

Bowls ACT

2021 Annual Report




Contents

President’s Report.....	2
Board and General Information	2
Future and Planning.....	2
Fit 4 Future Purpose Clubs Project.....	3
Events and Pennants, Nationals and Sides	4
Executive report.....	5
Pennants	6
Championships.....	10
Board.....	11
Committees.....	12
RSM Strategic Review of Bowls in the ACT	13
Looking Ahead.....	14
Director’s reports.....	15
Vice President and Human Resources	15
Governance and Legal.....	16
Marketing and Sponsorship	17
Events and Matches.....	18
Representative Teams	19



Chifley Health and Wellbeing Centre
McLaurin Cres, Chifley
@bowlsact

 www.bowlsact.org.au
 0499 587 783
 admin@bowlsact.org.au

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Board and General Information

I am privileged to be working with a genuine group of people who are the Board of Bowls ACT (BACT), and once again I remind you we are (other than our Executive Officer) all volunteers who give their time freely. I also remind you that as it expected of Clubs that BACT communicate with courtesy, the reciprocal approach be applied by clubs and their members to BACT Staff and Board members.

Let's be clear, we are operating a small business and I express my sincere gratitude to the Board for your dedication, I know you are proud of your contribution and I cannot thank you enough. This dedication is also displayed by our Match and Representative committees who work diligently to organise and present events from Pennants to Championships. There are also a group who contribute silently, they being our umpires who selflessly give their time at such events.

Whilst not diminishing the contribution from all Board members and individualising, I will make a special mention of our Executive Officer, Ciaran O'Rourke who maintains:

- continuity of services and support to the Board and Association Clubs,
- association work he is involved with Bowls Australia (BA)
- various BA committees
- working with ACT Sport and Recreation
- coordination of grant applications
- Liaison with consultancies

I also cannot speak highly enough of the efforts of Ray Watt who is our financial advisor, who in conjunction with Ciaran is an absolute asset to Bowls ACT and our management of bowls in the region.

I also take the opportunity to mention of the club members who have assisted Bowls ACT with administration of Championship events, the volunteers who assist them and the work in collating and providing results back to Bowls ACT. It is generally the same people and we thank you.

Future and Planning

We have been identifying future plans and objectives for Bowls ACT as an organisation and the impact these plans will have on club and how we can all come together as a group to sustain and grow bowls in the region as a standalone STA.

Part of this is how we utilise the grant that was given by ACT Sport and Recreation to implement the recommendations of the RSM Report. There are four main initiatives we are concentrating on:

- Club Membership Modelling
- Social Competitions
- Digital Presence and Strategy
- New Strategic Plan

The true impact however is that Bowls ACT is here to serve the clubs and their members, and considering membership is continuing to decline we may be staring at a not so bright future. However, as identified in the above initiatives we are working to rebuild the sport and the organisation in the region. We are looking to clubs to come on this journey with us as we attempt to rebrand the sport of bowls in the region and create a sustainable future for everyone.



Chifley Health and Wellbeing Centre

McLaurin Cres, Chifley

@bowlsact



www.bowlsact.org.au



0499 587 783



admin@bowlsact.org.au

Fit 4 Future Purpose Clubs Project

Background

In 2019, the ACT Government, in partnership with Bowls ACT, commissioned an independent Strategic Facility Review of Bowls in the ACT to assist with future planning considerations for the sport. The Review identified a number of key challenges currently facing Bowls clubs in the ACT, and as such Bowls ACT has engaged Mike McLaughlin and McLaughlin Sport Consultancy to undertake a project to investigate club business models and the future of bowls participation in the Capital Region ensuring consultation at club level, engaging with Parent clubs, inclusion of people whose contributions are seen to represent value and provide alternate views that can assist in achieving our outcomes.

This is being undertaken as Bowls Australia (BA) and the State/Territory Associations recognise that membership and participation are fundamental to the success of the sport in an increasingly competitive environment, in which Australia's population is increasingly conscious of the importance of health and leisure, but at the same time, is increasingly 'time poor' and receptive to sport and recreational pursuits that enable participation within the constraints of a busy lifestyle.

