



# **VERMONT SOUTH BOWLING CLUB**

[A Section of the Vermont South Club Inc. (ABN 60 896 828 957)]

## **19<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**CHARLESWORTH PARK, LIVINGSTONE RD. VERMONT SOUTH**

**ON**

**MONDAY 8TH APRIL 2013 AT 7.30 P.M.**

### **AGENDA:**

1. Apologies.
2. Confirmation of 2012 AGM Minutes -
3. Presentation & acceptance of Annual Reports
4. Election of Office Bearers.
5. Election of Sub committees
6. Recording of Club Coaches names.
7. General Business
8. Next Annual General Meeting.

## CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

Another year and our pennant season has finished since our last AGM. We had success in our Tuesday midweek with side 2, division 1 securing a sectional flag when they beat Fermtree Gully at Bennettswood and they then played Brighton at Edithvale in the Division Semi Final but unfortunately were beaten on the day, a great team effort for the Season. Side 3, Division 2 and side 4, Division 3 also made the Sectional Finals and played well but could not secure the elusive flag.

Our Saturday Pennant side 1, Division 2, side 4, Division 5 and side 8, Ladies Only, all made the Sectional Finals but the Competition was strong and sides 1 and 8 were eliminated in the Semi Finals, side 4 got through to the Sectional Final and found Heatherdale too strong on the day. A big thank you to the many Members who supported our teams playing in the finals, it was great for the players to hear all the encouraging remarks when they needed that little something extra to boost them along.

Keith Horlock has been a tireless, supportive Secretary and a pleasure to work with along with our Deputy Chairperson Chris Holland and Treasurer Ian Oxley and all Members of the Bowls Committee.

There are many individuals, committees and Groups that our Club relies on to be able to function efficiently. These include: Coaches, Selectors, Convenors, Team Managers, Tournament and Social committees, Housekeeping, Judy Bartle and the Catering Teams, Greens Director Andrew Ross and his dedicated Team, Corporate and Try Bowls and their teams, Jock Halley and his Bar Helpers, the Garden group, Wellbeing-care - Val Weight and Derek Mullett, our Resident Maintenance Man John Molloy, Sign Writer David Perry, "painter" Stewart Andrew, Gary Simmons and his Sponsorship Team, how lucky we are to have such an enthusiastic group of members for, without the participation of these individuals, groups and all the members who pitch-in and answer the calls for working bees and other jobs as required, managing our Club would be very difficult.

It is always great to see new Members of the Club becoming involved with such enthusiasm in Pennant, Social Bowls, Social activities and Working Bees. These are ideal ways to get to know your fellow Members, form new friendships and enjoy the facilities and activities at your Club. A very warm welcome to all New Members and we hope you will enjoy your time with us.

Thanks to Barrie and Barbara Brown and their helpers, in particular Lloyd, Alex and Lachie for heading up our Juniors Program, it is great to see everybody having so much fun. Keep up the good work guys.

New East Green is progressing on time thanks to all the time and energy put in by Andrew Ross, Gary Simmons and the dedicated Green's Team. We expect the Green to be finished by the 31<sup>st</sup> of May if Contractors are on time.

Unfortunately we have faced some sad times with the passing of Brian Sampson a wonderfully gifted man, who left us with a legacy of a beautiful Garden created with a passion of all things beautiful, we are reminded of him often when we look at our Garden. There are other Members still enduring serious illnesses, we wish them well in their recovery and look forward to seeing them back on the Green.

I hope you all enjoy your Winter break and if you are travelling we look forward to your safe return and a successful and enjoyable 2013/14 Pennant Season. Finally I would like to thank my wife Jean for all her support and understanding during the last 2 years.

***John Comte - Chairman***

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

We have now completed our 1<sup>st</sup> full year operating under the new Committee structure and although the learning curve has flattened, there remains some “work in progress” as we fine-tune and develop the way we manage our activities and communicate with members.

In combining the various reports that make up this, our 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Report, it's evident just how many members, individually and collectively contribute time and energy to managing and running the Bowls Section – The Committee is most appreciative and grateful to you all.

Good communication is vital and VSC's popular e-News, together with the VSC website, are well-used, effective communication resources, that enable 76% of our members to be in “click of the mouse” touch with club events, results, news and information. eNews is edited, produced and published by John Temple - thank you John for a great resource and a job exceptionally well done. Thank you also; to our eNews “Reporters”: Neil Cameron, Michael Keel and Gail Pearson.

