



**WERRIBEE BOWLS CLUB Inc**

ABN: 80401040332

**Annual Report and Financial Statements**

**For the year ending 31 December 2019**

CHIRNSIDE PARK  
WATTON STREET  
WERRIBEE

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## **Board of Directors**

President – George Cairns

Vice President –(vacant)

Secretary – Lesley Robinson

Treasurer – Chris Smithwick

Greens Director – Graham McKinnon

Directors – Denise Thompson, Carol Hawkins

Bowls Committee chairperson –Jim Rayner

## **Bowls Committee Office Bearers**

Chairperson – Jim Rayner

Deputy Chairperson – Steve Weston

Secretary –(vacant)

Treasurer – (vacant)

## **Committee**

George Cairns (ex officio), Patricia Forder, Dean O’Connell, Rhonda Edwards

Plus representatives of Selectors, Umpires and Coaches

**Minutes of the Werribee Bowls Club Inc. Annual General Meeting  
Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2019 – 7pm**

**Committee**

President	George Cairns
Vice President	(vacancy)
Treasurer	Chris Smithwick
Secretary	Lesley Robinson
Directors	Carol Hawkins Denise Thompson Graham McKinnon

**Item 1**

Attendance: 51 members signed the attendance sheet. This constitutes a quorum. Apologies included: Bill Fry, Graeme Foster, Marian Foster, Lou Szabo, Neville Hopkins, Glenn Clarkson, Michael Tormey, Margaret Pearson, Paul Parry, Maryanne Parry, Ryder Byrnes, Judith Gentry, Jessie Rayner.

The President declared the meeting open at 7.05pm and thanked everyone for attending.

**Item 2**

The President asked all to stand for one minute's silence for departed members Alma Fagan (Life Member), Patricia Carroll and Brian Cheetham.

**Item 3**

The minutes of the AGM meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> April 2018 as presented in the annual report were accepted as a true record of the meeting: moved Ron Douglas, seconded Catherine Haldane. Carried.

**Item 4 – Business Arising from the Minutes**

Nil.

**Item 5 – Reports**

**5.1 President's Report**

George Cairns presented his annual report, summarising his report for the last 12 months. He reported on another successful season. No teams were relegated, with five teams playing in finals and three teams being promoted.

He summarised the various awards achieved by the Club. And he highlighted the importance of the fantastic work done by our volunteers. The Club literally survives because of the efforts of those volunteers. The amount of criticism flowing occasionally through the Club does not help.

**5.2 Bowls Committee Report**

The chairperson of the Bowls Committee, Jim Rayner presented a summary of the year. A lot of effort was put into community activities. He advised that if you apply for grants, you need to demonstrate that you are working with the community to ensure a better chance of success.

During September the CEO of Bowls Australia visited the Club and was very impressed by our efforts in respect to community involvement programs.

Jim Rayner gave an overview of the number of community and other awards won during the last year. These included an award to Rhonda Edwards for the Metro West Region “Volunteer of the Year”, the “2018 Wyndham Community Volunteer Award as “Citizen of the Year Sports and Recreation”, and an award for the “2018 Women in Sport Organisation” for an outstanding contribution towards increasing female participation in sport. The Werribee Bowls Club was also acknowledged as runner up in the 2018 Bowls Australia Club of the Year, as well as a finalist in the Victorian Community Sporting Club of the Year Award.

The Club Singles Championship finals were also summarised and proved to be very competitive games with Trish Forder winning the Ladies Singles and Rob Panton the Mens Singles.

The tournament committees were thanked for their work during the season. Also the Saturday and Midweek selectors for undertaking weekly selections to ensure competitive teams were chosen. Without such volunteers this Club is at risk.

Jim reported on the efforts to hold a Community Bowls Challenge competition but unfortunately it had little support and therefore folded before it could start. A big thank you to Dean (Chook) O’Connell who offered \$500 for the competition.

Jim Rayner reported that unfortunately he had decided to stand down after just one year as chair of the Bowls Community for several reasons. He acknowledged all those members who had either assisted or supported him during his tenure as chairperson.

