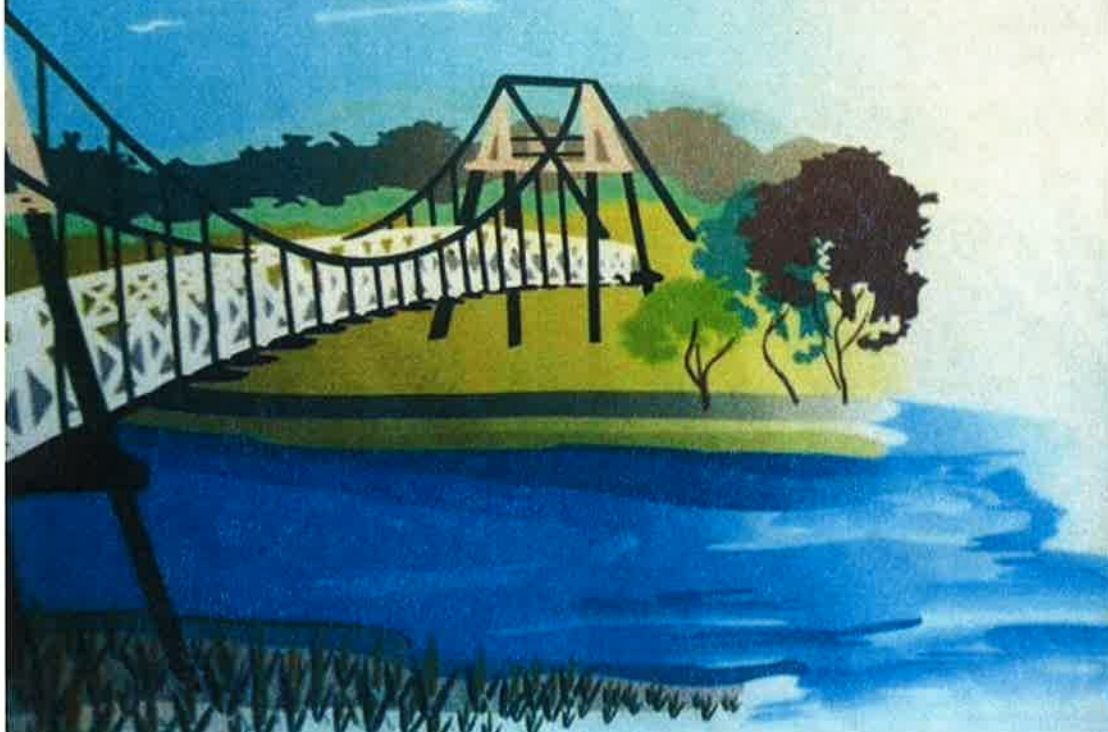


YARRA BOWLS REGION



ANNUAL REPORT Season 2013/14

Proudly supported by
Doncaster East and Templestowe Village
Community Bank® branches



President's report

Whilst I come to the end of my term as President of the Region, I be continuing as a director for the next season.

Thanks to all the clubs I have been invited to - your hospitality and friendship is greatly appreciated.

During the year there were a number of presentations conducted. The Outstanding Service Award was presented to Les Jones (Rosanna). This award is the equivalent of the former RVBA Medal of Merit, and has been conferred on 11 individuals in the Yarra region. Les had been a councillor for many years as well as the chair of Yarra Group Umpires and Yarra Group Greens committees, as well as holding various official club positions. Les' contribution to bowls in Victoria has truly been outstanding. Congratulations Les.

Distinguished service awards were also presented to Greensborough members, Selma Baird, Jack McLaughlin, Dean Ratcliffe and Graham Sweeney. Clubs are reminded that these awards exist as a means of recognising individuals for their contribution.

John Roberts (Bundoora RSL) was presented with the Bowls Australia "Official of the Year" due to his commitment and passion for officiating at a club, region, state, national and international level; as well as his behind the scenes role in education umpires, accreditation / reaccreditation within the Yarra Region.