With up to 150 emails, documents and “flyers” crossing my desk each month, e-mail has become the “Normal” way of corresponding with: Bowls Victoria, Eastern Ranges Bowls Region, other bowls clubs and our members. Consequently, we implemented this year a simple electronic document storage/back-up system to safeguard against loss; of critical records and documents.

Membership has fallen slightly over the past year (from 247 to 241) but with 5 or 6 people presently being coached and close to being “passed to play”, together with one “Transfer” already under way, our membership remains reasonably healthy and trending towards our “June 2013 Target” (Ref “Development – Strategy Plan”) of 250 members. However, with a predictable “drop off” at the start of the new club-year, the Committee is aware of the long-term need; for growth!

Welcoming and helping new members ease into club life, on and off the green continues to run smoothly, thanks to our band of committed Coaches, teaching on-green elements of the game, our group of calm Mentors and the “Thursday Group”, organised with inimitable style; by Ray Spelman. The Committee is delighted with the way the new member care process is working!

On March 25<sup>th</sup> we participated in a “Club Health Check”, a Bowls Australia initiative; facilitated by BA Community Development Officer (CDO) Paul Holtschke, when several members of the Committee met with Paul and responded to a series of set questions that:

*“explored and identified key drivers and critical success factors crucial to success at club level, used to build a picture of the way your club carries out its operations and activities and form the basis to for an overall Report”.*

The Report features an action plan and templates:

*“Specifically designed to facilitate discussion and guide planning for your club”.*

The Report, aimed at “*developing and improving the clubs systems and processes as well as proactively looking to the future*”, will be considered by the new Committee. Meantime, Paul Holtschke later observed the Report to be “**An outstanding result for the club**”.

In closing I wish to thank; Chairman John, Asst. Sec Gail Pearson, the Committee and my off-committee collaborators: past Sec. Geoff Bryant, VSC Sec Jim Baker, VSC Membership Sec. Paul Dunn & Webmaster John Temple, for their support and encouragement; over the past year.

**Keith Horlock - Secretary**

## BOWLS SECTION TREASURER'S REPORT - Income & Expenditure to 31/3/2013

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>Year to 31/3/2013</b>	<b>Year to 31/3/2012</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Green Fees Social	33385	34488	(1103)
Green Fees	23511	21386	2125
Raffles	14196	12677	1519
Book Sales	828	687	141
Food Sales	1911	1306	605
Misc Sales	112	188	(76)
Social Functions	1391	1275	116
Corporate Bowls	5056	3508	1548
Gala Day	1652	1674	(22)
Bowls Raffle	484	330	154
Donations	210	0	210
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>82736</b>	<b>78631</b>	<b>4105</b>
<b>EXPENITURE</b>	<b>Year to 31/3/2013</b>	<b>Year to 31/3/2012</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Bowls -Prizes	8821	8176	645
Housekeeping	5836	5965	-129
Greens Maintenance	1200	1331	-131
Stationery	749	847	-98
Catering	2406	3607	-1201
Meat Vouchers	800	1150	-350
Engraving	39	190	-151
Try Bowls	95	16	79
Promotions	555	211	344
Corporate	634	0	634
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>23374</b>	<b>23717</b>	<b>-343</b>
<b>Profit</b>	<b>59362</b>	<b>54914</b>	<b>4448</b>

Although Green fees for the year were affected by lost days, due to the heat, our overall revenue for the year was considerably higher than last year in most other areas, while expenses were generally contained, resulting in another profitable year for the Club.

**Ian Oxley – Treasurer**

### SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

Another year working to provide our members with a variety of social activities and we thank all our members for the support given to the trips and functions including:

Crown Casino, The Don Jones Magic of Laughter Show, 2 Bowls On The Road trips, a visit to Parliament House, Theatre (South Pacific), The Christmas Party, Flinders Bowls Club, Yarra Glen Races, and of course, our annual weekend away at Cobram. Unfortunately, in March, we had to cancel a planned bus trip to Castlemaine, due to lack of interest.

Feedback; from members who participated in these activities, was generally very positive.

We look forward to the continued support from all of our members during the coming club-year.

**Norman Weight - Social Committee Chairman**

## BOWLS 1 & 2- PORTFOLIO REPORT

### Selection:

Congratulations to all sides that made the finals.

We had 3 sides in the finals in Saturday pennant with Div 2 being defeated by Monbulk in the Semi Sectional. Div 5 won on Saturday beating Yarra Glen and although defeated by Heatherdale in the Sectional Final, this side will be promoted, next season, to Div 4.

Div 10 Ladies team was defeated by Doncaster in the Semi Sectional.

