



VERMONT SOUTH BOWLING CLUB

A Section of Vermont South Club Inc.

ABN 60 896 828 957

**“Charlesworth Park” Livingstone Road, Vermont South
P O Box 6002, Vermont South 3133. Telephone: 9886 3322**

18TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**to be held at 7.30p.m. in the Bowls Clubhouse,
Charlesworth Park, Livingstone Road, Vermont South**

on

MONDAY 14TH MAY 2012

18TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

VERMONT SOUTH BOWLING CLUB

(A Section of the Vermont South Club Inc. Reg. No. A6707Z)

Monday 14th May 2012

AGENDA

- 1. Apologies.**
- 2. Notice of Meeting.**
- 3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2011 Annual General Meeting**
- 4. Business Arising from the Minutes of the 2011 Annual General Meeting.**
- 5. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2011 Men's Section AGM**
- 6. Business Arising from the Minutes of the 2011 Men's Section AGM**
- 7. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2011 Ladies Section AGM**
- 8. Business Arising from the Minutes of the 2011 Ladies Section AGM**
- 9. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 2011 Special General Meeting**
- 10. Business Arising from the Minutes of the 2011 Special General Meeting.**
- 11. Presentation and acceptance of Annual Reports.**
- 12. Election of Secretary and Committee Members:**
 - Secretary**
 - Committee (four positions).**
- 13. Appointment of members of Sub Committees:**
 - Saturday Selection**
 - Tuesday Selection**
 - Tournament**
 - Social**
 - Greens**
- 14. Appointment of Convenors / Coordinators:**
 - Greens Director**
 - Maintenance Manager**
 - Wellbeing Person**
 - Membership**
 - Gardens**
- 15. Record names of Club Coaches.**
- 16. General Business.**
- 17. Next AGM of the Vermont South Bowling Club will be held 13th May 2013.**
- 18. Next Committee Meeting will be held on 21st May 2012.**

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT

Another year and Pennant season has passed with a successful result for our Pennant teams. Our Tuesday Open side finished runner up in the Division 2 Metropolitan Final, our No 1 Saturday side reached the Sectional Semi Final, and none of our teams on a Saturday or Tuesday were relegated. A great effort.

Our Secretarial pair of Geoff Bryant and Keith Horlock has done a fantastic job and as Geoff is stepping down from the committee this year we all thank him for his role as Secretary. Thanks Geoff it's been a pleasure working with you.

Another tireless worker is our Deputy Chairperson Chris Holland who is always available offering support and filling in as Chairperson when required, thank you Chris.

With Unification and new rules we had to make quite a few changes to our normal procedures. I would like to thank and congratulate all members of the Committee for the way they embraced the transition to the new management structure. Everyone has put in many hours of work and time to ensure this new structure will enable us to manage our Club in a professional manner. I have been amazed at the positive interaction and discussions achieved at our recent meetings which I am sure will continue and provide very sound management for the future. Liz Boucher was Chairperson of the new Club Rules Working Party and Gary Simmons was Secretary. I am sure Liz and Gary and all the committee that worked on the rules are very pleased with the results to date. We as the membership thank and appreciate all the time and commitment that went into preparing and adopting the new rules and thank everyone for their participation.

There are many individuals, committees and groups that our club relies on to be able to function efficiently. Thanks to Ian Oxley our Treasurer, Coaches, Selectors, Convenors, Team Managers, Green's Director and staff, Tournament Committee, Social Committee, Housekeeping, Judy Bartle and her Catering Leaders and their groups, Jock Halley and his Bar helpers, Try Bowls, Corporate Bowls and their Teams, Garden group, Wellbeing group, John Molloy our Maintenance Man, and David Perry our Sign writer. How lucky we are, for without the participation of the above people and groups, managing our Club would be very difficult.

It is always great to see new members of the Club participating in pennant and social bowls, social functions and working bees. These are ideal ways to get to know your fellow members and enjoy the facilities offered by your Club. Welcome to all our new members.

Thanks to Barrie and Barbara Brown and our Juniors Lloyd, Alex, and Lachie for heading up our Junior Development Program. It's great to see everybody having so much fun ---job well done!

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 2012/13 Pennant Season. Finally, I like to thank my wife Jean for her support and understanding and doing all my secretarial work; during this year.

John Comte - Chairman

SECRETARY'S REPORT

We are now just 5 months into operating under the new Committee structure and progress has been good, but as we say it is a “work in progress” as we’re regularly addressing new ways of doing things.