### **5.3 Greens Director Report**

Graham McKinnon reported on work done during the course of the year and what investment has been made to keep the Club at the high standard it is kept at. He acknowledged the considerable work done by individuals including:

- Ron O’Shannessey, Gerry Edwards and Jason Kotevski (work placement volunteer) for their work maintaining garden surrounds.
- Team members from Transformation who work as part of our Monday morning crew.
- Ken McColgan and John Greygoose who give their time to painting etc. This also includes Mal Milner who is seen weekly cleaning all windows.
- Ray Argent who clears rubbish, and cleans when required.
- Lyle Rogers who does a considerable amount of general maintenance and any job asked of him.
- Gerry Edwards for his mechanical expertise undertaking regular service of all petrol driven equipment. He saves the Club thousands of dollars a year.
- Brian Turner and Peter Williams are part of the Friday cleaning crew.
- The Saturday morning crew of Chris Smithwick, Gerry Edwards and Neville Hopkins.
- An extra thank you to Brian Turner, Steve Weston and Iain McKinnon who assisted in my recent absence.
- Also a very big thank you for the team of volunteers who are part of the top dressing crew.

Graham McKinnon also acknowledged the total support by the board of management of our Greenkeeper Shane Grellet who has had to take on responsibility for greens he inherited. Because it is felt the #3 tif green is in need of extra work, a plan is in place which will take approximately 10 weeks over summer. Greens #1 and #2 will therefore be fully utilised during the coming pennant season. #2 green was reported as currently closed for top dressing.

Graham extended a big thank you to Shane and all volunteers for a job well done.

## **5.4 Treasurer's Report**

Chris Smithwick reported on the main issues. The 2018 loss of \$28,000 is essentially a significant drop in bar income. Werribee Football Club members are not visiting our Club any more. Previous bookings for functions have not all been held this last 12 months.

The Club has invested in an improved security system. This was seen as a necessary enhancement to maintain a level of security with many visitors coming to the Club for various functions / bookings. If the Club wants to cut down on expenditure, it would be seen as beneficial to have members volunteer their services and therefore cut down on casual staff salaries.

All reports were accepted, moved Ron Douglas, seconded Vin Keogh. Carried.

## **Item 6 The Committee**

The President advised that there were three positions on the Board for election. He advised at the closing of nominations only two (2) eligible members had been nominated for the three positions. The number of nominations being less than the number of vacancies, no election was required to be held. Therefore the following members were declared elected as members of the Board of the Werribee Bowls Club Inc:

George Cairns, Steve Weston

## **Item 7 General Business**

Questions from the floor included:

7.1 Steve Weston asked about his financial plan previously submitted for consideration. This will be investigated in the near future.

7.2 Ian Parker asked about the covering of #2 green. Although this is a project being pursued, the meeting was advised that the Wyndham Council is currently undertaking an investigation of Chirside Park and all sports facilities within it. When a decision is made in the future, members will be advised accordingly. All feedback to date has been positive and there is no way the Club will be "turned into a car park".

7.3 Car parking fines were raised. It was noted that when major events are held within Chirside Park, the local council parking officers attend to fine anyone who has illegally parked. It was noted that other bowls clubs also have problems where car parking is also issue. For example at MCC Bowls Club in Kew, the club makes parking permits available to visitors as the nearby car park has time limits etc.

The President then handed the meeting over to Jim Rayner, Chairperson of the Bowls Committee to coordinate the following:

## **Item 8 Bowls Committee**

### **8.1 Saturday Pennant Selection Committee**

There are three (3) vacancies. As there are four nominations, an election was required. After general discussion about the correctness of just how many could be elected, nominee Rob Panton offered to stand down from the election, thus confirming that the remaining three nominees were duly elected. They were:

Patricia Forder, Jenny Parker, Steve Weston.

## **8.2 Midweek Pennant Selection Committee**

There were four nominations for the two vacancies. The Bowls Committee Chairperson advised that an election would be required to be held. The nominees were:

Andrew Jelbart, Catherine Haldane, Carol Johnson, Jenny Parker

As an election was required, two volunteers were asked to scrutineer and finalise results of the votes. Scrutineers chosen were Ian Hill and Ron Douglas.

Voting sheets were handed out to all affiliated members in attendance who were eligible to vote. It was noted that any social members in attendance may not vote. At the conclusion of the secret ballot, the Chairperson declared the following members were elected:

Andrew Jelbart, Carol Johnson

## **Item 9 Super Veteran Badge Presentation**

Catherine Haldane (Metro West Region) presented the following "OBE" (Over Bloody Eighty) awards to the following recipients, and gave an overview of each person's achievements:

- Ron Gentry
- Reg Hassett
- Col Thompson
- Dave Packer (absent)
- Jack Closter (absent)
- John White (absent)

Catherine Haldane presented another award (framed certificate) related to longevity in bowls. Robert Brown has had membership with the Club for 50 years. George Colless was acknowledged as the longest playing member. He is still bowling at age 91.

