of our marketing and communication manager on the adoption of a digital marketing strategy.

The association benefits from volunteers at State level that comprise a 10 member Board and 60 committee members across 11 functions. Valued at the Sports Volunteer hourly rate of \$37.50 an hour, which is comparable to our own average employee hourly rate of \$38.30, this equates to a minimum contributed value of \$984K (26,250 hours) that is not reflected in our financial statements. Similarly there is an enormous amount of volunteer time provided by members at the region and club level.

Bowls Australia affiliation fees rose 5% to \$504K while our contribution to the Bowls Connect IT System increased 13% to \$50K.

While there were savings in the State Side and accommodation and other travel, these reductions will not continue in 2017 as the majority of events will be interstate.

Other expenses are consistent year over year with the exception of sponsorship and grants which is reflective of the lower income level.

Cash flows

On a positive note the association, with the Chief Executive's strong and effective operating cost management, was able to meet all operating expenses and able to transfer \$150K to the investment portfolio.

You will recall that \$200K was withdrawn from the investment portfolio in 2014 to meet operating costs.

Investment income reserve

Effective 30 June 2016, the Board of Directors resolved to transfer all net realised investment income gains on available-for-sale financial assets including other interest income of \$331,373 for the year to the Investment Income Reserve.

Financial assets reserve

With \$186,038 in fair value losses on the not-available-for-sale assets at 30 June 2016 the Board resolved to transfer the incremental \$87,714 fair value loss in 2016 to the Financial Assets Reserve.

Financial Position

The Association remains in a very strong financial position with assets that include \$330,112 cash, \$2.149 million in invoiced in advance affiliation fees, trade and other receivables, \$6.504 million available-for-sale assets and total liabilities of \$2.527 million including unearned income of \$2.117 million in respect of pre-paid grants and the 2016-17 club affiliation fees.

Major Expenses by category 2016 vs 2015

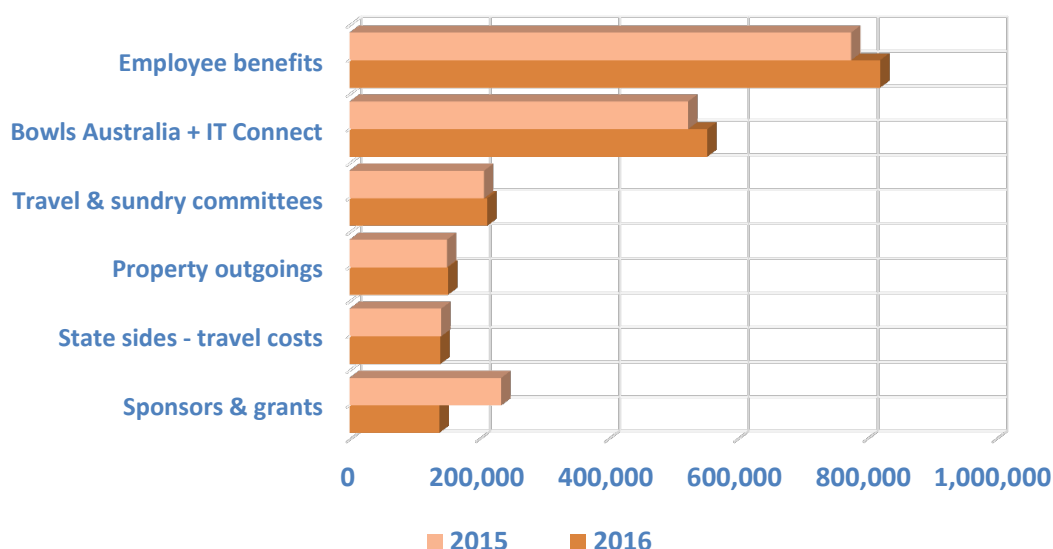


Chart C



Looking forward

The future presents both opportunities and challenges.

The challenge is

How do we lift the profile of the Sport of Bowls to command a willingness and set an expectation to pay higher participation fees?

What additional strategies, and funding, will need to be implemented to grow and renew the player base while moving away from the perception of being the sport for retirees?

And sadly, with changing lifestyles and expectations, decreasing participation in pennant bowls, declining population in some areas, and the higher cost of operating a club, some clubs will need to consider facility consolidation and/or club amalgamation.

Club affiliation fee model

The club affiliation fee model is due for review by 30 June 2017. With a declining pennant competition player base and an increasing social player base how do we equitably fund the sport?

The Board of Bowls Australia has now formally resolved to introduce a fixed affiliation fee model for the States and Territory Associations in the 2016-2017 year and have recommended that States and Territories similarly adopt a club based fixed affiliation fee model. Their media release is available on the [Bowls Australia website](#).

25.4% of our club affiliation fees go to Bowls Australia and in turn an amount to World Bowls which fees entitle affiliated club members to play competitive bowls anywhere in the world.

Investment income

Volatility is expected to continue in the stock market with interest rates remaining lower longer and the expectation of the rate of return inevitably reduced.

