

Around the Green

Club Newsletter - August 2026



Annual General Meeting:

Our Annual General Meeting was held on Sunday 26 July. We had a great turnout with 44 members attending.

The following people are your contacts for the next year.

BOARD OF MANAGEMENT

Chairman	Peter Blackman
Secretary	Noel Donnelly
Treasurer	David O'Brien
Board Members	Elsbeth Orchard, Will Laver, Rob Haines

BOWLS SECTION

President	Rob Haines
Secretary	Mara Brunato
Match Committee	John Braden, Rob Jeffkins, Carmelo Liistro, Cliff Patrick
Accredited Coach	Howard Sandler
Chairman of Selectors	Kristina Robertson
Selection - Saturday & Tuesday Pennant	Peter Blackman, Kelly Sexton, Lucas Tusek

Gardens:	Rod Snibson (Co-ordinator), Helen Milne, Jen Bakker
Greens:	Rod Snibson (Director), Norm Buhagiar
Maintenance:	Will Laver, Norm Buhagiar
Provedore:	Kerry Haines
Welfare Officer:	Kelly Sexton
Newsletter and Communications:	Noel Donnelly
Bar Manager/Club Friday	Wendy Summers
Club Hire Co-Ordinator	Terry Mayes – Assistant Sandra Dunbar
Club Clothing:	Liz Telford, Sue Downes
Website:	David Crisp
House Committee:	Noel Donnelly, June Norman
Social Committee:	Vacant
Tuesday Winter Bowls:	Tony Robinson
Wednesday U3A Bowls:	Helen Milne
Wednesday Barefoot Bowls:	Jen Bakker, Craig Wilson
Thursday Winter Bowls:	David Crisp
Saturday Winter Bowls:	Vacant

There are still several opportunities for members to assist our Club in other roles, i.e. – garden, greens, Social committee, House committee, maintenance, Club Friday catering, etc.



Coach:

GAME PLAN - STRATEGY

The strategy of the game should be to win the greatest number of shots and to lose as little as possible, by giving your best. Tactics can contribute to a great outcome. Try being adaptable and play each match according to how it unfolds.

Let's break this down:

The early part of the game (first 4 – 6 ends)

Gain all the information about the green and your opponent and the hand they prefer.

Play the best side of the rink.

The draw shot is your priority.

Play correct line and weight.

Play your best length.

Concentrate on playing accurately.

THINK OF ONLY WINNING

Middle section of the game.

Time to consider your actions.

If you are ahead in the game.

Adapt to changing conditions, keep the game tight, and consolidate.

Look for the opportunities to play percentage bowls but don't take risks.

Try to be your opponent.

If you are down in the game.

Change your tactics and play with a purpose.

Play to your strengths and then play to their weaknesses.

Play the game that does not suit the opposition.

The latter part of the game (last 4-6 ends)

Assess the situation objectively.

If you are ahead in the game.

Don't relax and don't think you have won the game.

If you are in the lead, do your best to win.

If the game is close.

Stay positive, be confident, and determined.

Visualize, the result before delivering the bowl, lift the level of concentration, play as accurately as you can.

If your opponent is in front.

Don't give up - fight till the last bowl is played.

Play in the NOW- avoid negative thinking and do not look for sympathy.

Decide to make a comeback and give it your best.

You must change tactics and play to your strengths and try to unsettle your opposition.

Take the risks to retrieve an awkward situation.

WIN OR LOSE, ENJOY THE COMPANY OF YOUR OPPOSITION IN THE CLUBHOUSE, AND CELEBRATE OUR GREAT SPORT.

Howard Sandler – Coach

Chairman:

I would like to thank all those who volunteered and contributed to the running of our Club and its success over the last year.

At the same time, welcome to the new committees and especially those who have volunteered for roles in the running of our Club, success is not possible without them.

I welcome our new Coach, Howard, and I can assure you he will have a new approach to our bowling. We will now look forward to a continuing development of our facilities with the outdoor area to be developed shortly.

So, let's have a great year and get behind each other and show your support.

Peter Blackman - Chairman

Bowls Section:

With the AGM concluded last weekend, it was important that the Bowls Committee look at what was needed to prepare for the 2026-27 Pennant season. Our first meeting was last Wednesday when new committee members (Carmelo Liistro and Cliff Patrick) were welcomed and the work of outgoing members (David Crisp and Andrea Russell) acknowledged.

But first – congratulations to Martin Rowe, Norm Buhagiar and Jim Roberts for winning the Winter Triples against Mara Brunato, Will Laver and Peter Blackman. It was great to see so many turn up to watch the preliminary and grand final matches. Thanks Grayson, for the sausage sizzle and thanks David Crisp for setting up the competition (including the handicaps – great discussion starters!) and providing updates each week with ladders (Have we improved this week?).

