



**bowls victoria**  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**2016-17**



## Bowls Victoria Office Bearers for Season 2016-17

<b>Joint Patrons:</b>	The Honourable Linda Dessau, AC Governor of Victoria, and His Honour Judge Anthony Howard
<b>President:</b>	Barbara Gilbert
<b>Deputy President:</b>	John Inglese
<b>Board Members:</b>	Lyn Baker, John Fisher OAM, Phil Gude (ret), Stuart Kollmorgen (ret), Scot Nicholson (ret), Kevin Pattison, Marilla Rootsey, Valerie Savage
<b>Finance Director:</b>	Ken Warburton
<b>Chief Executive:</b>	Graeme Bridge

## Bowls Victoria Regional Representatives

<b>Bendigo Campaspe:</b>	Stephen Piercy, Susan Howes
<b>Central Goulburn Murray:</b>	Lois Tomkins, Maurie Rowlands
<b>Central Victoria:</b>	Carmel Mitchell, Ian Guymer
<b>Eastern Ranges:</b>	Gordon Baker, Coralie Heim
<b>Geelong:</b>	Anne Cotterill, Daryl Stephens
<b>Gippsland:</b>	Jeff Amos, Fay Lewis
<b>Metro West:</b>	Bob Aitken, Catherine Haldane
<b>Murray Mallee:</b>	Graeme Kelly, Elizabeth Smith*
<b>Northern Gateway:</b>	Rob Blachford, Dian Wright
<b>Ovens &amp; Murray Bowls:</b>	Margaret Isherwood, Neil Pryor
<b>Peninsula Casey:</b>	Allan Winnett, Judith Thorpe
<b>Sandbelt:</b>	Michael Classon, Lyn Goodchild
<b>Strzelecki:</b>	Rob Stephen, Marj Pearson
<b>West Coast:</b>	David Yandell, Margaret Sumner
<b>Wimmera:</b>	Ann Hunt, Walter Goldsbury
<b>Yarra:</b>	Barry Ferguson, Lorraine Burton

<b>Bendigo Campaspe:</b>	President Vice President	Jean Belt Barry Brown
<b>Central Goulburn Murray:</b>	Chairman Deputy Chairman	Maurie Rowlands Alison Hall
<b>Central Victoria:</b>	Chairman Vice Chairman	Gary Dickenson Carmel Mitchell
<b>Eastern Ranges:</b>	President Vice President:	Ray McDonald Lois Collier
<b>Geelong:</b>	Chairman Deputy President	Robin Roberts Kaye Robison
<b>Gippsland:</b>	Chairperson Vice Chairperson	Deidre Relp Terry White
<b>Metro West:</b>	President Vice President	Fred Maddern OBE Catherine Hadane
<b>Murray Mallee:</b>	Chairman Deputy Chairman	John Louttit Margaret Hoare
<b>Northern Gateway:</b>	Chairman Deputy Chairman	Dian Wright Fran Reid
<b>Ovens &amp; Murray Bowls:</b>	President Vice President	Margaret Isherwood Neil Pryor
<b>Peninsula Casey:</b>	President Sen Vice Pres	Janice Sellers Graham Peck
<b>Sandbelt:</b>	Chairperson Vice Chairperson	Daphne Camilleri Brian Howarth
<b>Strzelecki:</b>	President	Pam Cameron
<b>West Coast:</b>	President Deputy President	Margaret Sumner Peter Inglis
<b>Wimmera:</b>	President Deputy President	Graeme Shalders Colleen Wilkinson
<b>Yarra:</b>	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

Barbara Gilbert

## Historian

Robert J. Middleton OAM

## Auditors

William Buck: Chartered Accountants & Advisors Pty Ltd

## Standing & Special Purpose Committees

### Awards

<b>Chairman:</b>	Allan Winnett
<b>Members:</b>	Pamela Dind, Ken Lee

### Championship

<b>Chairman:</b>	Barbara Gilbert
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### Coaching

	In recess
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### Disability Support

<b>Chairman:</b>	Tony Scott
<b>Members:</b>	Lyn Baker, Mario Cima, Tim Nield, Len O'Brien, Trevor Sloan, Mark Walker

### Disciplinary

<b>Chairman:</b>	Stuart Kollmorgen
<b>Members:</b>	Bob Carlson, Pat Clark, John Roberts

### Event Support

<b>Chairman:</b>	Ken Shields
<b>Members:</b>	Ian Capp, Adrian Graham, Alan Richards

### Finance & Audit

<b>Chairman:</b>	Ken Warburton
<b>Members:</b>	John McKee, Stuart Kollmorgen

### Greens

<b>Chairman:</b>	Andy Smith
<b>Members:</b>	Peter Bowman, Andrew Ross, Richard Sinclair

### Laws & Rules

<b>Chairman:</b>	Robert (Bob) Carlson
<b>Members:</b>	Julia Bolch, John Christie, John Roberts, Bill Sheedy, Neil Smillie

### Metropolitan Pennant

<b>Chairman:</b>	Meredith Norton
<b>Members:</b>	Michael Classon, Carol Dove nee Shipley, Peter Mitchell, Tim Nabbs, Carol Protopapas, Fran Reid, Sara Rodger, Peter Russell, Les Stephens

### Selection - Men

<b>Chairman:</b>	Arnold O'Brien OAM
<b>Members:</b>	Ashley Bates, Paul Dorgan, Ian Ewing

### Selection - Women

<b>Chairman:</b>	Jan Hurst
<b>Members:</b>	Judy Davey, Edith Grinham, Meredith Norton

### Umpiring

<b>Chairman:</b>	John Roberts
<b>Members:</b>	Bob Carlson, Lorraine Dowson, Neil Smillie, Doug McConachie, Marilla Rootsey, Doug Whorlow, Lee Wesley





### Under-18

<b>Chairman:</b>	Louise Morison
<b>Members:</b>	Laurie Browell, Mark Cowan (Coach), Richard Lovell, Terry Norris, Justine Stokes

## Office Administration

<b>Chief Executive:</b>	Graeme Bridge
<b>Staff:</b>	Peter Delaney (Operations Manager) Betty Fang (Finance & Administration Manager) Guy Hand (Communications & Marketing Manager) Scott Nicholas (Participation & Club Development Manager) Luke Brown, Rebecca Carmeron, Karen Gilmartin (ret), Amanda James, Sean O'Kane, Joshua Rourke

## Social Media

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## Barbara Gilbert

This is my first annual report and it gives me great pleasure to provide a review of the 2016-2017 year. There are numerous activities, highlights and achievements to acknowledge in what has been a very busy period for the sport.

Bowls is a fantastic sport and caters for all ages and abilities, whether abled or disabled. Bowlers can participate either competitively or socially. Clubs are often the hub of a community and we should all endeavour to open our doors and invite new people in. We often see a Grandparent bowling with their grandchildren, what other sport can offer this. Bowls is certainly the Sport for Life.

### Region Meetings

The Chief Executive and Board conducted region meetings in May and June 2017.

These meetings are very important and allow messages to be delivered face to face from both sides. It is our desire to impart the need for new processes and hear first-hand what assistance clubs need to have strong and viable clubs.

This year we had a workshop on Participation and had the butcher paper out to answer questions. All of the comments have been put into a document which will be very useful to all. There was one consistent message on every sheet "the one thing holding us back is the lack of acceptance of change". It was very interesting that this was the universal answer from all Regions. We all must work together so that change can be accepted to move our sport forward and for clubs to prosper.

### Club Based Affiliation Fees

The Membership Model for Affiliation to Bowls Victoria is club based. Bowls Victoria went out to all clubs requesting information for the revised model moving forward. Each and every reply wanted the Membership Model to be fair and equitable to all.

The Board of BV spent many hours going over many different scenarios to calculate a formula to obtain this. At the Regional Meeting's we were very transparent in how the formula was worked. The amount on each invoice to clubs is from this calculation and represents the amount needed to run the Sport of Bowls in Victoria. It is the club's responsibility to keep the club database accurate at all times.

The Membership Model is for two years and will be reset after that time, each year clubs can apply for Financial Relief if they fit the criteria provided in the forms for application. The clearance fee has now been changed and costs the player leaving your club \$60.00. As per the announcement of the Clearance fee \$20.00 is retained by BV and \$40.00 is given back to the club that the player is leaving. This has been done to give financial relief to the club that the player is leaving.

During the term of two years each club can add members to their data base free of charge and those players can play in Pennant etc. for the club. This has eliminated the need for clubs to rush through paper work to have player's eligible to play for the club legally and play bowls throughout the world.

In your club based Membership it also includes GST, Affiliation to Bowls Australia and World Bowls.

### Participation

BV as per the requirement identified in the BV Regulations 28.13 requires participation figures from Clubs twice yearly. This helps us all have a more accurate figure of how many people are participating at our clubs. It is also very beneficial to BV and every club when they are seeking support and sponsorship. Accurate figures tell the true story and most clubs are really surprised in a good way, about the actual numbers that do participate at their club in our sport.

### Board Member Changes in 2016-17

Scot Nicholson was elected to the Board at the September 2016 Elections

Scott resigned his position on 8th March 2017 to take up his new role as a Regional Bowls Manager and is employed by BA.

Phil Gude was not re-elected at the September 2016 elections. Phil had made a very valued contribution to the board during his term. Phil was Chair of the Governance committee from 2014 – 2016 and served four years on the board. It is very pleasing that he still remains the co-ordinator for the Armed Bowlers in Victoria. This group won their 4th National Title in a row in Queensland in 2016. It is wonderful that this group of people who without the arm would be lost to our sport, can compete at this high level.



Stuart Kollmorgen was an Appointed Director from 2014-2016 until his term expired and he chose not to continue on. We valued his legal expertise and the support he gave to the Board. Stuart is now the Chair of the Disciplinary Committee and we thank him for his continued service to BV.

John Fisher was President for 2014-15 and 2015-16 and as John stated in the 2015/2016 Annual Report it is an absolute privilege and great pleasure to serve as President of Bowls Victoria. On behalf of all members we thank John for his contribution to Bowls in Victoria. John has continued to serve on the board as he was re-elected in 2016 as a Board Director.

## Vic Open

The 2016 Vic Open again received record entries of 1487. The event enables all bowlers to compete, make and renew friendships. Our two days of live streaming including the finals was a huge success and enjoyed by many. The 17 Venues spread across the Goulburn Valley went out of their way to ensure every bowler had enjoyed the experience. The Technical Officials that give up their time and come to the area for the event is appreciated by all.

The last three days of the event at Shepparton Park is a showcase of our sport. We thank the Greater City of Shepparton for their continued support. To each of the Vic Army that promotes the event to fellow bowlers, we say a big Thanks!

## Board

Every Board Member has one thing in common "The love of our Sport" and the desire to make improvements to its long-term viability. This involves many hours and lots of commitment. The Board is very supportive and works well together for the betterment of our sport. A big Thanks to each of you.

## Staff

Chief Executive - Graeme Bridge - your commitment to your role at BV and to the Sport of Bowls is to be commended and your positive interaction with the Staff, Board, member clubs and government agencies is appreciated by all.

**Operations Manager** - Peter Delaney – You are very efficient in your many responses to clubs and other bodies and your participation at and before events is much appreciated.

**Finance Manager** - Betty Fang – Your professionalism in diligently upgrading our accounting system, providing greater activity based cost analysis and timely financial reporting is very valued.

*“The one thing holding us back is the lack of acceptance of change”. It was very interesting that this was the universal answer from all Regions. ”*

Amanda James and Rebecca Odermatt, you both provide an excellent service to all the clubs, bowlers and BV Committee's and are very adaptable in handling the many enquiries you receive within the office.

Every staff member plays an important role in the smooth running of the BV office and we are very lucky to have such a helpful and supportive crew.

Karen Gilmartin, the Chief Executive's PA, retired in July. Karen's enthusiasm and work ethic was a great asset to both BV and member clubs and will be missed by all. We wish her well and thank Karen for her years of dedicated service to our sport.

## Communication & Marketing

Bowls Victoria's Communications and Marketing Department is responsible for a wide range of media and publications to help clubs and members stay informed about all aspects of bowls in the State, as well as marketing our great sport.

Manager Guy Hand heads a small team that handles all communications to members via the Bowls Victoria website, our e-newsletter Heads Up, social media platforms like Facebook and YouTube, the publication of our annual report, Region & Club Guide and all our event programs. For the first time in 2016, they planned and delivered our hugely successful live streaming coverage from the Vic Open, and are producing video packages from State events - all done in-house.



## Continued

The department also handles external media communications with mainstream media, ensuring our State events and Pennant maintain a strong level of coverage, especially at regional and local media level.

Graphic communications coordinator Josh Rourke and IT specialist Luke Brown are part of this team. Josh produces all our print publications, and provides the eye-catching design and imagery you see in Heads Up and our website. Many of you will have spoken directly to Luke, who is the first port of call for those requiring help with Bowls Connect and Clubs, Regions and Divisions establishing a website or of their online Pennant draws. He also builds the online draws for events like Metro Pennant, the Vic Open and all our State events.

Clubs are encouraged to send in their news to Bowls Victoria for use on our website and Heads Up. One great initiative this season has been the introduction of the Club Upcoming Events Guide, which allows clubs to publicise their tournaments on the Bowls Victoria website and in Heads Up. It's a free service for our member clubs, allowing clubs to let far more people know about their events than they would be able to otherwise. We are very lucky to have three tech savvy guys to help us all promote our sport.

### Participation and Development Team

Manager Scott Nicholas and Sean O'Kane are wonderful assets to BV. They are available to every club to enhance and increase participation in our sport. They are only a phone call away and are very willing to assist in helping increase participation at your club.

Listed below are some of the areas and initiatives that they can help you with.

- Play Bowls Month – The inaugural Play Bowls Month was a huge success, with 55 clubs running Come & Try Days, Barefoot Bowls and Jack Attack programs with the help of BV, to introduce almost 3,000 new participants to the sport. The best part was 1 in 10 joined their local club as a member.
- Junior Bowls –We have increased our work with School Sport Victoria and secured relationships with five new school sport organisations. This will add to the 2,600 students that participated in BV run school events this past year, not including all the fantastic work bowling clubs are doing as well.
- Bowlers with a Disability – The Vic Country vs Vic Metro Championships were run for the first time, giving bowlers with an intellectual disability the opportunity to represent their state, another fantastic initiative from the BV Disability Support Committee.

### BV Committees

On behalf of every member, Bowls Victoria wishes to acknowledge and thank all members of the BV Committees. The hours that you put in for the promotion and betterment of our sport is greatly appreciated by all.

### Volunteers

The Sport of Bowls relies heavily on Volunteers. Bowls Victoria has the "Club Volunteer of the Year Award" which progresses from Club to Division/Region and overall State Winner. Every club is encouraged to nominate a member for this prestigious award. We all need to recognise and show our gratitude to volunteers. By nominating a club member who has performed beyond expectations for the year should be applauded.

This in no way diminishes your appreciation to all volunteers at your club who generously give their time and commitment. Our sport would not operate without them.

### State Representative Sides

Achieving the highest goal in sport is an aspiration of many. Every player who wears our State Uniform does this with pride and should be very proud of this achievement alone.

BV is very inclusive and all the different sectors of bowlers wear our uniform and are supported by BV. It makes you very proud to be a Victorian when you watch these athletes perform and show their support to every team member. To each bowler and support staff that have represented Victoria we appreciate your efforts and commitment. Congratulations to all!

### State Pennant Championships

The return of State Pennant Championships was welcomed by all. We must thank Moama Bowling Club for their generous sponsorship in having this event returned to the calendar. We look forward to next year playing under cover in your new facility.

### BV Events

To every club that hosted a BV Event and showcased their club we thank you. Without your efforts, hospitality and the way you all presented your clubs, the events could not be run. State Champions Week at Bendigo East showcases our Champions and it is very exciting that this year our winners of the Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours go on to National titles. Every bowler in the state has the opportunity to compete...all you have to do is enter.





## Appreciation

Every Board member has appreciated the hospitality of the Clubs, Divisions or Regions when attending opening days or special functions. We thank you for the warm reception and enabling us to celebrate with you.

We look forward to a successful season in 2017-18

Good bowling to all.

GO VICS!

*“ Clubs are encouraged to send in their news to Bowls Victoria for use on our website and Heads Up. ”*



Barbara Gilbert congratulating Anne Miles on her Vic Medal winning performance at the 2016 Vic Open





## Graeme Bridge

In 2016–17 Bowls Victoria's focus was on further channelling energies towards increasing member's appetites for participating and organising our sport and acknowledging achievements delivered during this period. The highly valued and immense amount of effort applied right across the entire network of Club Members, Volunteers, Clubs, Divisions, Regions, the Board of Bowls Victoria and Staff is highly valued and appreciated.