Grants

With most government budgets stretched grants are more policy focused on participation and outcomes with an expectation that not-for-profits be more financially self-sufficient.

Accounting system

Effective 1 July 2016 we implemented MYOB as our accounting system to replace our long standing legacy software. MYOB will improve our productivity, financial control and business management capabilities.

Computer equipment

Your association is currently evaluating options to upgrade and/or replace the existing network and server hardware, storage devices and operating software including our application software.

Significant portions of this equipment and software, circa 2008, is out of life cycle, are end of life models and out of manufacturer extended warranty such that maintenance is very expensive or no longer obtainable.

Finance and Audit Committee

Finances will continue to be monitored closely through budgets and the regular review of capital expenditure, income and expenses at the Finance and Audit Committee's monthly meetings. During 2015-2016 we continued to improve monthly financial reporting and metrics and will keep on doing so in 2016-2017.

Office premises

With less than a year of our office premises lease to run, the Board's working group will continue to monitor the prevailing property market and evaluate whether to lease or to buy our next office premises.

Thank you

Thank you to Georgina Hodson, who retired after 16 years' service and welcome to Betty Fang as Finance Manager who assumed the role at the beginning of the calendar year. Graeme Bridge, our Chief Executive, the Finance & Audit Committee and the Bowls Victoria Board continue to contribute to what is an interesting and challenging role for your Finance Director.

They are all always willing and able to meet the financial reporting and accounting challenges, have responded with enthusiasm to suggestions for change and they have advanced ideas for improvement of our financial controls and systems and the overall operation of Bowls Victoria.



Statement of Profit or Loss



and other comprehensive income for the year ended 30 June 2016

2015	Note	2016
\$		\$
	Income:	
176,312	Advertising	8,977
1,903,226	Affiliation Fees	1,985,373
173,411	Competition fees	163,880
723,523	Investment Income	331,373
25,280	Other Income	40,937
78,970	Sales	61,506
327,717	Sponsors & Grants	251,285
3,408,439	Total Income	2,843,331
	Expenses:	
10,749	Affiliation fee hardship relief	-
479,980	Bowls Australia affiliation fees	503,979
44,203	Bowls Connect IT System	49,966
59,609	Cost of sales	35,461
46,879	Depreciation & amortisation	29,270
776,686	Employee benefits	821,549
15,860	Insurance	21,229
11,101	Legal	41,272
273,030	Magazine	-
124,408	Office Expenses	122,330
37,640	Other expenses	19,379
150,874	Property outgoings	152,536
235,118	Sponsors & grants	139,004
141,939	State sides - travel costs	140,919
208,466	Travel & sundry committees	213,486
81,573	Trophies & pennants	85,959
2,698,115	Total expenses	2,376,339
710,324	Operating surplus	466,992
	Other comprehensive income	
	Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss	
(98,324)	Fair value gains/(losses) on available-for-sale assets	6 (87,714)
(232,209)	Write back of unrealized gains on disposal of investments	
379,791	Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity	379,278

The accompanying **Notes** form part of these financial statements.

Statement of Financial Position



as at 30 June 2016

2015		Note	2016
\$			\$
	Current assets		
219,919	Cash and cash equivalents	2b	330,112
9,480	Trade and other receivables	3	2,148,767
30,570	Inventories	1	26,354
168,599	Prepayments		147,236
428,568	Total current assets		2,652,469
	Non current assets		
45,193	Property, plant and equipment	4	24,379
6,049,480	Available-for-sale financial asset		6,504,322
6,094,673	Total non current assets		6,528,701
6,523,241	Total assets		9,181,170
	Current liabilities		
85,219	Trade and other payables	5	281,159
53,193	Prepaid grants and affiliation fees		2,116,845
110,125	Employee entitlements	1	129,184
248,537	Total current liabilities		2,527,188
248,537	Total liabilities		2,527,188
6,274,704	Net assets		6,653,982
	Members' funds		
5,649,505	Retained earnings		5,785,124
(98,324)	Financial assets reserve	6	(186,038)
723,523	Investment income reserve	7	1,054,896
6,274,704	Total members' funds		6,653,982

The accompanying **Notes** form part of these financial statements.

Statement of Cash Flows



for the year ended 30 June 2016

2015	Note	2016
\$		\$
Cash flows from operating activities		
Receipts		
1,903,226	Affiliation fees from Clubs	1,985,373
795,050	Other receipts	526,585
2,698,276	Total receipts	2,511,958
Payments		
(479,980)	Bowls Australia affiliation fees	(557,710)
(2,850,265)	Payments to suppliers & employees	(2,014,467)
(3,330,245)	Total payments	(2,572,177)
(631,969)	Net cash from operating activities	(60,219)
	2a	
Cash flows from investing activities		
723,523	Income from investments	331,373
(6,147,805)	Payments for investments	(1,407,950)
6,126,129	Proceeds from sale of investments	1,250,000
-	Fixed asset purchases	(3,012)
701,847	Net cash from investing activities	170,411
69,878	Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	110,193
150,041	Cash at start of the year	219,919
219,919	Cash at end of the year	330,112

The accompanying **Notes** form part of these financial statements.

