



VERMONT SOUTH BOWLING CLUB

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

21st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & Reports

MEETING AGENDA:

1. Apologies.
2. Confirmation of 2014 AGM Minutes
3. Presentation & acceptance of Annual Reports
4. Election of Office Bearers.
5. Election of Sub committees
6. Recording of Accredited and Club Coaches
7. General Business
8. Date of 21st AGM.

ANNUAL REPORTS (FOLLOW)

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CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

The Bowls Committee have performed their duties this past year with enthusiasm and dedication, Vice President Chris Holland has always been there to assist me when required and I thank her for her help. Secretary Keith Horlock as always has performed his duties admirably throughout the year. I thank all Committee members for their service to the club.

Our membership has continued to hold steady and this trend should continue if we follow our dedicated approach to gaining new members. We had an excellent result from our last Try Bowls Days and thanks to all coaches and members who participated.

Most of our success as a Bowls club rests with the dedicated people who undertake the numerous tasks required to make organisations, such as ours, run smoothly and we are lucky to have so many willing helpers prepared to pitch-in and do whatever it takes!.

Andrew Ross and the Greens committee have done an excellent job with the outcome being the best running synthetic greens in Melbourne, well done Andrew and the greens team.

Vivienne Bennett has the gardens looking at their best. John Molloy has undertaken substantial general maintenance around the club facilities, with the clubs general appearances maintained by Stewart Andrew.

Pennant Selectors have had a difficult year working hard to give all pennant players the opportunity to play up to or above their demonstrated level of skill and ability.

Season outcomes for Saturday pennant sides were mixed with five of our six sides finishing up well down the ladder in their respective sections. The highlight of the Saturday pennant season went to our No 1 Saturday side that finished 2nd on the ladder winning through to a home final against Upwey Tecoma BC who eventually won the honours

Four of our six Midweek pennant sides played in Finals with our Div 4 side winning their Section flag and promotion to Div 3.

The Tournament committee, chaired by Mal Walker, efficiently ran all Club Championship events and our new 2014-15 Club Singles Champions are Peter Ballam and Mary Farley, congratulations to all of our new Champions!

As always, our Social committee filled the social calendar with great events and activities and raised significant funds for the club. Well done Norman and a big thank-you to your committee.

George Vayonitis also did a magnificent job after taking over the Barefoot Corporate Bowls initiative. There are many other members, who like George, have the clubs interest at heart willingly taking on a wide-ranging number of jobs and tasks around the club. These members are too many to mention by name but we really do appreciate your time and effort!

Our Club would not survive without Volunteers . To all our new members I would ask that you get involved in any way you can to help this great Club running. THE CLUB NEEDS YOU!

Finally, Thanks to all the members for their support over the past two years and to my wife Pat thanks for your patience and help. I wish the incoming Chairman and Committee every success for their terms of office.

David Russell - Chairman

SECRETARY'S REPORT

We have now completed our 3rd full year as a unified club and the secretarial administrative routine, processes and procedures are established and settled in to "steady as she goes" status!

In combining the various reports that make up this, our 21st Report, reminds me again of 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. Unlike last year our endeavour to persuade members to join one of various sub committee's and/or the Committee has been successful because we have received a nomination for all vacant Committee positions

VSC's e-News, edited, produced and published by John Temple, continues to be a great means of communicating news and information to members. eNews is distributed to about 83% of our bowls membership (approx. 250), which is down a little from last year (86%). Unfortunately, a substantial number of members, without email access (roughly 40) miss-out on eNews and an item on the Committee's "to do" list is to develop a simple efficient means of enabling these members to access this wonderful resource. Thanks John for your ongoing dedication to the task of producing an interesting, informative, weekly edition of eNews! Thanks also to our "resident" Bowls Section Reporter Gail Pearson and other occasional and regular contributors.