Capital Region Bowls Clubs need business models which enable them to thrive, not survive! How these clubs turn issue they currently face into opportunities and implement new strategies to increase membership and participation rates to the national average and for those clubs not aligned to parent Clubs, restructure and diversify club business models away from traditional club revenues, will be key priorities for this project.

Key Challenges Identified are:

- Bowls Clubs are facing a significant decline in membership and players. This is the most significant and immediate problem that Bowls Clubs face and must be addressed if the sport is to survive and thrive. Declining memberships are driving declining revenues and diminishing clubs' capability to adapt to the changes required to attract new members and participants.
- Many clubs are no longer able to rely on electronic gaming machine revenue to underwrite facility maintenance as they have in the past.
- Larger community licensed clubs who have historically funded greens maintenance through the Community Contributions Scheme are challenged on a larger scale as inflation in maintenance costs means that maintenance costs now exceed revenue.

BACT have targeted an implementation date of 30 June 2022.



Chifley Health and Wellbeing Centre

McLaurin Cres, Chifley

@bowlsact



www.bowlsact.org.au



0499 587 783



admin@bowlsact.org.au

Events and Pennants, Nationals and Sides

After consultation with clubs and members via a survey, 2022 saw the implementation of an “Open Pennant” season. Whilst there was some discussions around clubs as to the pro’s and con’s of this venture, the overall take up and acceptance has been nothing short of stellar. It has been embraced and positive commentary has been forthcoming and we thank all for their commitment.

With the deferments of the pennant season by 1 month, this has seen 4 of our main championships this year have the Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours have concluded. Once again it was very pleasing to see the amount of entries in each discipline and fortunately only a couple of minor weather events. Games played were of high standards and those who reached finals earned their way to the ultimate reward.

Selectors have been working hard to formulate squads that will best represent BACT at the National Sides in October of this year with trials for invitees and practice games to get underway from July. I wish all our participants at Nationals the very best of luck and know you will do yourselves and BACT proud.

I thank you all for being part of the journey we at Bowls ACT are taking and look forward to an exciting future.

Kind regards

David Pruss

President Bowls ACT



Chifley Health and Wellbeing Centre

McLaurin Cres, Chifley

@bowlsact



www.bowlsact.org.au



0499 587 783



admin@bowlsact.org.au

EXECUTIVE REPORT

After starting strong through the early part of 2021, the world and the sport were again put to the test with further COVID-19 outbreaks and the Omicron variant kicking off a new era in the pandemic. Whilst this did have an effect on the year's bowls, we were fortunate enough to have got through a majority of our major tournaments for the year as well as a full Pennant season.

The major outcome for Bowls ACT through 2021 was a step towards greater stability and an opportunity to progress the game forward in the region. A key message for Bowls ACT was to ensure the viability of the organisation moving forward and to establish a pathway towards growth. Through community consultation, and with the assistance of the ACT Government, Bowls ACT has begun a path towards growth in the sport moving forward whilst maintaining the core business practices of the organisation.

In mid-2021 Bowls ACT received grant funding from ACT Sport and Recreation to implement the recommendations outlined within the RSM Strategic Review of Bowls in the ACT. The release of the final document in June gave Bowls in the ACT a picture of the current landscape, outlining the future direction of facilities. From this, Bowls ACT worked to extrapolate that picture to incorporate NSW Clubs to gain a better understanding of Bowls across the entire region.

In looking to implement these recommendations Bowls ACT has, in conjunction with ACT Sport and Recreation, target four key areas to improve the sport of Bowls across the region;

- Club Business Diversification
- Social Competitions
- Digital Presence
- Strategic Planning

With these key areas Bowls ACT in late 2021 discussed with bowling clubs how best to approach the implementation of the recommendations, highlighting the collaboration that will be required to create real difference for the sport. Whilst the sport will continue to strengthen itself in the traditional competitions a need for diversification of the business models, both in clubs and Bowls ACT, has been identified as a key growth area for the sport moving forward. Bowls ACT and its member clubs will need to continue to work together to strengthen their position within the sporting industry moving forward, with emphasis to be placed on growing the sport in non-traditional areas to cap participation costs for members.