### Bowls Victoria – Your Board

The Board of Bowls Victoria under the leadership of State President Barbara Gilbert continues to focus its drive 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.

Thank you again for the great support of the Bowls Victoria Board in 2016-17.

Bowls Victoria has undergone Directorship changes at Board level over the period of the 2016/17 Financial Year and the list below highlights the contributions made by Directors.

Bowls Victoria Board of Directors		Attendances at Board Meetings
President:	Barbara Gilbert	13/13
Dep. President:	John Inglese	12/13
Director:	Lyn Baker	12/13
Director:	John Fisher OAM	12/13
Director:	Phil Gude (retired)	1/2
Director: (appointed)	Stuart Kollmorgen (retired)	3/6
Director:	Scot Nicholson (retired)	3/6
Director:	Kevin Pattison	10/13
Director:	Marilla Rootsey	13/13
Director:	Valerie Savage	11/13
Director: (appointed)	Ken Warburton	13/13
	(BV Finance Director)	
Chief Executive:	Graeme Bridge	13/13

### Retiring Bowls Victoria Directors pre AGM (Resigned Directorship)

Director:	(Retired – Phil Gude)	1/2
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### Retiring Bowls Victoria Director post AGM (Resigned Directorship)

Director: (appointed)	(Not Continuing – Stuart Kollmorgen)	3/6
Director:	(Retired - Scot Nicholson)	3/6

### Strategic Focus

Participation continued as a major focus item for Bowls Victoria throughout 2016/17 and this has been consistently communicated and has in fact been included as a Bowls Victoria Regulatory requirement for Clubs to report on their Participation Data going forward.

Participation is one of the five strategic priorities identified for focus and resourcing over the life of the current Bowls Victoria Strategic Plan 2013-2017 and that attention on Participation will move forward with the next iteration of a Bowls Victoria Strategic Plan and will take the form of many initiatives, from the traditional formats of the Sport such as Pennant & Championships, right through to various forms of Competitive Participation that are identified for future introduction.

To support the Participation strategic objective, the Bowls Victoria Board determined that affiliated Clubs would collect and provided six monthly Participation data back to Bowls Victoria using a prescribed collection format supplied for that purpose.

The provision of accurate data from Clubs enables a precise summary of what is actually occurring in the sport to be compiled for the purposes of supporting evidenced based decision making and conveying of how the sport is actually performing.

The aim of building the data information to quantify and qualify the number of participants in the Sport of Bowls removes the guesswork and unqualified guess-timates of just how many people are participating in Bowls at so many differing touch points.

One of the newer Participation initiatives undertaken in October 2016 was Play Bowls Month where Clubs registered their introductory programmes and other bowling initiatives and were able to supply actual data on how many people physically connected through or to a Play Bowls Month Activity.

- In its first year, 55 Clubs registered to take part in Play Bowls Month activities
- There were some 190 activities conducted across the period ranging from Come & Try Days to Jack Attack and Jnr. Jack Attack programmes along with a number of other individual Club ideas that were planned and implemented.
- 3000 people bowled in these activities.
- 1 in 10 joined their local Club (300 new Club connections)
- Best news is that it's back again in 2017





The Bowls Victoria Participation and Club Development team are committed to assisting Clubs, Divisions & Regions with undertaking activities and initiatives that promote outcomes for everyone as that's what it's all about, providing opportunities for as many people as possible to Connect with Bowls.

## **Bowls Victoria Finances**

The Board and Management of Bowls Victoria is committed to maintaining spending to an absolute minimum in order to conduct all of the affairs of the association and strict budgeting and control of expenses remains a priority to assist those aims.

Not too dissimilar to normal household expenses, Bowls Victoria also has to be mindful of ever-increasing costs associated with basic utilities and other daily costs involved with running its business activities.

The Financial Statements of Bowls Victoria are presented in this Annual Report for everyone to see and they have been professionally audited against national accounting standards.

The very comprehensive accounting structure of the Bowls Victoria MYOB Accounting package enables every cent of the organisation's funds to be accounted for and the purpose for what it has been identified.

Each meeting of the Bowls Victoria Board is provided with a detailed Financial Summary of Income & Expenditure for each month, Balance Sheet, Investment Portfolio Asset Allocation Summary, Investment Portfolio Performance, Outstanding Accounts and Cashflow Forecast.

For an organisation with the cashflow and turnover we have, the reporting package provided to the Bowls Victoria Board is well detailed and includes all relevant information for the Board to make informed decisions.

Credit for the detailed financial reporting position of the association goes to the Finance Director, Ken Warburton who is highly experienced in all areas of accounting and finance matters. Between Ken, BV Finance & Administration Manager Betty Fang and myself, Bowls Victoria's financial position is well reported and maintained under our collective gaze.

In the 2016-17 Financial Year, Operational Costs associated to Bowls Victoria have fluctuated from a \$135,619 result in the 2015/16 FY to a (\$31,207) loss in 2016/17. This against an Operations Cost budget deficit forecast for the 2016/17 Financial Year of (\$36,068).

Bowls Victoria's Investment Portfolio has performed indifferently 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 John McKee and Stuart Kollmorgen who have provided their insights to the committee as well.

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 VicHealth and Sport & Recreation Victoria 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 of \$75,000 per year has contributed to the Play Bowls Month initiative amongst other activities the Bowls Victoria Participation and Development Team have employed.

It also must be stated here that in 2016-17, Clubs affiliated through Bowls Victoria have been beneficiaries of VicHealth Active Club Grants, applied for to improve aspects of what Clubs are providing to their communities through participation initiatives. Some 30 Clubs through their membership of Bowls Victoria have attracted \$91,494.55 of direct funding, a benefit of affiliation through the State Body.

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 assisted.



## Continued

Sport and Recreation Victoria funds Bowls Victoria through its - Supporting Victorian Sport & Recreation Program that sees funds of approx. \$100,000 per annum provided to assist Bowls Victoria to undertake a number of initiatives through their support of increased participation initiatives 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. This funding also contributes towards providing Access for All Abilities (AAA) and specific work undertaken to promote Disability Activities, School Programmes and connections with other areas of community. Bowls as a sport through its inclusive practices offers connections to everyone.

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

Bowls Victoria is continuing to work collaboratively with key stakeholders such as Bowls Australia, BA Regional Bowls Managers, Regional Sports Assemblies, Local Government Agencies and other SSAs to share knowledge and best practice, 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

2016 delivered the second year of the Club Volunteer of the Year Award and the second winner of this prestigious honour saw it awarded to Owen Ross (Grangeburn BC) Far Western Bowls Division – West Coast Bowls Region. Owen's approachable, kind-hearted and welcoming nature saw him involved in the Club's Try Bowls events, a Board Member, Greens Keeper, Selector, Tournament Organiser and Social Activities Coordinator. Somewhere in amongst all of these activities Owen also found time to assist with the building of a new outdoor area at the Club. Fantastic work Owen!

Owen'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.

Fifteen of the sixteen Bowls Victoria Regions nominated a Region Winner for consideration as State Volunteer of the Year in 2015/16.

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 narrows 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 2017.

Good luck to all nominees in the 2016-17 Club Volunteer of the Year Award.

### 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 2016-17. 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 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

### 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 greatly appreciated by Bowls Victoria and in particular by State President Barbara Gilbert and the Bowls Victoria 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 Bowls Victoria Board who are keen to understand issues that relate to all areas of the membership.





## National Sporting Organisation Support

Bowls Victoria is an active working partner with Bowls Australia our National Sporting Organisation in delivering and assisting to deliver a number of ongoing projects, all linked strategically through Participation and Development initiatives. The Bowls Connect system is one of those developmental projects and whilst this has been ongoing over a long period of time, there has been review of the current system and the need to ensure that what we as a Sport accomplish with Technology will see us either strengthen our connection to the Clubs and Members through a user-friendly platform, or lose their will to advance communication with unsatisfactory outdated system infrastructure that frustrates the life out of people.

This is a pre-eminent challenge for the National Sporting Organisation and the State and Territory Associations and one that the Board of Bowls Victoria is keen to make sure delivers on its promises.

## Regional Bowls Managers

The Bowls Australia Regional Bowls Manager Programme was developed to provide guidance and assistance in many areas directly associated to our sport and Bowls Victoria actively supports the initiatives of this programme. The current RBM's in John Emerson, Paul Holtschke, Scot Nicholson & Josh Thornton (BA Regional Bowls Manager of the Year in 2016) 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. Many thanks to Barrie Lester for his contributions to the RBM role over his time of service to Metropolitan and Regional Victorian Bowls as an original member of the Bowls Australia Regional Bowls Manager team.

## Communications

Effective communication is news in and news out and Bowls Victoria's methods of communication over time have obviously evolved and with that change has come a more direct connect with stakeholders in providing information and dispensing it as quickly as possible.

Every effort has gone in to simplifying information and also making it as readable and as informative as possible.

Communication is being driven by people's thirst for instantaneous results, write-ups and pictures of what is happening at the time. Long gone are the days of having

***“Some 30 Clubs through their membership of Bowls Victoria have attracted \$91,494.55 of direct funding, a benefit of affiliation through the State Body.”***

to wait months for a publication to list the names of event winners that occurred earlier in the season.

Another area that sees high demand is in Social Media and how this has changed the way we all connect through the many platforms available. Facebook is now viewed as the priority method for messaging and communicating and the traffic increase in this area continues to build, particularly considering that virtually everyone at any event is posting something at a given time. The age of the phone camera has certainly been a revolutionary shot in the arm for how things are portrayed and the old saying of a picture or media file is worth a thousand words certainly rings true.

Bowls Victoria embraces Social Media through all of the readily identifiable platforms such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Snapchat, 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.

Bowls Victoria's enewsletter Heads-Up continues to evolve to an audience in excess of 16,000 directly in to their inboxes. This news is instantaneous and representative of what is actually happening in regard to announcements and other items of interest and of course updates on events which are occurring daily. If it's on somewhere, we want to know about it so items can be relayed direct to the membership and our partners.



## Continued

### Major Partners & Sponsors - Acknowledgement

The generous support of all of our Major Partners and Sponsors during 2016-17 is also greatly appreciated. Ongoing support of our State Teams, Under 25 Development teams and hosting of the State Champions of Pennant Competitions by Moama BC, Taylor Bowls for their backing and branding of the Metropolitan Premier Division competition and Berry Bowling Systems for their generous support of the Pennant Scorecards in use across the state. The Regional Councils who are directly supporting the conduct of many of Bowls Victoria's State Events and all the other sponsors associated to our sport, your support is coveted and highly valued.

### Bowls Victoria – Our Staff

Sincerest thanks to all the 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. Bowls Victoria's staff is a dedicated group of people who are striving to service the needs of our entire member network and stakeholders and it goes without saying that we'd be only half the organisation we are without them.

- Executive Assistant – Vacated due to retirement of EA 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

*“ Communication is being driven by people's thirst for instantaneous results, write-ups and pictures of what is happening at the time. ”*

There has been a significant change to the Staff Structure since April 2017 when long serving Executive Assistant Karen Gilmartin was required through illness, to relinquish those duties for a period of some months. Karen has since retired from her role and it must be said that since late July when she resigned her position at Bowls Victoria, there has been a sense of emptiness that we have been working stoically to overcome and try to replace.

Karen was and still is loved by all who had dealings with her over her twelve years of employment at RVBA/Bowls Victoria and we wish her well and offer her our best wishes for the future. I know that there are many of you who will share these thoughts of Karen.

May everyone enjoy a very successful and fruitful 2017-18 bowls season.







## Peter Delaney

Bowls continues to thrive around Australia, the latest Bowls Australia statistics in their 2016 National Bowls Census tell us that there was a total of 633,865 participants in the sport across all the forms available, in the social programs around the country there were 389,249 participants, in Pennant Competitions 210,717 participants and in Jack Attack 33,899 participants.

Here listed are some National Bowls Statistics:

Australia playing member trends were:

### Playing Member Trends, 2011 to 2016

	2010-11	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Australian Capital	2,463	2,342	1,940	1,838	1,833
New South Wales	80,587	72,586	68,793	64,712	59,233
Northern Territory	447	309	329	255	262
Queensland	43,571	38,491	37,319	34,389	33,480
South Australia	17,150	16,578	16,249	15,745	5,113
Tasmania	5,980	5,635	5,419	5,157	4,810
Victoria	51,969	48,267	46,775	42,232	46,038
Western Australia	18,965	18,072	17,288	16,345	15,825
<b>Total</b>	<b>221,132</b>	<b>202,280</b>	<b>194,112</b>	<b>180,673</b>	<b>176,594</b>

### Australia Clubs & Regions numbers

State/Territory	Metropolitan		Country		Total	
	Clubs	Regions	Clubs	Regions	Clubs	Regions
Australian Capital Territory	11	1	0	0	11	1
New South Wales	136	4	386	9	522	13
Northern Territory	4	0	3	1	7	1
Queensland	136	2	179	8	315	10
South Australia	53	4	167	8	220	12
Tasmania	28	1	42	3	70	4
Victoria	151	5	370	11	521	16
Western Australia	68	4	139	4	207	8
<b>Total Australia</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>1,286</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>1,873</b>	<b>65</b>

### Victoria 2016 statistics

- 42 Bowls Associations (Regions & Divisions)
- 521 Bowls Clubs
- 63,728 playing & non-playing members
- 188,991 participants in all forms of Bowls

The BV Laws & Rules Committee conducts an annual review of the BV Rules for Competition after listening to feedback from members and recommendations from Regions & Divisions.



## Continued

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 is a major activity of Bowls Victoria with many Coaching Seminars and Clinics being run around the state. Bowls Victoria has accredited Presenters & Assessors to lighten the load of our current incumbents'. It is Bowls Victoria's objective to recruit Coaching Presenters & Assessors in every Region over the next short period so each Region can manage this process locally.

During the past 12 months, the office has once again dealt with thousands 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.

The Victoria Open was once again held at the Shepparton Park BC with support from other clubs in the district with the support of the Shepparton Council. Many games continued well into the night. There were many brilliant performances at Shepparton Park BC that helped make this seven-day extravaganza a real success. Along the way there were local heroes, a host of youngsters stamping their mark on the sport, internationals warming up for the Commonwealth Games to be played on the Gold Coast in 2018. In summary 18 local clubs hosted sections of the event, 7 state titles were up for grabs and 7 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 18 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 to all of them.

The BV "Play Bowls Month" was held in October with many pro-active Clubs using this day to showcase their Club and to recruit new members. Clubs are encouraged to use this widely publicised month to plan it well, have adequate members on hand to assist with greeting new members and making them welcome – this month is a great opportunity to recruit new members.

***“ It's hard to overstate the contributions made to the running of this event by a huge team of volunteers. ”***

Other major events conducted by Bowls Victoria in the past season were:

- November 2016 – BV Victorian Open at Shepparton & 18 local clubs
- January 2017 – BV Integrated Pairs Tournament at Berwick BC
- January 2017 – BV Novice Championships at Mulgrave Country Club
- January 2017 – School Pennant played for 5 rounds Saturday mornings
- March 2017 – Metro Saturday Premier Division Final & Brunch at Mulgrave Country Club
- March 2017 – Women's Regional Sides Championships at Murray Downs Golf & Bowls Club
- April 2017 - BV Multi Disabilities Championships at Yarraville/Footscray
- April 2017 – BV State Champions Week at Bendigo East BC
- April 2017 – Men's Regional Sides Championships at Corowa Civic BC
- May 2017 – BV Saturday Champions of State Pennant at Moama BC
- May 2017 – BV Midweek Champions of State Pennant at Moama BC

Bowls Victoria could not function without our large numbers of voluntary Committees and for this we are extremely grateful.

I would like to thank our great staff at Bowls Victoria for all their assistance with the preparation for these events and especially the IT 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 BV events the best run in Australia.

Finally, thank you to the BV Umpires Committee and the Regional Umpires Committees who supplies their best Umpires, ITO's and Markers for these special events that do require and deserve the best officials Victoria has.



# Communication & Marketing



## Guy Hand

It was the year Bowls Victoria became not just the organisation running and nurturing bowls in this state, but a successful sports broadcaster.

The 2016 Vic Open in Shepparton was a watershed for Bowls Victoria's communications.

Through Bowls Victoria's website, and with the expertise of our brilliant broadcast partner My Sport Live, Bowls Victoria live streamed 21 and a half hours of live bowls over the two days of Vic Open finals.

It's one of the most ambitious projects Bowls Victoria has ever undertaken. But we planned long and hard, and knew we needed to take the step towards video production.

Before we started, we felt there'd be significant interest from people in watching great international bowlers like Matthew Flapper, Kelly McKerrihen, Carla Krizanac and company in action during our biggest Vic Open ever.

But we were stunned with the numbers, and the overwhelmingly positive reaction to our telecast.

More than 22,000 unique viewers in seven countries watched the coverage live.