Important dates to add to your calendar:

Opening of the Green will be on Saturday August 29th followed by round 1 of the Men's and Ladies' Club Singles Championships. Entries close on August 22nd, please put your name on the noticeboard.

Pre-Season matches against other clubs are currently being organised – keep an eye on the noticeboard for details. The Pennant season commences on October 17th and goes through to March.

Barleycorners have requested two nights for their matches at Heidelberg – Thursdays November 12th and January 21st. More details to follow.

Rob Haines - Bowls Committee

General:

Club Uniforms:

Members can order a new uniform top online from our supplier – Sports Centre. A link is located on our website.

Delivery can take up to 30 days, so if you need a top, please do not delay your order.

We still have some tops from our uniform update last season. Short and long-sleeved, ladies and men's, available for purchase - please see either Liz Telford or Sue Downes before our supplies run out. In future, members will need to order online for all new tops.

We have ordered 3 jackets and 3 hoodies for viewing if you wish to purchase one – these items will only be available via Sports Centre, as we will not be holding any stock once these 3 have been sold.



New Members:

We welcome new members, Lucy Uren and Andy Giddy.

Laura Grattidge, Tony Robinson, Rod Tully and Lindsay Mitchell have transferred to us as Full members.

Membership Fees:

A reminder to any member who has not yet renewed their membership – fees were due for payment by 31st July. Your prompt payment will be appreciated.

Sponsorship:

We have received \$1,000 in sponsorship from Bendigo Bank, East Ivanhoe. They have been supporting us for many years, with over \$12,000 received during that period. As with all sponsors, your reciprocal support is recommended.

Greens repaired:

A big thank you to all those members who assisted in the rollup and rollback of our 2 green surfaces to assist with the repair work. What a great effort and now both greens are ready for our competition pennant season.

An acknowledgement to Banyule Council who arranged and paid for the installation of a root barrier on our top green. Well done to Ben and his team.



Clubrooms Update:

Our Board has been busy updating our clubrooms over the past 3 years for the benefit of our current members and visitors. This includes the kitchen, bar, ladies and men's toilets and changerooms and in July our clubroom floor. We have been fortunate to have funds coming in each month for parking and our Board will continue with updates for the benefit of our current members and visitors.

We anticipate having drawings and costings for the update to our outside area very shortly. We will keep you informed of progress in this area, which needs a facelift for the benefit of our members and visitors. We still have some minor updates to complete in the meeting room, office and changerooms, which will occur in the coming months. Also, repairs to the sewerage system will occur in the next 2 weeks and the basement flooding is under review.



Name Badges:

If any member requires a new or replacement name badge, please put your details on the sheet on our noticeboard.

Members Monthly Dinners:

Would you like to arrange a monthly dinner on the first Friday of a month?

It's great fun and appreciated by members. Put your name on the list on the noticeboard.

Handrails:

We are in the process of installing an additional 12 handrails for the bowling greens to assist members moving on and off the greens.

Club Website:

If you would like an event added to our website, please contact David Crisp at: crisp31@outlook.com

Greens Report:

Both greens have received considerable treatment. On the John May green, the synthetic has been rolled back to level the underlying scoria gravel. Therefore, we have five playable rinks. The green has been scarified and then sprayed with Kendocide. Scarification opens the synthetic and the Kendocide prevents moss.

The top green had a root problem. The roots have been removed with help from Banyule Council. Berry Bowling Surfaces came in to roll back the synthetic surface 5 metres. The company levelled the surface, and the synthetic was rolled back into position. The green was scarified and Kendocide applied. Now we have eight playable rinks using the blue rinks. Some people may notice green moss and dark spots on the top green. The sun cannot dry out the green due to the buildings next door.

It has been proposed to the Chair of Selectors, that Saturday Pennant is played using the blue rinks, and Tuesday Pennant is played using yellow rinks. Pennant will be played in a north south direction. These are the same arrangements as last year, which was a successful year.

Garden Report:

We need more help to water gardens and weed. Helen is working on the John May green gardens. Noel has cleared leaves around the car entrance. Recently he organised a company to remove leaves from the club house roof.

Rodney Snibson – Greens Directo

Calendar of Events: - *check our website for current events*

Saturday, 29 August	Opening of Green and 1 st round of Ladies and Men's Singles
Saturday Social Bowls	12:00 for 12:30 – arrive early
Tuesday Practice	10:30 skills training followed by a short game
Thursday Practice	10:30 skills training followed by a short game
Thursday Practice	6:00 game simulation training commences 10 September
Every Wednesday	U3A from 1:00 pm
Every Wednesday	Mahjong from 3:00 pm
Every Friday	Club Friday from 4:30 pm

Every end has a story