In compiling all the reports to make up this our 18th Annual Report, it is evident that there has been a lot of work done. The word “Portfolio” appears at the head of many reports and those of you who have read the Committee Structure Chart on the noticeboard or website will understand how the portfolios are constituted, and how many people contribute to them through a Committee member. We certainly could not manage without all those helpers and we are very grateful to them.

Good communication is vital for any successful club and the improvement we are now experiencing by way of regular e-News and website information has proven to be both popular and beneficial. Over two thirds of our members now have email addresses and internet access, so communications will continue to improve and cost savings will be achieved. However there will continue to be hardcopies of all communications posted on noticeboards, flyers etc. to ensure that no members miss out.

At the end of last financial year we again lost members through resignations and transfers for various reasons, including failing health. The passing of good friends and fellow bowlers is always a factor at bowling clubs and unfortunately we are not exempt from that. In the 12 months since our last annual report we lost Dennis Youngs, Judith Waaldyk, Alan Smith and Fred Billings and they will all be sadly missed. On the positive side, due to the hard work and commitment of our Membership team, our numbers have built back up again. Since 1st July last we have brought in 25 new members to bring our current total to 247. Whilst this is a reasonably healthy number we can never overlook the end of financial year drop off rate so the constant need to grow membership numbers is always there. Members can do their bit by encouraging family and friends to give lawn bowls, and our friendly and vibrant club, a try.

In addition to member sourced income we also need to supplement that income from sources other than our own members. The growth of Corporate / Social bowls activity, particularly over the past 18 months or so has been very good. The Corporate/Social Bowls team has done an excellent job, not only increasing our income, but also growing our profile and enhancing our very good reputation for friendliness and community spirit. Our Junior Development Committee and the Special Needs Bowling Group do a great job and further add to our reputation through the activities they provide. Well done to everyone involved in these activities.

Last year I mentioned that we had around 90 members doing their bit for the club. This year the number would have grown and it’s great to see so many new members being part of that growth. There can be no doubt that this contribution by our member’s makes Vermont South a unique and special club and it plays a very significant part in our reputation as a very friendly club.

As this is my last report as Secretary I will conclude by saying that I have very much enjoyed working with the Committee and the various teams. There are far too many names for me to mention but I can say, without exception everybody has been very helpful and supportive no matter what the task has been. To play a small part toward making ours a successful and happy club has been satisfying and rewarding for me and I wish Chairman John, Vice Chairperson Christine, incoming Secretary Keith, all Committee members and all others members continuing success and particularly enjoyment in the future.

Geoff Bryant - Secretary

BOWLS SECTION TREASURER'S REPORT - Income & Expenditure to 31/3/2012

INCOME	Year to 31/3/2012	Year to 31/3/2011	Variance
Affiliation Fees	7,915	8,490	(575)
Green Fees	53,703	47,914	5,789
Lucky Numbers	11,542	13,880	(2,338)
Corporate Days	3,255	3,349	(94)
Sponsors & Advertising		1,667	(1,667)
Xmas Party	321	348	(27)
Henselite Bowls Raffle	653		653
Xmas Hamper Raffle	310	566	(256)
Gala Day	1,674	1,421	253
Bowling Items	51	640	(589)
Shirts & Caps & Jackets	22,047	371	21,676
Fund Raising - General	742	694	48
- Social Events	2,856	5,092	(2,236)
- Crazy Whist		115	(115)
Sundry Income	83		83
TOTAL INCOME	105,152	84,547	20,605
EXPENSES			
Affiliation Fees	7,915	8,490	(575)
R & M-Bowls	3,346	4,461	(1,115)
Bowls -Prizes	10,323	14,249	(3,926)
Kitchen Supplies(Including Catering)	11,184	9,371	1,813
Telephone Exp.		18	(18)
Printing & Stationery	1,457	1,159	298
Advertising		114	(114)
Flowers/Cards Etc	636	217	419
Coaching Expenses	600	2,872	(2,272)
Bowls Items	864	487	377
Tournament Software		500	(500)
Club Shirts & Caps	23,512	815	22,697
Try Bowls Expenses	105	347	(242)
TOTAL EXPENSES	59,942	43,100	16,842
NET INCOME	45,210	41,447	3,763

It is very pleasing to report an increase of 9% in our net income for the year in a climate of sharply rising costs. This was brought about; in no small way, by the care taken by all concerned in keeping our costs to a minimum.

Every effort will be made in the coming year to do the same and we see no reason to doubt that a similar result can be achieved.