Statement of Changes in Equity



for the year ended 30 June 2016

	Note	Retained earnings \$	Financial assets reserve \$	Investment income reserve	Total members funds \$
Balance at 1 July 2014		5,662,704	232,209	-	5,894,913
Operating surplus for the 2015 year		710,324	-	-	710,324
Other comprehensive income					
Write back of Financial asset reserve on disposal of investments	6	-	(232,209)	-	(232,209)
Fair value gains on available for-sale financial assets	6	-	(98,324)	-	(98,324)
Total comprehensive income for the 2015 year		710,324	(330,533)	-	379,791
Transfer to/(from) asset reserves/ (retained earnings)	7	(723,523)	-	723,523	-
Balance at 30 June 2015		5,649,505	(98,324)	723,523	6,274,704
Operating surplus for the 2016 year					
Other comprehensive income		466,992	-	-	466,992
Fair value gains/(losses) on available-for-sale financial assets	6	-	(87,714)	-	(87,714)
Total comprehensive income for the year		6,116,497	(186,038)	723,523	6,653,982
Transfer to/(from) reserves/(retained earnings)	7	(331,373)	-	331,373	-
Balance at 30 June 2016		5,785,124	(186,038)	1,054,896	6,653,982

The accompanying **Notes** form part of these financial statements.



Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2016

Note 1: Statement of accounting policies

This financial report is a special purpose financial report prepared in order to satisfy the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012. The Board has determined that the Association is not a reporting entity.

The financial report has been prepared on an accruals basis and is based on historic costs and does not take into account changing money values or, except where specifically stated, current values of non-current assets.

The following significant accounting policies, which are consistent with the previous period unless otherwise stated, have been adopted in the preparation of this financial report.

Valuation of inventories

Inventories consist of saleable goods, and are measured at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Costs are assigned on a specific identification basis.

Income tax

The association is a not-for-profit sporting organisation and as such is exempt from income tax under Section 50-45 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

Employee entitlements

The amounts expected to be paid to employees for their pro-rata entitlement for employee benefits are accrued annually at current pay rates having regard to period of service. Long service leave is accrued in respect of all employees with more than five years service with the Association.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets (excluding receivables) are recognized net of the amount of GST. Receivables and trade payables in the balance sheet are shown inclusive of GST.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis so as to write off the net cost of each depreciable non-current asset over its expected useful life commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use, with the exception of land and building.

Amortisation

Amortisation of leasehold improvements is calculated based on the lease term (two years) of the office premises.

Capitalized expenditure in relation to the on-going development of the Bowls Australia Bowls Connect IT System is amortised over the remaining term of the agreement which expires at 30 June 2018. Maintenance costs are expensed within the current year.

Investments

Investment income included in the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income comprises mainly managed fund distributions and dividends received from publicly listed shares.

Investments, which are marked to market at balance date, comprise managed fund units and publicly listed shares. The portfolio is classified as a non current asset as it is available-for sale. The Board has no immediate plans for the sale of part or all of the portfolio.



2015

\$

2016

\$

Note 2: Cash and cash equivalents

a) Reconciliation of cash from operating activities to operating surplus

379,791	Total comprehensive income	379,278
98,324	Unrealized (gain)/loss on available-for-sale assets	87,714
(723,523)	Income from investments	(331,373)
(330,533)	Write back/decrease in financial assets reserve	(87,714)
(119,111)	Realized (gain)/loss on investments	(302,337)
	Non-cash flows in operating surplus / (deficit)	
46,879	Depreciation/amortisation	29,270
	Changes in assets & liabilities:	
13,360	(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(2,139,287)
963	(Increase)/decrease in inventories	4,216
24,700	(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	21,363
(17,450)	Increase/(decrease) in payables	195,940
10,165	Increase/(decrease) in provisions	19,059
(15,534)	Increase/(decrease) in unearned income	2,063,652
(631,969)	Net cash from operating activities	(60,219)

b) Reconciliation of cash

600	Cash on hand	600
75,206	Cash at bank	222,607
144,113	Investments and short term deposits	106,905
219,919	Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year	330,112

Note 3: Trade and other receivables

14,480	Receivables	2,153,767
(5,000)	Provision for doubtful debts	(5,000)
9,480		2,148,767

Includes \$2,016,551 in pre-invoiced 2016-2017 Club Affiliation Fees



Notes to the Financial Statements continued

2015			2016
	\$		\$
		Note 4: Property, plant and equipment	
	171,735	Office equipment and fittings (at cost)	174,746
	(136,645)	Accumulated depreciation	(156,654)
	<u>35,090</u>		<u>18,092</u>
	19,086	Motor vehicles (at cost)	19,086
	(8,983)	Accumulated depreciation	(12,799)
	<u>10,103</u>		<u>6,287</u>
	52,988	Leasehold improvements (at cost)	52,988
	(52,988)	Amortisation of leasehold improvements	(52,988)
	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>
	45,193		24,379
		Note 5: Trade and other payables	
	65,317	Trade creditors	251,542
	19,902	Accrued expenses	29,617
	<u>85,219</u>		<u>281,159</u>

Note 6: Financial assets reserve

The financial assets reserve records revaluation increments and decrements (that do not represent impairment write downs) that relate to financial assets that are classified as available for-sale.