2021 also saw the addition of Goulburn Railway Women's Bowling Club into the Bowls ACT community and competitions. A fantastic addition to the community the Women's of Goulburn Railway showed strong entries into competitions and was welcomed with open arms. We are excited to have them onboard and looking forward to a fantastic relationship moving forward.



Chifley Health and Wellbeing Centre

McLaurin Cres, Chifley

@bowlsact



www.bowlsact.org.au



0499 587 783



admin@bowlsact.org.au

Pennants

2021 saw the return of a full season for the Men's and Women's Weekend Pennants, with all 10 rounds as well as the finals series being completed. There were some disruptions with a particularly wet March of 2021, however, through the commitment of clubs and players all matches were able to be rescheduled and completed prior to the finals series.

The weekend Pennants saw 6 Men's Grades and a combined Grade 1/2 Women's Competition. All up, this represents 48 sides participating in the Bowls ACT Pennant competitions every weekend, that's roughly 536 members on the greens every weekend and stabilisation of participation numbers across the competitions year-on-year.

The introduction of Goulburn Railway Women's Bowling Club into the competition was a terrific influx of passion and enthusiasm, bringing in two teams for the competition. The Railway represented Goulburn brilliantly with one of the teams reaching the Grand Final, though going down to a strong Vikings outfit. Welcome to Goulburn Railway Women, we're certainly glad to have you onboard and look forward to many years of strong competition.

Tuggeranong Vikings hosted the Grand Finals in what will be a memorable day for many of our members with some truly nail-biting matches across the greens for the day. Weston Creek took out Grade 6 from a valiant Bungendore in extra ends with several matches going down to the last end across the day. I would like to take the chance to thank not only the players who participated week in and week out, but to the managers and officials who help us get on the green every week. Sport is built on the back of volunteers and I want to personally thank every one of you who was there to help us all get on the greens, we wouldn't be here without you.

Congratulations to those who took out the flag, well played throughout the year and on the final day of the season. Thank you to those who participated in the Pennant season, even if only to help fill out the side. The Pennant will continue to be one of the major competitions for Bowls for many years to come with the continued support of all of you.

Men's Grade 1


1	CBC	10	10	0	0	0	697	448	249	103
2	QBC	10	7	3	0	0	638	508	130	92
3	QRSLMBC	10	9	1	0	0	628	528	100	89
4	WCBC	10	3	7	0	0	593	607	-14	45
5	TVLBC	10	4	6	0	0	549	683	-134	45
6	BBC	10	3	7	0	0	544	617	-73	38
7	YBC	10	2	8	0	0	475	632	-157	36
8	CNBC	10	2	8	0	0	511	612	-101	32

Champions – Queanbeyan RSLM Bowling Club

Runners Up – Canberra Bowling Club



Chifley Health and Wellbeing Centre
McLaurin Cres, Chifley
@bowlsact

 www.bowlsact.org.au
 0499 587 783
 admin@bowlsact.org.au

Men's Grade 2

Pos.		Played	Won	Loss	Draw	Bye	For	Against	SD	Points
1	GRBC	10	10	0	0	0	701	512	189	106
2	CBC	10	6	4	0	0	625	531	94	71
3	WCBC	10	4	5	1	0	586	599	-13	55
4	BBC	10	4	6	0	0	561	628	-67	45
5	QBC	10	2	7	1	0	548	616	-68	43
6	TVLBC	10	3	7	0	0	538	673	-135	40

Champions – Canberra Bowling Club

Runners Up – Goulburn Railway Bowling Club

Men's Grade 3

Pos.		Played	Won	Loss	Draw	Bye	For	Against	SD	Points
1	QRSLMBC	10	7	3	0	0	595	544	51	80
2	YBC	10	6	3	1	0	594	549	45	75
3	CSBC	10	6	3	1	0	628	546	82	72
4	CNBC	10	5	5	0	0	566	566	0	57
5	TVLBC	10	4	6	0	0	541	581	-40	52
6	YCCBC	10	1	9	0	0	509	647	-138	24

