

Our Bowls Coordinator wins Bowls NSW Club Administrator of the Year



Congratulations Dave!

Our Bowls Coordinator, Dave Tyrrell and our Board of Directors attended the [Bowls NSW Awards Evening](#) at [Cabra Vale Diggers](#) recently. This is an event that celebrates the outstanding achievements and contributions of Bowls NSW members to the sport of bowls. Dave would like to thank everyone for their messages of support and congratulations, and is looking forward to the future of Bowls at Club Windang.



***The bowls bar at Cabra Vale Diggers.
We have got to get one of these!***



Canapés by the green



Some of our hard working Bowls NSW staff



The awards



Thank you very much!



One happy couple!



Windang - Runners Up in the 23-24 Zone 16 Men's State Pairs.



Well done Gopher & Dave!

Dave Tyrrell & Geoff Walker won their way to the final of the [Zone 16 2023-24 State Pairs](#) held at Kiama last month. The young lads from Corrimal, Jake Chapman & Danyon Christie proved too strong for the Windang pair, winning 25-13. Good luck to the Corrimal boys in the State Finals at Dubbo.



23-24 Women's Triples decided!



Congratulations Robyn, Marlene and Nicolle

Our [23-24 Women's Club Triples Final](#) was played Sat 11th November. Our finalists included Wendy O,Loughlin, Kerry Robinson & Lee Purcell up against Robyn Burke, Marlene Sharp & Nicolle Grogan. Congratulations to everyone for making the final!

Team Purcell got out to an early lead with the score at 8-3 on 7 ends. At 14 ends, team Purcell were still in command at 14-8. The momentum then changed with team Grogan dominating the last 7 ends to pick up 9 shots to 2 to take out the championship 17-16. Congratulations to our 23-24 Women's Triples Champions!.....Robyn Burke, Marlene Sharp & Nicolle Grogan.



23-24 Women's Triples Finalists.
L to R - Robyn Burke, Marlene Sharp, Nicolle Grogan, Lee Purcell, Kerry Robinson, Wendy O'Loughlin.



23-24 Women's Triples Winners.
L to R - Robyn Burke, Marlene Sharp, Nicolle Grogan.



23-24 Women's Triples Runners Up.
L to R - Wendy O'Loughlin, Kerry Robinson, Lee Purcell.



Deep in thought!



Two focused skips!

23-24 Club Championships

23-24 Men's Major Pairs

[The 23-24 Men's Major Pairs](#) are now down to the business end at the Semi Finals. In Semi Final 1 we see Terry McKay & Adam Blades up against Chris Bradley and Geoff Walker. Semi Final 2 we have Dave Tyrrell & Daniel Doyle against Geoff Turner & Gregg Stevens. These matches are scheduled for Sat 2nd Dec with the finals to be played on Sunday 3rd Dec. Due to none of our players left in the Zone Fours there are opportunities to play these matches earlier if players can decide.

23-24 Mixed Fours

[The 23-24 Mixed Fours](#) finalists have been decided.

Robyn Burke, Nicolle Grogan, Peter Grogan & Garry Burke take on Judith Voltz, Kim Hart, Wolfram Thiele & Paul Cable. The date and time have yet to be announced. Our Mixed Fours are usually scheduled on Friday evenings under lights. This also applies to our Mixed Pairs, which is scheduled to start early in the new year.



Club Championships.

Just a reminder to our players that it is *their* responsibility to check draws, especially when there has been washed out rounds and matches have to be rescheduled, using the back up days. Sufficient notice is always given. A great deal of sportsmanship has been shown recently, and is always encouraged, however sometimes goes unrewarded.

Whenever rescheduling matches early, please ensure that the Match Committee and the Bowls Coordinator are notified as soon as possible. We'll be down to two greens for quite possibly 10 weeks and there will be a major influx of barefoot bowlers over those weeks. On most occasions we schedule those barefoot bowls outside of our normal bowls days and times. If you choose to schedule your championship on top of these events, you will be made aware of that prior to the Match Committee's approval and will be provided a rink for play as required.

