Windang Bowling Club NEWSLETTER

May 2024

Welcome

Welcome to our May edition of Windang Bowling Club Newsletter! May was certainly a busy month for bowls that's for sure, with Windang featuring in five State events over the month. In this edition we cover those events, Pennants, Club Championships, and more.

Club Championships

2023-2024 Minor Pairs

Our 2023-2024 Minor Pairs Championship was recently completed with the final played on Sunday 2nd May. The Minor Pairs was classed as an open event, so eligible male and female players were able to participate. Our entry list started with 17 teams, all out to claim the coveted Minor Pairs Title.

In the final, Zoe Davies & Stuart Tyrrell were up against Sue Allen & Russell Connell. Stuart out to claim the double after winning the Men's Minor Singles recently. Zoe out to improve on the Women's Minor Singles result after finishing as Runner up. Sue Allen has featured in several team event finals, looking to go one better. This was Russell's first Championship Final, so congratulations for making it this far.

Zoe & Stuart got out to a quick lead, leading 5-1, only to drop a 6 on the 4th end, handing the lead over to Sue & Russell. Sue & Russell maintained the lead up to the 9th end when the scores were locked at 9 all. Zoe & Stuart then dominated winning 7 of the next 11 ends to take out the Championship with a score of 23-14.

Well done to all players who featured in the final and of course, congratulations to our 2023-2024 Minor Pairs Champions Zoe Davies & Stuart Tyrrell.

One of the Minor Pairs quarter finals featured the teams of Rhyley Ellem & Klayten Searl, against Jenny Greaves & Joyce Sawers. Great to see the support from one of our sponsors, Ellem & Co!

Our 2023-2024 Minor Pairs Finalists.
Stuart Tyrrell, Zoe Davies, Sue Allen, Russell Connell.

2023-2024 MINOR PAIRS WINNERS
ZOE DAVIES & STUART TYRRELL

2023-2024 MINOR PAIRS RUNNERS UP
SUE ALLEN & RUSSELL CONNELL

2023-2024 Senior Singles

Our 2023-2024 Senior Singles Championship has now been completed. Congratulations to our finalists Paul Cable and Kevin Parkes. The Senior Singles started with 33 entries and the draw included several split rounds early in the competition. In the semi finals, Kevin Parkes accounted for Graham Lawer 25-12, and Paul Cable had a tough game against Adele Morell 25-16. Paul, going one better from the previous season, claimed the Senior Singles title with a score of 25-13.

2023-2024 Senior Pairs Finalists
Paul Cable & Kevin Parkes

2023-2024 SENIOR SINGLES WINNER
PAUL CABLE

2023-2024 SENIOR SINGLES RUNNER UP
KEVIN PARKES

The draw for the Major Minor Pairs is now in play. A reminder that Round 1 commences on Saturday 15th June at 9:30am. Round 2 is scheduled for Sunday 16th June at 9:30am There were 60 entries in total (37 Minors & 23 Majors). 7 players were upgraded to a Major for the event, with 30 teams for the draw. This required 14 preliminary matches and 2 byes. The Minors were randomised first, followed by the Majors. The draw was conducted the same way.

Draws and results can be found on our bowls website under the open club championships tab.

2023-2024 Minor Pairs Draw & Results.
2023-2024 Senior Singles Draw & Results.
2023 - 2024 Major Minor Pairs Draw & Results.

2023-2024 Open Pennants

Our Grade 1 side were defeated by Corrimal in the Major Semi Final (67-51). And Warilla proved too strong in the Final (70-55). Warilla went on to win the Grade 1 flag against Corrimal (65-31) in the Grand Final. We'd like to thank our members for their support throughout the season and look forward to a bigger and better 24-25 season. Below are the pennant winners for each grade.

Grade 1 - Warilla
Grade 2 - Warilla
Grade 3 - WPWC
Grade 4 - WPWC
Grade 5 - Bomaderry
Grade 6 - Albion Park
Grade 7 - Dapto Citizens

Congratulations to all the pennant winners and good luck in the State Finals!

2023-2024 State Champion of Champions.

Dave Tyrrell & Daniel Doyle set off to Cabravale Diggers for the Champion of Champion Pairs, while Dave Tyrrell played at Mt Lewis in the Champion of Champion Singles. In both events, our bowlers performed well, but not good enough to get through the sections. Thank you both for representing Windang. State Champion of Champion Results.