Champions – Yass Bowling Club

Runners Up – Queanbeyan RSLM Bowling Club

Men's Grade 4

Pos.		Played	Won	Loss	Draw	Bye	For	Against	SD	Points
1	WCBC	10	7	3	0	0	621	540	81	78
2	TVLBC	10	7	3	0	0	636	566	70	77
3	GRBC	10	6	4	0	0	590	548	42	74
4	QBC	10	6	4	0	0	603	572	31	62
5	QRSLMBC	10	2	8	0	0	557	658	-101	38
6	YCCBC	10	2	8	0	0	509	632	-123	31

Champions – Weston Creek Bowling Club

Runners Up – Tuggeranong Valley Lawn Bowls Club



Chifley Health and Wellbeing Centre

McLaurin Cres, Chifley

@bowlfact



www.bowlfact.org.au



0499 587 783



admin@bowlfact.org.au

Men's Grade 5

Pos.		Played	Won	Loss	Draw	Bye	For	Against	SD	Points
1	CSBC	10	8	2	0	0	624	532	92	89
2	TVLBC	10	6	4	0	0	564	566	-2	72
3	CBC	10	6	4	0	0	631	533	98	70
4	QBC	10	4	6	0	0	573	583	-10	52
5	BBC	10	4	6	0	0	523	587	-64	49
6	CNBC	10	2	8	0	0	509	623	-114	28

Champions – Crookwell Services Bowling Club

Runners Up – Tuggeranong Valley Lawn Bowls Club

Men's Grade 6

1	WCBC	10	6	3	1	0	636	581	55	74
2	YBC	10	6	2	2	0	591	526	65	71
3	GRBC	10	6	4	0	0	601	527	74	68
4	BUNG	10	5	5	0	0	588	615	-27	60
5	CSBC	10	4	5	1	0	522	576	-54	55
6	CNBC	10	1	9	0	0	508	621	-113	32

Champions – Weston Creek Bowling Club

Runners Up – Bungendore Bowling Club



Chifley Health and Wellbeing Centre

McLaurin Cres, Chifley

@bowlfact



www.bowlfact.org.au



0499 587 783



admin@bowlfact.org.au

Women's Grade 1/2 Full Ladder

Pos.		Played	Won	Loss	Draw	Bye	For	Against	Score Diff.	Points
1	QRSLMBC - Gold	9	8	1	0	0	414	249	165	62
2	WCBC	9	6	2	1	0	427	299	128	54
3	CBC/BBC	9	7	2	0	0	370	332	38	48
4	CNBC	9	4	4	1	0	382	330	52	40
5	QRSLMBC - Blue	9	4	5	0	0	364	342	22	34
6	VBC	9	4	5	0	0	329	371	-42	30
7	GRBC - Green	9	4	5	0	0	296	400	-104	30
8	YCCBC	9	3	6	0	0	318	365	-47	29
9	QBC	9	3	6	0	0	344	356	-12	25
10	GRBC - Gold	9	1	8	0	0	253	453	-200	8