Awards will be presented shortly to those who were absent.

## **Item 10**

The meeting was declared closed at 8.07pm.

Minutes were recorded and compiled by Lesley Robinson

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2019 / 2020**

Dear members

This has been a year of mixed fortunes on the green. Two Weekend pennant teams reached finals, with two being relegated. Two Midweek teams were Section winners, with one team being relegated.

I will now do what I do every year. I wish to thank our volunteers again. The amount of time and effort they put into this Club is immeasurable. Not only do they keep the Club looking great, their ongoing contribution continues to be acknowledged by the board, and makes sure that costs are maintained at the lowest level possible. Yes they make a huge difference.

Unfortunately we have had some negative issues to deal with during the last twelve months which I hope can be put behind us, whilst concentrating on the positives for the future.

The Wyndham Council has not at this stage given us a timeframe regarding their master plan for Chirnside Park. When they do, we will keep you informed.

I must also congratulate Rhonda Edwards on winning the Volunteer of the Year award from Bowls Australia. This is a well deserved award for just one area of her positive input to this Club.

I look forward to a successful year ahead for the Werribee Bowls Club.

Yours in sport

George Cairns

## **BOWLS COMMITTEE REPORT 2019 / 2020**

This season has been one of moderate success from a selection point of view. Congratulations to the Saturday Div 1 and Div 6 sides for making the section finals, and to the Midweek sides Div 3 and Div 5 winning their section finals before the competitions were cancelled. The Selection committees of both competitions thank all bowlers for their contributions this season and their endeavour to be competitive. Also, the selectors remind all bowlers the Player Availability Sheets for season 2020/2021 are on the noticeboard, and ask you to please indicate your availability asap so they can plan on the number of teams we will register for the coming season.

To the selectors, I thank you for your dedication and at times making some very difficult decisions and for giving your voluntary time and effort;” it is not an easy task”, and is not necessarily appreciated by all members.

Again, throughout the season we successfully held a number of Sponsored Tournaments, but, now the dreaded Coronavirus has put a hold on any further participation in Tournaments or Social Games even roll-ups; which will have a profound effect on our financial situation. The Bowls Committee trust the members appreciate the steps “the Club” has taken in the interests of members’ health and safety; unfortunately welfare seems to be another matter, but what has been done is in compliance with Government and Bowls Victoria protocols.

At this point in time, on behalf of the Bowls Committee I extend our appreciation and gratitude to the local businesses/organisations that sponsored “the Club” and enabled us to conduct what Tournaments we did. It goes without stating the obvious; No Sponsorships-No Tournaments.

This season the Bowls Committee had concerns about the lack of Ladies entries in all Club Championship events. Therefore, it was deemed necessary to conduct a survey to determine why the numbers were so low and hopefully gain some positive comments on how the Tournament Committee could improve the participation rate. In all (26) surveys were issued and we received (13) replies which had some helpful comments. Thanks to those Ladies who bothered to respond and provide positive comments.

On behalf of the Bowls Committee I again thank the many, many volunteers for the hours you contributed in a wide range of activities helping “the Club” operate successfully and effectively as possible. More particularly those involved in Cooking the Saturday BBQ, Barefoot Bowls, Bowling with Babies, Tuesday Winter Bowls, Twilight Bowls, the Schools Program, the Wyndham Chinese Happy Life Association group, Turkey Triples and now the Junior Development Program.

On the downside of the season, it is my observation “the Club” is splintered with some members seemingly hell-bent on causing disharmony. To those members I, like “Scomo”, beg you to Stop It, otherwise “the Club” will implode.

I did mention in last year’s Annual Report I was stepping away from the role of Bowls Committee Chairperson and didn’t. However at this Annual General Meeting I am definitely not continuing in the role of Chairperson of the Bowls Committee. In doing so, I thank all those that have been of support throughout the year.

A. (Jim) Rayner.  
Chairman, Bowls Committee

## GREENS DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR SEASON 2019 / 2020

### The Surrounds

The appearance of the gardens and surrounds continues to catch the eye upon entering the Werribee Bowls Club. The Gardening and Maintenance Crews continue to maintain the great look and feel that adds to the ambience of the club that makes all our members and visitors feel welcome. The maintenance of the above would not be achieved without the continuous hard work and dedication of our volunteers.