Our membership remains health at about 250 – 90 Women and 160 men. With 26 new members (M15 men and W11) joining over the past year and we remain one of just a few clubs in the State where membership continues to hold steady. (Bowls Aust CDO, Paul Holtschke)

We continue to connect well with our community, by hosting events for schoolchildren, local businesses, clubs via Barefoot Corporate Bowls activities and special needs groups. We have also worked closely and assisted Eastern Ranges Bowls Region over the summer season by successfully hosting a number of Regional Championship events and over the next few months we are hosting, on behalf of Bowls Victoria, a Coaches training course (April 18/19) and a training day for the Victorian under 18 Squads (20th June)

The way we administer club business has changed but significantly, it's the rapid change that's taken place over the last year or so, that's had an impact on club secretaries throughout the State as the paperless electronic way of doing things pushes it's incessant way forward generating challenges and the need to reorganise (*some say creating an illusion of progress!*). A major aspect of this change has be the introduction by Bowls Victoria of the "Bowls Connect Online Database" which each club is expected to maintain. With about 20 editable box's per member (approx 250), has resulted in the need to check/cross-check with our own database, about 5000 pieces of information and I am most grateful to Wendy O'Brien for her assiduous help with this tedious task!

In closing this report, I'd like to acknowledge and thank the Committee and my other collaborators: VSC Sec Jim Baker, VSC Membership Sec., Paul Dunn, webmaster John Temple, Wendy O'Brian for their support and encouragement. My special thanks also to Val Weight, for her understanding and sensitive care of those among us who have been/are unwell or unable to play bowls.

Keith Horlock - Secretary

TREASURERS REPORT

Please Refer to the attached etailed report (last page) for the 2014-15 club year. It is pleasing to note an increase in revenue of \$15,451 derived from the following areas;

- The 2 tournaments run by Gary Simmons & his team \$5097
- Corporate events run by George Vayonitis & his team \$3513
- Social Committee functions \$1482
- Fund raising events run by Neil Cameron & Wyn McNamara's Monster Raffle \$1400

The balance of \$3959 derived from an increase (over previous year) in Green fee revenue.

Expenses increased by less than \$1400 resulting in an overall **increase** in net revenue of \$14,080 and the Committee would like to thank everyone involved with this outstanding result, achieved by a lot of hard work and dedication.

Ian Oxley – Bowls Sect Treasurer

BOWLS 1 REPORT

Saturday Pennant (Chair: Allan Lamb)

Our 6 sides had mixed fortunes with the final ladder positions:

Sat	Div 2 Sect 5* 3 rd (third successive semi-final loss)	Div 2 Sect 6 8 th	Div 3 Sect 5 9 th
	Div 4 Sect 4 10 th	Div 6 Sect 6 8 th	Div 7 Sect 5 7 th

The Saturday pennant selection panel would like to acknowledge the support of members who acted as "emergencies" throughout the season and we are pleased to report that each week we were able to field six complete teams of 16 players. The number of "outs" each week continues to be a concern for the competitiveness of all six sides. This impacts all teams, but particularly sides playing in lower Divisions. Not all members understand the impact absences have on all teams. Fortunately, early concerns about rotation did not become a reality due to unavailability numbers.

We would also like to thank those who acted as team managers for each of the six teams. Without these people our teams could not function appropriately. Hopefully, next season will see new volunteers for these positions.

Developing bowling standards across all sides continues to concern of selectors. Dwindling member interest in the pre-season and regular, team practice are also concerns to be addressed.

Midweek Pennant (Chair: Ronda Benetti)

We had a positive season and finished with 4 sides playing finals, a rewarding result! The other 3 sides were very competitive in their divisions. The Division 4 Side won the section and flag and will be promoted to Division 3 next season which will give us sides in all divisions.

The new voting slips, enabled bowlers to self-access their performance, have provided added information for selectors.

Ronda and Allan, thank all members of both selection panels for their support and time throughout the season. They are also very appreciative of the duty teams and members who remembered their afternoon tea and lunch duties as these tasks contribute to the smooth running of both days.

Night Pennant (Mal Walker) had a great finish to the season in winning the last six matches including two games away against Box Hill RSL and Heathmont BC. The side finished third and it was pleasing that during the season all home matches were winners.

Coaching (Geoff Bryant. Coordinator)

With a new coordinator and many new coaches, the coaching panel have worked hard and created a strong presence this season.

Monday skills sessions had good attendances each week with enthusiastic participation and focused manner. A planned program of drills to help everybody improve their game under the guidance of accredited coaches was provided. All bowlers, whether they were pennant, social, experienced, inexperienced, front end or back end players were provided for and drills changed regularly so as to provide interest and variety for all participants. The added use of the west green for skills was good as the focus on this green was on draw bowling so it appealed to newer bowlers and front end players.

Since the final successful Try Bowls promotion, the coaching panel has been busy preparing new bowlers for winter social bowls.