Note 7: Investment income reserve

This reserve is used to quarantine income earned on the associations investment portfolio and is to be used to potentially assist in funding a future property purchase.

Note 8: Auditor's remuneration

The Auditor's remuneration for the audit is \$12,500.

Note 9: Directors' benefits/remuneration

No director or related party received any benefit or remuneration from the Association during the reporting period except as reimbursement or expenses incurred or other payment conforming with the Association's policies.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BOWLS VICTORIA INCORPORATED

Report on the Financial Report

We have audited the accompanying financial being a special purpose financial report of Bowls Victoria Incorporated (the Association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2016, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the statement by members of the board.

Managements' Responsibility for the Financial Report

The Management of Bowls Victoria Incorporated are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report, and have determined that the basis of preparation described in Note 1, is appropriate to meet the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012* and is appropriate to meet the needs of the members. Management's responsibility also includes such internal control as management determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We have conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the board, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS

Melbourne Office
Level 20, 181 William Street
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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BOWLS VICTORIA
INCORPORATED (CONT)***Auditor's Opinion*

In our opinion, the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Bowls Victoria Incorporated as at 30 June 2016, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*.

Basis of Accounting

Without modifying our opinion, we draw attention to Note 1 to the financial report, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial report has been prepared to assist Bowls Victoria Incorporated to meet the requirements of the *Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012*. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose.

Matters Relating to the Electronic Presentation of the Audited Financial Report

This auditor's report relates to the financial report of Bowls Victoria Incorporated for the year ended 30 June 2016 included on Bowls Victoria Incorporated's web site. The association's board members are responsible for the integrity of Bowls Victoria Incorporated's web site. We have not been engaged to report on the integrity of Bowls Victoria Incorporated's web site. The auditor's report refers only to the financial report. It does not provide an opinion on any other information which may have been hyperlinked to/from these statements. If users of this report are concerned with the inherent risks arising from electronic data communications they are advised to refer to the hard copy of the audited financial report to confirm the information included in the audited financial report presented on this web site.

**William Buck Audit (VIC) Pty Ltd**

ABN 59 11 151 136

**A. P. Marks**

Director

Dated this 23rd day of September, 2016

**CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
& ADVISORS**

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Statement by Members of the Board

of Bowls Victoria



The Board has determined that the association is not a reporting entity. The Board has determined that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the accounting policies outlined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

In the opinion of the Board the financial report as set out herein:

1. Presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Bowls Victoria Inc. as at 30th June 2016 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
2. At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Bowls Victoria Inc. will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

This statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board and is signed for and on behalf of the Board by:

 John Fisher OAM
President

 Ken Warburton
Finance Director

Dated this 23rd day of September 2016.

Sponsors & Funding Agencies



Bowls Victoria expresses its appreciation & thanks to all our valuable sponsors & funding agencies for their support in 2015-16

Corporate partners



Event partners



Funding partners



Development partners



Charity partner





Season 2015-16

Victorian Open Champions

Men's Singles: Nathan Wilson
Women's Singles: Carla Odgers
Men's Pairs: Cain Hanley
 Curtis Hanley (s)
Women's Pairs: Melissa Larcombe
 Lisa Phillips (s)
Men's Triples: Wayne Brooks
 Philip Thorn
 Matthew Liverton (s)
Women's Triples: Laurelle Smith
 Marilyn Rehe
 Gail Waitai (s)
Mixed Pairs: Lisa Phillips
 Nick McIntyre (s)

Victoria State Champions

Men's State Singles
 Phillip Thorn - City of Echuca
Women's State Singles
 Chloe Stewart - Kyneton
Men's State Pairs
 Dan Irwin
 Mike Irwin (s)
 Club: Heathmont BC
Women's State Pairs
 Desma Budd
 Amy Gloury (s)
 Club: Composite
Men's State Triples
 Jamie Pearce
 Chris Ball
 Nathan Murray (s)
 Club: Yarraville/Footscray BC
Women's State Triples
 Nicole McKenzie (sub)
 Marilyn Forrest
 Robyn Dennis (s)
 Club: San Remo BC
Men's State Fours
 Cameron Wilson
 Matthew Wilson
 Nathan Wilson
 Anthony Flapper (s)
 Club: Essendon BC
Women's State Fours
 Mikayla Long
 Lisa Trewarne
 Tiffany Brodie
 Carla Krizanic (s)
 Club: Composite

Men's State Ch of Ch Singles
 Paul Twyerould - Rosebud BC
Women's State Ch of Ch Singles
 Carla Krizanic - Sunbury BC

State Mixed Pairs
 Joy Johnson (ret)
 Laureen Smith (repl)
 Les Spencer (s)
 Club: Yarrowonga MGCR BC