### **The Gardening and outside Maintenance Crew**

**Our Mantra is still “Keep the place looking nice, neat, clean and tidy”**

#### **A big thank you to:**

**Ron O’Shannessy, Gerry Edwards and Jason Kotevski** (our work placement volunteer) for their tireless work in maintaining our garden beds, plants and shrubs.

**Team members from Transformation** that perform regular cleaning and gardening tasks on most Mondays. Rubbish inside the venue and within the Chirnside Park Precinct is also picked up usually on Mondays and Fridays however is also done, when required, on pennant Saturdays and when special events are being conducted.

**Graeme Foster** has joined the team and empties all the rubbish bins inside and outside the club house, on Thursdays, and organises the bins for collection by the Wyndham City Council trucks.

**Jim Cowan** has joined our team and ensures all our toilets have an adequate supply of hand towels, hand soap and toilet rolls.

**Brian Turner** and **Peter Williams** are regular contributors every Friday with cleaning duties inside and outside.

**Ken McColgan** who has returned to continue with his window cleaning expertise.

**John Greygoose** for his efforts in painting the greens’ borders, seating and whatever else inside or outside that needs a fresh coat.

**Alan Marks** who has joined our painting team and you will have noticed his handy work with the outside benches that have been painted maroon.

**Lyle Rogers** who continues to perform his role as general maintenance and handy man.

**Gerry Edwards**, again, for his mechanical expertise in machinery and he continues to regularly service all our petrol driven equipment. He saves the club thousands of dollars each year with this activity.

**Dean (Chook) O’Connell** who replaced the water pipe, between greens I & 3, that runs from the main outside to the tanks near the greenkeeper’s shed. Dean did this at no charge and saved us approximately \$4K. He also organised for the basins in the inside men’s toilet to be replaced at a very discounted rate.

**The Saturday Morning Crew** of **Chris Smithwick, Gerry Edwards** and **Neville Hopkins** continue to assist me with cleaning all the surrounds and setting up, all three

greens, for our Saturday pennant competition. A big thank you to **Brian Turner, Steve Weston, Iain McKinnon and John (Chuck) Parker, Glenn Clarkson and Paul Parry** who answered the call and assisted when one of the regulars was away.

**Ian Milledge, Bill O’Keefe, Vin Keogh, John White and Michael Tormey** who continue to share the cooking, for the Saturday BBQ and other events and the cleaning up afterwards.

**Top dressing crews** - Finally, big thank you to all the club volunteers that turned out to assist with the top dressing of both grass greens. You all know who you are and we published a thank you on Team App at the time.

All these tasks conducted by our volunteer club members continue to save the club many thousands of dollars throughout the year and we should all applaud their efforts.

### **The Greens**

Overall our greens have run very well and feedback, from most, has been positive and encouraging in the fact that we are doing things right with the maintenance of these.

In my last report I mentioned that number 3 green would be closed for 8 – 10 weeks from early December. Due to a couple of reasons, including but not limited to costs and the loss of revenue from a number of our biggest annual events, we have decided to cancel this major work. However, the main reason is that feedback, from those using the green on a regular basis, is very positive and that they are satisfied with the condition and running of the green. Instead of the planned work, minor work has been carried out by our Greenkeeper.

Our Greens 2 and 3 have been used on a number of occasions, during 2019, for Metro West events and in January 2020 were used to conduct rounds of the Men’s and Women’s State Singles.

### **Green Number 1**

Most of the work carried out on this green is completed by our volunteer maintenance crew. However, greenkeeper Shane has assisted on a number of occasions with spraying and marking the rinks.

This green requires a large amount of time and energy to keep it in pristine condition. It requires continual cleaning which is carried out on Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and the occasional Sunday when an event is scheduled. The green is regularly cleaned using either the blowers and or vacuum cleaners. We have sprayed the green a number of times, during the year, with special chemicals to combat moss and mildew patches that usually occur in the wetter winter months. The most recent has been at the end of February and early March. A big thank you to Jim Rayner, Gerry Edwards and Shane Grellet for spending hours with the latest spraying session. Hopefully this will result in removing most of this particularly when there is ample sunshine to dry out and assist in bleaching the green.