Ian Oxley - Treasurer

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

All members of the committee worked hard throughout the year to provide a varied social program for everyone. We thank all our members for the support given to the trips and functions including:

Crown Casino, The Don Jones Magic of Laughter Show, Theatre (Love never Dies), The Christmas Party, Flinders Bowls Club, Yarra Glen Races, Sorrento - Queenscliff bus trip and of course, our annual weekend away at Cobram. Feedback we got from members who participated, in these activities was generally; very positive.

Norman Weight - Social Committee Chairman

BOWLS 1 - PORTFOLIO REPORT

Club Champion Champions:

Event	Champion(s)	Runner(s) Up
Women's Singles	Christine Holland	Barbara Brown
Men's Singles	Allan Lamb	Lloyd Iaccarino
Women's Pairs	Ronda Benetti & Joan Heatley	Christine Holland & Barbara Brown
Men's Pairs	Lloyd Iaccarino & Joe Iaccarino	John Temple & Gary Simmons
Mixed Pairs	Angela Bonutto & Ken Barnhill	Ed Benetti & Ronda Benetti
Women's 100 Up	Margaret Emery	Val Weight
Men's 100 Up	Andrew Ross	Phil Staley
Novice Singles	Andrei Butskikh	Peter Ballam

Bowls Victoria - Metropolitan Pennant: Tuesday

No 1 side played in Ladies Only Division 1, although playing in a strong competition finished 7th. The other 4 sides played in Open Divisions, with the No 2 side finishing on top of the ladder in Division 2, and playing on through to the finals until being beaten in the Grand Final. We had 2 Division 3 sides one finishing 6th and the other 3rd, and playing in the Semi Final. Division 5 side also played in the Semi Final finishing 4th on the ladder. This was a very good effort for this first competition in Bowls Victoria's first unification season.

Bowls Victoria - Metropolitan Pennant: Saturday

No1 side finished on top of the ladder in Division 2 played in the semi finals but did not get promoted. No2 side also played in Division 2 finishing 6th. Side 3 & 4 both had a good season; finishing 5th. Our side 5 & 6 also kept their positions with both finishing 7th. This year Division 10 was the Ladies only Division and was a very strong competition. Our sides finished 9th & 6th.

Selectors thank all our Emergencies who helped us out throughout the season, and a special thanks to all our Team Leaders for accepting the extra job.

Barbara Brown - Tournament Committee

SATURDAY PENNANT SELECTOR'S REPORT

Once again it has been a successful year for the Club.

No 1 side won 13 games and finished on top No 4 side won 9 games and finished 5th
No 2 side won 7 games and finished 6th No 5 side won 7 games and finished 7th
No 3 side won 7 games and finished 5th No 6 side won 5 games and finished 7th
Having no sides relegated was a good result. We now need to focus on improving next season.

Emergencies - Many thanks to all the emergencies, especially the ladies; who filled in week after week, many times at late notice.

Side Managers - To all the side managers – Allan Lamb, John Comte, Bob Peverelle, Ken Barnhill, Ian Oxley, Jim Baker, Gerry Trenker, Ray Spelman and everyone else who filled in during the year and reported back on Saturday night – many thanks for a job well done.

Anyone who is willing to help out as a Side Manager next season please let me know.

Results – Many thanks to Graeme Durrant for his input on Saturday nights with results on the T.V. screen, and the weekly recording of detailed scores and ladders for all teams on the club's website throughout the pennant season.

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SATURDAY PENNANT SELECTOR'S REPORT - Continued

Ladies - Once again, many thanks to the Ladies for preparing afternoon teas throughout the Pennant season and for providing the dim-sims after the game.

Coaches - The Selectors would like to thank Coaches for their great work throughout the season.

Umpires - On behalf of the Selectors I wish to thank all the umpires who officiated during the year. Thank you for a great effort.

Finally, I would like to thank my fellow Selectors for all the work they have done throughout the season, especially Paul Dunn for compiling all the statistics. The Club can look forward to a very successful year next season.

Michael McFarlane - Chairman Saturday Selectors

BOWLS 2 - PORTFOLIO REPORT

Our first Social Sunday was the Opening of the Season, which was a great afternoon with the families of Bill Jones, Derek Mullett & Cliff Williams present to see them receive their OBE's.

