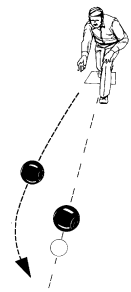


# THE GOOD LINE

## Periodic Newsletter

### City of Heidelberg Bowling Club

#### September 2021



#### **Introduction**

I hope you are well and in good spirits and coping as best you can under this ever-extending lockdown situation. The closure of the Club has provided an opportunity to have some things done inside and outside the clubroom. This newsletter consists mainly of updates which show that while normal club life is restricted, our Club is being primed for members' return.

Stay positive and safe.

Rob Boffey

#### **A message from our Chairman**

Greetings!

I look out my window and see all the signs of spring; the buds, the blossom, the warmth in the air and I know it won't be long. Maybe longer than we might want, but we will be back soon.

Thank you to Rodney Snibson and Rob Boffey for all the work done on the Greens and the surrounds. Thank you to everyone who has been keeping an eye on neighbours and friends, going for walks, having a chat on the phone, checking if anyone needs something from the shops.

We are a caring community and soon we will be back face-to-face. In the meantime don't forget our AGM next Saturday at 3pm.

Rob Haines, Chairman Board of Management

#### **General information**

##### **Works update**

While we have all been locked out of the Club, it has been an opportune time to do some maintenance and other works.

1. The faulty air conditioning unit has been replaced by the Oz Air Group. All units have been checked and serviced and are in good condition.
2. External sensor lights have again been adjusted, with a new sensor over the front door.
3. A new blind has been installed in the window facing the car park and the short length blinds facing the John May Green have been replaced.
4. Last, but by no means least, the kitchen renovation has commenced with the removal of all cupboards along the northern wall.



Work will continue over the next 3 weeks with installation of new cupboards and range hood. It is expected that this work will be completed by the end of September.

## **Annual General Meeting**

As previously advised, this will take place via Zoom on Saturday, 11<sup>th</sup> September commencing at 3:00 p.m.

Log in details were previously advised and are repeated here:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82469053053?pwd=TnhYSEh2SEVORURydkVzNVRRRitaQT09>

Or by phoning 03 7018 2005

Meeting ID: 824 6905 3053

Passcode: 838972

Please make an effort to attend. You may wish to log in from 2:45pm and have a chat to fellow bowlers.

John Starmans

## **Changes on the Board**

Saturday's AGM is a Zoom event and will see two members of the current Board, John Starmans and David Crisp, relinquish their positions as Board Secretary and Bowls President respectively.

Compared to a face-to-face meeting, a Zoom session presents a more difficult situation in which to present a clear and timely summation acknowledging John's and David's contributions to our Club. As a fellow Board member, I am taking this opportunity to share with members what I would have shared had Saturday's meeting been a standard AGM event.

John has been Board Secretary for nine years. During that time, he has spent hundreds of hours each year at the Club and at home involved in all manner of activities. Examples include responding to potential security alerts, organising quotes for maintenance and improvements at the Club, early starts to provide access to trades people, dealing with members' issues, collating and publishing the yearly Handbook and recording and monitoring memberships. In addition has been the time spent ensuring the Club met its legal and governance requirements and its responsibilities to Bowls Victoria.

John was a key player in the process which resulted in the Lease Agreement we have with Warringal Hospital. This Agreement put our Club on a strong financial footing. He has also spent countless hours negotiating with Banyule Council about improvements to and for the Club, with the recent installation of the pedestrian crossing a case in point.

We have been extremely fortunate to have in John, a dedicated and extremely competent administrator. All members have benefited from his efforts and contributions as Board Secretary.

John, congratulations and thank you for the tremendous job you have done during the last nine years. Enjoy the free time that will soon come your way.

The significant features of David's tenure as President have been his thoughtful and rational demeanor, willingness to engage with and listen to members' viewpoints and his on-going efforts to encourage members' involvement in Club's activities. These attributes, together with his Match Committee involvement and as a Pennant selector, have contributed to the smooth operation of the Club's bowls programs, both within the Club and at Pennant level. His approach has fostered a happy, cohesive and enthusiastic group of bowlers which has contributed to the current positive atmosphere around our Club.

