

MINUTES AGM BBC MEN'S BOWLING CLUB – SUNDAY 17th AUGUST 2025

Present - 30 members (ledger available)

Apologies - Chris Forrester, Ash Lewis, Harold Wall, Ian Duncan, Bob Crowley, Steven Goddard, Stephen Day

1. **The meeting opened at 10.00**
2. **Minutes of the AGM of 18th August 2024** – moved Graham Hunt, seconded Richard Denman minutes be accepted. Approved.

Terry Norwood indicated that business arising would be covered in general business.

3. **To receive and consider the report of the President** – President Terry Norwood reported as follows

To begin this report, I'd like to thank all Bowling members of the BBC, GM Shane Holland, past GM Tony Dunn, the Board of the Club and the staff of the Club for their support and encouragement over the past year. Also, I thank those bowling members who have remained loyal to the BBC by continuing as financial members into the 25/26 year. In addition, I offer special thanks to the members of the 24/25 Men's Bowling Club Executive, which includes

- Peter Flight, Vice-President and Secretary by default, for his enormous capacity for work, his devotion to getting things done on time and his good-humoured support and encouragement;
- Robin Staples, our Treasurer, for his encouragement and support, and his tigerish determination in tracking down every cent that we might have had a claim on and his untiring efforts in offering coaching to new and seasoned bowlers;
- Graham Hunt, for his support, for his getting things done in a no-nonsense way, for his dragon-like determination in keeping all members in order, and for his insistence that bowlers have correct money when paying green fees and buying raffle tickets;
- Richard Denman, for his meticulous attention to having the green always completely ready for play, and his general committee work;
- Ted McPhee, for his attention to detail as the go-between with the trophy shop staff, his general support in all areas, and his astute awareness of when a quiet word of advice was needed;
- Gordon Lewis, for his generous agreement to join the committee ex officio, for his unquestioned wisdom, and for his fierce loyalty and devotion to the promotion of bowls in Bowral;
- Chris Forrester, for his indefatigable optimism and his huge generosity of spirit in tackling any issue thrown at him, and finally but not least;
- Ian Duncan, our scribe and your President's conscience, for his willingness and skill in researching and writing on behalf of the committee, especially his devising and management of the Survey to members, the Strategic Plan of action, the new member Handbook, the sponsorship package statement and Jack Chat;

- I need also to make special mention of the Men's Bowling Club Welfare Officer Bob Edwards for his untiring devotion to following up any bowler who is dealing with personal issues;
- And I thank the venerable Lew Wilson for serving as the Men's Bowling Club Patron.

Without each and every one of you, the Men's Bowling Club would have had a very much lesser year.

So, what of the year . . . what's happened?

On The Green

Let me first report on bowling and some significant achievements:

Stephen Della, Kevin Stafford and Mick Spong were State Triples Champions.

Major Club Champions were **Singles** Ash Lewis, **Pairs** Stephen Della and Dave Coltman; **Triples** Gordon Lewis, Ash Lewis and Mick Spong; **Fours** Scott Kennon, Dave Coltman, Al McGhee, Dugald Braithwaite; **Mixed Pairs** Gail Fraser and Jim Neely.

In **Pennants**, the Grade Six team, the one team entered by Bowral, had quite a successful season finishing second, beaten by Picton by only competition three points and finishing in front of Taralga for the first time in my connection with Pennants.

In the three-way battle between Bundanoon, Robertson and Bowral for the Crowe Brennan, trophy, Bowral again came out on top.

And, although not yet amalgamated with the Women's Club, on behalf of the Men's Bowling Club, I'd like to congratulate Gail Fraser and Reta South on getting to the final of the Regional Women's Pairs Championship.

In **Social Bowls**, we had good participation with more than 2500 appearances on the green from approximately 64 regularly active bowlers and occasional visitors. And it would be remiss of me not to identify the star participator who was none other than the evergreen nonagenarian Gordon Lewis with 87 appearances (social, competition and pennants).

Membership of the Men's Bowling Club is currently 67, (from a high of 95 at June '25) with a number of late renewals expected in the coming fortnight from the 28 non-renewals. From the 2024 list, sadly, we note the passing of three members in Jim Starkey, Bill Pope and Keith Edwards, and also the passing of Bill Meredith's wife Anne.

Off The Green

In the 24/25 year, there have been significant developments/actions in the form of:

SURVEY to sample the opinions of members on a range of issues

STRATEGIC PLAN to determine priority 1, 2 and 3 areas of action

SEVERE WEATHER ACTION POLICY to safeguard members on the green

BBC BOWLS ETIQUETTE POLICY to ensure appropriate participation on the green

PRESIDENT'S NEWSLETTER 'JACK CHAT' to advance communication and inclusion

NEW BOWLER HANDBOOK to inform new and potential bowlers

SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE STATEMENT to outline benefits to potential sponsors

WEB SITE REDESIGN (under construction)

CLUB UNIFORM (in process)

Suggested Priorities for Incoming Committee

The Men's Bowling Club Executive will prioritise action in a number of areas which may include but not be restricted to:

The development of a flat, 15 second, high-grade Wilson Green

Completion of Web Site redesign

Action to attract sponsors

Resolution of Club Uniform

Action to supplement Coaching of Bowls

Action to increase bowler participation in Region events

Development of Policy/Plan on barefoot bowling behaviour

Action on policy to recruit new bowlers

Amalgamation of Men's and Women's Bowling Clubs

4. To receive and consider the Financial report – Treasurer Robin Staples reported as follows:

The current Treasurer joined the Men's Bowling Club Committee as an ordinary committee member and only agreed to act as treasurer after the October meeting. Hence this report starts from October 25, 2024.

