

NEWSLETTER – JULY, 2014

Presidents update:

Whilst it is only a month since our AGM plus we are in the depths of winter, one could ask the question – what is there to write about? Well, even though we do not have the luxury of having a winter bowling programme at our own club due to having natural greens, we do however have the ability to enter tournaments at other clubs with synthetic greens and it is encouraging to note that many of our members partake in these events which keeps skill levels intact and promotes good fellowship between clubs. Even though we are in the middle of winter, there are numerous things happening within the club which are all directed towards the benefit of members and club.

Communication is critical in any form of relationship and this applies in all walks of life, even in bowling clubs and our club is no exception! However, it needs to be both ways and transparent. With this in mind, the Board is committed to keeping members informed as to what is happening – this will be in the form of meeting minutes being produced and posted in a timely manner, regular news letters keeping members up to date, the notice board kept up to date with relevant information etc. A suggestion box will be introduced shortly and any constructive suggestions/recommendations etc would be welcome.

Some of the activities happening within the club currently and upcoming are:

- **Social Event:** Invitations are being sent out for a Housie evening on Friday, 1st August commencing from 5.00 pm for \$15.00 which includes fish and chips plus 5 free cards for Housie (after that, \$2.00 per card).
- Invitations will be going out shortly for a dinner to celebrate our 30th (Pearl) Anniversary. This will be held on Friday evening the 19th of September and will conclude with a fun bowling tournament on Saturday, 20th September which will also coincide with our 2014/2015 opening day – we are utilising outside caterers for this occasion.
- The majority of the Board have now served one term and have gained invaluable experience and I have to say that I am extremely encouraged as to their attitude and enthusiasm – our two new members are Ian Burrows (Green Superintendent) and Robbie McGrane (Buildings etc).
- Valuable time has been spent with each Board member establishing areas of responsibility, team leaders and supporting volunteers for each area of our club activities etc. A chart is currently being drawn up which shows all of the above with names allocated to specific areas of activity. This chart will be displayed in a prominent place within the clubrooms. The majority of names were put forward by members but some names have been allocated from the membership list – if any member has a problem with this, please see me to discuss. Please remember: “*Life is like a game of tennis, you can’t win without serving*”.

- Some members may not be aware that prior to the AGM, Bowls North Harbour called for nominations for the various categories covering the Excellence Awards for the Centre. Our Board nominated Pat Bourke for – Volunteer of the Year and I am pleased to report that Pat was the worthy recipient of this award at the Centre AGM. Pat has also since, been nominated for this same award but on this occasion, on a national basis and this will be announced in September.
- Whilst we have managed to cover most portfolios, we have a gap with regard to a social committee. Social interaction is important in any club but it does not have to be complex nor too involved. Quiz evening, movie evening, housie etc. Ian Mckenzie is organising the upcoming Housie evening and is also going to be the “caller”. We need some names – please talk to one of the Board members.
- Last season, we experienced a degree of conflict with neighbouring clubs in regard to open tournaments being held on the same day etc. This penalised the clubs concerned with regard to reduced entries. The Match Committee have had a meeting with neighbouring clubs in an endeavour to avoid this happening again. It is pleasing to note that all who attended have been very receptive in an effort to avoid a clash of dates for open tournaments. It was also noted that last season, participation from our members at our own open tournaments was frankly, quite poor! We often had better support from clubs such as Sunnybrae etc so please, let's do something about this for the coming season.
- Just to keep you up to date – we have completed a condition report with regard to serious rusting on the shelters surrounding the greens. As a result, we have no alternative but to replace the roofing and backing on six of the shelters. Pat Bourke has located a roofing company who can provide off cuts of long run roofing iron at a very reasonable price and you will find that these shelters will be repaired and painted by club members over the next few weeks – please give Pat your name if you can help.
- You may have noticed from the last Board minutes that a grant was applied for to replace the dish washer in the kitchen and the chiller unit under the bar. The grant for the dish washer was approved but declined for the chiller unit. Repairs for this unit have been costly and appear to be ongoing. As a result, the Board has approved expenditure to replace this unit, which will take place within the next week.

Finally, it is a privilege to be your President for a third term and you can be assured that I will do my best to serve you in any way that I am able to.

Good Bowling

Trevor Duffy

President