





Grand Final Wrap

The 2023 Weekend Pennant season has been completed with thanks to Grand Final host **Queanbeyan RSL Memorial Bowling Club** as well as all the clubs and members involved. The surface and service at the club were first rate with players and spectators treated to two fantastic days of competition.

This final issue looks back at the games and the influential players across the finals with your reporter excited to have a little break!

Nick Hind – Bowls ACT Executive Officer

[Grade 1](#)

Belconnen 69 def Weston Creek 44

Belconnen are back to back Grade 1 Champions following a strong performance to defeat Weston Creek in the Grand Final. The Creekers started hot, with Doug Farr's rink racing to an early lead, but the class of Matt Sargeant for Belconnen was able to wear away at Weston Creeks lead before finishing the best to win 22/20. Peter Watts drew against Ian Whybrow with the two veteran skips playing some great bowls, but much of the difference was up front with the bowls of Belco second Peter Fahey featuring prominently in most heads as Belconnen took the rink 25/19. The loss of Shane Murton could have derailed some sides, but Jamie Freeman, as he has done all year, was a more than adequate replacement, never headed to run out victors 22/5 to give Belconnen a 69/44 victory.

[Grade 2](#)

Yass 74 def Goulburn Railway 37

Goulburn Railway have been consistently close in Grade 2 but fell to a sensational performance from Yass in the Grand Final. The Ian Drysdale rink for Goulburn did their level best, claiming a 16-all draw but it was the Yass rinks of Marg Bacchetto and Ted Maher, both of whom have been in extraordinary form late in the season who proved the difference. Yass running out gracious winners 74/37.



Chifley Health &
Wellbeing Hub
Maclaurin Cres, Chifley



www.bowlsact.org.au



0472 865 197



exec@bowlsact.org.au

@bowlsact



[Grade 3](#)

Queanbeyan 73 def Vikings 44

A tough way to finish the season for a Vikings team which has shown some true class over the 2023 season, humbled by a white hot Queanbeyan side who saved their best performance of the season for the Grand Final. Vikings can take plenty of positives from the season in which they finished minor-premiers and fought hard until the end. For Queanbeyan the core of the 2022 Grade 4 premiers made up this side who have continued up through the grades and with plenty of youth at the club there will be hot competition for spots in the top grades next year. QBC winning 73/44.

[Grade 4](#)

Weston Creek 62 def Yass 48

The Yass club must be commended for a brilliant season in the grade and after getting the better of Weston Creek in the Major Semi-Final would have been confident leading into the final game of the year, however it was Weston Creek who prevailed to turn the tables on the NSW club to take home the 2023 Grade 4 title. Yass can claim a moral victory of sorts with Craig Sleigh & Barry Bush both claiming narrow rink wins, but as has been the theme of these post-season reports it was the Hogan rink for Weston Creek who did the damage winning 35/14 and doing enough to take home the flag 62 shots to 48.

[Grade 5](#)

Bungendore 58 def Goulburn Railway 57

WHAT A GAME! Goulburn Railway and Bungendore have had some great clashes this year with both clubs looking to be evenly matched over the season. This game was no different with Railway holding a four shot advantage with two ends to be completed, but Bungendore did enough at the death to secure the victory as the match went down to the final bowl in shades of their earlier one shot win in Round 5. Goulburn can be commended for their season and the match, Reg Thoms and Jouko 'Yogi' Karjalainen claiming 5 and 3 shot victories respectively, but it was the Bungendore rink of Jamie Fawthrop who did enough to give the little one-green club the victory, winning 23/14 and having to double check with his teammates that it was enough and setting up a famous night at the little club, Bungendore the victors 58 to 57.





[Grade 6](#)

Queanbeyan 58 def Yass 56

Queanbeyan are the champions following an enthralling game against Yass, who held the lead throughout until Queanbeyan came storming home to claim the flag. Remarkably Yass claimed two rinks to one, but the master board is all that counts in the biggest game of the season. All Yass players can hold their heads high, with the rinks of Peter Faulkner (25/12) and Robert Corcoran (20/17) doing their level best to get the Grade 6 flag heading back to Yass, however it was the back-end partnership of Canham/McConnell who were the difference with a 29/11 win to scrape QBC over the line to the flag 58 shots to 56.

[Grade 7](#)

Goulburn Railway 69 v Yass 50

After tremendous seasons from both finalists it was a shame that there could only be one winner with Goulburn Railway claiming the title following a tough game against Yass. Both sides played plenty of good bowls but it was Goulburn who were able to adjust and handled the breezy conditions best. The Yass rink of Megan Bush rink did their best to keep things close, but Robyn Hawkins & Paul Johnson had different ideas, turning the scoreboard over frequently as Goulburn Railway raced away to be the 2023 Grade 7 champions 69 shot to 50.

Thanks to all who've commented and contributed this season. Bowls ACT look forward to your support for the next round of events!!



Chifley Health &
Wellbeing Hub
Maclaurin Cres, Chifley



@bowlsact



www.bowlsact.org.au



0472 865 197



exec@bowlsact.org.au