Men's Under-25 Singles
 Brad Foot - Mentone BC
Women's Under-25 Singles
 Tiffany Brodie - Fitzroy Victoria BC

Men's Novice Singles
 Ryan Negri - Deer Park BC
Women's Novice Singles
 Judy Black - Corowa Services BC

Men's Over-60 Singles
 Paul Davies - Wodonga BC
Women's Over-60 Singles
 Edna Anderson - Warracknabeal Golf BC

Men's Over-60s Pairs
 Brian Scott
 David Wells (s)
 Club: Warrnambool City Memorial BC
Women's Over-60s Pairs
 Audrey Hele
 Patty Whorlow (s)
 Club: Glen Waverley BC

Interstate Test Series

Under-18 National Championships

28 September - 1 October 2015

at Tuggeranong BC, ACT

Finals:
Girls
 Singles: Silver
 Triples: Silver
Boys
 Singles: Bronze
 Pairs: Bronze
 Fours: Gold

Over-60s Nationals

Victoria Side - 60 & Over

Round Robin - North Launceston BC, TAS

12 - 15 October 2014.

Men's Test Series:
 Graeme Spencer (Brighton)
 Stan Sliwinski (Hastings)
 Stephen Sullivan (Queenscliff)
 Ashley Bates (Wodonga) (s)

Michael Allen (Ocean Grove)
 Frank Tonn (Cohuna)
 Barry Anset (Golden Square)
 Ian Ross (Bendigo) (s)

Graeme Rodgers (Beaumaris)
 Craig Elliott (Geelong West)
 Mario Cipolla (Bundoora RSL)
 Raymond Jansen (MCC Kew Sports) (s)

Match Results

Round 1	VIC def TAS	66-45
Round 2	VIC lost to NSW	44-53
Round 3	VIC def WA	68-58
Round 4	VIC def ACT	59-54
Round 5	VIC def SA	64-43
Round 6	VIC def QLD	73-42
Round 7	VIC def NT	80-38

Victoria finished 1st.

Women's Test Series:
 Joy McGrath (Portland)
 Gail Nadelman (Armada)
 Sandra Connolly (Moama)
 Joyce Lindores (Mulgrave CC)

Patricia Whorlow (Glen Waverley)
 Jennifer Salmon (Glenroy)
 Robyn Thomassen (Grangeburn)
 Anne Miles (Yarrowonga Mulwala)

Judy Nardella (Deer Park)
 Edna Anderson (Warracknabeal)
 Sharon Whana (Glenroy)
 Joy Johnson (Yarrowonga Mulwala)

Match Results

Round 1	VIC def TAS	51-66
Round 2	VIC def NSW	72-43
Round 3	VIC lost to WA	46-56
Round 4	lost to ACT	66-70
Round 5	VIC def SA	55-48
Round 6	VIC lost to QLD	46-48
Round 7	VIC def NT	74-67

Victoria finished 3rd.



Continued

Victoria v Tasmania 2 - 4 December 2015 at Clayton BC

Men's Test Series:

Liam Garlick-Adams (Clayton)
Nick McIntyre (Whittlesea)
Brett Spur (Bundoora RSL)
Aaron Wilson (s) (Clayton)

Peter Loe (Essendon)
Joshua Corless (Bundoora RSL)
Brad Orr (Shepparton Golf)
Matthew Flapper (s) (Ocean Grove)

Andrew Brown (Bendigo)
Dale Jones (Mentone)
Barrie Lester (Mulgrave CC)
Dylan Fisher (s) (Fitzroy Victoria)

Match Results

1st Test	VIC def TAS	66-56
2nd Test	VIC lost to TAS	54-59
3rd Test	VIC def TAS	58-55
4th Test	VIC def TAS	62-49
5th Test	VIC def TAS	66-62

Victoria lost the series 4-1

Women's Test Series:

Tayla Spence (Epping)
Jody Nevill (Bundoora RSL)
Gayle Edwards (Lalor)
Chloe Stewart (s) (Kyneton)

Tiffany Brodie (Fitzroy Victoria)
Mary Tragardh (Clayton)
Kylie Whitehead (Wodonga)
Lisa Phillips (s) (Coatesville)

Brooke Edwards (Lalor)
Victoria Troster (Clayton)
Rebecca McMahon (City Colac)
Nicole Shortis (s) (Leopold Sportsman's)

Match Results

1st Test	VIC def TAS	62-59
2nd Test	VIC def TAS	70-42
3rd Test	VIC def TAS	64-53
4th Test	VIC def TAS	55-51
5th Test	VIC def TAS	59-55

Victoria won the series 5-0

Under-18s Girls series:

Kira Bourke (Maryborough Golf)
Tiffany Brodie (Keysborough)
Amelia Bruggy (Bendigo)
Mikayla Long (Glenroy)
Jordan Long (Glenroy)
Natasha Russell (Clayton)
Coach: Rob Wilson and Lou Morison
Managers: Doug Kneebone and Joy Kneebone

Match Results

1st Test	VIC def TAS	79-57
2nd Test	VIC drew TAS	73-68
3rd Test	VIC lost to TAS	60-66