In September we ran "Sticks with a Twist Day" with good numbers and good fun. October day was a Club picked teams, but November we tried to have nominated teams, which we found to be very slow to start but final numbers were OK. Thanks to the sponsor on the day - Bowls on Tour. Harvey World Travel sponsored our January day and we thank all our sponsors for their support. Due to pennant finals we did not have a Sunday in February, and our March Sunday we ran the Dennis Youngs Day. This day was sponsored by the Bendigo Bank. We had 96 players and the challenge between Heatherdale and us was won by Vermont South. All teams were in for winning the 1st prize of \$300.00.

Because of Mulgrave club's extensions being done, the Mulgrave challenge was once again run at Vermont South. For a change we had a win. 136-102.

Last year the Ladies had a challenge day at Glen Waverley, so this year it was our turn. After a bit of work on behalf of the organizers we had a lovely day, weather wise and as a bonus we won. Thanks to Margie Edmonds from APT for the sponsorship.

Gala Day, in November, was another special and very successful 26 team Tournament. Thanks to Val Weight & Florence Parker and our great team of helpers, the club raised \$1670.00.

Junior Bowls

Our Monday night junior bowls is still running but we do need to look at approaching the local schools again at the end of term 3 for more players. Good progress in bowling skills is evident, and we have two boys now who have joined the Club.

Thanks goes to Lloyd for organizing and running a Christmas Break-up night, we had up to 70 present on the night and we thank all who came along bringing their children & grandchildren. We are lucky to have such a talented young man as a Member. Thanks to Barrie, Christine, Lloyd & Barbara.

Special needs Bowls

Thanks to the volunteers who come along each week to help these bowlers enjoy themselves. Anyone with an hour to spare would be more than welcome, please contact Bernadette Moore.

I would like to finish by thanking all who work on the committee, all conveners & helpers who work to give the members an opportunity to enjoy this great sport.

Barbara Brown - Bowls 2 Co-ordinator

MEMBERSHIP PORTFOLIO REPORT

Since taking over the job as Membership Coordinator in June last year I have enjoyed every moment co-ordinating this position.

We have had four Try Bowls days in this time, two in October and two in February, with thirty attending in October and twenty four in February.

I must thank all members who assisted on these Try Bowls days. Also thanks to my membership team who worked hard on these occasions, as well as helping with the mentoring arrangements for new members; Florence Parker, Graeme Marchment and Ken Barnhill.

The Vermont South Bowls Club received 25 new members between June last and end April 2012. New members are the life blood of all clubs and we should embrace them with open arms.

David Russell - Membership Portfolio

MARKETING & PR PORTFOLIO REPORT

There has been much activity in this area over the last 6 months, since the establishment of this portfolio in the new structure. A preliminary meeting in October brought together a group of members who were responsible for a range of activities within the club that related to this area of operation.

It was agreed that *the best "marketing" comes from the advocacy of current members*, and this highlighted the need to really look at improvements to internal communications. As a result, the eNews was reinvigorated under the stewardship of Neil Cameron and his team. The feedback has been extremely positive, with members actively seeking the newest edition either by email or in hard copy on notice boards at the club. Important information is now being distributed via this method on a regular basis with parallel announcements at all bowls events. Bowlers are urged to read these communications. Thanks to John Temple who has supported the eNews distribution.

Improvements are being made to the website, to keep information updated. It is recognised that electronic communication is the way of the future, and we must embrace technology in order to connect with younger members. Continuous improvement of the website is also important in recruiting both new members and sponsors. You will also have noticed greater use of the close circuit television screen for promoting results, thanks to Graeme Durrant. It is envisaged that this tool might be used even more effectively in the future to provide visual communication.

The handbook will remain in its current form for now. We thank Laurice Webb for offering to co-ordinate the handbook, and acknowledge the continued work Barbara Brown does to support its publication.

A working group was set up to examine and analyse the profile of bowls membership, with a view to advising the Bowls Committee on a marketing strategy informed by current trends. The main aim of the strategy that has been produced is to both *acquire and retain members*. There will be opportunity for members to be involved in small ways with the implementation of the recommendations. Try Bowls remains an important recruitment tool, with many of the participants attending due to connections with current members as well as through letter box drops.

The Corporate Bowls initiative has blossomed thanks to Clive Wilson and a devoted team. Allan Lamb and Michael Keel have used their 40/Forty knowledge to keep visitors keenly engaged in competition on the green, whilst the catering group has served excellent meals. Many members have been generous in supporting these events to "help out".