Graeme Clements was presented with the Bowls Australia "Coach of the Year" due to, among other achievements, his invaluable organisation and support of the ABBA national team's journey to the International Blind Bowlers Association Championships in the United Kingdom

We should also acknowledge Adrian Marchioli and Nick McIntyre (Bundoora RSL) our state representatives who competed in the National Champion of Champions Men's Pairs held in South Australia during October 2013. They qualified for the final by defeating NT and WA, and contested the final against NSW.

Anne Draffen (Ivanhoe) also represented Victoria in the National Champion of Champion ladies singles. Anne won one of three qualifying matches, losing narrowly to the eventual winner from WA.

I've attended many of the region competitions - from first day to the finals. I was most exciting to watch and many congratulations to all winners and competitors. Certainly looking for greater entries to the various competitions next season.

Richmond Union has been allocated to our region from 1 July. We certainly welcome their involvement.

A special mention to my fellow directors – who put in a significant amount of work to get the job done. From a region perspective, last year we started with a coaching development workshop and the coach's amnesty, then ran a club development workshop which has since transitioned into a full blown training program for clubs. We initiated our pathway program, to train and develop both coaches and players. From an administration perspective we're keeping club officials, delegates and members informed on what's happening via email and the website, and we're ticking boxes on administration and financial controls. Add in match committee operations and the training and accreditation of umpires and the region is set up in a good place.

Good bowling to you all in the new season.

Lorraine Burton (President).

Secretary's report

At our last AGM we amended our constitution via a special resolution following changes to the Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012. That special resolution has been approved by Consumer Affairs Victoria.

Our constitution provides for eight directors, four males and four females, each for two year appointments. Lorraine Burton, Elaine Owens, Graham Down and Peter Russell were reappointed in August 2013.

Graham Howard and Beth Chittenden were existing directors, and there were two vacant positions. Barry Ferguson subsequently filled one of the positions as a casual vacancy.

Our office bearers for the last year were: Lorraine Burton (Hurstbridge - President), Graham Howard (Donvale – Vice President) Peter Russell (Bundoora RSL - Secretary), Elaine Owens (Darebin City - Treasurer), with Graham Down (Fairfield), Beth Chittenden (Burwood District) and Barry Ferguson (Donvale) completing the region directors.

During the year the directors met to discuss region activities and events. Meetings were held on 2nd September, 21st October, 26th November, 21st January 2013, 25th February and 28th April.

Delegates meetings were held on 12th November 2012 and 18th March 2013.

This season we also conducted a president and secretary's night on 30th September 2013. This allowed directors to meet those responsible at club level, even though some of those officials were also club delegates.

Directors were quite active with email transmissions, and also received the general information forwarded to club contact officers, secretaries and delegates from time to time.

Our website is updated on a regular basis and contains a calendar of events, our constitution, the region event program, minutes of all meetings, entry forms, draw and results of region events, as well as information for prospective umpires and coaches. The site also contains links to club websites, bowls magazines and bowls forums.

Our site is <http://www.yarra.vic.bowls.net.au>

Peter Russell (Secretary)

Treasurer's report

It is my pleasure to present this report to the members of the Yarra Bowls Region.

Once again we have had a very successful year financially though without the assistance of Bowls Victoria with their subsidy for the Regional Men's and Ladies Championships and the prize money for the Region State Games we would not be in this situation. The Regional State Game entries of \$5,288.00 received does not cover the prize money to the winners and runners up together with the \$2 per player totalling \$1,322.00 which has to be sent to Bowls Victoria. It was a decision made by the executive that the players in the Under 25's and Novice (male and female) events be honoured again resulting in an extra charge to the region of \$600.

At this stage I would like to point out that the Region incurred extra expenses this year by way of subsidies given to many of our players who represented us at National level and those who qualified for finals on day two of their respective events, where prize money won was less than reasonable expenses incurred for accommodation, petrol and the like at the Bendigo State Championships.