Another 100,000 more watched Vic Open matches on delay – either via our website, or on Bowls Victoria's YouTube channel. And they're still watching, with numbers still tuning in to watch 2016 Vic Open matches via the magic of YouTube. Check our channel out, and see the numbers for yourself.

Over the two days of Vic Open coverage, we heard stories of clubs putting our coverage up on their big screens so people could watch their teammates play live on the big stage.

It is as simple as plugging an HDMI cable into big screen TVs from a computer, or using internet-connected smart TVs in clubs. It's great to see our clubs embracing technology in this way, and we're proud we can give you something that can show bowls off to an audience in your clubhouse.

We're pleased to say that we will be covering the 2017 Vic Open via live stream with My Sport Live, once more showing the last two days of competition from Shepparton Park.



## Continued

Video has a big role to play in everything we do going forward at Bowls Victoria.

It not only helps keep people up to date with matches - telecasting the sport is a sensational marketing tool. It exposes people to a sport you don't often see on TV, and both those involved in our great sport and those we hope will become bowlers all win as a result.

Since arriving at Bowls Victoria two years ago, my key message has been that you don't need a multi-million dollar broadcast deal to show off your sport to an audience any more. Sports like the AFL with [afl.com.au](http://afl.com.au) and Victorian racing with its [racing.com](http://racing.com) channel are showing the way forward with multimedia content via all platforms and innovative ways of delivering their sport and message to the public. There's no reason bowls can't follow a similar path.

The Vic Open and all our YouTube videos have shown us that you – the members and bowlers - love nothing better than seeing bowls put down. So you can expect a lot more of that from Bowls Victoria's communications team in the year ahead.

This year, Bowls Victoria also produced its own in-house video packages from all State events, and showed them via our website, Heads Up and our YouTube channel.

We streamed some conclusions to big matches on Facebook Live. We uploaded others straight to Facebook as they were being played, allowing people to watch the closing ends within minutes of a match finishing.

Expect more video coverage from events like the Vic Open, State Champions Week, and Champion of State Pennant in 2017-18.

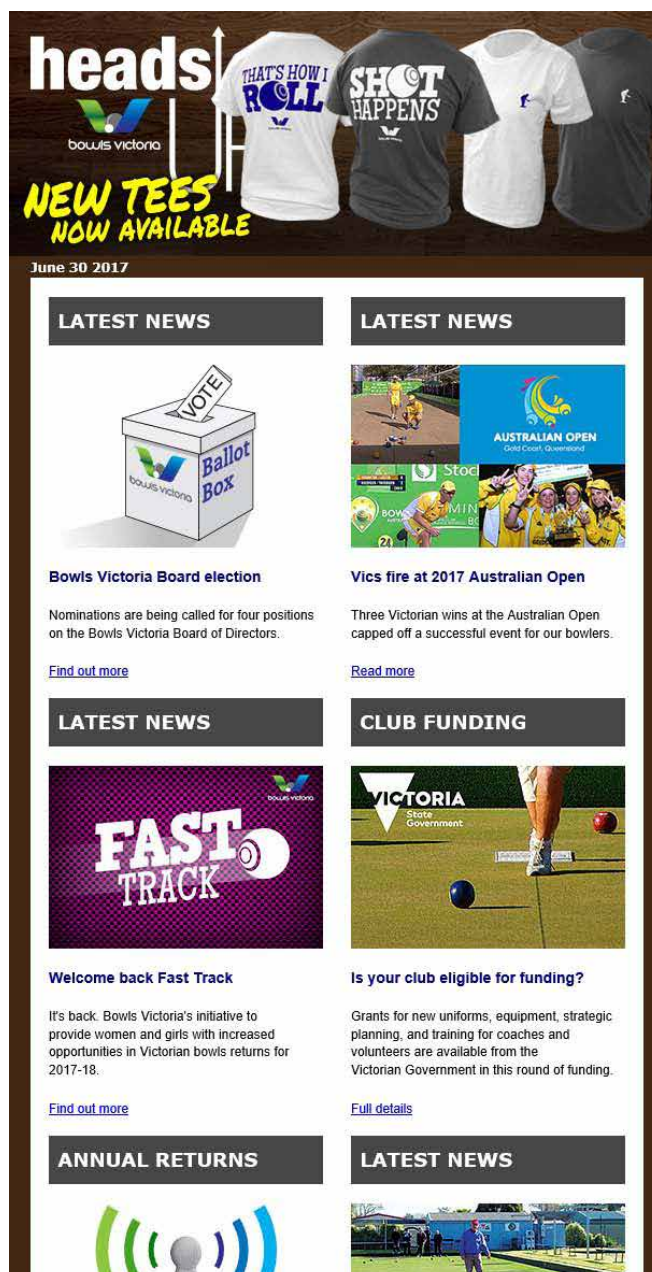
Our electronic newsletter Heads Up is also undergoing some big changes. The current format has served us well for two years and the 60-plus issues we'd sent to the email inboxes of subscribers and members.

But along with Bowls Victoria's graphic communications co-ordinator Josh Rourke, and our IT specialist Luke Brown, we have rebuilt Heads Up.

It has a new, better looking format with greater flexibility, giving us potential for more interesting, relevant content than ever before.

More video will feature during events time. More of what's known as rich media content will be used – video, GIFs and animations. You'll still get written stories and pictures in Heads Up too. And we know bowlers love a decent picture gallery and we'll keep bringing them to you!

While Heads Up will remain roughly fortnightly, it will become more flexible in timing and approach. When an event finishes, we'd expect to change our Heads Up schedule to wrap up the event via Heads Up within a couple of days, rather than waiting until the following Friday fortnight.







I tell my Bowls Victoria colleagues often: We can never let the tail wag the dog in anything communications-related.

So ensuring that our content determines our schedule and format, and that schedule and format flex to meet what we have to say and when we want to say it, is critical. Our new format means we can be far more flexible, and when it comes to electronic publication, we learn and adapt every day.

New initiatives introduced to Heads Up in 2016-17, such as the Club Upcoming Events Guide and our regular column on laws and rules matters – The Lawman – have been huge successes. Thanks to our clubs for embracing the Guide, and sending their event flyers through to us in ever-increasing numbers. We hear from clubs that this free service helps clubs fill their greens, which is great.

My sincere thanks also to Bowls Victoria's Umpiring Committee Chairman John Roberts, who writes The Lawman column with such authority, enthusiasm and professionalism. Working with him closely on this has been a pleasure, and the numbers tell us people enjoy The Lawman and read it religiously.

Expect more new ideas for this season.

Our social media focus remains as strong as ever. Facebook growth continues unabated, and more people than ever are turning to Bowls Victoria's Facebook page for information about our sport. We also have a strong Instagram and YouTube following, while Twitter remains important for quick messaging and pushing out links to our website stories.

**“ More than 22,000 unique viewers in seven countries watched the coverage live. ”**

For the first time in the past 12 months, more people are viewing our website via a mobile device (phone or tablet device) than a desktop or laptop computer. It's roughly 53% mobile now and growing, and industry trends suggest it's never going back.

Our advice is to subscribe to as many of our communications channels as possible – email newsletter, social media platforms, YouTube, website. That way, you'll get all the information from Bowls Victoria, quickly, and in a format that suits you and your lifestyle.

Despite the almost daily shifts in mainstream media, Victorian bowls has managed to attract excellent coverage in print, online, radio and TV over the past 12 months.

Bowls Victoria was part of a nationally-televised feature story on the Seven Network's Weekend Sunrise program about how bowls' demographic is getting younger. There was also a large feature in Leader Newspapers across the State in a similar vein.

Metro Pennant coverage is strong in Melbourne's suburban papers, while we thank regional papers for their ongoing support of Pennant competitions around the State.



Guy Hand, Carla Krizanic and Daniel Nichols providing commentary during Bowls Victoria's inaugural Vic Open live streaming coverage.





## Continued

It's great to see Regional Pennant featuring regularly in several TV news bulletins, especially thanks to a longtime supporter of our sport in WIN TV.

Both the Vic Open and State Champions Week also attract significant TV, print and online support in their local markets, which Bowls Victoria is grateful for.

We also have several excellent bowls radio programs throughout the State, which help provide a great local flavour to our sport.

Pamela Dind's program on RPP 98.7FM has the Mornington Peninsula scene well and truly covered, and is well worth a Saturday morning listen if you're down that way.

Personally I have also been fortunate enough to make a few guest appearances on ONE FM's The Bowls Show – another Saturday morning radio which covers the Goulburn Valley Pennant scene. Brian Nisbet and Daniel Nichols deliver a cracking show which has become part of the fabric of bowls in the region. They even do a live broadcast of the local Pennant final.

Bowls Victoria's approach is to embrace the media outlets which embrace our sport.

We are proactive, upfront, and never elusive with media when they have a question, no matter how tricky. We also accept that many in the media are new to our sport, so we help them understand it as much as we can.

We've also been involved in some innovative approaches to marketing bowls this year. One example is around Play Bowls Month.

Our development team led by Scott Nicholas have made Play Bowls Month a huge success, and for 2017 we decided to publicise October's events by sponsoring radio station SEN's coverage of the VFL finals, plus an ad campaign.

We figured that those who follow grassroots footy are a key target market to attract to our game, if they aren't already playing the sport over summer.

The feedback from that campaign has been great, and we will try to stretch the envelope in terms of marketing our game to those who don't yet play it regularly via a variety of means.

***“ We need to embrace technology in communications rather than fear it, and adapt as needs and technology change. ”***

I'm very lucky to have a Chief Executive and Board of Directors who understand the changing face of media, especially that we need to embrace technology in communications rather than fear it, and adapt as needs and technology change.

Our investment in a decent iPhone and Macbook Pro two years ago when I started in this role allows me to do all our video package production in-house.

The next step is ensuring that members and clubs have the very best in a competition management system and membership database via Bowls Connect – the State Associations' joint venture with Bowls Australia.

I've been part of the team Bowls Australia has tasked with sifting through potential suppliers for an improved Bowls Connect system when our current contract expires in June 2018.

As well as our current supplier SportsTG, we are also looking at tenders from other suppliers, seeking a best-of-breed solution for comp management and membership.

Shortly we will engage a preferred bidder, and Bowls Australia and the STAs will work with that company to deliver a Bowls Connect 2.0 that everyone in bowls will hopefully use and enjoy.

Thanks to all within the sport who've made me feel welcome in this role. It's been a privilege to serve our member clubs and members in this role for the past two years, and I personally look forward to more exciting times to come in Communications and Marketing at Bowls Victoria during 2017-18.

# State Championship Committee

## Barbara Gilbert

It is so exciting that Bowls Australia has re-instated the National Titles and our current State Champion/s for Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours for both Men and Women will now go on to compete for the National Title in these events. Our Current Champion of Champions Singles Winners, Barrie Lester and Jessica Wallace also go on to contest a National and the possibility of a World Title. It is fantastic that all bowlers have the opportunity to compete at this level. All you have to do is enter the State Events to have this opportunity. Go Vics!

We wish to thank and acknowledge the many hours put in by the Divisions and Regions in running the State Events and providing Bowls Victoria with their Champions to compete at the State Events. We know what a big task it is to run.

There is so many clubs and volunteers that we have to thank for making our events so successful. Each and every one of you is needed to run these events and all acknowledge your support, time and energy given. You all need to be complemented on how you staged your venues, prepared your greens and welcomed all visitors.

The Vic Open was once again a huge success and the number of entries increased once again. Your continued support of this event is greatly appreciated. We delivered our first Live Streaming at this event and it proved to be a great hit!

To Peter Delaney, Guy Hand and the staff at Bowls Victoria, you all left no stone unturned to ensure the smooth running of all events and we sincerely thank you for all your efforts.

To John Roberts and your band of Technical Officials it is certainly a pleasure to work with you all.

To all the supporters who attended the events and there were many, it was great having you attend and the atmosphere around each venue would not have been the same without you.

To every one who participated in any way we say a big thank you.



Locals from Thursday Island, excited to be a part of the 2016 Vic Open and will be returning in 2017.



# Participation & Club Development



## Scott Nicholas

It was a big year for participation in the sport of bowls in 2016-17 with many key programs going from strength to strength. Play Bowls Month made a huge impact in its first year, our Schools Programs have gone from strength to strength, and never have we seen clubs so willing to try new ideas to get more people bowling. Although there were a lot of fantastic results on and off the green this year, here are a few highlights from the past 12 months.

## Play Bowls MONTH

Play Bowls Month was a huge success in its inaugural year in 2016. 55 clubs participated by running Come & Try Days, Barefoot Bowls and Jack Attack programs to introduce new people to the sport.

We finished the month with almost 3,000 participants and with 1 in 10 joining their local clubs as members, it's clear to see that Play Bowls Month stimulated ongoing participation in the sport and all the participating clubs should be thrilled with their achievements.

Play Bowls Month is returning in 2017, and at the time of publication of this document, 110 clubs have registered to be involved! Bowls Victoria would like to thank VicHealth for their ongoing support of our sport to assist us get Victoria more physically active, and without them, initiatives such as Play Bowls Month would not have been possible.

Our School's Programs have continued to flourish under the guidance of Bowls Victoria's Participation Coordinator Sean O'Kane with more and more clubs taking part in junior programs. Bowls Victoria has developed connections with several new School Sport Associations such as Associated Private Schools, Associated Grammar Schools, Associated Catholic Colleges, Girls Sport Victoria and Southern Specialist School Sports Association; only strengthening our current competitions.





Participation in two of our key programs has increased dramatically, with School Sport Victoria primary and secondary participation increasing by almost 400% with 1,528 students participating in 2017; and participation in Junior Jack Attack under Sporting Schools increasing from 2,474 students in 2016 to 3,738 students in Terms 1-3, 2017. We'd also like to thank the Under 18 Committee for their continued work and dedication.

The Bowls Victoria Disability Support Committee (DSC) has continued its fantastic work, and along with the Integrated Pairs and Multi-Disabilities Championships, introduced the Vic Country vs. Vic Metro Championships which ran at Somerville BC. This event built on the existing pathway for bowlers with an intellectual disability with 16 of the state's best bowlers battling it out.

There are currently no other representative opportunities for this group given the absence of a National Championships, and the DSC is now turning its attention to this, to generate interest amongst the other states. Sport & Recreation Victoria are leading the way in promoting Access for All Abilities in sport around Victoria, and without their support many of Bowls Victoria initiatives in inclusion such as these Championships, would not have been possible.

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. Paul Holschke, Josh Thornton, John Emerson, Barrie Lester and Scot Nicholson have done some fantastic work with clubs this year, but it's important that clubs continue to utilise their knowledge and expertise. Thank you to Barrie, who finished in his role with Bowls Australia this year, an outstanding ambassador for the sport and someone who provided outstanding support to clubs across the state in the past six years.

Coaches are continuing to have a profound impact within their clubs and many clubs recognising the need to have a number of coaches working together. The total number of coaches in Victoria has risen from 1,328 in 2016, to 1522 in 2017. This increase of 14.6% 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.

It's an exciting time for the sport with new formats and competitions popping up throughout the state. Regions and Divisions are now taking a proactive approach to developing participation through initiatives such as the Peninsula Five's and Quicka Bowls. These short format competitions are proving to be a fantastic way to introduce new people to the sport, and we're sure to see more examples of these more flexible offerings over the next 12 months. We're also seeing clubs trialling new approaches to connect with their communities.

These innovative ideas are fantastic, but even more pleasing is the fact we're seeing more and more Regions, Divisions and Clubs wanting to share their stories with others, to make sure that we're all in a better position to get more people bowling. We're all on the same team, and to see this knowledge exchange occurring between clubs at a local and state level, shows that the sport will only continue to develop in the coming years.

Finally, Bowls Victoria would like to welcome Neil Gray to the Bowls Victoria team, who joins us from Cricket Victoria. Neil's background also includes work with West Ham United and Auckland Cricket, and has focused on grassroots participation and coach development. Neil will be assisting with a new project focused on female participation and we're looking forward to learning from Neil in other areas of our work!



## Meredith Norton

The objective of the Metropolitan Pennant Committee is to assist the Operations Manager in relation to the planning, preparation, conduct and review Saturday and Tuesday Bowls Victoria Metropolitan Pennant Competitions. This is the second season that the membership of the Committee has had a male and female representative from each of the five Metropolitan Regions.

The membership is as follows:

<b>Eastern Ranges</b>	Carol Protopapas Les Stephens	Glen Waverley Ferntree Gully
<b>Metro West</b>	Carol Dove Tim Nabbs	Altona Deer Park
<b>Northern Gateway</b>	Fran Reid Peter Mitchell	Essendon Princess Park Carlton
<b>Sandbelt</b>	Sara Rodger Michael Classon	St Kilda Malvern
<b>Yarra</b>	Meredith Norton Peter Russell	Ivanhoe Bundoora RSL

Making recommendations to the Board on areas for improvement for all Pennant Competitions is one of the Key Responsibilities plus ensuring that the competitions are meeting the needs of bowlers.

