

“Why am I required to pay the Bowls Victoria Affiliation fee if I don’t play Pennant” is the question that’s several members have asked, recently. The Bowls Section Committee’s response to this, not unreasonable, query is outlined below

1. **History** – up until a couple of years ago, Affiliation to BV was mandatory for ALL bowlers but this was eased a year or so ago, to enable new bowlers to try 6 games without being Affiliated
2. **Affiliation fees**, together with State Government grants and sponsorships, underpin the financial operations of Bowls Victoria (BV). These fees have traditionally been fixed as a \$ cost per Club member and, once paid, entitle the member to play on the greens at any Club in Australia and overseas.
3. Importantly, **Affiliation fees are now Club based, rather than fees based on the number individual members, for the year ahead have already been determined** i.e. Commencing July 1 and based on last year’s affiliates list + 7%.
4. Bowls Victoria have confirmed their expectation is that clubs will be honest and LIST AND PAY THE AFFILIATION FEE, FOR ALL PLAYING MEMBERS.

Pennant is just one of 30 or 40 aspects of the sport managed and administered by Bowls Vic. Other aspects include many that our members and the Bowls Section can/do use and/or benefit from, such as: Coaching courses, Umpires courses, Resources (including 2 booklets used by most new bowlers), Legal advice, Disabled bowlers, Armed bowlers, Admin Training, Competitive bowls in Schools, Special Needs bowls, Club help website together with the well received “Shot” magazine, weekly e-Bulletin and ready access to Bowls Australia CDO Paul Holschke who, incidentally, has give the club great support over the past couple of years

5. Your club values and appreciated the practical support and readily available resources provided by Bowls Victoria and we intend to continue to “play by their rules” and support them, by Affiliating ALL playing members.

Would you like more information? Have a look at “Passport to Affiliation” on the Bowls Victoria website or go to [Bowls Victoria Affiliation Passport](#) (copy will be placed on club notice board).