Also, the Region undertook a new initiative in introducing a "Pathway" program to assist our bowlers and to help in the selection of the Men and Ladies Regional Championships held at Corowa and Swan Hill and also for the ladies in the Betty Collins Challenge Cup. All of the participants benefited from this program and many hours were spent with the coaches. It would be remiss of the Region to expect the coaches to go unrewarded for their efforts and an honorarium was given to them as a way of appreciation.

Regarding uniforms, it was found that we did not have enough smaller size shirts for the ladies so these were purchased and the men received navy shorts/pants. It is anticipated that hats will have to be purchased next year.

As Darebin City hosted many of the semi finals and finals of the Region events and also the pathway program under lights it was deemed fit that they should receive some compensation.

Our system of invoicing clubs for the Region Levies and for all the state games entries is proving to be very successful and I would like to thank the clubs for their attention to these invoices, particularly to those clubs who manage to meet their obligation within a few days of receipt. You make my work so much easier.

Of course, the perfect way of paying is by depositing direct into our bank account but I am aware that this is not always possible at some of the clubs.

In closing I would like to sincerely thank all my co board members for their assistance and wish the incoming committee every success for the forthcoming season.

Elaine Owens (Treasurer)

YARRA BOWLS REGION					
STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE 1/7/2013 TO 30/6/2014					
Income					
Region Levy			6,442.00		
Bowls Victoria Prize Money			4,800.00		
Bowls Victoria Regional Subsidies			2,250.00		
Regional Championships Entries			5,288.00		
Bank Interest			92.26		18,872.26
Expenditure					
Consumer Affairs			126.60		
Courier			200.00		
Regional Championships Prize Money			5,400.00		
Bowls Vic. Championships			1,322.00		
Regional Uniforms			678.00		
National Championships Subsidy			560.00		
Entertainment			414.50		
Region Lighting - Donation			400.00		
Betty Collins Entries			540.00		
Men's Regional Championships			3,103.24		
Ladies' Regional Championships			2,973.00		
State Championships Subsidies			550.00		
Honorariums	Pathway	540.80			
	Greens	600.00			
	Umpires	375.00	1,515.80		
Website			1,100.00		
Bank Charges			3.85		
Postage/Printing/Stationery			86.00		18,972.99
Loss					-100.73
Balance As Per Bank Statements 30/6/2013	Savings A/C		13,376.75		
	Statement A/C		144.60		13,521.35
Balance As Per Bank Statements 30/6/2014	Savings A/C		13,271.02		
	Statement A/C		149.60		13,420.62

Schedule 1

Regulation 15

Form 1

Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012

Sections 94(2)(b), 97(2)(b) and 100(2)(b)

This form is required to be provided to the members at the AGM with the association's accounts.

Annual statements give true and fair view of financial performance and position of incorporated association

We, Lorraine Burton and Peter Russell, being members of the Committee of the Yarra Bowls Region, certify that—

The statements attached to this certificate give a true and fair view of the financial performance and position of the Yarra Bowls Region during and at the end of the financial year of the association ending on 30th June 2014.

Signed:



Dated:

30-7-2014

Signed:



Dated:

30/7/2014

Membership – Clubs Yarra Region

Clubs	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	Diff
Alphington Bowling Club	62	53	58	50	-12
Ashburton Bowls Club Inc	144	155	146	134	-10
Auburn Bowls Club	55	42	57	70	15
Bundoora RSL Bowling Centre	220	186	203	211	-9
Burwood District Bowls Club	138	142	136	131	-7
Camberwell Central Bowls Club	61	64	61	64	3
City of Heidelberg Bowling Club	103	104	115	123	20
Darebin City Bowls Club	109	89	88	84	-25
Diamond Creek Bowling Club	106	98	98	109	3
Doncaster Bowling Club	246	238	215	234	-12
Donvale Bowls Club	185	173	180	192	7
East Ivanhoe Bowling Club	88	90	91	77	-11
Eltham Bowling Club	142	143	145	159	17
Fairfield Bowling Club	46	40	46	43	-3
Greensborough Bowling Club	145	140	139	135	-10
Greythorn Bowling Club	124	102	96	91	-33
Hawthorn Bowling Club	41	41	59	69	28
Heidelberg Golf Bowling Club	101	87	81	78	-23
Hurstbridge Bowling Club	66	67	72	80	14
Ivanhoe Bowling Club	115	110	112	118	3
Kew Heights Sports Club	189	131	113	124	-65
Melbourne Cricket Club Bowls Club	161	227	239	252	91
Montmorency Bowling Club	240	220	254	247	7
North Balwyn Bowls Club	157	164	165	140	-17
Richmond Union Bowling Club	120	114	118	111	-9
Rosanna Bowling Club	146	131	129	132	-14
Templestowe Bowling Club	80	67	70	71	-9
Yarra Valley CC Bowls Club	67	59	53	50	-17
Grand Total	3457	3277	3339	3379	-78