Once again a provisional draw was released providing the opportunity for Midweek divisions 4 and 5 and Saturday Divisions 6 to 8 to review their player numbers and withdraw teams without penalty. The use of Google Mapping in the determination of Sections, has continued to be beneficial in reducing the complaints regarding distance travelled. Also, the reduction in the number of ends to 21 in the Triples Competitions has been well received. Positive feedback was received from those Division winners who were presented with a full sized flag.

Compared to the previous season, in Saturday Pennant, there were 10 less sides in Division 7 (16 a-side) and also 10 less in Division 8 (6 a-side), a loss of 160 players. The Tuesday Women's Only Pennant ran with 10 sides in Premier Division but with only 20 sides in Division 1, 10 sides less than the previous season. Unfortunately distance travelled and the time taken, are contributing factors to declining participation. The Committee however is still very determined to look at options to continue with a Women's Only competition.

The Tuesday Open Competitions maintained their numbers compared to the previous season. The Relegation Rule that applies this season only, ie the relegation of the 5 bottom sides in each Section in each Division, has been implemented to improve the competitiveness in each Division. Notification of pennant results to Bowls Victoria is still problematic and clubs are strongly encouraged to enter results accurately, via electronic means.

With the reintroduction of the State Pennant Finals, hosted and sponsored by Moama, the winners of the Saturday and Tuesday Premier Divisions, proudly represented the Metropolitan Regions.

The committee is acutely aware of the diverse needs, challenges and issues facing bowling clubs today and we encourage bowlers to contact their Regional committee members with suggestions and creative ideas to encourage greater participation and enjoyment of the game.

The Board of Bowls Victoria is thanked for their support of the committee, as is the hard working staff of Bowls Victoria who deal with a myriad of issues related to pennant. Thank you also to each of the committee members for their valuable contributions.

Glenroy BC who captured the Metropolitan Midweek Premier Division title for 2016-17



# Umpiring Committee



## John Roberts

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

The Bowls Victoria Umpiring Committee (BVUC) has continued working across the State in delivering umpires seminars and assisting Regions and Districts implement the new National Accreditation Scheme and the accreditation of new presenters and assessors. This continuous process will remain an ongoing priority.

The BVUC acknowledge the large numbers of umpires, markers and measurers across the State who so kindly and often volunteer their time and skills to support local pennant, Regional, State and interstate bowls events. Without your participation it couldn't happen. The introduction of the National umpires shirt has been well received and patronised.

Future plans include the recruitment of more officials, the continuous improvement of skills in officiating, umpires seminars across the State, and involving more local umpires in Bowls Victoria events.

It has been a pleasure and fulfilling to be the Chair of this committee and have appreciated the continued support received from Bowls Victoria staff and the Board.

# Disciplinary Committee

## Stuart Kollmorgen

The 'faceless' members of the Committee are Bob Carlson, Pat Clark, John Roberts and Stuart Kollmorgen.

The Disciplinary Committee may hear allegations including of:

- Acting in an abusive manner towards Players, Umpires and Venue Managers;
- Using audible or visual obscene and offensive language;
- Breaching BV Rules for Competition;
- Acting in an unsportsmanlike manner;
- Acting in a threatening and intimidating manner; and
- Other offences in breach of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls and the Bowls Victoria Rules for Competition.

A complaint may also relate to a defendant allegedly acting in a manner prejudicial to the objectives and interests of Bowls Victoria or Bowls, or which brings Bowls Victoria or the defendant themselves regarding bowls into disrepute.

The Disciplinary Committee may also hear allegations of Club decisions contrary to natural justice and Club rules.

In the 2016-17 season, the Committee resolved 7 complaints by determination following hearing, and one is pending. All complaints to date have been upheld. In each case bar one, a period of suspension was handed down. The other was resolved by apology. The average period of suspension from pennant play was 5 weeks, and from bowls generally (including across pennant break periods) was 13 weeks. In one case, a 2-year good behaviour bond was handed down in addition to a period of suspension.

The Committee takes the opportunity to express concern that Complainants and their skippers and team managers do not bring matters to the attention of an Umpire at the relevant time, so that the available powers of an Umpire can be used.

In relation to disciplinary hearings conducted by Clubs, matters should be heard and determined in a fair and just manner and conduct it as per Club constitutions. Failing to give an alleged offender natural justice including by not following correct procedures may see an appeal allowed and possibly a Club penalty dismissed.

The Committee remembers former Chair Ken Williams, and thanks the Secretary, Pete Delaney and the CEO, Graeme Bridge, for their work in managing many complaints issued as resolved by initial response or conciliation, prior to reaching the committee.





## Bob Carlson

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

During the season, more than 120 written requests were received by the Operations Manager and Laws and Rules Committee relating to clarification or interpretation of Laws/Rules. Requests were also received for consideration to be given to the introduction of new Rules or the deletion/amendment of existing Rules. In addition to the written requests numerous telephone enquiries were also received.

As in previous years many of the requests were elevated to a higher level because the advocate was not happy with the original response, even where this initial response was correct. Significant expertise exists at Region, Division, and Club level and this should be used in the first instance when clarification of matters relating to Laws/Rules is required.

In December 2016 World Bowls accepted a recommendation from its Laws Committee to remove the requirement for large grooved rings surrounding the centre of the non-bias side of a bowl. The rationale behind the proposal was twofold:

- Since the laws require that one side (the bias side) is identifiable by small grooved rings surrounding its centre there is no need to have a means of identifying the other side (the non-bias side).
- The removal of the requirement to have large grooved rings surrounding the centre of the non-bias side gives Licensed Manufacturers greater flexibility when deciding the size of any distinguishing marks which are to be placed on that side of a bowl.

This change does not impact on the playing of the game but relates to the manufacturing process of bowls.

The following Laws were impacted as a result of this change - Law D2, 52.1.3, 52.1.8.4 and 53.1





## Andrew Smith

Saturday October 22nd was the only day on which a majority of Clubs either did not start or did not finish, or if they did their result was deemed a tie due to not enough games being played in their Section or Division, due to rain. Overall weather throughout the 2016/17 season proved to be ideal as far as Bowling Greens were concerned. With a shorter break over the Christmas period once again many Tifdwarf greens, which had been renovated during this time were slow in recovering their pace. On the whole, however, the standard of greens over the past few years has improved dramatically and I congratulate all those Clubs who have had the fortitude and initiative to improve same whether they be Grass or Synthetic.

Throughout the year 30 new or reconstructed greens were inspected by members of the Greens Committee or by authorized Regional inspectors on our behalf. These were located at 26 Clubs of which 10 were in the Metropolitan area and the remainder in Country Regions. The installation of woven carpet took place for 13 greens, the installation of needle-punched carpet took place for 8 greens, the installation of sand infill surfaces took place for 5 greens and the other 4 were installation of new Tifdwarf couch greens. Greens inspected were spread throughout the State such as Paynesville, Maffra, Drouin and West Sale in Gippsland, Ballarat, Bungaree and City Oval in the Ballarat Region, Hastings on the Peninsula and Tocumwal Golf on the Murray River. Unfortunately we received some 5 major complaints during the year which in one case resulted in the approval of a green being withdrawn but I'm glad to say that the Club involved is now in the process of installing a new surface.

During the year 2 Seminars re "Maintenance of Synthetic Greens" were held at the Ringwood and St Albans Bowling Clubs which were attended by members of my Committee and which proved to be quite informative. I thank Berry Bowling Systems for their efforts in arranging and conducting both of these.

I also attended and ran a Workshop to qualify new Green Inspectors held at the Swan Hill BC. This arose from a request from the Murray Mallee Bowls Region who wished to reintroduce the annual inspection of greens and to this end I'm happy to say we now have 8 newly accredited Green Inspectors to call upon whenever required in that Region. I make the suggestion that this could be a good idea for other Regions, who don't regularly inspect Greens, to adopt.

At present the Greens Committee consists of 5 members made up of Peter Bowman (Narre Warren BC), Andrew Ross (Vermont South BC), Richard Sinclair (Geelong BC) and myself (Moonee Ponds BC) along with a representative of the Victorian Greenkeepers Association who is currently Warren Maynard (MCC Greenkeeper). This means we are 2 short of our quota so if anyone is interested in joining this Committee please give me a call on 0418 177 135.

Finally I thank the members of my Committee for the time and effort afforded during the past year all done on a voluntary basis.

Rob Clough using a Super-Sopper on Bendigo East BC's greens during a wet day at the 2017 State Champions Week





## Arnold O'Brien

The season began with trials for the 60 and Over Side at Bundoora RSL in early September and a combined trial for both the Senior Side and the Under 25 Side at Moonee Ponds in early October.

The 60 and Over Sides Championship was held in Perth from 9 to 13 October 2016 and Victoria (the reigning titleholders) were again successful in winning the event – a great effort. The Side included four “first-timers” in David Donaldson, Rod Nicholson, Ken Thomas and Phillip Thorn.

The Senior Side's first series was away against Tasmania in early December 2016. With four regular players unavailable the Side included three debutants, Curtis Hanley, Ben Loughlin and Josh Rudd. A very tight series ended with two wins and a tie for each Side and overall total scores of 263 each. Victoria retained the French-Holbrook Shield and Dane McKinnon was named Player of the Series.

The next series was against New South Wales at the Merimbula Imlay Bowling Club on a new carpet green under a magnificent dome. New South Wales proved to be too strong for a Victorian Side that included another three players- Chris Ball, Matthew Higgins and Bryce Young – making their debut. Player of the Series was Ben Loughlin in only his Second State series.

We then hosted South Australia in a 5 test series at Ocean Grove which Victoria won 3 tests to 2. With four regular players back in the Side Victoria won 3 tests comfortably by 26, 6, and 26 and lost 2 narrowly by 1 and 5. Josh Corless was named Player of the Series.

Victoria then entered the Australian Sides Championship at Lockleys Bowling Club in South Australia as the Titleholders but were narrowly beaten by the home side in the first round. South Australia went on to win the Championship with Victoria finishing a close fourth. Matthew Flapper was the Player of the Series.

In their only series the Under 25 Side defeated New South Wales 2 tests to 1. Dan O'Neill, Todd Trewarne and Jordan Yates played their first series and Nathan Lynch was named Player of the Series.

In conclusion thanks to the Moama Club for their continued support and to Pat Clark (Team Manager) and fellow Selectors Ashley Bates, Ian Ewing (also Coach) and Paul Dorgan for their co-operation and assistance throughout the season.



Victoria vs South Australia Test Series - February 2017





Jan Hurst

The 2016-17 season was an amazingly interesting one for all who represented Victoria in the Women's sides. The selectors appreciated all of the time and effort put in by those lucky enough to wear the state uniform in all age divisions. The over 60's went to Osborne Park, Western Australia. They had a very competitive series, winning five matches, only losing two, and one of them was by a single shot. Unfortunately they were not able to bring a medal home, but had the satisfaction of beating the undefeated N.S.W. side in the last match, relegating them to silver, whilst Queensland took home the gold. Well done.

The under 25's state side went to Merimbula with the senior sides, and had very competitive matches, against very experienced opponents. The girls selected should be happy with most of their performances even though they did not win the overall trophy. Looking forward to some of these players moving on to senior positions in the near future.

The senior girls had a great season, though were not able to produce their best performances at the Sides Championships. The side played Tasmania in Devonport and were able to win all five matches, displaying a great team effort. They played two other state series, one against South Australia and the other against NSW. The team showed great spirit to take home the South Australian series trophy. The series of the year for the women's side was their performance in Merimbula v's NSW.

On a beautiful new undercover surface the Victorian side put on a wonderful display of grit, determination and superb bowls, to take out the first two exciting games, clinching the series. The third game was lost by the girls, but I think the excitement of defeating the girls in blue, had taken the shine off the last game. Well done to you all.

The Sides Championships held at Lockleys bowling club South Australia, proved a little too much for the state girls, but they did the uniform proud, with some sterling performances, and eventually held third place on the final ladder. A little disappointing after the lead up series that they smashed, but in the scheme of things, still a strong performance. Well done to Kylie Whitehead who took out player of the series.

Congratulations to Gayle Edwards, who gained her 200 game pin in Tasmania, made a bit more special because her two daughters, Brooke and Blaine, were both in the side with her.

Also congratulations to Rebecca McMahon, after more than two hundred games, made the decision to retire, well done B.J.

Another enjoyable season, with many highlights! I would like to thank my fellow selectors for all their time and effort during the season, and a big thankyou to all the state players who made our job a very satisfying one. Looking onwards and upwards as always.



Under 18 graduate and State Representative Tayla Morison

# Under-18 Committee



## Louise Morison

This year our National Championships were held at Holdfast Bay in South Australia. Victoria were represented by Kira Bourke (Maryborough Golf), Amelia Bruggy (Bendigo), Mikayla Long (Sunbury), Tayla Morison (Melbourne), Natasha Russell (Clayton) and the boys Jarryd Davies (Fitzroy/Victoria), Brody Harker (Mildura), Curtis Hanley (Melbourne), Riley Hodgson (Bundoora RSL) and Lachlan Morison (Melbourne).

Our new look squad this year saw 5 out of the 10 players playing their first National Championships, all players performed extremely well in very trying conditions for the start of the Championships with no training days available it was straight into the 1st game which was played on a Friday afternoon at 4.00pm. Due to the excessive downpour of rain we needed to play 4 games on the Saturday (Grand Final Day) in which our team held up extremely well by the 4th game of the day. The Sunday saw the National Championships being finished with 1 sectional play game in the morning followed by the medal games finishing around 2.00pm.

The Girls finished with a Gold medal in the Pairs – Kira Bourke (leading) and Tayla Morison (Skip), and a Gold medal in the Triples, Amelia Bruggy (lead), Mikayla Long (2nd) and Natasha Russell (Skip), in the Boys Curtis Hanley got silver in the singles event and teamed up with Jarryd Davies in the Pairs to take out silver. The fours and triples fell a little short finishing 5th and 6th and the Girls Fours finishing 5th giving the Victorians 2nd Overall by a slight margin to NSW.

At the end of the championship Mikayla Long, Natasha Russell and Jarryd Davies were selected in the Australian under 18 Squad. Mark Cowan did an excellent job in guiding this new team through the Championships.

Waverley Golf & Bowling Club also invited the Under 18's to be apart of their yearly Golf Tournament where kids come from all over the world to play a huge golf tournament and thought of having a similar tournament to get the bowls involved, so after lengthy discussions between the club and BV Under 18 Committee and the help of Sean and Scott we finally got the tournament underway, it was advertised to all Under 18's in Vic, we unfortunately didn't get good numbers as it fell just after the New Year however we ended up playing an open pairs tournament, and Waverley sourced some sponsorship deals for the winners and runners up. We were very fortunate that it was also streamed live for the day, so we got great advertisement as well. The winners were Kaitlin Lewis and Cooper Wescombe with the Runners Up Jack Lake and Lachlan Morison.

The South Australian Test Series was held in Victoria at Sunbury Bowling Club 2017 with Victoria represented by the girls of Kira Bourke (Maryborough Golf), Mikayla Long (Sunbury), Emma Simmonds (Mildura), Lisa Trewarne (Sunbury) and Natasha Russell (Clayton) and the Boys was Lachlan Morison (Melbourne), Jarryd Davies (Fitzroy/Victoria), Kyle Kraus (Mulgrave CC), Brad Pavey (Leopold), Max Rowley (Bendigo) The Girls won the series 2 tests to South Australia 1 with the Boys losing the series Nil to South Australia 3 tests.







The Under 18 Championships saw entries for all disciplines including the Mixed Pairs which was added this year. Entries for the girls were not there so no sectional play was needed and all girls disciplines went straight through to champs week. The event culminated with the finals being held at Sunbury Bowling Club early April 17.

In the Girls Singles Natasha Russell defeated Mikayla Long, the girl's pairs saw Mikayla Long and Lisa Trewarne go back to back defeating Jemma and Natasha Russell. The Boys singles was won by Ethan Higgins defeating Cooper Wescombe, the boys Pairs was won by Grant McLaren and Lauchlin defeating Mitch Cole and Ethan Higgins. The Open Triples resulted in a win for Brad Pavey, Ethan Preston and Riley Hodgson defeating Jack Thompson, Blake Andrews and Cooper Wescombe finally the Mixed Pairs saw Kira Bourke and Riley Hodgson defeat Emma Simmonds and Cameron Keenan.

The new venue at Sunbury BC was fantastic great hospitality, good group of volunteers and the greens and weather was perfect.

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 these Squads in which helps feed the State Squad. Keep up the good work.

