



BOWLS
ACT



ACT
Government

Economic Development

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CIRCULAR 46 of 2020

TO: ALL CLUBS

RE: Men's and Women's Weekend Pennants

Last night (28 September 28, 2020) at the Bowls ACT AGM the question was raised about the continuation of the 2020 Men's and Women's Weekend Pennants which have been postponed due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Following the AGM, the new Board held a meeting at which the question was discussed at length. The Board decided that the Men's and Women's Weekend Pennants would not be completed for 2020. There will be no more matches, no finals series, and no winners declared.

The Board recognizes that this decision will come as disappointing news to many and would like to state the following reasons for reaching the decision:

- There is a large number of members playing pennants who are within at risk categories for serious complications from contracting COVID-19. Even with the implementation of COVIDSafe plans and protocols their safety remains a significant concern for the Board.
- 25% of clubs in the Women's Pennants made the decision that they would not continue with the competition, meaning that there is no way to objectively continue the season whilst maintaining the integrity of the competition.
- Out of equity, given the decision to not continue the Women's Pennants, and in the interest of member safety within the region, the same conclusion must be made for the Men's Pennants.

Bowls ACT would like to encourage clubs to undertake their own tournaments in what is already a full calendar leading into the end of the 2020 year. This will give clubs the opportunity to host their own events and encourage members to return whilst limiting the mixing of groups. This will also give clubs the opportunity to prepare their greens for 2021.

Given this news, the Board will be discussing a reduction in nomination fees for the 2020 Pennants season. Further advice on this point will be distributed to clubs.

The Board hopes that its decision will give clubs certainty so they can move forward in planning for 2020 and further into 2021.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact Executive Officer, Ciaran O'Rourke (exec@bowlfact.org.au).

Ciaran O'Rourke
Executive Officer