Grade 1 Champions – Weston Creek Women's Bowling Club

Grade 1 Runners Up – Queanbeyan RSLM Bowling Club

Grade 2 Champions – Vikings Bowls Club

Grade 2 Runners Up – Goulburn Railway Women's Bowling Club - Green



Chifley Health and Wellbeing Centre

McLaurin Cres, Chifley

@bowlsact



www.bowlsact.org.au



0499 587 783



admin@bowlsact.org.au

Championships

2021 Championship Results

Men's	Winner	R/Up
ACT Singles	Doug Farr	Brock Edwards
ACT Pairs	Rob Craven / Jamie O'Keefe	Alan Monfries / John Shepherd
ACT Triples	Jared Edwards / Phil Crowe / Graham Read	Alex Tonkin / Garry Charker / Flynn O'Shaughnessy
ACT Fours	Matthew Barrie / Peter Watts / Rodney Tonkin / Darren Fitzpatrick	Glenn Morton / Joel McInnes / Jamie O'Keefe / Wade Turner
CoC Singles	Richard Lawson	Darren Peak
CoC Pairs	N/A	
CoC Triples	N/A	
CoC Fours	N/A	
Over 60s Pairs	Hayden Ward / Warren Guyer	Wade Turner / Dave Harris
Over 60s Fours	Charles Smith / Graham Read / David Lalor / Cliff Gilbert	Bruce Waugh / McInnes / Ross Mcnamara / David Maloney
Women's		
ACT Singles	Lois Waters	Sharon Steele
ACT Pairs	Julie Hancock / Maureen Hunt	Catherine Hunt / Sue Lalor
ACT Triples	Catherine Hunt / Lexie Webster / Kelli Cartledge	Ruth Moore / Karen James / Sue Lalor
ACT Fours	Jeanette Clout / Chloe Morrison / Annette Tye / Carol Zimoch	Loretta Gillespie / Karen James / Sue Lalor / Ruth Moore
CoC Singles	Chloe Morrison	Lois Waters
CoC Pairs	N/A	
CoC Triples	N/A	
CoC Fours	N/A	
Over 60s Pairs	Annette Tye / Jeanette Clout	Hilary McClure / Bev Dowrick
Over 60s Fours	Mina Bannerman / Lois Waters / Gayle Young / Meg Lillicrap	Norma Blunden / Judy Templeman / Kate McCaskill / Val Dalton
Mixed Pairs	N/A	
Junior Championship	Harvey McAlister	Liam Walsh



Chifley Health and Wellbeing Centre

McLaurin Cres, Chifley

@bowlfact



www.bowlfact.org.au



0499 587 783



admin@bowlfact.org.au

Board

The Bowls ACT Board retained continuity through 2021 with just the one change at the AGM, being the departure of Mark Jennings and the election of Gary Green. Having just the one change through 2021 has allowed the board to continue their work towards growth and stability for the sport in the region.

I would like to take the opportunity to thank Mark Jennings for the work that he has conducted over his time on the Bowls ACT board. Mark was instrumental to the reinvigoration of the BACT Constitution which remains a testament to his knowledge and expertise, and will leave a lasting impact on the sport in the region. We thank Mark for his services and wish him all the best as he takes the opportunity to focus on his own personal matters.

Following the 2021 AGM the Bowls ACT Board consisted of 6 voting Members who have been designated portfolios based on their suitability to the role and previous experience;

David Pruss – President

Gillian Harris-Mayes – Vice President: Human Resources

Gary Green: Governance and Legal

Di Marquet: Marketing and Sponsorship

Matthew Styles: Events and Matches

Chloe Morrison: Representative Teams

Many thanks must be given to the Board, both new and former, for their commitment to the sport and their passion to see the game thrive in the region. No doubt the Board will continue to work towards building the sport in the region and creating an environment where Bowls is a sport enjoyed by all.



Chifley Health and Wellbeing Centre

McLaurin Cres, Chifley

@bowlsact



www.bowlsact.org.au



0499 587 783



admin@bowlsact.org.au

Committees

The Bowls ACT Board is supported by several Committees with members appointed to the positions in order to assist with the running of the sport.

Match Committee

In the lead up to the 2021 AGM Bowls ACT sought Expressions of Interest for positions on the BACT Match Committee, tasked with overseeing matters concerning the running of events and championships for Bowls ACT, upholding the interpretation of the Conditions of Play, and making necessary changes to the CoP moving into 2022.

The Match Committee was comprised of three members; Charles Smith, Alex Tonkin, and Catherine Hunt, with oversight provided by the Director for Events and Matches, Matthew Styles.

I'd like to take the chance to thank the Match Committee for all of their work during 2021 in assisting to steer the competitions in the right direction. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank Barry Freebody for his commitment to the role prior to his retirement from the position.

Officials Committee

The Officials Committee has been made up of several members who have served to guide the organisation on issues concerning the Laws of the Sport of Bowls. Committee Members are; Bill Rush (Chair), Russ Sheely, Jenny Van Vucht, Garry Goodman, Bruce Pink, Gillian Harris-Mayes, Peter Hammond, John Birch, and Leeanne Birch. The Officials committee has also worked with Bowls Australia on the accreditation and re-accreditation of officials, online accreditations, and guiding the Laws of the Sport. We are thankful for their ongoing support.