This year with the Junior Development Squads we decided to run a little different as we were not getting the numbers to the North Bendigo Weekend where we held the Annual 2 Bowl Championship and the East West Challenge. We included on the Saturday of this weekend the Doug Kneebone Junior Development Squad Tournament which was held at Melbourne Bowling Club, 14 Junior Development Squads from around the state played in a Quadripartite tournament. The winners of the tournament were the newly revamped Central Highlands Rangers (Lisa Trewarne, Ben Ryan, Mikayla Long and Lachlan Morison) narrowly defeating the Western Warriors (Lauchlin Davies, Aaron Evans, Cooper Hicks and Jarryd Davies).

We have a New Nomination Observation day coming up in August this year to encourage any new under 18 bowlers to trial for our state squad. Forms have been sent to BV which will be sent to all bowling clubs in Victoria that have Under 18's affiliated.

It is encouraging to see that we have 5 girls and 4 boys who have been selected to play in the Golden Junior Nugget at Tweed Heads this year, so Victoria will be well represented in an elite field.

The Committee this year saw some changes due to our long time committee members retiring. 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 would also like to thank all Bowling Clubs who allow us to use their greens and facilities for Development Days and Championships we sincerely thank you and look forward to your support next season.

Many thanks to committee members Justine Stokes, Mark Cowan, Tony Wood, David Keenan, Richard Lovell, Laurie Browell Sean, Scott and John Inglese for the support, commitment and assistance throughout the year. To our outgoing committee members we thank you all for the support and commitment over the past year.



Under 18 Victoria v South Australia - January 2017



# Event Support Committee



## Ken Shields

The Event Support Committee continues to play its role in providing support for the smooth running of the Women's and Men's Region Sides Championship conducted at both the Murray Downs and Corowa Civic Bowls Clubs.

The new formats of these events proved most successful and were well received by competitors and supporters. The extra tasks involved were readily performed by members of the committee and club officials.

Appreciation is expressed to officials of those host clubs for their valued assistance and friendship which is appreciated by the members of the committee.

The committee was disappointed that it was necessary to cancel the Annual International Day due to a lack of entries received. Every effort is being undertaken to revive the event so as to continue its long history for our multicultural bowlers.



Event Support Committee volunteers  
Alan Richards and Ian Capp

# Disability Support Committee

## Tony Scott

The Disability Support Committee has again proved to be an Australian leader in the assistance to bowlers with a disability.

We firstly welcomed two new committee members in Mario Cima and Carol Protopapas. Mario is developing a bowling group for people with a disability in the Nepean area whilst Carol has been appointed coach of our Bowlers with a Physical Disability State Side.

Our Integrated Pairs Tournament in January once again increased in size, with 80 participants contesting this year. Thank you again to Berwick Bowls Club for hosting the event.

There have been many days of access for all abilities around the state, held in conjunction with various groups. I would like to thank Sean and Scott from Bowls Victoria for their leadership in this area as well as members of the disabilities groups who have gone along to lend a hand.

The Multi-Disabilities Championships this year were dogged by rain, with some sections not completed and some not even started and some postponements. Thank you to Yarraville Footscray members for their efforts over two very trying days. Next year, we plan to run the championships in conjunction with State Champions

week. Sectionals will be played at another club with Finals at Bendigo East BC.

This year, the committee saw a lack of pathway for our intellectually disabled bowlers. We wrote to other states with a view of a National Championships, but with little or no reply, we decided to go on our own bat and started the inaugural City versus Country Championships. Once again, thank you to committeeman Mark Walker, Trevor Nelson and Mario and members of the Somerville BC for their input.

Bowls Australia have been undertaking a review of rules and regulations regarding wheelchairs and walkers on the greens. We have been collecting information over the last twelve months to hopefully take some of the grey areas out which currently exist.

Please remember this committee is here for ALL bowlers with a disability... so if you have any problems, suggestions etc please do not hesitate to contact us.

Finally, I'd like to thank the committee; Mark Walker, Trevor Nelson, Len O'Brien, Lyn Baker, Carol Protopapas and Mario Cima.

# Finance Director's Report



**Ken Warburton**

## Year under review

The activities of Bowls Victoria have resulted in a Total Comprehensive Income of \$335,923 comprising:-

\$ 2016		\$ 2017
135,619	<b>Gain/(loss) on bowling activities</b>	(31,237)
	<b>Net gain on investing activities</b>	
331,373	Income and realised gains	287,107
(87,714)	Fair value gains/(losses) on available-for-sale assets	80,053
243,659		367,160
<b>\$379,278</b>	<b>Total Comprehensive Income</b>	<b>\$ 335,923</b>

## Income

In summary, the Association's income was \$16K higher in 2017 primarily due to a \$47K increase in Competition Fees offset by a \$44K reduction in Investment Income. Other variances were a \$43K increase in Club Based Affiliation Fees to \$2.028 million (2016 \$1.985 million) offset by a \$58K reduction in sales and other income with Sponsorship & Grant income flat, marginally increasing \$15K.

Club Based Affiliation Fees are reflected net of 10% GST and after payment of our State Affiliation Fee to Bowls Australia of \$519K your Association is left with a net \$1.509 million from Club Affiliation Fees to administer the Sport of Bowls in your State.

## Income from bowling activities

Chart A Income by Source for bowling activities The chart below displays Income by Source for Bowling Activities with 79% (2016 79%) of this income from Club Based Affiliation Fees, a consistent percentage with the prior year. Total Income from Bowling Activities was \$2.572 million (2016 \$2.512 million).

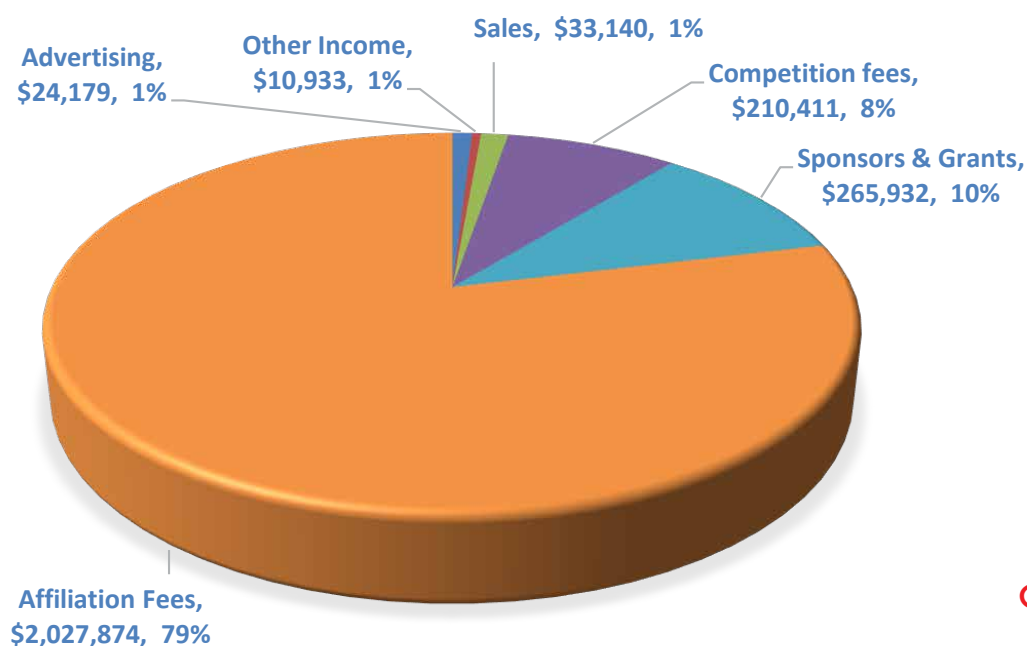
### Club Based Affiliation Fees

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, clubs should absorb the affiliation fee 100% as part of their operating costs no different to rent, utilities, green maintenance, communications and the like. It is then a matter for individual clubs to determine whether, how, when and to what extent they recoup these cost from their income sources including their various types of membership.

Club Based Affiliation Fees are generally below 10% of a club's revenue. Bowls Australia provides a guideline that clubs need to increase their membership 10% each year for transfers, deaths etc. to maintain their member base.

## Bowling Income by source 2017



**Chart A**



## Continued

### Income from investing activities

Our investment managers and advisers, Hamilton Wealth Management, have achieved a 3.74% (2016 3.63%) time weighted return (TWR) on our investment portfolio for the year compared to 13.96% (2016 0.55%) for the ASX20 Accumulation Index and 1.82% (2016 2.24%) for Bloomberg's Ausbond Bank Bill Index. See Chart B.

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

The market has reacted and rebounded to numerous sensitivities throughout the year ranging from a newly elected US President, political sensitivities in the Middle East and on the Korean peninsula, EU central bank quantitative easing, Japan's negative interest rates, USA's deferral of interest rate increases along with the prospective unwinding of their past quantitative easing, a volatility in commodity prices, particularly oil, currency wars, China's slowing GDP growth, 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.

### Expenses

Effective 1 July 2016 we implemented MYOB as our accounting system to replace our long-standing legacy software. MYOB improved our productivity, financial control and business management capabilities especially with activity based costing and allocation of expenses. This enabled greater Executive focus on cost management.

Employee benefits for the eleven full time employees increased \$62K overall to \$884K. The increase is due to work cover, superannuation and payroll taxes now being allocated to Employee Benefits with salaries increasing less than 2% year-over-year.

The Association benefits from volunteers at State level that comprises a current 8 member Board and 60 committee members across 11 functions. Valued at the Sports Volunteer hourly rate of \$41.00 an hour (2016 \$37.50), which is comparable to our own average employee hourly rate of \$39.63 (2016 \$38.30), this equates to a contributed value of \$1.046 million (25,500 hours) that is not reflected in our financial statements. Similarly, there is an enormous amount of volunteer time provided by Club members at both the regions and club levels.

### Investment Return over time

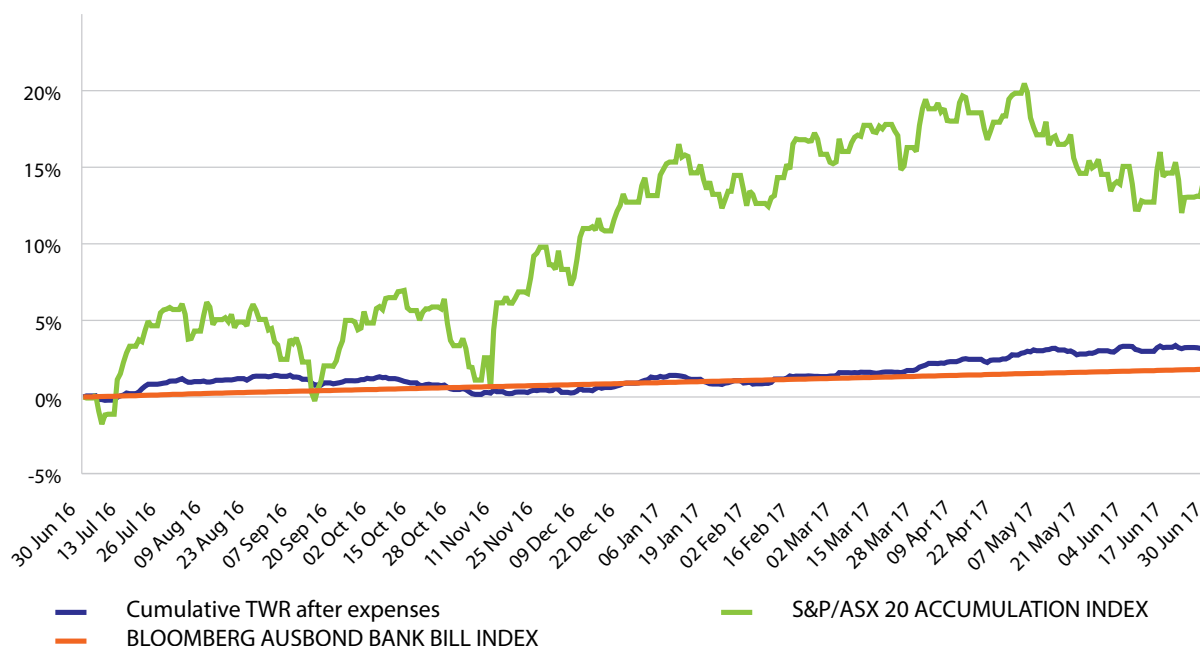


Chart B





## Major Expenses by category 2017 vs 2016

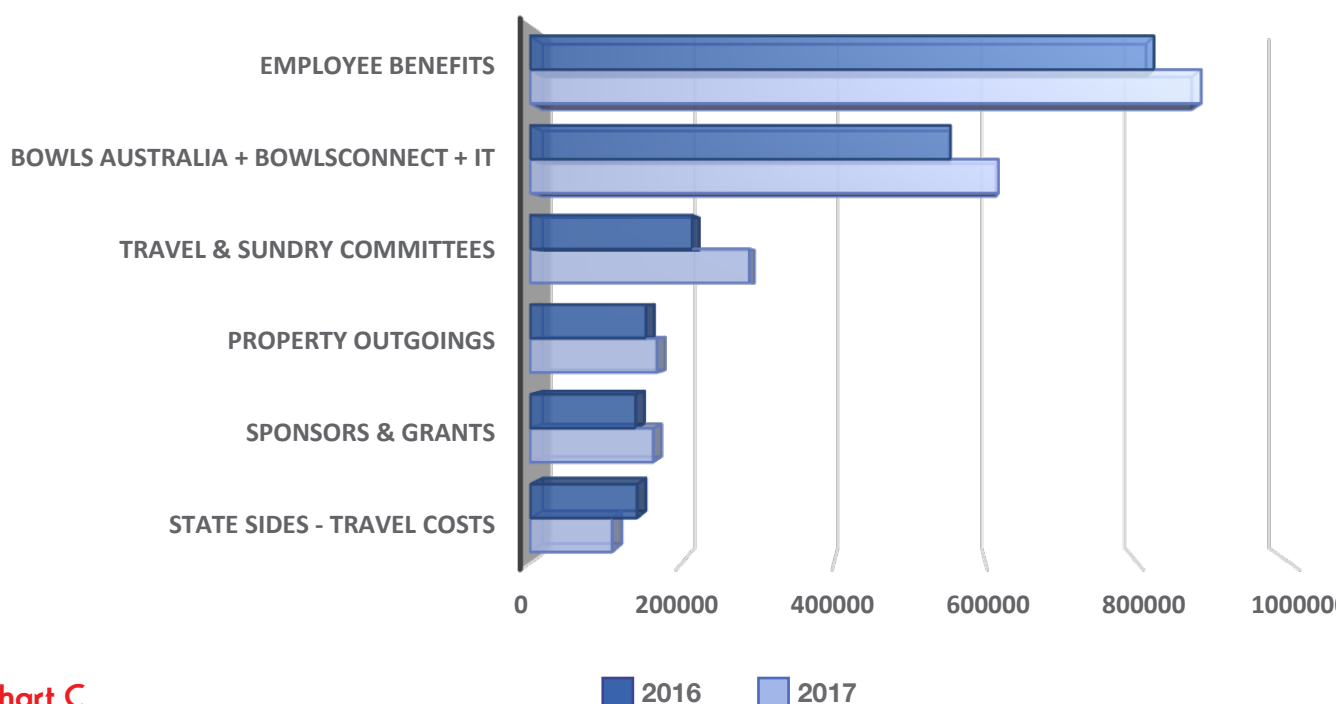


Chart C

**Bowls Australia Affiliation Fees** rose \$15K or 3% to \$519K while our contribution to the Bowls Connect IT System and our own upgraded IT hardware, software plus telecommunication costs combined increased 96% to \$98K.

Our **office premises** lease has been renewed for another two years with no increase in rent. The Board continues to monitor the prevailing property market and evaluate whether to lease or to buy our next office premises.

**Travel and Sundry Committee costs** increased due to increased allowances and more officials in attendance, while there were savings in the State Side travel costs due to a reduction in overnight accommodation.

Other expenses are consistent year-over-year with the exception of sponsorship and grants which is reflective of the marginally higher 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.

### Investment income reserve

Effective 30 June 2017, the Board of Directors resolved to transfer all net realised investment income gains on available-for-sale financial assets including other interest income of \$287,107 (2016 \$331,373) for the year to the Investment Income Reserve.

### Financial assets reserve

With \$80,053 (2016 \$87,717 loss) in fair value gains/(losses) on the available-for-sale financial assets at 30 June 2017 the Board resolved to write back this incremental fair value gain to the Financial Assets Reserve.

### Financial Position

The Association remains in a very strong financial position with assets that include \$244K cash, \$6.71 million available-for-sale financial assets, total liabilities of \$233K and other net assets that amount to \$6.91 million in total members' funds.

### Looking forward

The future presents both opportunities and challenges.

### Member Clubs

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.