Victoria won the series 2-1

Under-18s Boys series:

Curtis Hanley (Clayton)
Brody Harker (Mildura)
Riley Hodgson (Bundoora RSL)
Ty King (Deniliquin)
Grant McLaren (Colac)
Coach: Rob Wilson
Managers: Doug Kneebone

Match Results

1st Test	VIC lost to TAS	65-81
2nd Test	VIC lost to TAS	52-81
3rd Test	VIC drew TAS	72-72

Victoria lost the series 2-0

Victoria v New South Wales 20 - 21 January, 2016 at Mulgrave Country Club

Women's series:

Kylie Whitehead (Wodonga)
Rebecca McMahon (City Colac)
Nicole Shortis (Leopold Sportsman's)
Carla Odgers (s) (Sunbury)

Tiffany Brodie (Fitzroy Victoria)
Jody Nevill (Bundoora RSL)
Elise Cowan (Sunbury)
Lisa Phillips (Coatesville)

Tayla Morison (Melbourne)
Mary Tragardh (Clayton)
Gayle Edwards (Altona)
Chloe Stewart (s) (Kyneton)

Match Results

1st Test	VIC lost to NSW	50-71
2nd Test	VIC lost to NSW	54-55
3rd Test	VIC lost to NSW	49-76

Victoria lost the series 3-0

Men's series:

Liam Garlick-Adams (Mulgrave CC)
Nick McIntyre (Bundoora RSL)
Brett Spur (Bundoora RSL)
Aaron Wilson (s) (Clayton)

Peter Loe (Essendon)
Joshua Corless (s) (Bundoora RSL)
Dale Jones (Mentone)
Matthew Flapper (s) (Ocean Grove)

Andrew Brown (Bendigo)
Dale Jones (Mentone)
Barrie Lester (Mulgrave CC)
Dylan Fisher (s) (Fitzroy Victoria)

Match Results

1st Test	VIC lost to NSW	49-67
2nd Test	VIC lost to NSW	38-80
3rd Test	VIC lost to NSW	53-55

Victoria lost the series 0-3

Under-25s Men's series:

Chris Ball (Yarraville Footscray)
Nathan Lynch (Moonee Valley)
Dane McKinnon (Altona)
Josh Rudd (Wodonga)
Jack Woodhouse (Bundoora RSL)
Bryce Young - (Altona)

Match Results

1st Test	VIC def NSW	4-2
2nd Test	VIC def NSW	6-0
3rd Test	VIC def NSW	4-2

Victoria won the series 3-0

Under-25s Women's series:

Mikayla Gibson (Bundoora RSL)
Amelia Bruggy (Bendigo)
Elise Rigoni (Lalor)
Tayla Spence (Donvale)
Kristen Steele (Glenroy)
Mikayla Long (Glenroy)

Match Results

1st Test	VIC def NSW	6-0
2nd Test	VIC def NSW	6-0
3rd Test	VIC def NSW	5-1

Victoria lost the series 0-3



Victoria v South Australia
17-19 February, 2016
at Marion Bowls Club, SA

Women's Series

Kylie Whitehead (Wodonga)
 Tayla Spence (Bundoora RSL)
 Elise Cowan (Sunbury)
 Carla Odgers (s) (Sunbury)

Tayla Morison (Melbourne)
 Mary Tragardh (Clayton)
 Rebecca McMahon (City Colac)
 Nicole Shortis (s) (Leopold Sportsman's)

Tiffany Brodie (Fitzroy Victoria)
 Jody Nevill (Bundoora RSL)
 Gayle Edwards (Altona)
 Chloe Stewart (s) (Kyneton)

Match Results

1st Test	VIC lost to SA	56-61
2nd Test	VIC def SA	70-54
3rd Test	VIC lost to SA	45-64
4th Test	VIC lost to SA	42-68
5th Test	VIC def SA	57-52

Victoria lost the series 2-3.

Men's Series:

Joshua Corless
 Brad Orr (Shepparton Golf)
 Dylan Fisher (s) (Fitzroy Victoria)
 Matthew Flapper (s) (Ocean Grove)

Liam Garlic-Adams (Altona)
 Nathan Wilson (Essendon)
 Brett Spur (Bundoora RSL)
 Aaron Wilson (s) (Cheltenham)

Andrew Brown (Bendigo)
 Dale Jones (Mentone)
 Nick McIntyre (Bundoora RSL)
 Barrie Lester (s) (Mulgrave CC)

Match Results

1st Test	VIC lost to SA	50-64
2nd Test	VIC def SA	72-50
3rd Test	VIC def SA	59-51
4th Test	VIC lost to SA	47-69
5th Test	VIC lost to SA	59-65

Victoria lost the series 2-3.