The Men's Bowling Committee does not have its own bank account. The Bowral Bowling Club hold the funds and do their own accounting for these funds and deduct monies as necessary for items such as trophy engraving. Thus, the job of Treasurer in the Men's Bowling Club is one of monitoring these accounts.

As of October 25, 2024, the Club held \$1121.08 in the Bowling Account

As of October 31, 2024, the Club held \$1590.18 in the Bowling Account

From October 31, 2024, to June 30, 2025, contributions from the bowlers in raffles, our only current income, was \$2486.3

Balance of Men's Bowling Club Account at June 30, 2025, is \$829.23. In addition, \$1200 is held as sponsorship money for the RSL Shield to be played in August 2025. A further

\$2000 is available in sponsorship money from Nathan Lion Pty Ltd for a specific Bowling Competition which has yet to be organised. A summary of expenses for the period is listed below.

Pennants. Entry fee \$100. 3 x Pennants snacks @ \$295. Total \$985

Trophy purchase and engraving. Total \$747.

Despite a committee resolution at the October 9th, 2024, meeting that the Men's Bowling Club would no longer support the cost of Zone or State events except on a case to case application basis, we paid \$1416 for State Triples and C of C Pairs expenses.

Xmas BBQ 2024 @ \$99.25

The Bowral bowling Club account figure for our account at July 31, 2025 is \$2628.15 but this includes \$1200 for RSL Shield and \$ 480 for Chris Benton Event.

As a point of interest from October 25, 2024, to June 30,2025 the Men's Bowling Club paid the Bowral Bowling Club \$24,551 in green fees.

Moved Ted McPhee, seconded Owen Williams that the treasurer report be accepted; carried.

5. **To receive the results or conduct a ballot a Ballot for the Executive and Match Committee** – Returning Officer reported that at the close of nominations on 16th August 2025 there were enough nominations for each position and no elections were required.
 - a. President – Terry Norwood elected unopposed
 - b. Vice-President – Peter Flight elected unopposed, with one vacancy
 - c. Bowls Secretary – vacant, no nominations received
 - d. Match Committee – Graham Hunt, Ted McPhee, Chris Forrester, Robin Staples, Ian Duncan, Richard Denman elected unopposed.

Member Owen Williams thanked the committee members for nominating for re-election. Carried by acclamation.

6. Election of Patron

Proposed Don Chapman and seconded Owen Williams that Lew Wilson be re-appointed as Patron – elected unopposed.

7. General Business

- a. There was discussion around the standard and maintenance of the Wilson Green. Under General Manager Shane's guidance the standard of the green is improving. It will continue to be cut and rolled on days of use. Bowlers are urged to make greater use of the green to justify its maintenance. Membership agreed that additional work needs to be done around the Waratah Green.
- b. Life Member Gordon Lewis talked about highs and lows and the need to persevere and continue to work at issues. He had praise for the work over the previous twelve months.

- c. It was suggested that to avoid rubbish accumulating in the blue rink marking cans that management be approached for more garbage bins to be placed around the greens.
- d. Suggested that, given that fees originally gave members access to three greens, the Executive consider a fee-free day on the green once a quarter for member.
- e. Suggested that the executive press the Club for greater enforcement of the smoking regulations, and that signage be reviewed.
- f. Ash Lewis delivered suggestions to the meeting and these were outlined; included two pennant teams 25/26, return to blue uniform, encouragement of bowlers to enter region events.
- g. Members were encouraged to stand for positions on the Board of the Club Ltd as a means to achieving goals.
- h. Members were encouraged to attempt to identify potential new members and outline the coaching and support available.
- i. With regard to information from Board meetings, the meeting was informed that the membership would have access to a summary of Board meetings.
- j. It was noted that High School students now use the green for sport on Thursday afternoons, and that member involvement, with appropriate 'working with children' clearance, is encouraged.
- k. It was suggested that the Executive consider organizing a Christmas lunch/dinner as an end of year event/fund raiser.
- l. Concern was expressed about inappropriate footwear by bare-foot bowlers, and the need for management to enforce 'rules'.
- m. It was suggested that the Board might consider the introduction of an eg pickleball event to raise money and membership.
- n. It was suggested that the Executive consider introducing a fee-free bowls day eg Friday or Sunday.
- o. Gordon Lewis informed the meeting that 100-year-old Howard Lewis deeply appreciated any information he receives on bowls proceedings. Also noted was that the State Local Member Judith Hannan acknowledged, with a certificate, the achievement of Stephen Della, Kevin Stafford and Mick Spong on winning the State Triples title.
- p. President Terry informed the meeting that, in recognition of long-term service to the Club on the Board, to the Men's Bowls Club in a range of positions, to the Club as distinguished player, selector and manager and to the advancement of bowls as dedicated high standard coach, Robin Staples was being recommended to the Board of the Club for Life Membership. This received the endorsement of the meeting through acclamation.

Meeting Closed at 11.05am.