### **Green Number 2.**

Our yearly maintenance was carried out at the end of Italy – Australia Day 2019 and included cutting, scarifying, coring and top dressing. This resulted in the number two green running really well throughout the pennant season and hosting a number of Metro West events during the year. This green will again be closed immediately after Italy / Australia day and will re-open, hopefully weather permitting, the first week in September 2020. Work will include double scarifying, aerating and the addition of nutrients.

### **Green Number 3**

#### **To get the best results out of this green it must be used regularly throughout the year for social, pennant and barefoot bowls.**

This year feedback has been positive, from most members and visitors, that the green is running well. The green hosted the final of the Metro West Women's Fours and the semi-final and final of the Men's fours in December 2019. The green has been regularly scarified both ways, throughout the year, and is cut and rolled weekly.

#### **The Greenkeeper**

Shane continues to maintain the grass surroundings as well as his primary role of looking after greens two and three. He is a tireless worker and his role includes; cutting, rolling and watering the grass greens two to three times per week during the pennant season, spraying the greens, on a monthly basis, with a fungicide to prevent disease, trimming the green edges and mowing the grass around green three.

#### **Maintenance and Equipment**

Most equipment maintenance is still performed by wonder wiz, Gerry Edwards, who also recently installed new steps between greens one and three.

#### **General Comments**

##### **Greens one and three will again be available for winter bowls.**

As last year's report stated the club continues to be successful with our Barefoot Bowls Program, on Friday evenings, as well as our involvement with school's programs and community-based organisations. All greens have been used on occasions for these activities and I have again requested that all our Bowls Coordinators and volunteers set up the rinks to bowl east-west for these programs. This will give the greens an even distribution of traffic, wear and tear.

Here at Werribee Bowls Club we have the best of three worlds; bent and tift grass greens and a carpet green. All have been presented well throughout the year and I am very proud of that fact and of the fine work that our regular, hard working volunteers perform.

#### **Thank you, Shane and all our volunteers,**

So if you are not currently one of these willing volunteers, please consider putting your name on a list, whether it be to assist with the running of our barefoot bowl's program, schools program or joining one of our maintenance crews. To find out how you can make a difference please see me or one of the club's board members. All interest and help will be welcomed.

Kind regards  
Graham McKinnon  
Greens Director

## **TREASURER'S REPORT YEAR ENDING 31/12/2019**

Unfortunately, the club recorded a loss in what was a challenging year. The most noticeable area of decline is in the bar takings which are down considerably on last year by approx. \$21,000. Extremes of weather played a significant part in reducing income through cancelled functions and reduced casual bowls patronage at a time when we would normally expect to be boosting our income. Nonetheless, the club remains in a reasonable financial position but cannot continue to run at a loss.

On the other hand, we have managed to keep expenses down to a level below that of the previous year and this is partly due to the efforts of our volunteers who help in cutting costs for labour and expertise.

As advised to members in January via TeamApp the Board is looking to co-opt two new members who bring experience, skills and ideas that will assist in strengthening the club's financial situation and bringing the bottom line back into the black.

The full impact of the Coronavirus, at the time of writing, remains to be seen but early signs are that the 2020 is going to be a major challenge. When circumstances permit the club will need every member to contribute in some way to ensuring that we can recover and return bigger and better.

In closing, I would like to thank Maureen Torney for her invaluable assistance.

Chris Smithwick  
Treasurer

**Werribee Bowls Club Inc  
Committee's Report  
For year ended 31 December 2019**

The Committee members submit the financial accounts of the Werribee Bowls Club Inc for the financial year ended 31 December 2019.

**Committee Members**

The names of the Committee members at the date of this report are: George Cairns, Lesley Robinson, Chris Smithwick, Denise Thompson, Carol Hawkins, Steve Weston and Graham McKinnon.

**Principal Activities**

The principal activities of the association during the financial year were: Lawn Bowls.

**Significant Changes**

No significant changes in the nature of these activities occurred during the year.

**Operating Result**

The profit from ordinary activities after providing for income tax amounted to:

Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2019
(\$28,122)	(\$43,835)

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee.



The image shows seven handwritten signatures in black ink. On the left side, there are four signatures stacked vertically: the top one is illegible, the second appears to be 'Robinson', the third is 'D. Thompson', and the bottom one is 'Carol A. Hawkins'. On the right side, there are three signatures stacked vertically: the top one is 'George Cairns', the middle one is illegible, and the bottom one is illegible.