With ever increasing external pressures, it is essential that Clubs continue to be vigilant, to conduct themselves as a business, execute on their strategic plan and be a significant community hub. Participation is key and it is important that there is some level of Club executive continuity from year-to-year.



## Continued

Recent media reports have highlighted Stonnington Council's proposal to repurpose Chadstone Bowling Club for a netball stadium and Whitehouse Council's potential to rezone the former Box Hill Bowling Club site for high rise redevelopment. Other indications, while anecdotal, suggest councils, looking for additional revenue sources, are increasing crown land rents and possibly imposing a levy on Club bar receipts.

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

### **The challenge continues to be**

How do we lift the profile of and increase participation in the Sport of Bowls?

### **Club Based (CBA) Affiliation Fee Model**

The Club Based Affiliation Fee model review began in September 2016. 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 introduced a fixed affiliation fee model for the States and Territory Associations in the 2016-2017 year and have recommended that they likewise adopt a club based affiliation fee model.

25.6% of our club based 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.

Later in this annual report, Insights and a "Club Based Affiliation Fee Model Summary and Recap" is provided for Member Clubs and Club members to aid in further understanding our CBA fee model.

Clubs should anticipate that on the next review of the CBA fee model at 30 June 2019, there will be a fixed component and a variable component to the CBA fee, not dissimilar to an electricity, gas and/or mobile telephone invoice.

The fixed component may be a simple fixed flat fee for each Club, a progressive fee based on Club's revenue according to their Consumer Affairs Victoria annual filing, the number of greens, number of pennant teams or a combination of these. The variable component will relate to Club membership potentially on a current, historic or average basis.

### **Bowls Connect IT Systems**

Bowls Australia is currently evaluating tenders to implement a 2017-2018 Digital Strategy that will include a replacement for the existing Bowls Connect IT System.

Clubs should be aware that the target implementation date is around 1 July 2018, will necessitate accuracy and currency for all Club membership data to facilitate system and data transfer and will mandate Club member email addresses and dates of birth.

Clubs will need to devote resources as end users for implementation and training.

### **Investment income**

Volatility is expected to continue in the stock market, with the ASX having just declined to a 7-month low, with interest rates remaining low and the expectation of the rate of return inevitably low too.

### **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.

### **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 now quarterly meetings. During 2016-2017 we continued to improve monthly financial reporting and metrics and will keep on doing so in 2017-2018.

### **Thank you**

Thank you to Betty Fang as Finance Manager, Graeme Bridge, our Chief Executive, the Finance & Audit Committee and the Bowls Victoria Board who 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, accounting and financial 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 2017

2016	Note	2017
\$		\$
	<b>Income:</b>	
\$8,977	Advertising	\$24,179
\$1,985,373	Affiliation Fees	\$2,027,874
\$163,880	Competition fees	\$210,411
\$331,373	Investment Income	\$287,107
\$40,937	Other Income	\$10,933
\$61,506	Sales	\$33,140
\$251,285	Sponsors & Grants	\$265,932
<b>2,843,331</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>2,859,576</b>
	<b>Expenses:</b>	
503,979	Bowls Australia affiliation fees	519,099
49,966	Bowls Connect & IT System	97,816
35,461	Cost of sales	20,573
29,270	Depreciation & amortisation	11,063
821,549	Employee benefits	883,561
21,229	Insurance	11,994
41,272	Legal	41,802
-	Marketing	37,543
122,330	Office Expenses	159,527
19,379	Other expenses	8,227
152,536	Property outgoings	166,951
139,004	Sponsors & grants	162,105
140,919	State sides - travel costs	108,017
213,486	Travel & sundry committees	288,611
85,958	Trophies & pennants	86,817
<b>2,376,339</b>	<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>2,603,706</b>
<b>466,992</b>	<b>Operating surplus (deficit)</b>	<b>255,870</b>
	<b>Other comprehensive income</b>	
	Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss	
(87,714)	Fair value gains/(losses) on available-for-sale assets	80,053
<b>379,278</b>	<b>Total comprehensive income attributable to members of the entity</b>	<b>335,923</b>

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



# Statement of Financial Position



as at 30 June 2017

2016		Note	2017
\$			\$
	<b>Current assets</b>		
330,112	Cash and cash equivalents	2b	244,087
2,148,767	Trade and other receivables	3	7,601
26,354	Inventories	1	33,384
147,236	Prepayments		135,004
<b>2,652,469</b>	<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>420,076</b>
	<b>Non current assets</b>		
24,379	Property, plant and equipment	4	13,316
6,504,322	Available-for-sale financial asset		6,709,834
<b>6,528,701</b>	<b>Total non current assets</b>		<b>6,723,150</b>
<b>9,181,170</b>	<b>Total assets</b>		<b>7,143,226</b>
	<b>Current liabilities</b>		
281,159	Trade and other payables	5	32,157
2,116,845	Prepaid grants and affiliation fees		56,666
129,184	Employee entitlements	1	144,551
<b>2,527,188</b>	<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>233,374</b>
<b>2,527,188</b>	<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>233,374</b>
<b>6,653,982</b>	<b>Net assets</b>		<b>6,909,852</b>
	<b>Members' funds</b>		
5,785,124	Retained earnings		5,753,887
(186,038)	Financial assets reserve	6	(105,985)
1,054,896	Investment income reserve	7	1,261,950
<b>6,653,982</b>	<b>Total members' funds</b>		<b>6,909,852</b>

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

# Statement of Cash Flows



for the year ended 30 June 2017

2016	Note	2017
\$		\$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
<b>Receipts</b>		
1,985,373	Affiliation fees from Clubs	2,027,874
526,585	Other receipts	544,595
<b>2,511,958</b>	<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>2,572,469</b>
<b>Payments</b>		
(507,744)	Bowls Australia affiliation fees	(519,099)
(2,064,333)	Payments to suppliers & employees	(2,476,501)
<b>(2,572,177)</b>	<b>Total payments</b>	<b>(2,995,600)</b>
<b>(60,219)</b>	<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	<b>(423,131)</b>
	2a	
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
331,373	Income from investments	287,107
(1,407,950)	Payments for investments	(1,473,189)
1,250,000	Proceeds from sale of investments	1,523,188
(3,011)	Fixed asset purchases	-
<b>170,412</b>	<b>Net cash from investing activities</b>	<b>337,106</b>
110,193	Net increase/(decrease) in cash held	(86,025)
219,919	Cash at start of the year	330,112
<b>330,112</b>	<b>Cash at end of the year</b>	<b>244,087</b>

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

# Statement of Changes in Equity



for the year ended 30 June 2017

	Note	Retained earnings	Financial assets reserve	Investment income reserve	Total members funds
		\$	\$		\$
Balance at 1 July 2015		5,649,505	(98,324)	723,523	6,274,704
Other comprehensive income		466,992	-	-	466,992
Fair value gains/(losses) on available-for-sale financial assets	6	-	(87,714)	-	(87,714)
<b>Total comprehensive income for the 2016 year</b>		<b>6,116,497</b>	<b>(186,038)</b>	<b>723,523</b>	<b>6,653,982</b>
Transfer to/(from) reserves/ (retained earnings)	7	(331,373)	-	331,373	-
<b>Balance at 30 June 2016</b>		<b>5,785,124</b>	<b>(186,038)</b>	<b>1,054,896</b>	<b>6,653,982</b>
Operating surplus for the 2017 year					
Other comprehensive income		255,870	-	-	255,870
Fair value gains/(losses) on available-for-sale financial assets	6	-	80,053	(80,053)	
<b>Total comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b>6,040,994</b>	<b>(105,985)</b>	<b>974,843</b>	<b>6,909,852</b>
Transfer to/(from) reserves/(retained earnings)	7	(287,107)	-	287,107	-
<b>Balance at 30 June 2017</b>		<b>5,753,887</b>	<b>(105,985)</b>	<b>1,261,950</b>	<b>6,909,852</b>

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





# Notes to the Financial Statements

for the year ended 30 June 2017

## 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.



## Notes to the Financial Statements continued

2016		2017
\$		\$
<b>Note 2: Cash and cash equivalents</b>		
<b>a) Reconciliation of cash from operating activities to operating surplus</b>		
466,992	Operating surplus	255,870
(331,373)	Income from investments	(287,107)
(390,051)	Realized and unrealized (gain)/loss on available-for-sale- assets	(255,510)
	Non-cash flows in operating surplus / (deficit)	
29,270	Depreciation/amortisation	11,063
	Changes in assets & liabilities:	
(2,139,287)	(Increase)/decrease in debtors	2,141,166
4,216	(Increase)/decrease in inventories	(7,031)
21,363	(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	12,232
195,940	Increase/(decrease) in payables	(249,002)
19,059	Increase/(decrease) in provisions	15,367
2,063,652	Increase/(decrease) in unearned income	(2,060,179)
<b>(60,219)</b>	<b>Net cash from operating activities</b>	<b>(423,131)</b>
<b>b) Reconciliation of cash</b>		
600	Cash on hand	600
222,607	Cash at bank	120,268
106,905	Investments and short term deposits	123,219
<b>330,112</b>	<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year</b>	<b>244,087</b>
<b>Note 3: Trade and other receivables</b>		
2,153,767	Receivables	15,601
(5,000)	Provision for doubtful debts	(8,000)
<b>2,148,767</b>		<b>7,601</b>

**2016**

\$

174,746
(156,654)
18,092

19,086
(12,800)
6,286

52,988
(52,988)
-

<b>24,378</b>
---------------

251,542
29,617
<b>281,159</b>

**Note 4: Property, plant and equipment**

Office equipment and fittings (at cost)
Accumulated depreciation

Motor vehicles (at cost)
Accumulated depreciation

Leasehold improvements (at cost)
Amortisation of leasehold improvements

**Note 5: Trade and other payables**

Trade creditors
Accrued expenses

**2017**

\$

173,983
(163,137)
10,846

19,086
(16,616)
2,470

52,988
(52,988)
-

<b>13,316</b>
---------------

5,184
26,973
<b>32,157</b>

**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 Association's 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 \$12,750.

**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.



## **Bowls Victoria Inc.**

Independent auditor's report to members

### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial report of Bowls Victoria Inc. (the Association), which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2017, 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, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies, and statement by members of the board..

In our opinion, the accompanying financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Association as at 30 June 2017, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the Association in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

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

#### **Emphasis of Matter – Basis of Accounting**

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 Inc. to meet the requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012. As a result, the financial report may not be suitable for another purpose. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

#### **CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS & ADVISORS**

Level 20, 181 William Street  
Melbourne VIC 3000

Telephone: +61 3 9824 8555

[williambuck.com](http://williambuck.com)

## **Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Report**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012 and for such internal control as management determines 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.

In preparing the financial report, management is responsible for assessing the Association's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Association's financial reporting process.

## **Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 Association's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Association's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our

opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Association to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.



**William Buck Audit (Vic) Pty Ltd**  
**ABN: 59 116 151 136**



**AP Marks**  
**Director**  
**Melbourne, 4 October 2017**

# 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 2017 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:



Barbara Gilbert  
President



Ken Warburton  
Finance Director

Dated this 4th October 2017.



# Club Based Affiliation Fees Model - Insights



## Commentary

To assist Clubs and Club Members with a better understanding of the CBA Fees Model, these Insights and the Bowls Victoria – Club Based Affiliation Fee Model Summary and Recap have been included in this Annual Report. The latter document was provided, by way of explanation to a series of diverse questions, from a small number of Clubs who queried their invoice or sought further explanation.

This CBA Fee Model was discussed at the 2016-17 Region meetings, but with only ~40% of Clubs attending these meetings, without the opportunity to hear the presentation, there appears to still be a need for explanation and clarification. The most important concept to accept and understand is that: -

**Bowls Victoria has not reverted to a per capita model. It remains a Club Based Affiliation Fee Model.**

The Bowls Victoria Board spent many hours with many different scenarios to determine a “fair and equitable” basis. In fact, more than 35+ scenarios with differing permutations and combinations times 515 Clubs were calculated (72K+), analysed and compared for the past three years and the 2017-2018 year on an individual Club by Club basis.

All Clubs were stratified by Club membership size in increments of 10 Club members. The table illustrates actual movements in the Clubs’ memberships, the percentage change in membership over the four years and the actual CBA Fee invoiced for each of the 12 Clubs over those years. These Clubs were selected as they demonstrate growth, maintenance and decline in Club membership at differing levels of total membership.

The MEDIAN is the strata group of 40-50 Club members with 45 being the AVERAGE Club membership for 78 Clubs. The total average for all Clubs (515) is 82 Club members which is heavily skewed by the very large Clubs. If the analysis is restricted to where there are 10 or more Clubs within a stratification group, then the average Club membership for these 447 Clubs is 67.

By example, Club DDD below with 40 Club members in 2013-14 when the CBA fee model was introduced has benefited significantly in growing to 55 Club members by 10 March 2017, with no additional fee for those new members over this period. Bowls Victoria CBA fees have grown from \$42.00 across the state to \$52.85 today on a declining number of Clubs and Club members. Yes, for ~\$1.00 a week an affiliated Club’s financial member is able to bowl anywhere in the world.

The **Club Members’ graphs** show the increase/movement/decrease in the individual Club members.

## Illustrative Examples

Actual real clubs (names changed for privacy)

Club	# at 2013-14	# at 2014-15	# at 2015-16	# at 2016-17	# at 10/03/17	% Change M'ship 2013-14 v 10/03/17	Actual \$ FY2014-2015	Actual \$ FY2015-2016	Actual \$ FY2016-2017	Actual \$ FY2017-2018	Club Members	Club Based Affiliation Fee
AAA	26	25	22	26	20	-23.1%	\$1,168	\$1,227	\$1,227	\$1,057		
BBB	26	25	25	25	26	0.0%	\$1,168	\$1,227	\$1,227	\$1,374		
CCC	26	22	22	32	30	15.4%	\$1,168	\$1,227	\$1,227	\$1,586		
DDD	40	41	42	52	55	37.5%	\$1,798	\$1,887	\$1,887	\$2,907		
EEE	41	37	37	36	27	-34.1%	\$1,843	\$1,935	\$1,935	\$1,427		
FFF	41	39	39	43	42	2.4%	\$1,843	\$1,935	\$1,935	\$2,220		
MEDIAN	45	45	45	45	45	0.0%	\$2,022	\$2,123	\$2,182	\$2,378		
GGG	59	62	55	58	60	1.7%	\$2,651	\$2,784	\$2,784	\$3,171		
HHH	60	55	54	53	43	-28.3%	\$2,696	\$2,831	\$2,831	\$2,273		
JJJ	63	70	74	82	79	25.4%	\$2,831	\$2,973	\$2,973	\$4,175		
KKK	110	104	103	97	92	-16.4%	\$4,943	\$5,191	\$5,191	\$4,862		
LLL	123	116	118	116	123	0.0%	\$5,528	\$5,804	\$5,804	\$6,501		
MMM	124	123	127	130	152	22.6%	\$5,573	\$5,851	\$5,851	\$8,033		
ALL CLUBS	47,041	45,511	46,000	45,909	42,480	-9.7%	\$2,086,760	\$2,191,098	\$2,248,390	\$2,245,068	<== includes GST	
						% Increase		5.00%	2.61%	-0.15%		

# Club Based Affiliation Fees Model - Insights



## continued

The **CBA Fee graphs** show that the fee increases are consistent for all Clubs with increases of 7%, 5% and 2.75% respectively over the three-year trial and then they reflect a clear increase / decrease based on a reset of the CBA fee model based on Clubs' memberships at 10 March 2017.

With diminishing membership within the State year(s)-on-year(s), the change in mix of the relative size of individual Clubs to one another within the total membership, in sharing the overall cost of administering the sport, the Clubs that have grown or maintained their membership incur proportionally more of the associated cost on a reset in 2017-18. It is the same size pie shared at the end of the day.

In 2017-18 Bowls Victoria's CBA fee revenue of \$2.245 million, including GST, is marginally less than the 2016-17's CBA fee revenue.

So, the question becomes "How do we lift the profile of and the participation in the Sport of Bowls to command a willingness and set an expectation to pay higher participation fees?" when several Clubs believe ~\$1.00 a week is too much? Comparative to other sports, bowls is extremely undervalued by its membership base.

## Club Budgets – Not-for-Profit

Bowls Victoria endeavours each year, as part of its own budgeting process, to set the annual increase in CBA fees in time to communicate this to the Region meetings held in May/June. With over 500 Clubs with different year-ends (28 February, 31 March, 30 April and 30 June) and Bowls Victoria's own year-end at 30 June, it is impractical to advise CBA fee increases any earlier.

Furthermore, it is a concern that late paying of fees by members to a Club delays payment to Bowls Victoria. Clubs need to budget as a business and their non-financial members should not be permitted to play at their own or any other Club. Clubs are required by law to be able to meet their debts and obligations as and when they fall due. It is a personal liability of each of the Club Executive Committee.