Our accredited coaches are Andrei Butskikh, Jim Baker, Jim Cull, David Perry, Pat Russell, Gary Simmons and Geoff Bryant. The coaches are conscious of the fact that the group will be seen as novice coaches for the benefit of new and inexperienced bowlers however, there is bowling experience, bowling skill and a passion to help within the group. Members at all levels wanting some coaching or work on a specific skill are encouraged to catch up with coaches or contact Geoff Bryant to organise a mutually convenient time to work together or if convenient, at a recently introduced Tuesday afternoon, individual coaching sessions .

BOWLS 1 REPORT Cont

Tournament (Mal Walker. Chairperson)

The Tournament Committee has been an active group of five members who have coordinated a season of social bowls, tournaments and club championships. All committee members have shown great commitment to the betterment of our great club.

Gary Simmons must be congratulated on his commitment in running the annual Pro-shot Tournament. Likewise, Val Weight excelled in coordinating the annual Gala Day which returns good income to the Club.

The annual Mulgrave Country Club Challenge with 128 players filling both greens was another highlight. The major prizes on the night were taken out by our own teams but in the end, Mulgrave CC won the event by 21 shots.

Many great contests were witnessed throughout the Club Championships. Barbara Brown's commitment in assisting with the running of these games and the support given by markers made the events a valuable part of our bowling season.

2014-15 Club Champion Champions:

Event	Champion(s)	Runner(s) Up
Women's Singles	Mary Farley	Barbara Carroll
Men's Singles	Peter Ballam	John Temple
Women's Pairs	Christine Holland & Barbara Brown	Jean Walter & Barbara Bartlett
Men's Pair's	Andrew Ross & Graeme Durrant	Andrei Butskikh Oska Setyana
Mixed Pairs	Mal Walker & Barbara Carroll	Norm Weight & Val Weight
Women's 100 Up	Viv Bennett	Barbara Bartlett
Men's 100 Up	Rick Carver	George Vayonitis
Novice Singles	Rick Carver	Dave McJanett
Chairman/s Open H'cap	Angela Bonutto	Phil Staley

The Tournament committee also made recommendation for and received approval from the Bowls Committee to an increase of \$420 in Championship prize money to a total of \$1,050; to purchase own score cards which included our sponsors names and for The Dennis Young's Memorial Trophy to be played for by the 1st teams from VSC and Heatherdale BC, annually

Thank you to Christine Burfitt, for her secretarial skills and to Ken Barnhill for his computer skills. Next season it would be wonderful to see some new members join this committee as fresh ideas are always being sought and it is a valuable way of learning more about the club.

Umpiring (Ian Bauer. Coordinator)

This season has seen many changes with new laws effective from 1st Jan 2015, new law books and a new, three tier system of officiating in the game (marker, measurer and umpire).

The panel of accredited umpires in our club is less than in previous years. Our current umpires include Ian Bauer, John Temple, Jim and Gwen Baker, Chris Holland, John Comte, David Russell. Since this is a critical aspect of our game, members are encouraged to consider developing their skills and understanding of bowls by participating in tutorials that lead to accreditation.

Christine Holland B1 Coordinator

BOWLS 2- REPORT

Social Bowls: Due to the tireless efforts of our organisers, our social bowling programme continues to flourish. The club owes a debt of gratitude to those who sacrifice their own time so that we can enjoy our bowls.

Monday. The 2-4-2 Pairs competition run by Mal Walker is a popular format, particularly with visiting bowlers who make up at least 50% of attendance and contribute healthy funds to our club.

Tuesday. Florence Parker and Judy Bartle are stepping down this year (I will miss my soup!) but the Club intends to continue to offer a social comp run by David Russell. Watch this space!

Wednesday. The 3-bowl Triples is another well supported event. Michael Summers and Robin Grouse have very successfully kept this running during summer season and will soon be handing the reins over to our winter organisers, Peter Ballam supported by Alan Rolfe and Denis Quintal.

Wednesday night bowls is an important offering for our members who are fortunate (or unfortunate, depending on how you look at it) to still be working. Little Pat Osborn, our own 'pocket dynamo', has taken on the running of this and is doing a great job.

Thursday. Jackpot Ray Spelman does a fantastic job of organising this event, which for many is the highlight of the social programme. I have yet to meet someone who does not enjoy the day, even in defeat, and the jackpot draw is always highly anticipated.

