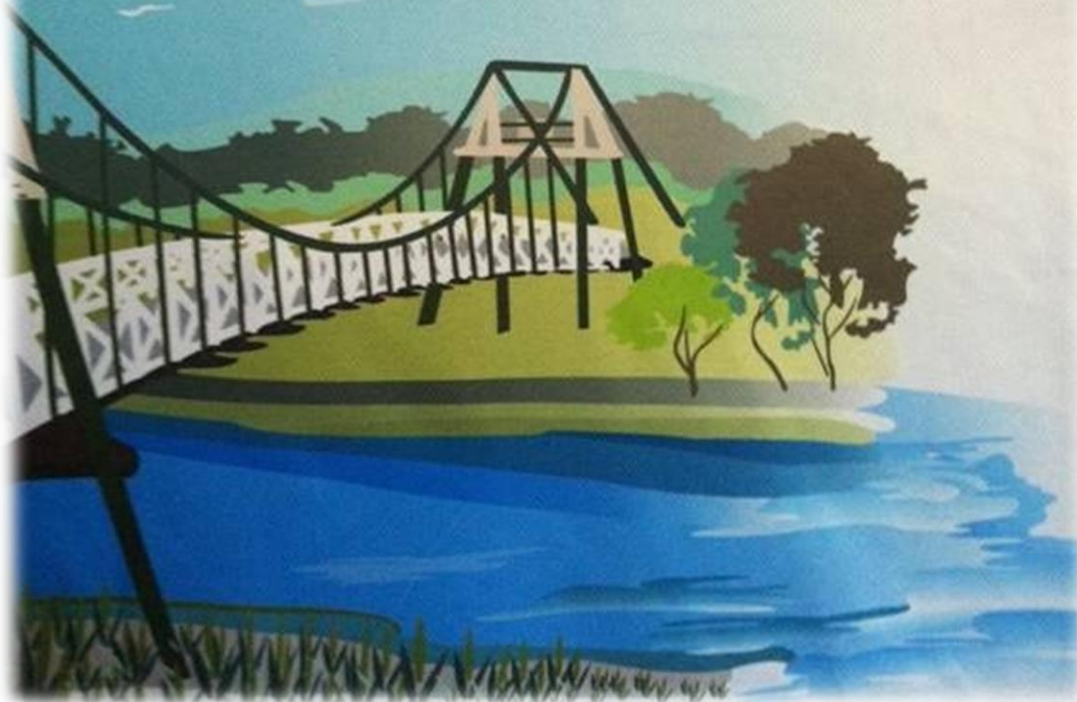


YARRA BOWLS REGION



2019-2020 Annual Report

President's Report

This season was a season like no other. We started off strong back in September 2019 with our Regional Events kicking off with the Over 60's Singles, but as we all know now, COVID-19 hit and season was interrupted.

I should start by thanking all our Member Clubs for their support over the last season, allowing us to use your greens and facilities for Regional Championships, Regionals Trials, Training and Meetings. We also appreciate all the volunteers that have assisted in the role's officials, umpires, markers and selectors.

Mention should be given to our Board of Directors who have worked to provide the best information, events and guidance to our Member Clubs. Beth Chittenden provided great support to me this season as Vice President. Elaine Owens has again been a rock in the role of Treasurer during the Season. The Region did experience a case of internet fraud, but through Elaine's hard work in chasing down the bank we were able to secure the return of the funds. She also was able to procure the medallions for all our Championship winners. Louise Mejean ran the Match Committee for the second year and following a successful marketing campaign, we were able to increase the number of participants by 9% overall. Culum Bennington settled into his first year as Secretary. Matt Ottobre showed excitement in getting involved in more aspects of the region and we look forward to him continuing his involvement into the future.

Congratulations to all our Regional Championship Winners, we were able to complete all events prior to the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic, but unfortunately our winners have not yet been able to compete in the Victorian Championships. Bowls Victoria is looking to host these Championships in the coming future, and we wish all our winners all the best in these events when they occur.

We acknowledge the achievements of the following Yarra Region bowlers who gained selection into State Representative sides during the Season:

- Women's
 - Tris Doolan (MCC Bowls)
 - Anne Draffen (MCC Bowls)
- Over 60's Men
 - Mario Cipolla (Bundoora RSL)
 - Ray Jansen (MCC Bowls)
- Armed Bowlers
 - Steven Coles (North Balwyn)
 - Peter Toovey (Eltham)
- Under 18 Boys
 - Liam Turner (Bundoora RSL)

Yarra Region Director Matt Ottobre was also appointed as the coach of the Victorian Side for the Australia School Super Series which was played at Tweed Heads Bowls Club in September 2019.