Comments that "at present 85% of its \$100 club membership fee goes to administration outside the club" suggest that the Club is poorly resourced and its longevity is questionable. Again, anecdotal evidence would suggest that CBA fees should be less than 10% of a Club's revenue.

It is up to a Club to decide the level of Club Membership fees that is charged by individual category of Club member. As the CBA fee is Club based it is irrelevant that a Club does not charge a Life Member any annual Club membership fee. If the Life Member bowls they are required to be affiliated by the Club.

Being a Not-for-Profit does not mean that a Club should not nor is not permitted to make a profit. Unless a Club does make a profit, how does it maintain its greens and other facilities? Government and Councils today have an expectation that Not-for-Profits are more financially self-sufficient.

## GST

Bowls Victoria and Clubs are obliged to collect GST on CBA Fees and Club membership fees.

With Bowls Victoria and our Member Clubs being Not-for-Profit associations we and our Member Clubs are not excluded from this obligation.

The ATO's website, at Question 7, makes it clear that membership fees are subject to GST.

[www.ato.gov.au/Business/GST/In-detail/GST-issues-registers/Charities-consultative-committee-resolved-issues-document/?page=21](http://www.ato.gov.au/Business/GST/In-detail/GST-issues-registers/Charities-consultative-committee-resolved-issues-document/?page=21)

## Bowls Connect Database

Clubs are responsible for properly maintaining the Bowls Connect Database for their own membership.

It is extremely important that the data base is maintained correctly. When a Club adds a financial active member, that member/bowler is able to play socially or competitively including Pennant. Prior to the CBA Fee Model being introduced and applied there was always a rush to put through individual affiliation paperwork in the lead up to playing. This process is now averted.

Two Clubs have verbally advised that had they known that 10 March 2017 was the effective date, they would have inappropriately adjusted their Club membership numbers, another has written to their membership attributing their significant increase in Club membership fees to Bowls Victoria when the Club in fact enjoyed the significant benefit of no additional CBA fees for new members over the three year trial period and another such growth Club expected to add new Club members ad infinitum with no additional cost, in perpetuity, with no reset applicable to them relative to other Clubs.

Clubs are reminded of their obligation to affiliate their relevant members.

[www.bowlsvic.org.au/Get-Involved/Playing/Affiliation-requirements](http://www.bowlsvic.org.au/Get-Involved/Playing/Affiliation-requirements)



Since the CBA fee invoices have been issued a reasonable number of Clubs have updated their data.

Yes, this is artful planning.

To quote the then President of Bowls WA in their 2016 Annual Report

“Sadly, our capitation system allows clubs to be dishonest and not capitate members they should, substantially reducing the amount paid to Bowls WA, requiring capitation to be increased each year. Therefore, those club members paying capitation are subsidising those that do not. This is a sad indictment on all clubs that allow this to occur and a compelling reason for Bowls WA to propose a change to the club fixed fee model.”

Clubs should anticipate that on the next review of the CBA fee model at 30 June 2019, there will be a fixed component and a variable component to the CBA fee, not dissimilar to an electricity, gas and/or mobile telephone invoice.

### Billing in Arrears

Bowls Victoria continue to bill in arrears. The CBA Fee model was introduced in 2014-2015 based on the 2013-14 Club membership at that time. Likewise, 2017-18 is based on 2016-2017 data.

### Financial Relief

If a Club's circumstances change significantly between 10 March 2017 and 30 September 2017 and meets the Bowls Victoria eligibility criteria, they may apply for consideration for Financial Relief. Prior to requesting Financial Relief assistance, the Invoice must be paid in full. Full payment permits your members to participate in our sport whilst consideration for Financial Relief occurs, provided a suitable application has been lodged.

The 15% variation in a Club's membership is a safety net. We anticipated possible Club membership variances between 10 March and 1 July. That is why we set the relief requirement at 15%. However, adjusting a Club's membership currently does not change the historic record. Unless there was a major data entry error which can be established.

To ensure equitable treatment between Clubs, Bowls Victoria has set a policy, process and procedures in place to evaluate all applications for Financial Relief at the one time. It is the one pie that is being shared.

### Club Committee Executives & Club Members

It is important that there is some level of Club executive continuity from year-to-year.

Clubs are encouraged to share this information with both their Executive Committees and their members.

Most Club members only know their own Club membership subscription and when bowling often compare it to another Club's membership fees. While Club memberships range from \$100 to in excess of \$300 comparisons need to be on an “apples with apples” basis. Some include a uniform for first time members, green fees for the pennant season, discounts for long serving members, no fees for Club lifetime members, etc. are subsidised by other Club revenue sources. The wide variety of Clubs not only have different cultures, but also revenue generating activities ranging from gaming machines, barefoot bowlers, bistro and the like, employee based versus volunteer, metropolitan versus rural etc.

Individual bowlers need to be informed, know and understand that it is more their Club membership that provides resources to their Club, their Club to Bowls Victoria and Bowls Victoria to Bowls Australia and Bowls Australia to World Bowls.

In December 2016 Bowls Victoria surveyed all Clubs and received 100+ replies with the consistent response that the CBA Fee Model had to be fair and equitable to all. Bowls Victoria has been totally transparent on how the fee was calculated.

In all aspects of life, the cost of living has increased. Bowls is no different. We all must accept the challenge of change and move forward for Bowls to prosper.



# Club Based Affiliation Fees Model - Insights



continued

## Summary and Recap

The Bowls Victoria (BV) Club Based Affiliation Fee Model (CBA) continues to be Club based. BV conducted many discussions with Club executives and surveyed all Clubs requesting their views and recommendations before making any changes to the 2014-2016 CBA three-year trial model. Each and every reply was considered in detail with a common theme that the CBA Model should be “fair and equitable” to all.

The BV Board spent many hours with many different scenarios to determine a “fair and equitable” basis. At the Regional meetings’ we were very transparent about how we determined the amount to be invoiced to each Club relative to the amount needed to operate the Sport of Bowls in Victoria. Each and every Club has been treated on a consistent basis across the board.

In 2017-2018 Club based Affiliation Fees will generate \$2.25 million in revenue, the same amount as last year, on a declining number of Clubs and Club members. Ten (10%) percent of this revenue is GST, with ~27% passing to Bowls Australia, who in turn contribute ~5% to World Bowls. This leaves BV with less than \$1.5 million.

Based on Club feedback for 2017-19 the CBA Model

- Continues to be a Club based CBA model;
- Is now on a two-year review cycle;
- Each year, Clubs may apply for Financial Relief if they meet the relevant criteria and follow the process and procedures outlined in the Application for Financial Relief; and
- Clearance fees are now \$60, with \$40 a clearance being refunded, quarterly, back to the Club the player is leaving and \$20 being retained by BV. This \$40 provides recompense to the Club that loses a player to another Club.

During the term of two years each Club can add new members to their data base without an extra charge. These new players and existing members can play in competition or social bowls, throughout Australia and the world. The Club based model includes Affiliation to Bowls Australia and World Bowls for all Club members.

From a Clubs perspective, the Club based Affiliation Fees are an annual operating expense no different to rent, utilities, green maintenance, communication, other operating costs and the like.

If a Club has enjoyed the benefit of increased membership without additional fees over the past three years, then in a reset of the CBA model, their expectation should be for a significantly higher fee. Clubs are still encouraged to grow their member base. However, they do not continue to add members ad infinitum with no additional cost in perpetuity with no reset applicable to them relative to other Clubs. Such a notion would make no commercial or common sense. It is the same \$2.25 million that is allocated on a “fair and equitable” basis relative to the membership of all Clubs.

BV Club based Affiliation Fees to Clubs have been billed in arrears consistently since the introduction of the Club based CBA model. The 10 March 2017 date chosen as ALL Clubs (more than 100 outstanding prior) had NOW updated their Bowls Connect database and it coincided with the pennant season just concluding.

Membership at 10 March 2017 was utilised simply to comparatively and reasonably size Clubs knowing fully that the individual number of Club members would vary over time, for whatever reason, through to our 1 July 2017 invoice date and the final payment date of 30 August 2017.

We have NOT reverted to a per capita model. The 15% variance in membership as criteria for financial relief was designed to provide for significant variances in the size of a Club and not intended nor is it our intention to reconcile every member by Club at a particular simultaneous time within a real-time database. The Clubs are responsible for maintaining their membership on Bowls Connect on a concurrent real-time basis. This allows all their members to legally play bowls.

In 2019-20 the CBA Model will be reviewed, modified as needed and reset accordingly.

If a Club believes they meet the criteria for Financial Relief they should complete the application form and submit it with all the other matters and material required by the due date, which includes fully paying the current invoice by 30 August 2017.

All applications and correspondence received from Clubs will be reviewed in October/November at the same time for all Clubs on a consistent basis according to the policies, process and procedures set out for the Application for Financial Relief. We do not intend to engage with individual Clubs on a one-on-one basis until this review phase to ensure that any relief is “fair and equitable” for all Clubs. Our best advice is to apply for Financial Relief, if it is believed a Club meets the criteria.

The following hyperlinks are provided for those Club Executives and Committee Members who are not familiar with the background of the Club based Affiliation Fee Model

The Bowls Victoria Club based affiliation fee model was introduced in season 2014/15 and has entered its third year of implementation as per Special Bulletin of 9 April 2014.

[www.bowlsvic.org.au/Article-Details/special-bulletin](http://www.bowlsvic.org.au/Article-Details/special-bulletin)  
Hardship relief was only offered in the first year of implementation.

An online copy of the Club based Affiliation Fee 2015-2016 presentation to BVRR's the cost by various strata, compares it to other sports currently and beyond, and explains how the fee structure works over its initial three years. It is available at [www.bowlsvic.org.au/News/2015-16-affiliation-fee-presentation](http://www.bowlsvic.org.au/News/2015-16-affiliation-fee-presentation)

Bowls Australia has implemented a fixed fee affiliation model for the States and Territories commencing 2016-2017 with a strong recommendation that the best membership option for each State and Territory to adopt is the club fixed fee affiliation model. Their media release provides background to the recommendation.

[www.bowlsaustralia.com.au/News/membership-capitation-and-the-fixed-fee-model-approach](http://www.bowlsaustralia.com.au/News/membership-capitation-and-the-fixed-fee-model-approach)

The 2016-17 region meeting presentation material on this and other subjects is found at

[www.bowlsvic.org.au/News/bowls-victoria-region-visits-2017-1](http://www.bowlsvic.org.au/News/bowls-victoria-region-visits-2017-1)



# Sponsors & Funding Agencies



Bowls Victoria expresses its appreciation & thanks to all our valuable sponsors & funding agencies for their support in 2016-17

## Funding Partners



## State Team Sponsors



## Official Partners



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## Season 2016-17

### Victoria State Champions

#### Men's State Singles

Barrie Lester - Mulgrave CC

#### Women's State Singles

Kylie Whitehead - Wodonga

#### Men's State Pairs

John McCarron  
Ben Hubber (s)

Club: Glenroy BC

#### Women's State Pairs

Kerri Leask  
Mary Tragardh (s)

Club: Composite

#### Men's State Triples

Tristan McArthur  
Peter Pangrazio  
Paul O'Donnell (s)

Club: Warnambool BC

#### Women's State Triples

Tristania Doolan  
Sue Ferguson  
Makayla Gibson (s)

Club: Composite

#### Men's State Fours

Darren Burgess (sub)  
Gary Ryan  
Chris Randall  
Aaron Tomkins (s)

Club: Bendigo East BC

#### Women's State Fours

Claire Sanders  
Shirley Hummel  
Kylie Whitehead  
Anne Miles (s)

Club: Composite

#### Men's State Ch of Ch Singles

Barrie Lester - Mulgrave CC

#### Women's State Ch of Ch Singles

Jessica Wallace - Lilydale BC

#### State Mixed Pairs

Carla Krizanic  
Nick McIntyre (s)

Club: Composite

#### Men's Under-25 Singles

Nathan Lynch - Moonee Valley

#### Women's Under-25 Singles

Kylie Whitehead - Wodonga BC

#### Men's Novice Singles

Nick Seekamp - Port Fairy BC

#### Women's Novice Singles

Jenny O'Connor - Tocumwal Golf BC

#### Men's Over-60 Singles

Terry Ryan - Essendon BC

#### Women's Over-60 Singles

Joy McGrath - Portland BC

#### Men's Over-60s Pairs

Bob Harbridge  
Paul Davies (s)

Club: Wodonga

#### Women's Over-60s Pairs

Gillian Horlock  
Gordana Baric (s)  
(Composite)

### Champion of State Pennant

#### Saturday

Melbourne BC

#### Midweek

Ocean Grove BC

### Regional Sides Champions

#### Men's Region Sides

Northern Gateway

#### Women's Regions Sides

Sandbelt

### Victorian Open Winners

#### Men's Singles:

Matthew Flapper

#### Women's Singles:

Kelly McKerihen

#### Men's Pairs:

Bradley Marron

Lee Schraner (s)

#### Women's Pairs:

Rhoanna Smith

Laureen Smith (s)

#### Men's Triples:

Graham Guy

Luke Eddington

Nick McIntyre (s)

#### Women's Triples:

Claire Sanders

Laureen Smith

Anne Miles (s)

#### Mixed Pairs:

Sharon Steele

Michael Sims (s)

### Interstate Test Series

#### Under 18

#### Victoria v Tasmania

5 - 7 July 2016

at Kings Meadow BC, TAS

#### Under-18s Girls series:

Kira Bourke (Maryborough Golf)  
Amelia Bruggy (Bendigo)  
Mikayla Long (Glenroy)  
Tayla Morison (Melbourne)  
Natascha Russell (Clayton)  
Lisa Trewarne (Sunbury)

**Manager:** Louise Morison

**Coach:** Mark Cowan

#### Match Results

1st Test	VIC lost to TAS	34-43
2nd Test	VIC def TAS	71-64
3rd Test	VIC def TAS	66-40
4th Test	VIC def TAS	66-40
5th Test	VIC lost to TAS	31-39
6th Test	VIC def TAS	65-45
7th Test	VIC def TAS	53-41

Victoria won the series 5-2

#### Under-18s Boys series:

Jarryd Davies (Fitzroy Victoria)  
Lauchlin Davies (Fitzroy Victoria)  
Curtis Hanley (Clayton)  
Brody Harker (Mildura)  
Riley Hodgson (Bundoora RSL)  
Ty King (Deniliquin)  
Lachlan Morison (Melbourne)  
Cooper Westcombe (Glenroy)

**Manager:** Louise Morison

**Coach:** Mark Cowan

#### Match Results

1st Test	VIC def TAS	84-65
2nd Test	VIC lost to TAS	18-41
3rd Test	VIC lost to TAS	53-63
4th Test	VIC lost to TAS	41-52
5th Test	VIC lost to TAS	45-71
6th Test	VIC def TAS	37-28
7th Test	VIC lost to TAS	43-49

Victoria lost the series 2-5



## Continued

### Under-18 National Championships 30 September – 1 October 2016 at Holdfast Bay Bowling Club, SA

#### Finals:

##### Girls

Pairs	Gold
Triples	Gold

##### Boys

Singles:	Silver
Pairs:	Silver

### Over-60s Nationals Victoria Side – 60 & Over Round Robin – Osborne Park BC, WA 10 – 13 October 2016.

#### Men's Over 60 Test Series:

Graeme Spencer (Caulfield Park Alma)  
Ken Thomas (Ocean Grove)  
Stephan Sullivan (Queenscliff)  
David Donaldson (Moonee Valley) (s)

Philip Thorn (City of Echuca)  
Rod Nicholson (Lilydale)  
Barry Anset (Bendigo)  
Ian Ross (Bendigo) (s)

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

**Manager:** Doug Kneebone

#### Match Results

Round 1	VIC def QLD	62-52
Round 2	VIC def SA	65-61
Round 3	VIC def NT	72-43
Round 4	VIC def ACT	94-40
Round 5	VIC def TAS	66-41
Round 6	VIC lost to WA	52-54
Round 7	VIC def NSW	57-56

Victoria finished 1st.

#### Women's Over 60 Test Series:

Marilyn Stephenson (Moama)  
Edna Anderson (Warracknabeal Golf)  
Patty Whorlow (Glen Waverley)  
Gayle Edwards (Altona) (s)

Sandra McColgan (Dromana)  
Caroline Reilly (Yarrawonga Mulwala Golf)  
Sharon Whana (Glenroy)  
Sandra Connolly (Moama) (s)

Veronica Kelly (City of Echuca)  
Robyn Thomassen (Grangeburn)  
Susan Howes (Bendigo East)  
Anne Miles (Yarrawonga Mulwala Golf) (s)

**Manager:** Edith Grinham

#### Match Results

Round 1	VIC lost to QLD	50-66
Round 2	VIC lost to SA	53-54
Round 3	VIC def NT	67-45
Round 4	VIC def ACT	70-41
Round 5	VIC def TAS	64-62
Round 6	VIC def WA	58-51
Round 7	VIC def NSW	61-58

Victoria finished 3rd.