2016 Multi-Disability
Lawn Bowl Championships
22-27 May, 2016
at Clearview Bowling Club, SA

Alison Meakin (Mulgrave)
 Janet Morrison (Mulgrave)
 Jo Boland (Yarra Glen)
 Josh Thornton (East Shepparton)
 Josh Barry (Sebastopol)
 Lucas Protopapas (Mulgrave)
 Ken Argent (Alexandra)
 DJ Weaver (Moulamein)
 Tim Slater (Fitzroy Victoria)

Medals

Men's Triples Silver
 – Josh Thornton, Tim Slater & Ken Argent
 Women's Pairs Silver
 – Alison Meakin & Janet Morrison
 Men's Pairs Silver
 – Josh Thornton & DJ Weaver
 Men's Singles Bronze
 – Josh Thornton

Lester/Clover Encouragement Award
 – DJ Weaver

Overall winner - ACT

National Bowlers Arm Championship
6-10 September, 2015
at Tranmere Bowling Club, SA

Barry Anset (Bendigo)
 Ray Arnold (Dromana)
 Barry Atkins (Lancefield)
 Ray Bezett (Benalla)
 Stephen Coles (North Balwyn)
 Neil Crisp (Warrnambool)
 Doug Corrigan (Ringwood)
 Graham Edwards (Swan Hill)
 Peter Gribbin (Pakenham)
 Terry Gilmore (Eaglehawk)
 Phil Gude (Dromana)
 Malcolm Finch (Golden Square)
 Tony Long (St Leonard's)
 Arthur Parker (Main Ridge)
 Ann Power (City of Frankston)
 Adele Ryan (Ocean Grove)
 Bob Ormesher (City of Frankston)
 Lee Wesley (Romsey)

Match Results

VIC def NSW
 VIC def SA
 SA def NSW

Overall winner - VIC

The Armed Vics retained
 all State v State Shields.



Neil Crisp arms-up for the
 2015 National Bowlers Arm Championship



Continued

Regional Sides Champions

Men's Region Sides

Northern Gateway

Women's Regions Sides

Bendigo Campaspe

Metropolitan Champions

Saturday

Premier	Essendon
Division 1	Croydon
Division 2	Diamond Creek
Division 3	Mulgrave Country Club
Division 4	Bayswater
Division 5	Whittlesea
Division 6	Epping RSL
Division 7	Palm Lake
Division 8	Dandenong RSL

Midweek

Premier	Clayton
Division 1	Women only Sunbury
Division 1	Open Croydon
Division 2	Open Deer Park
Division 3	Open Cranbourne RSL
Division 4	Open Mulgrave Country Club
Division 5	Open Bentleigh

Country Champions

Ballarat District Bowls Division

Saturday

Premier	Victoria
Division 1	Buninyong
Division 2	Sebastopol
Division 3	Learmonth
Division 4	Ballarat East
Division 5	Linton & District
Division 6	Learmonth
Division 7	Bungaree
Division 8	Daylesford
Division 9	Ballan

Midweek

Division 1	Central Wendouree
Division 2	Buninyong
Division 3	City Oval
Division 4	City Oval

Bendigo Bowls Division

Saturday

Division 1	Bendigo East
Division 2	Bendigo East
Division 3	Marong
Division 4	Heathcote
Division 5	Inglewood
Division 6	Marong
Division 7	Kangaroo Flat
Division 8	South Bendigo
Division 9	South Bendigo

Midweek

Division 1	Bendigo East
Division 2	Bendigo East
Division 3	Heathcote
Division 4	Bendigo VRI
Division 5	Dingee

Bowls Sunraysia Division

Saturday

Division 1	Mildura
Division 2	Mildura Workers
Division 3	Mildura

Midweek

Division 1	Mildura
Division 2	Euston

Campaspe Valley Bowls Division

Saturday

Division 1	City of Echuca
Division 2	City of Echuca
Division 3	City of Echuca
Division 4	Moama
Division 5	Deniliquin RSL

Midweek

Division 1	Moama
Division 2	Rochester
Division 3	Tongala

Central Bowls Division

Saturday

Division 1	Seymour VRI
Division 2	Alexandr

Midweek

Division 1	Kilmore
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Central Highlands Bowls Division

Saturday

Division 1	Kyneton Golf
Division 2	Trentham
Division 3	Romsey

Midweek

Division 1	Kyneton
Division 2	Kyneton Golf
Division 3	Macedon Ranges

Corangamite Bowls Division

Saturday

Division 1	Colac
Division 2	Cola
Division 3	Lorne
Division 4	Winchelsea

Midweek

Division 1	City Colac
Division 2	Skipton
Division 3	Lorne

East Gippsland Bowls Division

Saturday

Division 1	Lakes Entrance Gold
Division 2	Lakes Entrance Gold
Division 3	Bruthen
Division 4	Metung

Midweek

Division 1	Lakes Entrance Gold
Division 2	Bairnsdale Golf Blue
Division 3	Bairnsdale

Far Western Bowls Division

Saturday

Division 1	Portland RSL
Division 2	Heywood
Division 3	Hamilton Green
Division 4	Casterton

Midweek

Division 1	Portland Blue
Division 2	Grangeburn
Division 3	Balmoral

Flinders Bowls Division

Saturday

Division 1	Rye
Division 2	Rye
Division 3	Rye
Division 4	Mt Martha
Division 5	Mt Martha