Just prior to the COVID-19 restriction coming in, the Region did select our Men's and Women's Regional Side which were due to play in the Regional Championships in Shepparton. Unfortunately, Bowls Victoria made the tough but understandable decision to cancel the event for 2020. We thank all those who came along to our pathway sessions and we look forward to being able to gather our sides for the 2021 Regional Side Championships.

In closing, I'd like to thank all the bowlers, volunteer, clubs and directors who have participated and helped during the season. We hope everyone is staying safe in these COVID-19 and hope to see everyone back on the greens very soon.

Mike Limosani (President)

Secretary's Report

The 2019-20 Season has certainly been a challenging one. At the start of the season, all was smooth sailing as we entered our Region Events and the Metropolitan Pennant, but by the end of the Season what we knew as normal seemed to no longer exist.

But firstly, I'd like to thank Peter Russell, the Yarra Regions former Secretary for his outstanding work over numerous years in completing the Secretary role for the region, it's not until you get your hand dirty that you sometime realise the work that people do behind the scenes.

From the AGM in 2019, we saw the re-election of Mike Limosani and Elaine Owens to the Yarra Region Board but unfortunately, we did have 2 casual vacancies which were unable to be filled at the AGM or through out the Season. Louise Mejean and Matthew Ottobre also on the Board of Directors.

The Office Bearers for the Season were:

- President – Mike Limosani (Yarra Valley Country Club)
- Vice President – Beth Chittenden (Burwood District)
- Treasurer – Elaine Owens (Alphington)
- Secretary – Culum Bennington (MCC Bowls)

During the Season the Board met on 19th August 2019, 16th September 2019, 21st October 2019 and 17th February 2020 to discuss matters of the Regional. Apologies to all region members regarding the minutes of the meeting being published on our website, this is currently being updated and we hope to have all the minutes up by the time of the Annual General Meeting.

There was one Delegates Meeting conducted on the 28th October 2019 at the Yarra Valley Country Club. The second Delegates meeting was due to be held in March, but unfortunately due to the COVID-19 pandemic we were unable to hold this meeting. We look forward to holding these meeting into the future.

One of my key focus areas moving into the new Season will be to improve the lines of communication between the Region and Clubs as well as the Region and Bowls Victoria. In this regard, we ask that all Clubs update their details for the coming season we have the best chance of providing quick and effective communication to the correct people in your club.

Our main contact details remain as follows:

Email yarrabowlsregion@gmail.com

Website www.yarra.bowls.com.au

Facebook www.facebook.com/yarrabowls

Culum Bennington (Secretary)

Treasurer's Report

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

This financial year commenced (for me) in a very disturbing way but with the support of the Executive committee and past Secretary Peter Russell and constant phone calls and emails to the Bendigo Bank the funds that were illegally taken from the Yarra Region Bank account were finally reimbursed on 9th December 2019.

Bowls Victoria passed on to the Region \$2,800 as a subsidy towards the expenses that would have been incurred for the Men's and Women's Regional Championships. Bookings were made at a Shepparton Motel to accommodate the two teams and it was estimated that this would incur a cost of approximately \$7,000 but due to the COVID-19 this event had to be cancelled resulting in extra funds remaining in the account.

Your executive decided that we would donate \$500 towards the Bush Fire Fund. We received an email from Bowls Victoria and from President Barbara Gilbert thanking our Region for the donation.

It will be necessary to purchase another supply of the blue Region hats for our representative players. We have ample supply of uniforms. We will also be supplying medallions to the winners and runner ups of our Region events as this has been well received by the players.

Thank you to the clubs who respond immediately to the invoices sent so please pass on to your treasurer my grateful thanks.

To my fellow executive members thank you for your continued support especially through the early part of this financial year.

Elaine Owens (Treasurer)

YARRA BOWLS REGION				
STATEMENT OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE 1/7/2019 to 30/6/2020				
INCOME				
Region Levy			10,112.00	31,973.00
State Championship Entries			5,304.00	
Bowls Victoria State Regional Games Subsidy			2,800.00	
Bendigo Bank Fraud Reimbursement			13,750.00	
Bank Interest			7.00	
Total Income				
EXPENDITURE				7,731.73
Consumer Affairs			59.20	
Medallions			576.00	
Insurance			1,116.23	
Bowls Victoria Bush Fire Donation			500.00	
Regional Championships Prizemoney			4,480.00	
Honourariums	Greens		1,000.00	
Bank Charges			0.30	
Total Expenditure				
				24,241.27
Balance as per Bank Statements 30/6/2019				241.03
	Savings Account		41.03	
	Statement Account		200.00	
Balance as per Bank Statements 30/6/2020				\$ 24,482.30
	Savings Account		24,282.30	
	Statement Account		200.00	

Match Committee Report

Once Bowls Victoria issue their calendar of events we sit down and integrate our events into the schedule and try to avoid clashes wherever possible. We then establish closing dates for all our events, and update entry form templates and publish them. Then there's the recording of entries, issuing of draws, arranging greens and liaising with various event managers.