Chifley Health and Wellbeing Centre

McLaurin Cres, Chifley

@bowlsact



www.bowlsact.org.au



0499 587 783



admin@bowlsact.org.au

RSM Strategic Review of Bowls in the ACT

We would like to thank the ACT Government and the Sport and Recreation Department for working with RSM to provide the region with a strategic review of Bowls facilities in the ACT. We're excited to see the review highlighting the importance of the sport within the community in Australia and the ACT community. Bowls ACT agrees wholeheartedly that to not have lawn bowls available to the community would severely diminish the recreational and sporting opportunities available in Canberra.

The review highlights the importance of the community coming together to move forward in building the sport's base in Canberra. Bowls ACT recognises the importance of an integrated approach by the entire community including Bowls ACT, Clubs, Members, Participants, and Licensed Clubs to ensure the future of bowls is healthy for years to come. The recommendations provided will act as a base for clubs to recognise the factors having a significant impact on their own community and how to best approach them considering their specific circumstances.

The recommendations to come from the review include;

1. Increase membership and participation rates to national average;
2. Restructure and diversify club business models away from traditional club revenues
3. Assess feasibility to establish two indoor facilities (one northside and on southside) to support market consolidation or growth
4. Independent and smaller clubs require financial and material support to develop assets and facilities
5. Clubs must support Bowls ACT to rebuild its revenue base through growing membership across the ACT.

In receiving the report we would like to acknowledge that it does not paint the full picture without the inclusion of NSW Clubs. NSW clubs represent the organisation heavily and the snapshot taken through the report must be fully extrapolated to understand it within the individual clubs that were not included in the report specifically. We will continue to work with those clubs and apply resources to engage with those clubs in line with ACT clubs.

Implementation of the recommendations will focus on four key areas;

- Club Diversification Models
- Social Competitions
- Digital Presence
- Strategic Planning

We believe that these areas of focus will assist us in delivering a fit for purpose organisation that can achieve growth in the sport across the region. We are looking forward to working with all stakeholders towards this common goal and building bowls across the Capital Region.



Chifley Health and Wellbeing Centre

McLaurin Cres, Chifley

@bowlsact



www.bowlsact.org.au



0499 587 783



admin@bowlsact.org.au

Looking Ahead

With the release of the RSM Strategic Review and Implementation of Recommendations through 2021 Bowls ACT is poised to build a full strategy to deliver the sport into growth. Outside of the implementation plan Bowls ACT is currently working to establish a new Business Plan and Marketing Strategy that will deliver growth. Through 2022 and building further into 2023 Bowls ACT will look to establish background research that will enable us to produce a proper framework with specific outcomes measured against key performance indicators for the sport in the region. Moving forward Bowls ACT will have in place the following key documents;

- Club Business Diversification Model and Implementation Plan;
- Marketing Strategy;
- Digital Presence Strategy;
- Strategic Plan, aligned with BA and STA's;
- Business Plan;
- Social Competitions Strategy.

The aim of these documents is to provide an articulated plan with measurable outcomes to assess the performance of the organisation and to track growth across key areas moving forward. Bowls ACT wishes to engage further with the community to build a transparent organisation that works hand in hand with its members to develop stronger clubs and greater participation.

Bowls ACT aims to be one of the strongest sports in the region off the back of strong clubs and strong administration, leading the way for other sports and setting an example of how to develop sport across the Capital Region. We recognise the unique attributes that make us who we are and will look to leverage these opportunities to grow the game and showcase the sport as a leader in Australia.

Ciaran O'Rourke

Executive Officer



Chifley Health and Wellbeing Centre

McLaurin Cres, Chifley

@bowlsact



www.bowlsact.org.au



0499 587 783



admin@bowlsact.org.au

DIRECTOR'S REPORTS

Vice President and Human Resources

Gillian Harris-Mayes

Human Resources

Covid 19 has again been a feature in the management of human resources in the year 2021 to 22 with an emphasis on ensuring continuity of employment for our Executive Officer during Covid shut down periods and effective cover of tasks during a period of paternity leave. With flexibility by Ciaran this was achieved successfully.