Sat 9th and Sun 10th of December have been set aside for Zone 16 Men's Pennant Finals, proudly sponsored by Windang. No Barefoot, Social or Club Championship games will be scheduled for those days.

Minor Championships.

With the Minor events just around the corner. The Match Committee has chosen to align the classification of Minors for men and women with the current [Windang Bowling Club By-Laws](#), superseding the Women's Club standing orders.

Basically, players who have won a Club Major Singles or Club Major Pairs title or higher (District, Zone or State Singles & or Pairs) are ineligible to enter Minor events.

Players who have won a Club Triples or a Club Fours event are still eligible to enter minor events.

Players who have won the respective Minor event at Club Windang are currently ineligible to enter that event. This bylaw remains for now but will be reviewed as we head into the 24-25 season with the purpose of retaining a players minor status for longer, possibly utilising player gradings similar to the eligibility for an "Open Reserve" or a combination of both.

Club Championship Shirts.

Our 2022-2023 Season & 2020 Club Championship shirts are ready to be picked up from [ACE It](#). We should have them to you soon. Possibly during a Saturday Bowls day and shirt presentation. We'll keep you posted on when that will be.

Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL Visit



Bob Driscoll with Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL President Gladys Barnes

A great day had by all!

A group of travelling bowlers from [Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL](#) joined us for a Sunday on the greens at Windang. The travelling bowlers hopped off the bus and converged on the tea, coffee & bicky table as soon as they arrived at Windang. This was followed by the introductions and the calling of the cards. All players enjoyed the morning playing 3 bowl triples and then heading into the club for lunch, catered for by our [Wok & Grill Bistro](#). The meal was capped off with some delicious pastries from [Bar 2-Six](#).

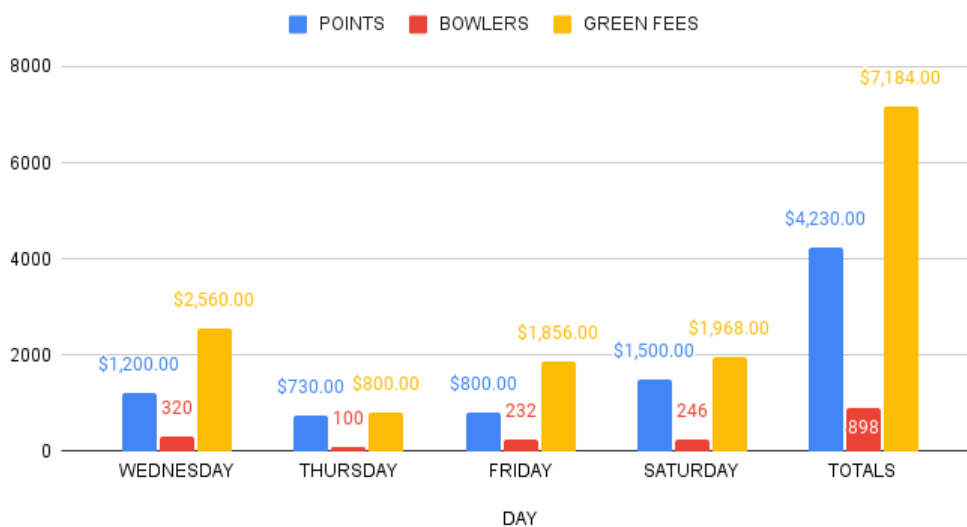
A credit to the Canterbury Hurlstone Park RSL bowlers is their President [Gladys Barnes](#) who is 95 years young and still putting those brown bowls of hers down the green. We thank our bowlers who took part as well. We hope you all enjoyed your day at Windang!



