

Sole Female Candidate

Pat Schram

City of Echuca Bowling Club

Proposed by

Liz Easther

Rich River Bowls Club

Seconded by

Kerryn Evans

City of Echuca Bowling Club

Introduction

When I was a teenager, my local tennis club couldn't get a secretary / treasurer one year, so my dad put my name forward as he thought it would be good for me. Since then I have been involved in the administration of most sports I have played.

I was invited to submit my resume for a casual vacancy on the BV Board in 2018. I was happy to do that as at different times I had considered becoming involved. I joined the Board in December 2018.

I see myself as a life-long learner and that is particularly true of my time on the BV Board. The commitment has been rewarding and fruitful, with lots of learning, but it is also challenging at times. Covid19 has certainly added to those challenges.

My reasons for standing for a Director's position again mainly relate to a feeling that I have more to give and achieve as a part of this body. I have a sense that my contribution to BV is not complete just yet. Collaborating with the Board and the BV team is an on-going process, and I would like to continue to be a part of this process for the next 2 years.

The BV Strategic Plan makes sense to me - and most particularly through the work of the Region Boundary Review Committee of which I have been a member. To have more people connected to Bowls, to grow and support the sport of bowls through Clubs and their communities with the values of being adaptable, inviting, unified, supportive and efficient, as outlined in

the plan, will certainly be more achievable with direct contact to only 16 Regions.

The BV Strategic Plan second core goal uses the words 'through employing best practice governance' and that is what the review committee is working towards. Great work has been done by many volunteers over the past 10 years, but now it is time dissolve one layer of governance for our organisation to be more efficient for our members.

My vision for BV is all about enjoying the present, celebrating the past, whilst highlighting and working towards the future. The longevity of our sport is dependent on the decisions and actions we take in adapting to our current society as it changes.

Career

My career was in education with a brief stint in hospitality. However particularly within the education field, I undertook many and varied roles. On reflection, each of those roles was a good fit at the time, but then new and interesting challenges would come my way and I would embrace something different.

Teaching, administration, leading professional development for others - all required preparation, organisation, good communication skills and focus. Something that I am extremely proud of is my work ethic. I have always been able to commit time and energy to any role. I believe that in my time on the BV Board I have demonstrated this attribute consistently.

In our sport, I see myself as having a foot in a few different camps. As a player I have been lucky enough to play in successful premierships teams, State Pennant, Region sides, and also at Championship Week. I play tournaments and everywhere I play I have contact, chats and general interaction with many players from all over Victoria and NSW.

As a coach and umpire, I am cognizant of what is required for our sport to operate in a competitive environment.

As a club administrator, I understand the highs and lows of club life, and the sheer hard work to maintain a functional, thriving, volunteer based, country bowls club.

As a Division, Region and BV Director, my focus has always been to be open-minded and welcoming of ideas. I like to have a balance of individual details whilst keeping an eye on the big picture.

I would like the opportunity to continue on the journey I started in 2018 through further contributions to the BV Board. I believe I have the experience, skills and qualifications to be a suitable candidate for the Bowls Victoria Board.

Curriculum Vitae

EDUCATION / QUALIFICATIONS:

- Victorian Department of Education 1968 – 1991
- Owner / Manager coffee shop 1992 – 1998
- Victorian Department of Education 1998 – 2012

In my time in education, I was a classroom teacher, a teacher / librarian, a consultant visiting schools, a leader of a middle-years project and a provider of professional development.

BOWLS INFORMATION:

- Highton Bowls Club – 1985 – 1988
- City of Echuca Bowls Club – 2008 until present
- Past President of City of Echuca Bowls Club
- Director for Bendigo Campaspe Bowls Region Board
- Past Chairman Campaspe Valley Bowls Division
- Chairman 2020 Women's Country Bowls Carnival Committee
- Bowls Victoria Board Director
- Chairman Governance Committee, Bowls Victoria
- Member Boundary Review Committee, Bowls Victoria
- Midweek and Weekend Pennant player at City of Echuca
- Qualified coach and National Umpire (246526)

PERSONAL QUALITIES:

Family and friends oriented – the people in my life are a priority.

Positive, inclusive, energetic, organized, supportive.

An active communicator – a good listener who is prepared to put a point of view. I am comfortable with both face-to-face and electronic communication.

A contributor – I like to become involved but always try to have a wholistic perspective – I aim to see the whole forest, not just individual trees.

GOALS:

To continue contributing to the sport of lawn bowls as a player, administrator, coach and umpire.

To see the sport of bowls grow and develop into the future as Australia changes and adapts to a Covid19 surviving society.

To have all BV bowls clubs prosper - adapting our sport to meet member's needs, increasing membership and the involvement of members – particularly my club - City of Echuca.

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