Following the RSM report it was decided to appoint a Competitions Coordinator as a part-time, short-term contract to fulfil some of the requirements of the report outcomes. Unfortunately, the preferred candidate withdrew her application and it was determined not to proceed further with this position at the current time. In the meantime, our Executive Officer has sourced an Intern via Canberra University who is providing assistance and support with marketing and competitions. This role is of a short-term nature and will cease in the near future once the requirements of the internship are fulfilled.

Clubs need to be aware that the role of Executive Officer is becoming increasingly onerous with the impact of the RSM and strategic planning and it will be necessary for consideration to be made to provide ongoing support to Ciaran to enable him to continue to fulfil his tasks effectively.

Umpires

Once again this year I have been the Board's representative on the Umpire's Committee providing support and input on issues as required. There has been very little training of new umpires or reaccreditation of current officials due, in part, to Covid and in part to trainer availability. It is noted that umpires are becoming a much 'rarer' breed and that many events, particularly pennants, are being played either without an umpire or with a playing umpire albeit all other Major State competitions have had officials present.

Over 60s Women's Sides

A selection of team of myself and two others has been formed for the Over 60s Women's Sides Selection process which will build off the previous training squad who were unable to compete last year due to Covid.

Finally, after much thought, I have decided not to re-stand for election for membership of the Board at the end of my term this year. I have thoroughly enjoyed all that I have done in my time with the Board and wish them all well going forward. I have offered to continue to provide human resources support to the Board as and when required and have agreed to continue in my role as a member of the selection team for the Over 60's Women's Sides for this year.

Gillian Harris-Mayes

Vice President – Human Resources



Chifley Health and Wellbeing Centre

McLaurin Cres, Chifley

@bowlfact



www.bowlfact.org.au



0499 587 783



admin@bowlfact.org.au

Governance and Legal

Gary Green

This has been a quiet year for this role as my predecessor has completed the Constitution Reform doing an excellent job.

In keeping with this role, I have undertaken the implementation of a new greens Policy. Having researched World Bowls, Bowls Australia and the state governing bodies and we will be coming out with a policy based upon the best from all.

The main purpose for this undertaking is to get a policy that all clubs can look at and to see what is the standard that will be required to host Bowls ACT sanctioned events. This will not only involve assessment of a club's greens, but an analysis of the club facilities capability to hold large events such as spectator viewing availability, catering, parking and club amenities etc.

It will be our aim to carry out these inspections at least twice a year so as to assist clubs to be able to meet the standard that will be required by Bowls ACT. We want to work with clubs to make their facilities the best they can be.

We will be calling for nominations for this new committee and we will be looking to provide a training course for applicants so we can provide a consistent appraisal on all inspections.

It has been an interesting year with covid and the release of the RSM Facilities report which highlighted some important issues for Bowls in the CT moving forward. We have some challenging times ahead as we move forward in the promotion of bowls for the next generation and looking at new formats to keep existing bowlers longer in the game.

We have an excellent existing pool of volunteers within our clubs who I am sure will meet this battle head on and come out the other side on a winning note.

Gary Green

Director – Governance and Legal



Chifley Health and Wellbeing Centre

McLaurin Cres, Chifley

@bowlsact



www.bowlsact.org.au



0499 587 783



admin@bowlsact.org.au

Marketing and Sponsorship

Di Marquet

Bowls ACT have had quite a few challenges over the past 12 months with COVID becoming an issue again in the second half of the year. Changes have had to be made to try and accommodate everyone within the bowls community and which includes the operation of Bowls ACT.

Strategic Highlights

Ability of BOWLS ACT to complete the majority of its events prior to the impact of COVID-19 lockdowns in the second half of the year. The ability of Bowls ACT to continue to operate through these times has been a success for the sport.

Operating Highlights

We have had a few challenges, of which have now been sorted and we look forward to a positive result.

Looking Ahead

Sponsorship has been hard to get due to COVID and with companies having less money to spend.