#### Senior Sides

### Victoria v Tasmania 4 - 6 December 2016 at Devenport BC, TAS

#### Men's Test Series:

Dane McKinnon (Altona)  
Brad Orr (Shepparton Golf)  
Dylan Fisher (Fitzroy Victoria)  
Matthew Flapper (Ocean Grove) (s)

Curtis Hanley (Melbourne)  
Ben Loughlin (Altona)  
Josh Corless (Bundoora RSL)  
Nick McIntyre (Whittlesea) (s)

Liam Garlock-Adams (Altona)  
Josh Rudd (East Shepparton)  
Nathan Wilson (Essendon)  
Wayne Roberts (Yarraville/Footscray) (s)

**Manager:** Pat Clark

#### Match Results

1st Test	VIC def TAS	62-51
2nd Test	VIC drew TAS	62-62
3rd Test	VIC lost to TAS	43-57
4th Test	VIC lost to TAS	51-53
5th Test	VIC def TAS	55-50

Victoria drew the series 2-2-1

#### Women's Test Series:

Stephanie Priest (Bendigo)  
Victoria Troster (Yarraville/Footscray)  
Gayle Edwards (Altona)  
Brooke Edwards (Altona) (s)

Blaine Edwards (Altona)  
Tayla Spence (Bundoora RSL)  
Rebecca McMahon (City of Colac)  
Nicole Shortis (Leopold Sportsman's) (s)

Amelia Bruggy (Bendigo)  
Jody Nevill (Bundoora RSL)  
Mikayla Gibson (Bundoora RSL)  
Tiffany Brodie (Fitzroy Victoria) (s)

**Manager:** Meredith Norton

**Coach:** Jan Hurst

#### Match Results

1st Test	VIC def TAS	80-52
2nd Test	VIC def TAS	60-50
3rd Test	VIC def TAS	55-54
4th Test	VIC def TAS	55-42
5th Test	VIC lost to TAS	47-52

Victoria won the series 4-1

### Victoria v New South Wales 7 - 8 February, 2017 at Merimbula, NSW

#### Men's series:

Josh Corless (Bundoora RSL)  
Matthew Higgins (Sale)  
Bryce Young (Melbourne)  
Aaron Wilson (Clayton) (s)

Curtis Hanley (Melbourne)  
Ben Loughlin (Altona)  
Dane McKinnon (Altona)  
Nick McIntyre (Whittlesea) (s)

Liam Garlock-Adams (Altona)  
Chris Ball (Yarraville/Footscray)  
Nathan Wilson (Essendon)  
Wayne Roberts (Yarraville/Footscray) (s)

**Manager:** Pat Clark

**Coach:** Ian Ewing

#### Match Results

1st Test	VIC lost to NSW	53-70
2nd Test	VIC lost to NSW	60-64
3rd Test	VIC lost to NSW	45-79

Victoria lost the series 0-3

**Women's Test Series:**

Elise Cowan (Sunbury)  
 Rebecca McMahon (City Colac)  
 Mikayla Gibson (Bundoora RSL)  
 Tiffany Brodie (Fitzroy Victoria) (s)

Victoria Troster (Yarraville-Footscray)  
 Tayla Spence (Bundoora RSL)  
 Gayle Edwards (Altona)  
 Brooke Edwards (Altona) (s)

Blaine Edwards (Altona)  
 Tayla Morison (Melbourne)  
 Anne Miles (Yarrawonga Mulwala)  
 Nicole Shortis (Leopold Sportsman's) (s)

**Manager:** Judy Davey**Coach:** Jan Hurst**Match Results**

1st Test	VIC def TAS	59-51
2nd Test	VIC def TAS	53-46
3rd Test	VIC lost to TAS	32-83

Victoria won the series 2-1

**Under-25s Men's Test Series:**

Brad Foote (Mentone)  
 Nathan Lynch (Moonee Valley)  
 Dean O'Neil (MCC)  
 Jack Woodhouse (Bundoora RSL)  
 Jordan Yates (Essendon)  
 Todd Trewarne (Melbourne)

**Manager/Coach:** Arnold O'Brien**Match Results**

1st Test	VIC Drew NSW	1-1-1
2nd Test	VIC Bt NSW	2-1
3rd Test	VIC lost to NSW	0-3

Victoria won the series 2-1 (on countback)

**Under-25s Women's Test Series:**

Amelia Bruggy (Bendigo)  
 Stephanie Priest (Bendigo)  
 Elisa Rigoni (Sunbury)  
 Mikayla Long (Glenroy)  
 Natasha Russell (Clayton)  
 Kristen Steele (Glenroy)

**Manager:** Meredith Norton**Coach:** Jan Hurst**Match Results**

1st Test	VIC lost to NSW	1-2
2nd Test	VIC lost to NSW	0-3
3rd Test	VIC lost to NSW	0-3

Victoria lost the series 0-3

**Victoria v South Australia**

**22-24 February, 2017**  
**at Ocean Grove BC, VIC**

**Men's Test Series**

Curtis Hanley (Melbourne)  
 Ben Loughlin (Altona)  
 Dane McKinnon (Altona)  
 Matthew Flapper (Ocean Grove) (s)

Josh Corless (Bundoora RSL)  
 Dale Jones (Mentone)  
 Nick McIntyre (Whittlesea)  
 Barrie Lester (Mulgrave CC) (s)

Liam Garlock-Adams (Altona)  
 Bryce Young (Melbourne)  
 Brett Spurr (Bundoora RSL)  
 Aaron Wilson (Clayton) (s)

**Manager:** Pat Clark**Coach:** Ian Ewing**Match Results**

1st Test	VIC def SA	71-45
2nd Test	VIC def SA	59-53
3rd Test	VIC lost to SA	55-56
4th Test	VIC def SA	72-46
5th Test	VIC lost to SA	59-64

Victoria won the series 3-2.

**Women's Test Series:**

Tiffany Brodie (Fitzroy Victoria)  
 Elise Cowan (Sunbury)  
 Blaine Edwards (Altona)  
 Brooke Edwards (Altona)  
 Gayle Edwards (Altona)  
 Mikayla Gibson (Bundoora RSL)  
 Carla Krizanic (Sunbury)  
 Rebecca McMahon (City Colac)  
 Anne Miles (Yarrawonga Mulwala)  
 Tayla Morison (Melbourne)  
 Nicole Shortis (Leopold Sportsman's)  
 Kylie Whitehead (Wodonga)

**Manager:** Edith Grinham**Coach:** Jan Hurst**Match Results**

1st Test	VIC def SA	83-39
2nd Test	VIC def SA	74-44
3rd Test	VIC def SA	63-53
4th Test	VIC def SA	76-43
5th Test	VIC def SA	62-43

Victoria lost the series 5-0.

**2017 Multi-Disability**  
**Lawn Bowl Championships**  
**21-26 May, 2017**  
**at Raymond Terrace, NSW**

Lucas Protopapas (Mulgrave CC)  
 Peter Dixon (Mordialloc)  
 Jo-anne Boland (Yarra Glen)  
 Gwen Fabris (Cockatoo)  
 Ken Hanson (City Bowls)  
 Joshua Barry (Sebastopol)  
 Ross Higgins (Shepparton Park)  
 Aaron Emonson (Ballarat)  
 Janet Morrison (Mulgrave CC)  
 Alison Meakin (Mulgrave CC)

**Medals**

Men's Singles Gold:

Josh Barry

Men's Triples Gold:

Josh Barry, Ken Hanson &amp; Lucas Protopapas

Men's Pairs Bronze:

Josh Barry &amp; Lucas Protopapas

Men's Singles Bronze:

Ken Hanson

Women's Pairs Bronze:

Alison Meakin &amp; Janet Morrison





## Continued

### National Bowlers Arm Championship 5-7 September, 2016 At Broadbeach Bowling Club, QLD

Barry Anset  
Ray Arnold  
Ray Bezett  
Stephen Coles  
Doug Corrigan  
Neil Crisp  
Harry Dahllof  
Malcolm Finch  
Phil Godkin  
Peter Gribbin  
Phil Gude  
Tony Long  
Arthur Parker  
Ann Power  
Adele Ryan  
Dennis Smyth  
Lee Wesley

**Manager:** Graeme Bridge  
**State Co-ordinator:** Phil Gude

#### Match Results

VIC def SA  
VIC def NSW  
VIC def QLD

Overall winner – VIC

The Armed Vics retained  
all State v State Shields.

### Metropolitan Champions

#### Saturday

Premier Melbourne  
Division 1 Lilydale  
Division 2 Warburton  
Division 3 South Oakleigh  
Division 4 MCC  
Division 5 Epping RSL  
Division 6 Doncaster  
Division 7 Middle Park  
Division 8 Coburg Moreland

#### Midweek

Premier Clayton  
Division 1 Women only Montmorency  
Division 1 Open Bundoora RSL  
Division 2 Open Edithvale  
Division 3 Open Palm Lake  
Division 4 Open Deer Park  
Division 5 Open Brunswick

### Country Champions

#### Ballarat District Bowls Division Saturday

Premier Queenscliff  
Division 1 Ballarat Memorial  
Division 2 Webbcona  
Division 3 Beaufort Golf  
Division 4 Invermay  
Division 5 Central Wendouree  
Division 6 Bungaree  
Division 7 Smeaton  
Division 8 Bungaree  
Division 9 Beaufort Golf

#### Midweek

Division 1 Central Wendouree  
Division 2 Ballarat Memorial  
Division 3 Learmonth  
Division 4 Midlands Golf

#### Bendigo Bowls Division

##### Saturday

Division 1 Bendigo  
Division 2 South Bendigo  
Division 3 White Hills  
Division 4 Bendigo  
Division 5 Calvil  
Division 6 Dingee  
Division 7 Bendigo VRI  
Division 8 South Bendigo

##### Midweek

Division 1 Bendigo East  
Division 2 South Bendigo  
Division 3 Bendigo VRI  
Division 4 Campbell's Creek  
Division 5 North Bendigo/Eaglehawk

#### Bowls Sunraysia Division

##### Saturday

Division 1 Mildura  
Division 2 Mildura Workers  
Division 3 Mildura Workers

##### Midweek

Division 1 Mildura

#### Campaspe Valley Bowls Division

##### Saturday

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

##### Midweek

Division 1 Moama  
Division 2 City of Echuca  
Division 3 Deniliquin United

#### Central Bowls Division

##### Saturday

Division 1 Seymour VRI  
Division 2 Wallan

##### Midweek

Division 1 Seymour VRI

#### Central Highlands Bowls Division

##### Saturday

Division 1 Gisborne & District  
Division 2 Bacchus Marsh  
Division 3 Lancefield

##### Midweek

Division 1 Kyneton Golf  
Division 2 Trentham  
Division 3 Macedon Ranges

#### Corangamite Bowls Division

##### Saturday

Division 1 Apollo Bay  
Division 2 Cressy  
Division 3 Lorne  
Division 4 Lismore

##### Midweek

Division 1 City Colac  
Division 2 Colac  
Division 3 Apollo Bay

#### East Gippsland Bowls Division

##### Saturday

Division 1 Bairnsdale  
Division 2 Paynesville Gold  
Division 3 Bairnsdale  
Division 4 Bairnsdale

##### Midweek

Division 1 Orbost  
Division 2 Paynesville  
Division 3 Bairnsdale Golf

#### Far Western Bowls Division

##### Saturday

Division 1 Portland RSL Memorial  
Division 2 Hamilton Gold  
Division 3 Portland RSL Memorial Red  
Division 4 Hamilton

##### Midweek

Division 1 Portland RSL Memorial  
Division 2 Macarthur  
Division 3 Portland RSL Memorial

#### Flinders & Peninsula Bowls Division

##### Combined Pennant Competition

##### Saturday

Division 1 Hastings  
Division 2 – North Somerville  
Division 2 – South Rosebud West  
Division 3 – North Belvedere  
Division 3 – South Rosebud West  
Division 4 – North Belvedere  
Division 4 – South Mt Eliza  
Division 5 – North Hastings  
Division 5 – South Rosebud  
Division 6 – North Blue Hills  
Division 6 – South Dromana  
Division 7 – North Frankston

##### Midweek

Division 1 Karingal  
Division 2 – North Belvedere  
Division 2 – South Sorrento  
Division 3 – North Blue Hills  
Division 3 – South Dromana  
Division 4 – North Karingal  
Division 5 – North Mornington Civic



### Geelong Bowls Region

#### Saturday

Premier League	Queenscliff
Division 1	Geelong Eastern Park
Division 2	Lara
Division 3	Geelong Eastern Park
Division 4	Drysdale
Division 5	Geelong Eastern Park
Division 6	Point Lonsdale
Division 7	Belmont
Division 8	Drysdale
Division 9	Geelong Eastern Park
Division 10	Highton
Division 11	Geelong Eastern Park

#### Midweek

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

### Goldfields Bowls Division

#### Saturday

Division 1	Maryborough Highland Tartan
Division 2	Newstead Blue
Division 3	Maryborough Highland White

#### Midweek

Division 1	Maryborough Highland Tartan
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### Goulburn Valley Bowls Division

#### Saturday

Allan Matheson	
Shield	Shepparton Golf
Division 1	Seymour
Division 2	Shepparton Park
Division 3	Shepparton Park
Division 4	Kyabram
Division 5	Violet Town
Division 6	Tatura

#### Midweek

Edna Harling	
Shield	Shepparton Park
Division 1	Shepparton Park
Division 2	Avenel
Division 3	Kyabram
Division 4	Nagambie

### Grampians Bowls Division

#### Saturday

Division 1	Stawell Golf Red
Division 2	Ararat Gold

#### Midweek

Division 1	Stawell Blue
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### Murray Bowls Division

#### Saturday

Division 1	Wunghnu
Division 2	Katandra West
Division 3	Berrigan
Division 4	Cobram

#### Midweek

Division 1	Cobram
Division 2	Berrigan

### Murray Valley Bowls Division

#### Saturday

Division 1	Nyah District
Division 2	Swan Hill Racecourse
Division 3	Swan Hill

#### Midweek

Division 1	Murray Downs
Division 2	Swan Hill Racecourse

### North Central Bowls Division

#### Saturday

Division 1	Donald Golf
Division 2	Donald Golf

#### Midweek

Division 1	Boort
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### North Gippsland Bowls Division

#### Saturday

Division 1	Heyfield
Division 2	West Sale
Division 3	Sale Blue

#### Midweek

Division 1	Maffra
Division 2	Maffra

### North Wimmera Bowls Division

#### Saturday

Division 1	Warracknabeal Golf
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#### Midweek

Division 1	Rainbow
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### Northern District Bowls Division

#### Saturday

Division 1	Kerang
Division 2	Cohuna
Division 3	Kerang White

#### Midweek

Division 1	Cohuna
Division 2	Leitchville

### Ovens & Murray Bowls Region

#### Saturday

Division A1	Corowa Civic
Division A2	Wodonga
Division A3	Moir Benalla
Division A4	Wodonga
Division B1	Tungamah
Division B2	Benalla
Division B3	Yackandandah
Division B4	Corryong
Division C	Corryong

#### Midweek

Open 1A	Benalla
Open 1B	Yarrowonga MGCR
Open 3	Ovens
Open 4	Wodonga
Open 5	Kiewa Valley

### South Gippsland Bowls Division

#### Saturday

Division 1	Inverloch
Division 2	Fish Creek
Division 3	Phillip Island
Division 4	Korumburra
Division 5	San Remo

#### Midweek

Division 1	Leongatha
Division 2	Port Welshpool
Division 3	Mirboo North
Division 4	Inverloch

### Tyrrell Bowls Division

#### Saturday

Division 1	Woomelang
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#### Midweek

Division 1	Woomelang
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### West Gippsland Bowls Division

#### Saturday

Division 1	Yallourn
Division 2	Morwell
Division 3	Traralgon
Division 4	Morwell
Division 5	Yallourn
Division 6 E	Morwell
Division 6 W	Longwarry
Division 6 PO	Morwell

#### Midweek

Division 1	Yallourn
Division 2	Neerim District
Division 3	Warragul
Division 4	Yinnar

### Western District Bowls Division

#### Saturday

Division 1	Warrnambool Gold
Division 2	Koroit White
Division 3	Warrnambool City Memorial Brown
Division 4	Dennington Black

#### Midweek

Division 1	Warrnambool Gold
Division 2	Dennington Red
Division 3	Dennington White

### Wimmera Bowls Division

#### Saturday

Division 1	Dimboola
Division 2	Horsham City
Division 3	Kaniva

#### Midweek

Division 1	Horsham City
Division 2	Nhill



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