### Tuesday Pennant:

Div 1 Open won the section, defeating Burwood & Ferntree Gully, but was defeated in Qtr. Finals by Brighton. Div 2 defeated Mitcham but was defeated by Chirnside Park in the Sectional Final. Div 3 side was beaten by North Balwyn in the Semi Sectional.

### Finishing position on ladders:

<b>Saturday:</b>	Div 2 Sect 5	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Div 2 Sect 6	10 <sup>th</sup>	Div 3 Sect 6	7 <sup>th</sup>	Div 5 Sect 5	1 <sup>st</sup>
	Div 6 Sect 5	5 <sup>th</sup>	Div 7 Sect 6	5 <sup>th</sup>	Div 9 Sect 3	7 <sup>th</sup>	Div10 Sect 2	4 <sup>th</sup>

<b>Tuesday:</b>	Div 1 Sect 3 (WO)	10 <sup>th</sup>	Div1 Sect 6	1 <sup>st</sup>	Div 2 Sect 4	4 <sup>th</sup>
	Div 3 Sect 3	3 <sup>rd</sup>	Div 3 Sect 4	6 <sup>th</sup>	Div 5 Sect 1	5 <sup>th</sup>

On behalf of the Selection committee we would like to thank Lloyd Iaccarino for his fantastic effort with the development group on Saturday mornings and for the drills he ran on Monday nights throughout the pennant season. All those who participated benefited and were most appreciative.

Also, many thanks to Margaret Borden for the drills program she ran through the winter.

Thank you to all the "Emergencies", who filled-in during the season and special thanks to members that filled-in at very short notice, due to late withdrawals.

### Umpiring:

Congratulations and thanks to Gwen & Jim Baker who became Level 1 umpires. We need to encourage members interested in this critical aspect of our game, to complete the umpires course and become an accredited umpire, because our panel of umpires is gradually being depleted.

### Coaching (*Margret Borden - Coaching Co-Coordinator*).

It has been a busy year for the coaching panel and we are all still working hard to coach our new bowlers and have them ready for the Winter Social Bowls. Pat Andrew, Barrie Brown, Ian Heatley and David Perry have supported me through the season and I thank them for all their hard work.

Ian Heatley has resigned as a coach after 13 years of coaching numerous people who have gone to improve and enjoy their bowls. Ian was Chairperson of the Coaching Panel for nine years and for the last four years has supported me in that role. We thank Ian for all his hard work and the Club has been enriched by his work. We look forward to the 2013/14 Season.

### Junior Bowls:

We had one of our Junior Bowler play Pennant this season. Junior coaching is continuing on a Friday night this term.

### Special Needs Bowls:

Many thanks to the members who help our regular Special Needs Group of visitors, to participate in and benefit from, an outdoor activity on Wednesday mornings.

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### **Corporate Bowls:**

After seven weeks of activity during November and early December the Corporate Bowls dedicated team completed their 11<sup>th</sup> event on 19<sup>th</sup> December. These organized events, which have seen over 250 visitors' to the Club, have produced the fantastic result of \$5,017 net profit after allowing for expenses and bar purchases. This result is a substantial increase on last year's figure of \$3,200 importantly all this income is from external sources and therefore non member generated.

Whilst there is a small core of key regulars a special thanks goes to the enthusiastic band of helpers (over 40 members) who have so willingly given of their time assisting with on the green organization, food preparation/serving and cleaning up, BBQ cooking and serving behind the bar. Your ongoing involvement in this important facet of our Club's operation is very much appreciated.

Following 3 years in the role of Co-coordinator Clive Wilson has indicated it is time for a change and we are seeking someone to take on this role. This essentially represents a commitment and involvement for only 8-10 weeks of the year. In stepping aside Clive will naturally make sure a proper handover is preformed and will still be available for assistance as required.

### **Tournament:**

The Tournament committee invited our convenors, not on committee, to our first meeting of the season, to go over the format of the event they were running. We also decided to run Social Sundays through the winter months, thanks to Judy Bartle & Florence Parker.

Our special days, Orange & Green in June was run as a 2 bowl triples event was sponsored by Dench's who donated 2 meat trays for our raffles. This was a great day and good money earner. We also ran an Open Pairs Tournament on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September which was very popular, and worth repeating next year.

Gala Day Tournament, run in November, was once again very successful our sponsor this year was Hillross. We had 26 teams on the day and profit was \$1650. Thank you to Val Weight & Florence Parker for all their work in organising this day, and thanks also to Ronda Benetti for her work on the draw and results. We thank all members in the effort to make this a great day. Our Catering Ladies put on a first class meal.