We would like to recognise the efforts of club membership programs in not only stabilising the decline in membership numbers up until 2010/11 but reversing the trend and growing the overall region numbers.

This is a fabulous result and provides a great platform to continue to grow participation in our sport as well as the finances and sustainability of our Clubs.

Congratulations to all involved.

Match committee

This is a high pressure operation which starts with creating our calendar of events, the recording of entries, organising the greens and the necessary rinks for play, compiling the draw for each of the events and the necessary liaison between parties for umpires and markers where necessary.

Then hoping the event gets under way without any hiccups. Things don't always work out as planned and some events are rescheduled. One of those unfortunate rescheduled events was the second stanza of the Champion of Champion singles held at Doncaster on a Monday night. We were impressed with the crowd that turned up to support their players.



Lyn Harford and Lyn Collins
Finalists on the Ladies' Champion of
Champion Singles



Nick McIntyre and Wayne Fogarty
Finalists on the Men's Champion of
Champion Singles

This season we tried to run the men's events and ladies events at similar times, and even broke with tradition of playing ladies events mid week to move to Sundays and twilight fixtures – to give those in the workforce an opportunity to compete.

We've taken stock of what worked and what need a tweak - making sure closing dates allow sufficient time for creating and advertising the respective draws, trying to create a pool of umpires and markers to ease the pain of clubs hosting single's events. There are some other options on the table for consideration.

Congratulations to the winners of the respective events, but thanks also to those who participated, and to the clubs for access to their greens, and providing the necessary administrative support for the events.

Entries for the respective events are down on the previous two years and we need to work to increase participation, particularly where prize money significantly exceeds entry fees. Prize money for the men's and ladies fours is \$400 for each winning team and \$200 for the each of the runners up. That's \$1200 yet there were only 7 ladies team and 11 men's teams. If you were running a business this event would be scrapped. Surely we can conjure up a few more entries to make the competition worthwhile.

Entries for ladies' events this season represented 30% of the total entries. However entries for ladies' events increased overall by 9, whereas entries for the men's events dropped by 35.

The table below illustrates the number of teams entered for the respective events and provides a comparison to the previous years. An area of concern is that 12 clubs had fewer than 5 entries from up to 20 events, and another 4 clubs had less than 10 entries. I'm sure that with a little encouragement we can work towards increasing entries, and providing some exposure to the game at the next level.

Region event entries

Sum of Teams		Year		
Event		2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Champion of champions - Ladies' Pairs		12	14	15
Champion of champions - Ladies' Singles		19	20	20
Champion of champions - Men's Pairs		18	16	17
Champion of champions - Men's Singles		23	26	23
Ladies' 60+ Pairs			10	10
Ladies' 60+ Singles		15	13	20
Ladies' Fours		10	9	7
Ladies' Novice		11	8	12
Ladies' Pairs		21	12	12
Ladies' Singles		16	16	15
Ladies' Triples		9	11	11
Ladies' Under 25		2		2
Men's 60+ Pairs		46	44	39
Men's 60+ Singles		48	50	44
Men's Fours		11	10	11
Men's Novice			18	13
Men's Pairs		57	44	42
Men's Singles		84	74	56
Men's Triples		16	25	22
Men's under 25		4	6	11
Grand Total		422	426	402