2023-2024 Women's State Carnival.

The Women's State Carnival is an annual event played in teams of fours and open to all female bowlers, with three days of guaranteed play for participants. The State Carnival is a festival of bowls like no other! This year's Carnival was headed to the Barrington Coast (Forster area).

About 230 teams from all over the state entered the event, all looking to make it through their sections. Windang had one team entered. Kim Hart, Kerrie Taylor, Ann Murray & Janelle Jordan. Our team was drawn in Section 4, with 14 teams in the section and 6 rounds of play over 3 days.

Day 1 was scheduled at Club West (Taree), Day 2 at Forster, and Day 3 at Halliday Sports. Our ladies finished 2nd in their section with 6 wins, 18 points +57 and a 195 score %. A 195 score % means, for every shot the opposition scored, our ladies scored 1.95 shots. This guaranteed them a spot in the knockout section. The girls continued in great form, winning the next four matches, and who can forget that great running shot by Skip Janelle Jordan to seal the deal for a spot in the semi final. Click on the link below to view the shot.

It's always good to see Windang on the livestream!

[The winning shot - An unbelievable bowl by Janelle Jordan!]

The girls were unsuccessful in the semi final against a strong Soldiers Point team. Soldiers Point then went on to win the final. Congratulations to our bowlers and well done!

2023-2024 Women's State Carnival Semi Finalists.
Kim Hart, Kerrie Taylor, Ann Murray, Janelle Jordan with Bowls NSW President Dilys Kindleysides.

2023-2024 State Pennant Finals

Two weeks after the Women's State Carnival, our Division 2 Women's Side were off to Soldiers Point for the Women's State Pennant Finals. Section 2 included Windang (Region 7), Malua Bay (Region 9), West Dubbo (Region 12) and Denistone (Region 16). Our first two games were on the outdoor synthetic. The wet conditions made it extremely difficult, but the girls managed to notch up two wins. 56-35 against West Dubbo and 44-33 against Denistone. Leading the table going into round 3. In Round 3, on the undercover carpet, Malua Bay edged Windang out by taking two rinks with an overall of 42-36. This relegated Windang to 3rd on the ladder. Charlestown went on to win the State Pennant against St John's Park 43-32. Congratulations Charlestown!

Division 2 Women's State Pennant Results Portal

Division 2 Women's State Pennant Qualifiers
Kaye Taylor (M), Adele Morell, Moira Dorans, Ann Murray, Kerrie Taylor,
Kim Hart, Judith Voltz, Wendy Stevens, Janelle Jordan

2023-2024 State Interzone Championships

Congratulations to Dave Tyrrell, Rick Malley and Gregg Stevens, selected to represent Illawarra Zone 16 in the State Senior Interzone Championships, held at Northmead Bowling Club. The Illawarra side won all three rounds in Section 2. 67-52 against Zone 8 (Riverina), 68-53 against Zone 10 (Sydney North West) and 86-33 against Zone 11 (Manning District).

The lads then accounted for Zone 13 (Central & Southern Sydney) in the quarter final decider just getting over the line 49-46. In the semi final, Zone 2 (Newcastle) were too consistent and edged out the Illawarra 57-52. Zone 9 (Sydney Northern Districts0 went on to win the Championship 67-50.

Congratulations everyone and excellent effort!

[State Senior Interzone Results portal]

Illawarra Zone 16 Senior Interzone Side.

Good news for the Illawarra Open Interzone Side, winning the Sides Championship against Zone 2 59-51. Although no Windang players are currently part of the squad, it's great to see the Illawarra shine. Congratulations all!

Next season sees the introduction of the Inter-Regional Championships, including the Women's Inter-Regional Championships. This is a great opportunity for our Region's best bowlers to showcase their bowling skills.

2024-2025 Season

Our Bowls Program has now been published with events for the new season. The program can be viewed at the club or via our bowls website under the heading 2024-2025 Club Championships. Included on the page are:

- The Entire Bowls Program (National, State, Regional, Club)
- Windang Bowling Club Championship Schedule
- Championship Formats
- Draws & Results
- Match Start Variation Guidelines

Already there may be issues with the scheduling in July due to conflict with some events. This will be managed by the Match Committee soon.

Some changes that were implemented by the combined Match Committee are included below.