This year our Social Sunday Bowls program was well supported and we have tried to keep interest alive with running a different theme each month.

A Special Tournament on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> January was, unfortunately, cancelled because we only received entries from 2 visiting clubs and 6 entries from our club.

### **Club Champion Champions:**

<b>Event</b>	<b>Champion(s)</b>	<b>Runner(s) Up</b>
<b>Women's Singles</b>	Liz Boucher	Val Weight
<b>Men's Singles</b>	Andrei Butskikh	Ed Benetti
<b>Women's Pairs</b>	Jean Walter & Pauline Wilson	Christine Holland & Liz Boucher
<b>Men's Pair's</b>	Allan Lamb & Geoff Bryant	Andrew Ross & Allen Fary.
<b>Mixed Pairs</b>	Jean Walter & Oska Setyana	Val & Norm Weight
<b>Women's 100 Up</b>	Mary Farley	Marge Pugh
<b>Men's 100 Up</b>	Peter Ballam	Michael Summers
<b>Novice Singles</b>	Peter Ballam	Chas Amos.
<b>Men's Presidents H'cap</b>	Not completed, Phil Staley & Alan Rolfe to play off	

**Barrie and Barbara Brown - Bowls 1 and 2 Co-ordinators**

## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

It has been a busy past year for the Membership “crew”, with four Try Bowls Days, two in October and two in February, with sixteen persons attending in October and fourteen in February - Thank you to all members who assisted on these days and also to those members who assisted with our 3 day Promotion at Forest Hill Shopping Centre.

To Florence Parker, Graeme Marchment, and Ken Barnhill, thank you for your help over the past two years.

The Vermont South Bowls Club received 17 new members between May 2012 and end of March 2013. New members are the life blood of our club and we should embrace them with open arms.

**David Russell - Membership Coordinator**

## FACILITIES POTFOLIO REPORT

Members of the components that make the Facilities Portfolio can look back on the 2012-2013 season and see it as an action packed time. It has been a pleasure to communicate with these members, as their efforts can go unnoticed and yet they undoubtedly offer so much to the running of our club.

### Greens Committee Report

Andrew has pleasure in presenting this report to the members of the Vermont South Bowling Club outlining some of the activities for the year and providing information regarding the reconstruction of the East Green.

Firstly, my thanks for the support of a wonderful team of willing workers namely; “The 4 Bennett’s”, Noel, John, Tony and Ian and the Non Bennett’s of Ron Vogeale and Keith Horlock. The Greens Committee members spend hours preparing the greens twice a week from 7.30am to 10.00am Monday and Friday mornings from early September to end of March and once a week for the remainder of the year.

Three goals were set at the start of the year.

1. To achieve a green speed of less than 17 seconds for all pennant games.
2. Obtain the highest possible rating for the annual Greens Inspection.
3. To maintain the greens to the best of our ability and provide members with the best possible playing surfaces.

These three goals were achieved with the West Green rated an A the highest level possible.

The major highlight this year was gaining approval from the VSC to complete final negotiations with KCL for reconstruction of the East Green. This project has taken a huge amount of time including, numerous meetings, obtaining quotes, preparing a questionnaire, sent it to over 30 clubs in New South Wales, South Australia and country Victoria, as well as inspections of KCL, Tiger Turf and ABS greens. KCL won the job and came very highly recommended. The sub-committee comprised: Stewart Andrew, Geoff Bryant, Phil Staley, John Comte, Gary Simmons and myself.

This project is now well underway after 34 club members started decommissioning the green and surrounds in preparation for the contractors starting three days later. By now the sprinkler system will have been replaced, drainage trenches dug to provide additional water run-off points for surface water to exit the green. Electrical works will also be completed and concrete paving nearly completed on 4 sides of the green. Work on removing the old surface prior to laying the new synthetic surface is scheduled to commence on May 1st. Practical completion is hoped to be on 17th May.

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After the contractors finish we will need to reinstate the surrounds, set out the green, mark the rinks etc., also roll and water the green prior to play commencing. We anticipate that the green will be ready for play about one month later.