Saturday. We are looking to re-introduce Saturday social bowls now that pennant season has finished. Format will depend on numbers interested, and Jock Halley has agreed to run this in the short term, up until he goes into hibernation for the winter.

Special Needs Bowls. Some new faces have been added to the team of volunteer helpers for this year, bringing the total to fifteen, and helping to spread the load. Our Club is proud to offer this service to the community, and the day is thoroughly enjoyed by the volunteers and the special-needs group, some of whom are real characters.

Acknowledgement is due to Bernadette Ross, Margaret Sampson and the team.

Corporate Bowls. George Vayonitis has assumed responsibility for corporate events and already is making this a substantial source of funds for the club.

George has been invited to join Bowls Committee meetings regularly to assist in coordinating corporate events with our busy bowls programme.

Moves are afoot to establish four teams of 6-8 volunteers to rotate in assisting George Vayonitis with running these events. The teams will be lead by Mike Emery, Michael Keel, Dave McJannet and one other. If you are able to help, please contact one of these leaders.

Dave McJannet - Bowls 2 Co-ordinator

TRY BOWLS REPORT

Try Bowls events were held over four consecutive Friday evenings, in February. Participants were welcomed with a tour of our clubhouse, and then participated in bowling practice and this activity followed-up with a sausage sizzle and light refreshments.

A combination of 60 women and men attended over the four days with at least nine new members joining-up and moving on to coaching sessions.

Thanks to Florence Parker, Graeme Marchment and Ken Barnhill whom have been on the Try Bowls Committee over the past three years. Thanks also to Pat Osborn and Pat Gow for catering on these occasions. Also thanks to Geoffrey Bryant, coaches and members who assisted participants with their on-green endeavours.

From feedback I received from the visitors I can assure you that they were very impressed with our facilities, and also with the enthusiasm and friendliness extended to them by our members. The task now of course is to convert as many of those Try Bowls participants into new members, and I am delighted to say procedures to achieve this have already commenced.

To conclude this report I would very much to express my appreciation to each and every of you who contributed to the success of these days. Those of you who were there will understand that the significant number of members involved makes naming all people impractical in this report, but a huge thank you to you all for making these Try Bowls days such a success.

David Russell Chairman.

FACILITIES REPORT

Andrew Ross and his greens team have provided members and visitors alike with greens well up to Pennant standard and a credit to those members that spend many hours each week preparing both greens.

Andrew's main goals again this year, were set at the start of the season;

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 provide members with the best possible playing surfaces.

These three goals were achieved with East Green awarded an "A" (Very Good) rating the highest level possible and our West green rated "B" (Good).

Important regular maintenance work included;

- 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.
- Regular trimming of trees and shrubs to limit overshadowing.
- Cleaning ditches, banks and surrounds

Repairs to shelters and drinks fountains, removing rubbish and garden maintenance

Viv Bennett and her group of dedicated gardeners have presented both the gardens and surrounds in great shape and admired by both members and visitors, alike.

Our maintenance manager John Malloy has repaired/replaced and/or skilfully manufactured many of our assets and routinely proving that no job was too challenging or too much trouble

Finally, Stewart Andrew has our clubhouse and decking looking very smart regularly preparing jaded surfaces and applying a fresh coat of paint as needed. Secretary Keith has found time in his busy job to maintain the watering system and arranging / sorting Barefoot Corporate Bowls equipment. Our thanks to the members that have supported these Groups

Noel and Viv Bennett

SPONSORSHIP and FUNDRAISING

Sponsorship

We have had another successful year and I am pleased to report that we have gained, over the past year, gaining three main sponsorships and two minor sponsors

- **Domino's Pizza** – Vermont South
- **Ryman-Weary Dunlop Retirement Village** – Wheelers Hill
- **Blue Cross Livingstone Gardens Retirement Village** – Vermont South
- Mountain View Hotel – Glen Waverley
- Aussie Gutter Protection - Mobile contractors

Col Smith Garden Supplies Pty Ltd recently withdrew their long-standing sponsorship and our thanks go to this company for their past support and goodwill. However, on a positive note, I'm hoping to soon add an Electrical Warehouse and local Physiotherapist to our list of sponsors!

Ringwood Mazda continues to receive great support from members as, at last count they have purchased 16 vehicles from this company since commencement of their sponsorship 2 years ago.