Sponsorship proposals have since gone out to quite a few major companies.

And as with big companies, unfortunately comes a long lead time, but continued follow up is happening.

Di Marquet

Director – Sponsorship and Marketing



Chifley Health and Wellbeing Centre

McLaurin Cres, Chifley

@bowlsact



www.bowlsact.org.au



0499 587 783



admin@bowlsact.org.au

Events and Matches

Matthew Styles

Strategic Highlights

- Introduced change to Pennants converting weekend Pennants to Open Gender for 2022 season.
- Introduction of North v South selection trial saw a great additional event which will allow for the development of a selection and representative pathway.
- The first Annual Bowls ACT Invitational Open Singles Event was cancelled due to COVID but will return in 2022.

Operating Highlights

- Changes to Bowls ACT calendar to consolidate ACT events to try and free up space for Club events and other initiatives.
- Continued commitment to online entries and payments via Bowlslink for tournaments. With tournament entry numbers being highly positive.
- Continued development of Social Media presence to get information out to members and increase awareness of our sport.

Open gender Pennants. One of the strengths of bowls is the fact no matter what gender of age you are, you can always competitively play against anyone else.

Looking Ahead

- Look to Stream ACT Events
- Look to increase representative opportunities, which is currently very limited, look at arranging tournaments and matches against local zone representative teams from NSW to increase exposure to the best players. Possible interstate Premier league style competition.
- Development and implementation of the “Social Series” weeknights tournaments.

Matthew Styles

Director – Events and Matches



Chifley Health and Wellbeing Centre

McLaurin Cres, Chifley

@bowlsact



www.bowlsact.org.au



0499 587 783



admin@bowlsact.org.au

Representative Teams

Chloe Morrison

I was appointed to the Board in 2020 to help with the development of the current State Squads; Juniors, Open, and Over 60's, by assisting in the expression of interest and selections of coaches and managers. I personally would encourage members to feel they can ask and approach me with any issues or any queries they may have and to let them have a voice in future meetings. Being an active playing member for years and knowing what drives people is what motivates me to encourage the direction of the Board. My main focus is to implement changes that will assist future decisions and policies. I personally believe the game in ACT will improve for years to come.

Strategic Highlights

In the years 2021-2022 Bowls ACT has seen some fairly big changes come into play, with the focus being on Open Pennant. I personally am incredibly pleased with the success as well as the positive responses from all clubs in the ACT and surrounds.

With our last few years essentially being a wash out for the representative squads, I have been working along side Matty who has implemented some really helpful and useful documents which outlines the current representative "expectations" as well as commitments required to represent the ACT. It gives our representative players something more meaningful to play for as well as create a more competitive environment. Being in the state squad is a huge achievement and should not be overlooked and should be celebrated. In saying that, the overall interest for the state squads is increasing and the people who want to play and have the drive to be competitive at The Nationals have shown that.

This year, Bowls ACT has introduced the Bowls ACT Awards which rewards players and clubs for their on and off green performances in the following categories: Bowler of the year, Club Championship as well as several other awards towards the end of the bowling calendar. Bowls ACT takes huge pride in our players achievements and our volunteers especially, and they deserve some recognition for their dedication to the sport.

Operating Highlights

- Improved interactions with social media i.e. Facebook, Instagram and BACT Website
- A better representative program for our State Players
- Open Pennant having success in its opening season
- Positive feedback from members
- Working together as a team and communicating as a team
- Increase in Government Grants
- Member relationship and reporting improvements
- An open and safe space where all people can voice their opinions
- More recognition for our players and volunteers

Looking Ahead

In 2021-22 the election of new Board Members has seen some positive changes for the future of Bowls ACT. The progress the current board has made has been nothing but of huge success and progression with the longevity of the game as our focus. Building better representative programs and placing more value on our players and volunteers will continue for years to come.

Chloe Morrison

Director – Representative Teams



Chifley Health and Wellbeing Centre

McLaurin Cres, Chifley

@bowlsact



www.bowlsact.org.au



0499 587 783



admin@bowlsact.org.au