YARRA REGION – REGION EVENTS WINNERS 2013-14

Event		Champions	Club
Singles	Men	Josh Corless	Bundoora RSL
	Women	Anne Draffen	Ivanhoe
Pairs	Men	Mario Cipolla Nick McIntyre (S)	Bundoora RSL
	Women	Anne Draffen Meredith Norton (S)	Ivanhoe
Triples	Men	Trevor Dawson Ron Hayes Barry Ferguson (S)	Donvale
	Women	Laurel Montgomery Anne Draffen Meredith Norton (S)	Ivanhoe
Fours	Men	Luke Eddington Peter Thomas Jack Woodhouse Nick McIntyre (S)***	Bundoora RSL
	Women	Lyn Walker Pauline Skinner Elisabeth Lewis Betty Hassold (S)	Bundoora RSL
60 & Over Singles	Men	Rowan Sharp	Donvale
	Women	Carmen Spiteri	Bundoora RSL
60 & Over Pairs	Men	Brian Kent Paul Morris (S)	Burwood Dist

60 & Over Pairs	Women	Lyn Collins Meredith Norton (S)	East Ivanhoe Ivanhoe
Under 25 Singles	Male	Lloyd Iaccarino	Burwood Dist
	Female	Julia Demarchi	Donvale
Novice Singles	Male	Ian Eichfuss	Hawthorn
	Female	Rusti Davies**	Darebin City
Champion of Champions Singles	Men	Nick McIntyre	Bundoora RSL
	Women	Lyn Harford	Montmorency
Champion of Champions Pairs	Men	Adrian Marchioli Nick McIntyre (S)**	Bundoora RSL
	Women	Pauline Skinner Jodie Nevill (S)	Bundoora RSL

*** State Championship winner in this event

** State Championship runner-up in this event



Bundoora's State 4s Champions



What shot do you play now?

The successful men's State 4s champions (Nick McIntyre, Luke Eddington, Jack Woodhouse & Peter Thomas pictured above) just got over the line against Bendigo Campaspe in the round of 16, then comfortably defeated Murray Mallee in the quarters, before an epic semi final encounter against Sandbelt, and closed out the tournament with a 6 shot win over Ovens & Murray.

The defending Champions of Champions men's pair (Adrian Marchioli & Nick McIntyre pictured right) cruised through their last 16 match against Murray Mallee, and the quarter final against Wimmera, before a 3 shot win over Ovens & Murray in the semi final. Unfortunately they couldn't repeat the dose in the final against the Altona pair Bryce Young and Brett Mahoney



Rusti Davies (Darebin City) should be pleased with her efforts in the State Novice Championship. First up was a hard fought 5 shot win against a Metro West opponent, followed 21-3 win in the quarter final against Peninsula Casey. Then a 21-11 win in the semi against Bendigo Campaspe gave her entry to the final. It seems she'd already played her best bowls, but should be ecstatic at being a State finalist so early in her bowl's career.

Victorian Open 2013



Josh 'Chopper' Corless (Bundoora RSL) and Dean O'Neill (MCC) who won the Vic Open triples in 2012 won the Vic Open men's pairs in 2013 defeating Chris Ball (Moonee Ponds) and Garry Ball (Kew Sports) 15-7.

And while that was happening Josh's mum, Pauline Skinner joined forces with Bundoora RSL club-mate Jody Nevill in the final of the Vic Open ladies' pairs. They made the final all the more exciting by dropping 3 shots on the last end and were forced to an extra end.

Jodie opted not to play her last bowl after Pauline said she believed they were already holding shot to win the title.

Region Sides Championships

This year's championships were conducted this season, with the 12 a side competition for men at Corowa in January and the ladies' at Swan Hill in March.

The men's lone state representative (Nick McIntyre) had to withdraw due to illness the day before play, which caused a reshuffle to the selected side. We were drawn to play the tournament favourites in the first game, and that didn't help. Then lost the second game, having been in a winning position with two ends to play, and won the third match against a seasoned Geelong side. Good to see that the side gelled well together and stuck at the task.