Sponsorship Cont

My thanks to all who assist me this year, including

- Gary Simmons for his enduring help and guidance,
- John Temple for eNews articles, copy and exposure of sponsors logo's,
- Barrie Brown for assistance with calendar of Sponsored events
- David Perry for his skilled assistance with the Sponsors Board,
- John Molloy and the maintenance team for erecting advertising signs.
- Social bowls Convenors for promoting sponsors and helping Sponsors present to players

My thanks to members who favour our sponsors products and or service offered. From time to time, members suggest potential sponsors and these suggestions are most welcome. However, we do need to fulfil our commitment to existing new and long-standing sponsors and, importantly ensure that we professionally manage the risk of signing-up a business that could be or be seen by an existing sponsor, as a competitor.

As always' I will do my best to maintain a good relationship with all our sponsors and I look forward to the next 12 months being as successful and positive as the club year just past!

Fundraising

Two great fundraising opportunities raised nearly \$2000 last year and these have been booked again, please do what you can to support and get behind both activities again this year

- **Opportunity Shop** – Booked again for May 15
- **Bunnings sausage sizzle**- Booked for July 15 (not done last year)

Thank you to all that have supported me and our sponsors during the past year and I will continue to strive to the best of my ability for Bowls Section and VSC during the club-year ahead.

Neil Cameron Sponsorship Coordinator.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

A busy year again for the social committee, we organised a variety of activities and thank all members who supported and helped with these functions and trips. We also thank the many people who donated items that we used for prizes in the raffles held at these functions.

Our activities this past year included: Crown Casino, Rod & Liza Cabaret, Musical Cats, \$1,000 raffle night, My Fair Lady, at The Whitehorse Theatre, Christmas party, visit to Flinders bowls club and Yarra Glen races and the end of season party.

Feedback received from members, who participated in these activities, was mostly positive.

Unfortunately, due to various circumstances, the annual club weekend away, was cancelled.

We look forward to the continued support from all of our club members and I take this opportunity to thank the Social committee for their support and commitment to the VSBC.

Norman Weight - Social committee Chairman

Treasurers Report (Bowls) 2014-15

RECEIPTS	APR	MAY	JUN	JLY	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	TOTAL	Last Year
GREEN FEES SOCIAL	2031	4768	4743	3515	4002	2361	2693	1943	1771	2527	2445	3745	36544	33058
GREEN FEES PENNANT	320				528	4258	4224	4320	3288	3144	3456	167	23705	22965
RAFFLES	611	1364	1411	1095	1284	1552	2006	1424	1053	1313	1114	863	15090	14849
BOOK SALES	60	45	80		55	80			155	75		55	605	687
FOOD SALES	336	252				336	174			246			1344	2479
MISC SALES						106		50		4		4	164	20
SOCIAL FUNCTIONS	498	631					345		720		325	520	3039	1557
CORPERATE BOWLS	535	552			625	200	2318	1042	2265	450	512	1122	9621	6108
GALA DAY								1504					1504	1430
MAJOR TOURNAMENT	3296											1801	5097	
FUND RAISING		1148				736		1318					3202	1823
DONATIONS								400		100	50		560	50
TOTAL	7687	8760	6234	4610	6494	9629	11760	12001	9252	7859	7912	8277	100475	85024
EXPENSES														
PRIZES	607	1256	1349	1421	1357	665	758	872	510	1092	426	1263	11576	12773
HOUSEKEEPING	1735		568		833			901		790	648	998	6473	5401
GREENS MAINT	35	98	16			221		267	129	108	88		962	1015
STATIONERY	279	323	137	34	146	358		145	157	400	112	233	2324	1305
CATERING	428	115	114	20	105	535	174	43	340	430	135	44	2483	2502
GARDENS	194	165	352			576				229			1516	750
GEN. MAINTENANCE			65					314	24	550	28		981	1333
WELLBEING	100					227		111	100				538	434
ENGRAVING/FRAMING	212				300								512	74
TRY BOWLS/PURCH.														275
PROMOTIONS						41	219					100	360	576
CORPORATE	74	175	51		71		122		268	119	46	90	1016	1016
FINALS GREEN FEES												84	84	
TOTAL	3664	2132	2652	1575	2812	2623	1273	2653	1528	3718	1483	2812	28825	27454
PROFIT	4023	6628	3582	3035	3682	7006	10487	9348	7724	4141	6429	5465	71650	57570