The following table shows the number of entries for the year and event.

Event	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	% Change
Champion of champions - Ladies' Singles	22	19	20	17	20	16 of 26	-20%
Champion of champions - Men's Singles	24	23	23	21	22	20 of 26	-9%
Ladies' 60+ Pairs	16	14	19	12	10	14	40%
Ladies' 60+ Singles	21	13	16	13	16	18	13%
Ladies' Fours	10	8	8	7	6	8	33%
Ladies' Novice	8	6	2	5	4	9	125%
Ladies' Pairs	18	14	13	14	10	10	0%
Ladies' Singles	23	13	28	18	14	16	14%
Ladies' Triples	8	10	14	12	10	12	20%
Ladies' Under 25	2	-	-	2	-	-	-
Men's 60+ Pairs	43	43	33	36	36	32	-11%
Men's 60+ Singles	50	49	36	36	40	48	20%
Men's Fours	16	17	12	14	11	16	45%
Men's Novice	30	18	14	16	14	14	0%
Men's Pairs	41	40	40	34	32	36	13%
Men's Singles	70	57	68	63	50	43	-14%
Men's Triples	23	15	18	20	16	22	38%
Men's under 25	7	-	-	7	-	-	-
Mixed Pairs	26	32	38	35	28	34	21%
TOTAL	458	391	402	382	339	368	9%

We run eight events for both ladies and men, and a mixed pair's event.

Unfortunately, half of our clubs have nominated fewer than 10 entries for all these events.

It was great to see that overall entries had increased in comparison with the prior year. Traditionally ladies' entries make up around 30% of overall entries, with men around the 70% mark.

The under 25 singles (males & females) was again conducted centrally by Bowls Victoria for the 2019/20 season.

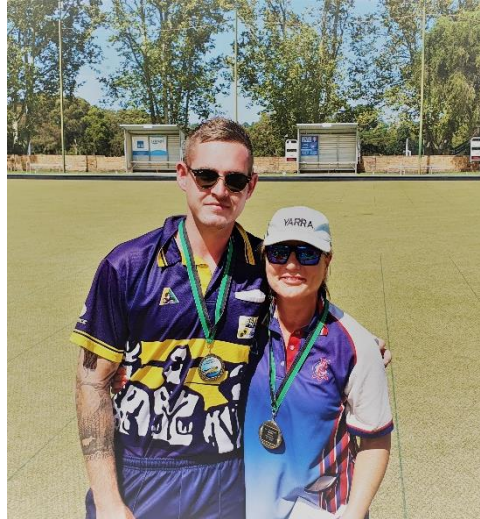
Due to Bowls Victoria regulations we had to enforce the knockout format for our singles events this season and we continued running our triples and fours as twilight events.

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. We cannot run these wonderful events without the support of the clubs, for all your help

2019-20 Regional Championship Event Winners

Event		Champions	Club
Singles	Men	Nathan Murray	Bundoora RSL
	Women	Tris Doolan	MCC Bowls
	CoC Men	Dean O'Neill	Bundoora RSL
	CoC Women	Tris Doolan	MCC Bowls
	Novice Men	Joshua Hurn	Richmond Union
	Novice Women	Jacqui Brown	Burwood District
Pairs	Men	Brendan Gallagher (s) Mike Haigh	MCC Bowls
	Women	Tris Doolan (s) Anne Draffen	MCC Bowls
	Mixed	Dean O'Neill (s) Sarah Howard	Bundoora RSL Richmond Union
Triples	Men	Josh Corless (s) Ben Hubber Russell Green	Bundoora RSL Bundoora RSL MCC Bowls
	Women	Anne Draffen (s) Tris Doolan Jodie Jones	MCC Bowls MCC Bowls Hurstbridge
Fours	Men	Aaron Van Haaften (s) Damian Jardine John Head Barry Ferguson	Rosanna
	Women	Ros Camera (s) Deb Code Helen Smith Lisa Bartolo	Eltham
Over 60's Singles	Men	Peter Marget	MCC Bowls
	Women	Alison Hall	MCC Bowls
Over 60's Pairs	Men	Scott Wellington (s) John Leitch	MCC Bowls
	Women	Alison Hall (s) De Smith	MCC Bowls

Singles Winners



Pairs Winners



Triples Winners



Fours Winners



Greens Report

Thanks again for our team of volunteers who inspect the Yarra Region greens and complete the necessary reports on the state of greens.

Clubs and Greens Directors are especially thanked for making their greens available sometimes at short notice, this is appreciated.