David also served concurrently as a member of the Bowls Development Committee and undertook the modernisation of the Club's website. An active participant in Board discussions and decisions, my favourite memory of his no-frills attitude is the occasion when he acted as Chairman and the meeting was conducted in record time!

David, thank you for your involvement in and contributions to our Club during the last three years. You should be proud of the influence and impact your Presidency has had.

Rob Boffey

## **Seniors Week Plant sale**



Hi Everyone.

Just a reminder that we are still hopeful of holding our Plant Sale on Sunday 3rd October as part of the Seniors Week features.

We'd also like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have kindly offered to help in some way. Your support is greatly appreciated.

We will keep you updated. Keep well. Keep safe.

June Norman on behalf of Bowls Development Committee

## **Bowls-related information**

### **A message from Coach Carmelo**

Hi all,

Just sitting here wondering when all this is coming to an end, and I suspect like most of you missing both bowls and the social interaction we have through getting together. Thought I would take up Rob's invitation to provide an update on our bowls through most of the off-season.

We had been fortunate that before this current lockdown we had regular games of bowls on a Monday, Thursday and Saturday with great numbers coming to each event. My heartfelt thanks go to all the organisers of these events. Also, to Brian James for the work he does on a Wednesday afternoon with the U3A and new bowlers.

We have also had great numbers to the Tuesday morning coaching sessions. Those sessions just proved to me what a great bunch of people we have at our club. Not just because of the attendance but the willingness to give new things a go, the continued improvement I have seen in the bowlers but most of all I have been impressed with the friendliness of each bowler with the encouragement you all provide each other, particularly to those who were having a bad day. To me this is what bowls is about.

We also commenced a mentor program with some 50 bowlers becoming involved. Signs are good for the program, but we have come to a grinding halt due to the latest restrictions. But I can assure you all that it will be back bigger and better. Coaching and training will commence again as soon as we are allowed.

Just before this lockdown we were looking at starting a new tournament. This tournament will be for all bowlers who have played for 5 years or less on 1/7/21 and have not won any singles tournaments at any club. Originally it would have been a pre-season tournament, but this couldn't happen, so I am hoping to have it just prior to our return after the Christmas break. More details will follow soon.

There are many signs that our next season will be a successful one again, and I look forward to bowling with the best bowlers from the best club in the land. See you soon.

Carmelo Liistro

### **The Green Keeper's view of Spring Cleaning**

During lockdown 6.0, what is happening with the Greens? Both Greens have to be maintained, kept clean and prepared for Pennant when lockdown ends. Rob Boffey and I have work permits to attend to the Greens and surrounds. We work on alternate days. Our first job was to clear the leaves and pollen from the Greens. While the plane trees are bereft of leaves, they are dropping lots of pollen. Currently we are pulling up the ditch mats and raking the sand. Roots from the plane trees have to be removed or poisoned. On the western side of the top Green, ants are tunnelling underneath the surface, so we have had to spray them with long lasting ant barrier spray, The next task is to re-mark the lines on both Greens as the old lines are fading. This is best done with two people, one to push the marker machine and the other to lay the straight board.

The Greens need to be sprayed with conditioner to reduce static. Algae and mould pose a serious risk to the integrity of the Greens; once established, their removal is difficult. We will use Kendocide to spray both Greens. Damp conditions enable green slime to grow on parts of the

concrete surrounds and black mould to take hold along the banks. Affected areas will be sprayed with the appropriate chemical. The final step is to use the mechanical brushing machine. This must wait until lockdown ends, as this heavy machine requires two people to push it onto the Greens. Brushing aims to lift the crushed synthetic fibres and remove the ingrained dirt. Each time we walk on the synthetic Green, dirt is pushed into it and the fibres compressed.

So you can see, the Green-keeper's work is ongoing. It is a busy time of the year and we are getting on with it. When Pennant starts, the Greens should be in good condition. I express my appreciation of Rob's efforts.

Rod Snibson

### Light relief

Click on this link for a truly amazing card trick  
<https://www.youtube.com/embed/PDG1mDCfoBo?rel=0>