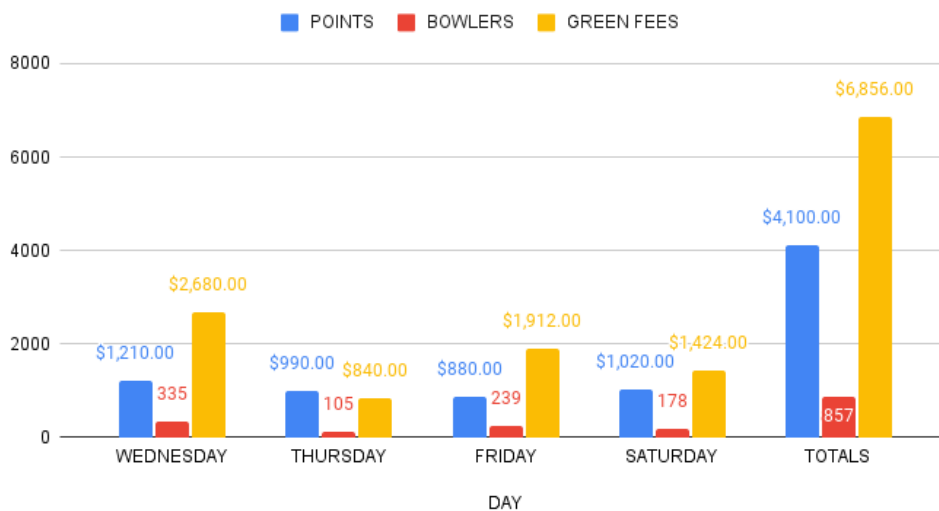
Social Bowls at Windang

Just to give you an idea of how our social bowls are travelling, below is the data relating to our Social Bowls participation for the last two months. It includes the number of bowlers, the green fees collected and the member points awarded.

SOCIAL BOWLS - SEPTEMBER 2023



SOCIAL BOWLS - OCTOBER 2023



The above charts represent a snapshot only, but I can assure you that these numbers have been fairly consistent. Since we've come out of the effects of COVID, we've seen an increase in participation levels especially on Wednesdays and Fridays. That increase could possibly relate to the fact that we took up the offer of a [free bowls website from Bowls Australia](#). We offer online entries and a nomination sheet for social bowls, nominated teams, and open events where men and women can play together.

During our club unification meetings we stressed that we needed to increase our member and participation numbers, and asked if you had any ideas on what we could do to achieve that. The response was "It's not up to us, it's your job".....So away we went, we started making slight changes and it was apparent that this had upset several members. We recently had a meeting to address that. Our President and I attended and I asked "Would you prefer to go back to the way things were run before?".....The response.....not one person raised their hand.

We introduced online entries and went open gender on Thursdays but the numbers remained fairly static. We've attempted changes to the format and that has probably provided the biggest negative response, to the point where members were venting their frustration with verbal abuse of our volunteers, the people they voted in to manage the bowls. This kind of behaviour will not be tolerated and I'm disappointed that this still occurs today.

We know our bowlers and visitors love their social bowls at Windang, and the change we've made on Thursday has impacted on the enjoyment that some of our regular bowlers and visitors get out of their game however, the culture that's been created in our club by a minority of our members, and the mindset that goes with it, is the type of roadblock thinking that can hinder the progress of our club. I'm all for challenging the old ways of thinking with outdated methods and embracing change, and encouraging a culture of innovation, diversity and inclusion.

If you think things are likely to stay the same for a while, I remind you that Stage 2 (Establishing the new Governance Structure) of our [District and Zone unification](#), is currently underway now. Stage 3 (Implementation) is scheduled to commence Jan 2024. This includes calendar planning for the new competitions, communication technology & simplifying financial operations. All to be finalised by June 2024. Our new Bowls Committee will have to get "up to speed" as we progress through this period so we can be prepared for the 2024-2025 season. Their focus should be on ensuring we get through the 23-24 season under a unified club efficiently, rather than run into "roadblocks" along the way. This could possibly mean another change to our Bowls Governance as well, who knows? I'm sure we'll be able to get through this transition OK.

I am so proud of our club and the achievements of our members...You all rock! I am so proud to be a member of Windang Bowling Club and I'm privileged to work with the best Management, Staff, Board & Volunteers ever, and as stated earlier, I'm looking forward to the future of bowls at Windang.

Dave Tyrrell - Bowls Manager - Windang Bowling Club