- Mixed 6-A-SideTournament
- Open Gender Triples & Fours
- Double Headers (am & pm games)
- Senior Events on Tuesday & Thursday
- Open Gender Minor Singles
- Open Singles
- Minor Player Guidelines
- Match Start Variation Guidelines
- Men's and Women's Pennants

Mixed 6-A-Side Tournament

We've already received some entries for the Mixed 6-A-Side Tournament. The prize money will be scaled based on the number of entries with a minimum of 12 teams and a maximum of 18 teams. Details can be found on our website on the link below.

Mixed 6-A-Side Details

Open Gender Triples and Fours

In an effort to maximise the participation numbers for the triples and fours, both these events will be classed as open gender. Both Championships are scheduled prior to the Open Pennant Competition, so this should give the selectors something to consider leading up to the pennants.

Double Headers (am & pm games)

Although, the dates for some of the club championships include am & pm times in one day, these will only be utilised if required, based on the number of entries. These only apply to the Major Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours. All other events are 1 round per day.

Senior Events on Tuesdays & Thursdays

In an effort to utilise Tuesdays and Thursdays a lot more, which was a request from the greenkeepers, and to minimise the impact that these events had on our Wednesday social bowls, all Senior events will be scheduled on the Tuesday. Thursday will be a back up day if the number of entries warrant it. Obviously, these days will not clash with Women's Pennants scheduled on those days.

Open Gender Minor Singles

There will only be 1 x Minor Singles Championship, open to eligible male and female members. Players who are eligible may play in this and the respective Major Singles, Senior Singles, Open Singles as well.

Open Singles

This is another Singles Event, open to both male and female members. The format is 21 up and scheduled for Friday nights. Eligible players may play in this and the respective Major Singles, Minor Singles or Senior Singles. This event does not progress to Champion of Champions.

Minor Player Guidelines

What determines a Minor player's status will be looked at by the Match Committee, and could include a players open pennant grading similar to the State Reserve events. The goal would be to keep more players participating in these events as well as create a level playing field for our members. The Minor events are scheduled after the open pennant competition.

Match Start Variation Guidelines

To change the date and time of your scheduled club championship match, you now have to fill out a form and have it signed by your opposition skip, agreeing to the change. The form is then submitted to a member of the Match Committee for approval. Once approved, the Match Committee will note it on the side of the draw and inform the person submitting the form. This was recently done in the Minor Pairs. Approval is just a formality and is based on available green space and other events taking place at the time.

Forms are available online or at the noticeboard at the club.

Men’s and Women’s Pennants

A decision was made to allow our members an opportunity to be involved in the Single Gender Pennant for this season. Sheets are now open for players to express their interest in playing in the Single Gender (Men’s and Women’s) Pennant competition commencing in October. These close in July (Womens) and August (Mens). Sheets for the Open Pennants Competition have also been included.

Having your name on the sheet does not guarantee selection!

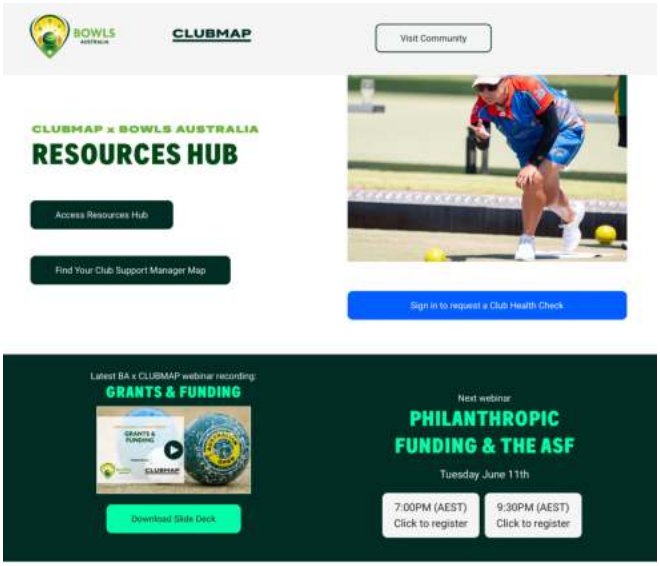
These lists give us a good idea of what Grades/Divisions we are likely to submit in line with the new COP and our current selection policy.

Our Board of Directors, Bowls Coordinator, Match Committee, and some members on the Selection Committee prefer to be involved in the Open Pennant Competition only. Attempting to run three pennant competitions in the one year relies on a great deal of commitment from everyone involved. This does not include the level of commitment required for Club & Zone Championships.