**In the meantime please note that the East Green is a work site, with the Greens Office now a contractor's site office, please for your safety sake, do not wander in to this area uninvited as the ground is uneven with numerous trenches and pits uncovered.**

Other important aspects of the season's efforts are;

- Scarifying, watering and regular grooming to reduce green speeds.
- Regular poisoning and spraying to remove algae from the surface of both greens
- Modification of greens usage to reduce wear on both greens at different times of the year.
- Painting lines on greens instead of using chalk.
- Regular trimming of trees and shrubs to limit overshadowing.
- Obtaining an old side roller repaired and re-commissioned by Stewart Andrew

Thank you to all club members for your support and encouragement and acknowledging the work these highly skilled.....under paid greens committee fellows do. We would be at a loss without each one of them. Also thanks to Christine Holland who as Facilities Co-Coordinator has supported us and been a great link between the Committee and us, in passing on information relevant to our work.....Great bowling everyone. See you on the new green.

### ***Andrew Ross - Greens Director***

#### **Gardens and Surrounds**

In memory and appreciation of the work and vision of Brian Sampson, the garden group has continued to keep the last Friday of the month as a regular gardening effort.

Pruning shrubs, trimming the top from hedges, re defining the garden along the car park area, spreading truckloads of mulch, endless weeding and new planting keep the team busy. The members who attend regularly are certainly appreciated and their efforts and energy are needed to ensure the surrounds survive.

A special thanks is conveyed to the Greens Team who regularly under take the more physical, heavy tasks around the grounds.

**It is hoped that in the 2013/2014 season, someone (member or nonmember) will volunteer to lead the Garden group and that more members will "diarise" the last Friday of the month to come along to help manage the upkeep of our beautiful area.**

#### **Maintenance**

In a busy club there is always something to be introduced, updated, replaced or repaired (signs falling off, broken globes, scoops needing new wheels or de-rusting, new stoppers for chairs, etc. etc. ....) As a club we are very fortunate to have John Molloy, Jim Baker, Stewart Andrew and Ron Vogeles and other "handy men" who have the skill to come up with remedies whenever they receive a request. Sincere thanks to all of you.

A special "round of applause" must be given to Stewart Andrew. He has spent many, many early hours painting the outside of the clubrooms as well as adding a new life to the woodwork. The result certainly adds to the attractiveness of our club for ourselves and prospective members.

#### **Housekeeping**

With the increased variety of games and meetings happening throughout the past year there has been a constant demand on Margaret Sampson. She has maintained and replenished supplies (not only food supplies but also cleaning material, dishwasher items, outside water cups and bathroom needs) for all of us to consume. Additional shopping trips and extra refilling and tidying up are all part of her role. Margaret's dedication to this task is commendable and appreciated. Joy Smith and Gail Pearson have recently volunteered to be part of the housekeeper role and have been working with Margaret each Wednesday. Their help will be an advantage to all of us.

### ***Christine Holland - Facilities Portfolio***



## M&PR - SPONSORSHIP REPORT

The Marketing and Public Relations (M&PR) Committee role remained unfilled during the early part of the year and despite a concerted recruiting “drive” the Committee was unable to find anyone to take-on this key position.

Towards the end of 2012, Ken and Pam Barnhill offered to lend a hand, off-Committee, with M&PR activities, reporting through me to the Committee with my M&PR involvement, limited to being the “Link” between Ken Barnhill and the Committee.

This arrangement has enabled me to learn and develop the “Sponsorship” element of my role and, working closely with Gary Simmons and, thanks to Gary’s considerable assistance and guidance, I have been able to get a “few runs on the board”.

Visiting major sponsors and inviting them to attend one of our more popular bowls events, once a month, has enabled me to show sponsors our impressive facilities and let them see us at “work” on the green. Feedback from sponsors has been most encouraging.

A key sponsor/event management resource; is our calendar of sponsored events which simplifies the task of ensuring the level of advertising exposure/promotion is relative to and matches the level of financial support; provided. Barrie Brown, provided concerted, hands-on, assistance in the development of this key resource – Thanks Barrie

Unfortunately; we have lost a couple of sponsors over the past year, but I am delighted to advise we have gained sponsorship from – **Tyres & More Vermont, Okka Pies** (increased level), **Poppies on Canterbury Restaurant and Hillross Investments**. Please support these businesses where possible and be sure to mention you are from Vermont South Club.

We are presently negotiating with a major car dealer and a computer accessory business and I’m hoping for a positive response from both companies.

Aside from sponsorship, there are 2 major Fundraisers coming up:

- **Bunnings Warehouse, Vermont South** – Sausage Sizzle on 7 July 2013
- **Opportunity Shop, Mt Waverley** – manning the shop early 2014

Please mark these in your diaries and offers to help on both or either occasion will be welcome?

Finally, thank you again to Ken and Pam Barnhill for your support and cooperation and to Gary Simmons, thank you again for your support.

**Neil Cameron.**