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MARKETING & PR PORTFOLIO REPORT - Continued

We have received consistent and excellent feedback from every group. This has included positive comments on;

- our excellent and modern facilities
- the quality of the BBQ meal
- the friendly support provided on the green
- the range of drinks on offer from the bar

Not only have these events promoted our club, they have generated extra funds (a total in excess of \$5,000 - profit for our Club through the summer) and made important links with prospective bowlers and sponsors. This group continues to review and make adjustments to improve the efficiency and benefits of the initiative. Thank you all.

There have been some changes to club sponsorship over the year, but we have been fortunate that we have been able to retain some long standing sponsors and attract some new ones, despite the current economic climate. Gary Simmons has worked tirelessly for many years in this area, and we thank him sincerely for his efforts. He will be stepping down from this role, so the club does urgently need a person or group to take on this important work. Should any members have ideas or contacts for sponsorship, that information would be welcomed by the Bowls Committee Chair.

Thank you to all who have worked tirelessly to promote the club. You can be truly proud of your efforts.

Lizzie Boucher - Marketing & PR Portfolio

FACILITIES - PORTFOLIO REPORT

In the first year of the Club's new structure, the Facilities Portfolio involved monthly communication and reporting with the Greens Coordinator, the Gardens Convenor, the Club Housekeeper and Maintenance Manager.

The Greens (from Andrew Ross)

Thank-you and congratulations to a wonderful team of willing workers of Stewart Andrew, Noel Bennett and Ron Vogeles who spent hours preparing the greens to the highest level possible and have supported and assisted me in carrying out my duties as Greens Director. We have worked as a united team with one consistent goal being a commitment to provide members with two greens of the highest standard possible, each with a consistent surface to bowl on. To the best of our ability we achieved our goal, with age of the East green causing some surface variations on some rinks.

A major highlight this year was maintaining an "A" rating for both Greens which for the East Green was only possible due to two years hard work in rejuvenating the surface by the team and the many club members who came to the working bees and scrubbed the surface prior to scarifying and grooming. Well done, we look forward to your help again next season with further working bees planned prior to the start of the new season. Other important aspects were;

- Scarifying, watering and regular grooming of the East green to reduce speed
- 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.
- Design and construction of a new line marking machine by Ron Vogeles and John Molloy
- Painting lines on greens instead of using chalk
- Appointment of Working Party to plan for the replacement of the East green.

Request for two members to assist us continue our work. Help needed urgently.

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FACILITIES PORTFOLIO REPORT - Continued

Finally, it is time to say good bye to Stewy Andrew after 8 years. He has been such a wonderful and tireless worker dedicated to preparing the greens as “chief groomer”, with unswerving support and commitment to the team, and for many club members he has been the “go to man”. **Thanks Stewy, you will be missed on Mondays and Fridays.**

Gardens and Surrounds (Brian Sampson)

Rain, warmth and more rain have kept our gardens looking splendid and certainly appreciated by club members and the native birds that constantly glide across the green to land on the tempting flowers. However, the need for maintenance is constant. The regular efforts on the last Friday of each month and two major working bees have involved pruning of shrubs, trimming the top of hedges, thinning the garden along the car park area, spreading four truckloads of mulch, endless weeding and of course new planting as required. The supportive members who arrive each month armed with tools, smiles and enthusiasm are certainly appreciated and their efforts are needed to ensure the surrounds always look good. **It is hoped that in the 2012/2013 season there will be more volunteers to help manage the upkeep of our beautiful area.**

Barrie Brown has continued to monitor the roster for the fortnightly mowing around the east green. Thank you to Barrie and to the volunteers who take notice of the roster and remember to do this important duty.

Maintenance (John Molloy)

Major work has involved the construction of the retaining wall on the East Green. A new “sign in” bench was installed inside the main entrance and the decking has received a high pressure clean and a new paint. With increased use of facilities there is always something to be introduced, changed or repaired (new tap on urn in the kitchen, signs falling off, loose toilet seats, scoops needing new wheels or de-rusting, new stoppers for chairs, etc etc). Thank you to John and all the “handy men” who have the skill and uncanny ability to come up with remedies whenever they receive a request.

Housekeeping (Margaret Sampson)

The kitchen takes a lot of use with the increased variety of bowls happening throughout the whole year. The constant need for replenishing of supplies (not only food supplies but also cleaning, dishwasher items, outside water cups and bathroom needs) often requires additional shopping trips and extra refilling and tidying up. Margaret’s dedication to this task is certainly commendable and appreciated. Her efforts can go unnoticed even though coffee and biscuits are regularly consumed at every game of bowls.

It has been a pleasure to communicate with these members, who undoubtedly offer so much to the running of our club.

Christine Holland - Facilities Portfolio