Eight new ladies made the side which is some testament to the pathway program. Having won the first two games with a massive 39 shot advantage, the side lost the third game and lost the section on percentage. Still a 2-1 win/ loss record this year was still a significant improvement on 2013.

Some interesting thoughts out of the program were to select the side earlier, more match conditioning, and reinforcing the theory that participation creates opportunity.

Pathway Program



Graham Howard addresses players at Greythorn

During this last season we embarked on a pathway program, which was designed to educate players and coaches in skills drills as part of a training and development program. A secondary aspect was seeing players practice with each other, and ultimately allow those charged with selection of region teams to see first hand what was happening. We were fortunate to have some elite coaches at our disposal; Lachlan Tighe and Ian Ewing, with additional support Rowan Sharp, Barry Ferguson and Rob Wilson. Initially the region was divided into sections as we had no idea how many people would attend.

The program initially was scheduled to run for three years, and we've already heard that other regions are envious.

Greens

Thanks again to our Green's Committee, who undertook the annual inspection of greens for last season. Clubs, especially the Greens Directors are thanked for their support and assistance, as sometimes at short notice; their greens were made available for such inspections. The dedicated work undertaken by clubs, greens directors, green keepers and volunteers is obvious by the standards of the greens and their maintenance within the Yarra Region. Thank you to all involved.

Umpires

Yarra conducted another series of workshops / tutorials in January / February 2014 with ten new candidates successful in gaining accreditation, ten candidates gaining re-accreditation and three others offered retraining.

Some umpires have suggested they get few opportunities to officiate. So a request has already been forwarded to clubs seeking to have umpire's names added to a pool to assist with region events. This will give some umpires greater exposure. Same concept applies with markers. Please look out for those lists at your club.

Coaching & Development Advisory Group

Yarra Region has piloted and been involved in all BV Coaching & Coaching Development initiatives during the year. Including being well represented at the first MasterClass coaching seminar conducted at Ivanhoe Bowls Club conducted in two sessions in early June this year.

The seminar was built around presentations from Steve Glasson (Australian National Coach) Graeme Archer & Geoff Maskell (Premier League Coaches) Nicole Shortis (Coaching Disabled bowlers) and David Cameron (Chairman Bowls NSW Coaching Committee). The seminar was focused on coaches involved in Premier League / Region / State coaching.

Many Region coaches have been and more opportunity will be provided next year for their involvement and to learn from the "Pathway program" as development of coaches is an integral part of this program.

Further work has enabled the number of coaches to be stabilised through the "amnesty" program and from this base initiatives to bring on board new coaches and develop Yarra Region coaches will continue into the future.

Club Support & Development Advisory Group

Following on from the wonderful presentation by Doug McClelland (Camberwell Central) last year Bowls Vic in conjunction with Sports Community scheduled a club training program. This consisted of a number of 3 hour sessions held at Doncaster in May / June 2014. Some of the major topics discussed included strategic planning and achieving club objectives, communication, sponsorship and fund raising, membership growth, governance and financial controls. Other sessions were to be conducted in other regions.

Junior Development

The Yarra Region junior development squad is the Diamond Valley Vipers capably led by Pauline Skinner for the last 6 years. The Vipers have been successful over the years and provided both enjoyment and development opportunities to young bowlers within the region including strong participation in the Junior Development Round Robin against other regions.

Region looks forward to supporting and assisting the growth and opportunities provided by Vipers.

Congratulations to Josh Corless on being selected to represent Australia in the under 18 international series. It's no surprise he's also represented Victorian in their under 18 side.

Sponsorship

We acknowledge our sponsors;

- Bendigo Bank – Doncaster East & Templestowe Village Community Bank Branches
- Doncaster Sporting Gear

Their on going support of Yarra Region is greatly appreciated and assists in keeping our affiliation fees at the bottom end of that charged by other BV regions.