Bowls Coordinator's Message

Our Club Support Manager (CSM) from Bowls Australia, Brett Hughes visited Windang the other day. Members of our Board and Match Committee attended. We discussed the Bowls Australia Participation offerings and National Programs that were in place. Topics such as:

- Club Map
- On Green Participation.
- Club Health Check - Webinars.
- Digital and Social Media Presence.



Anyone wanting to take an active role as a volunteer is encouraged to make use of the Club Map Resources Hub. You don’t have to be on a committee to be a volunteer!

I heard a new word the other day from Brett Hughes regarding Club Map. We "Bowlified" it, meaning we designed it to reflect everything that related to bowls. That might be the buzz word for when you take up the game…..Imagine telling our new bowlers when they join that they've been "BOWLIFIED"!

I was right when I said that May was going to be a busy month for bowls, and I'm glad we got through it OK. Congratulations to everyone who took part in the State events over the last few weeks, and it's always good to see Windang and our members get a mention at State level.

We've almost completed our club championships for this season, so congratulations to our champions so far, but just around the corner lurks the 2024-2025 season. The Match Committee has done their best to form a program for the year and I thank them for their diligence. Available space was limited especially in the first few months of the season, and it was probably one of the most congested calendars I've seen.

I'm interested in seeing how our open singles turns out, then we can see who really is the best bowler in the family. I know there's a lot of our male members who have been inducted into the Second Best Bowler In The Family Hall Of Fame for good reason! I'm sure they'll be out to improve their status.

These singles will be played at night on a Friday, similar to the Mixed events.

We chose to participate in the Men's Pennant competition scheduled for Oct - Nov - Dec this year. As a unified club, we couldn't tell our male members that we weren't going to support the Single Gender Men's Pennant, but then turn around and support the Single Gender Women's Pennant. As I've stated earlier, I'd prefer the Open Pennant Competition only and I'm sure several of my counterparts feel the same. Managing three pennant competitions in one season with the "it's all about me" culture and players lack of commitment is destined to have a negative impact on everyone involved and we've seen that recently.

Whether we manage one pennant competition, or three pennant competitions, the culture and the attitude has to change. How we do that, I have know idea…..at the moment, but I'm sure it will be a topic for discussion over the next few meetings.

All pennant competitions will be managed by bowlslink now so I expect our selectors and match committee members at Club and Regional level will be "up to scratch " with the systems by now.

As far as the unification of the Zone and District goes, I haven't received any updates in writing to report. We'll be known as Illawarra Bowls. Our logo will be the teardrop style and include the Illawarra Flame tree. The primary element of the new-look logos is a tear-drop style enclosure, which represents the paths forehand and backhand bowls deliveries take towards the jack, while also boldly displaying the three most prominent aspects of the sport; a bowl, a jack and a green, to ensure greater recognition among the unconverted. Samples of the Illawarra logo appear below.

I've completed the Club's Regional Affiliation Form and I've appointed myself as the Club Delegate to the Region and the State.

The NSW Affiliation Fees have increased by 2%. The Regional Fees will also increase by 2% however, it appears to be a mix of a fixed fee (Zone) and a capitation fee (District). More than likely to formulate an accurate base for the membership at a later stage. Hopefully this will be processed as one fixed fee in the near future. As a result, our Club Membership fees will be $110 per year and are due now.

The rain damage in the women's locker room, requires the whole room to be empty to facilitate the repairs. 36 lockers have been placed in the hallway to the men's locker room. This appears to be a big inconvenience for some members, but I ask you to please be patient while the repairs are taking place.

And it's great to see the construction work commencing for Club Windang Resort with the footing stage near completion. Regular updates can be found on the Club Windang Facebook page. Here's an update below.

Club Windang Resort

We've purchased several sets of coaching bowls from Drake's Pride. These bowls have the club prawn logo engraved on them. We have Conquests size 1 & 2 and Adrenaline sizes 1 - 4. Having the smaller sizes makes it a lot easier as we only ever had the old bowls in that size. As we all know, the older bowls draw a lot more, and they take a bit more time to master.

We still have Dreamline XG's size 3 & 4 and a set of Fusions Size 3, along with a set of Aero Evolves, size 3.5 (Thanks Wayne).

If you want to have a roll with any of these, please let me know.

I know it's a big newsletter, but it shows what kind of month that we had.

All the best everyone and great bowling!

Dave