Midweek

Division 1	Balnarring
Division 2	Dromana
Division 3	Mt Martha

Geelong Bowls Region

Saturday

Premier League	Victoria
Division 1	Bareena
Division 2	Ocean Grove 2
Division 3	Torquay 2
Division 4	Geelong 2
Division 5	Drysdale 2
Division 6	Geelong Cement 2
Division 7	Queenscliff 3
Division 8	Torquay 4
Division 9	Geelong Eastern Park 4
Division 10	Torquay 6
Division 11	Highton 6

Midweek

Division 1	Ocean Grove 1
Division 2	Portarlington 1
Division 3	Ocean Grove 3
Division 4	St Leonards 1
Division 5	Geelong Cement 3
Division 6	Geelong Eastern Park 1
Division 7	Geelong Eastern Park 2

Goldfields Bowls Division

Saturday

Division A1	Maryborough HS Tartan
Division A2	Avoca Red
Division A3	Newstead Blue
Division B1	Maryborough HS White
Division B2	Dunolly Red

Midweek

Premiers	Dunolly Blue
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Goulburn Valley Bowls Division

Saturday

Division 1	Shepparton Golf
Division 2	Shepparton Park
Division 3	Rushworth
Division 4	Merrigum
Division 5	Euroa
Division 6	Shepparton RSL
Division 7	Avenel

**Midweek**

Division 1	Shepparton Park
Division 2	Shepparton Park
Division 3	Shepparton Golf
Division 4	Euroa
Division 5	Nagambie

Grampians Bowls Division**Saturday**

Division 1	Stawell
Division 2	Ararat Gold

Midweek

Division 1	Stawell Blue
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Murray Bowls Division**Saturday**

Division 1	Wunghnu
Division 2	Strathmerton
Division 3	Numurkah
Division 4	Katandra West

Midweek

Division 1	Barooga Sports
Division 2	Cobram

Murray Valley Bowls Division**Saturday**

Division 1	Nyah District 1
Division 2	Manangatang
Division 3	Nyah District 2

Midweek

Division 1	Murray Downs 1
Division 2	Moulamein

North Central Bowls Division**Saturday**

Division 1	Boort
Division 2	St Arnaud CC

Midweek

Division 1	Korong Vale
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Northern District Bowls Division**Saturday**

Division 1	Kerang
Division 2	Barham Services
Division 3	Barham Services Blue

Midweek

Division 1	Barham Services
Division 2	Leitchville

North Gippsland Bowls Division**Saturday**

Division 1	Sale White
Division 2	Sale White
Division 3	Sale White

Midweek

Division 1	Sale
Division 2	Sale

North Wimmera Bowls Division**Saturday**

Division 1	Warracknabeal Golf
Division 2	Warracknabeal Golf

Midweek

Division 1	Warracknabeal
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Ovens & Murray Bowls Region**Saturday**

Division A1	Benalla
Division A2	Wodonga
Division A3	Kiewa Valley
Division A4	Myrtleford
Division B1	Wangaratta
Division B2	Yarrawonga
Division B3	Wodonga
Division B4	Corryong
Division C	Tawonga

Midweek

Ladies	Wodonga
Open 1	Benalla
Open 2	Yarrawonga MGCR
Open 3	Wareena Park
Open 4	Corryong

Peninsula Bowls Division**Saturday**

Division 1	Karingal
Division 2	Karingal
Division 3	Somerville
Division 4	City of Frankston
Division 5	Frankston RSL
Division 6	City of Frankston
Division 7	City of Frankston

Midweek

Division 1	Karingal
Division 2	Seaford
Division 3	Koo Wee Rup
Division 4	Beleura
Division 5	Beleura

South Gippsland Bowls Division**Saturday**

Division 1	Phillip Island
Division 2	Inverloch
Division 3	Wonthaggi Blue
Division 4	Wonthaggi White
Division 5	Corinella

Midweek

Division 1	San Remo
Division 2	Korumburra
Division 3	Wonthaggi

Tyrrell Bowls Division**Saturday**

Division 1	Berriwilllock
Division 2	Birchip

Midweek

Division 1	Woomelang
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West Gippsland Bowls Division**Saturday**

Division 1	Traralgon
Division 2	Yallourn 2
Division 3	Warragul 2
Division 4	Boolarra
Division 5	Drouin 3
Division 6 E	Morwell 4
Division 6 W	Moe 3

Midweek

Division 1	Traralgon
Division 2	Yallourn
Division 3	Traralgon
Division 4	Longwarry

Western District Bowls Division**Saturday**

Division 1	Warrnambool Gold
Division 2	Warrnambool City Memorial Blue
Division 3	Port Fairy Gold
Division 4	Warrnambool City Memorial Maroon

Midweek

Division 1	Warrnambool City Memorial Gold
Division 2	Mortlake Blue
Division 3	Dennington Red

Wimmera Bowls Division**Saturday**

Division 1	Nhill
Division 2	Edenhope
Division 3	Dimboola

Midweek

Division 1	Kaniva
Division 2	Natimuk





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