



**WERRIBEE BOWLS CLUB INC**

# **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**29<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2022**

*Celebrating 100 Years  
of Lawn Bowls*



# **Minutes of the Werribee Bowls Club Inc. Annual General Meeting**

Thursday 29th September 2022 – 7pm

## **Board Directors Committee:**

President	Henry Barlow
Vice President	Steve Weston
Finance Director	Gavin Joyce
Treasurer	Graham McKinnon
Secretary	Steve Weston
Directors	Gerry Edwards
	Mick O'Neil
	Lesley Robinson

## **Item 1**

Attendance: 50 members signed the attendance sheet. This constitutes a quorum.  
Apologies included: Trish Forder, Rhonda Edwards, Jessie Rayner, Snowy Barker, Margaret Spence, Marian Foster, Vito Bertone, and Anita Pell

## **Item 2**

The President declared the meeting open at 7.00pm and thanked everyone for attending.

The President asked all to stand for one minute's silence for departed members: Terry Miles, George Carbis, Greg D'Abaco, Kevin O'Neil, Ron Mason, Doris Bottrell, John Spence, and Deanna Tobin

## **Item 3**

The minutes of the AGM meeting of 25<sup>th</sup> November 2021 as presented in the Annual Report, be accepted as a true record of the meeting: moved Graeme Roberts, seconded Rod Lietch.  
Carried.

## **3.1 Business arising from the minutes**

Nil.

## **Item 4 - Reports:**

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2021 / 2022**

I welcome everyone to the 2022 Annual General Meeting. It marks our 100 year anniversary from the inception of this club in 1922.

In the last 12 months the Werribee Bowls Club have further consolidated our financial position. The Board has continued to work in finding new sponsors to help our financial position as well as seeking ways to grow our membership. We have had a dramatic increase in social members which has grown

3-fold in the last 12 months. A sure sign that you can be a member of this great club without having to also be a pennant player but avail yourself to social bowls, low price bar drinks, social events and a facility that can be used for private functions.

We also had a very successful 2021/2022 Pennant season with 7 of the 9 sides playing finals. We will again have 5 Saturday sides and 4 mid-week sides for the 2022/2023 pennant season. I wish all bowlers good luck in the upcoming season.

Members of the board have had a number of meetings with the Wyndham City Council concerning the proposed new development. A working party will soon be formed with members of the board and staff from the Wyndham City Council along with an architect and designers of what the development will look like and the improved facilities. Part of the potential improvements will be to have an additional synthetic green under cover and facility for larger functions which will again give us the opportunity to raise additional revenue.

The club has continued its partnership of reciprocal rights with the Werribee Football Club and Werribee Racing Club and I encourage members to make use of these opportunities.

The Centennial Committee that was formed to organise our 100th anniversary have done a wonderful job of preparing our Centennial Luncheon celebration along with a commemorative bowls tournament to mark the occasion. Special thanks to committee members Lesley Robinson, Carol Hawkins, Denise Thompson, George Cairns and Rhonda Edwards.

Special mention must be made to committee member and life member Reg Hassett who has written the book with great assistance from many members and a great number of other sources over the last couple of years. I must say it has been an absolute honour to chair this committee and I thank them for their hard work.

**Henry Barlow**  
**WBC President**

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

#### **Financial Period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022.**

Despite Covid issues in the second half of calendar year 2021, the Club enters the 2022/23 year with more funds in the bank than 12 months prior.

A loss for the year, after depreciation, was recorded from pure operations, however, the injection of funds from Covid compensation during the second half of 2021 created a positive outcome in the financial results. This is due to the great work of the previous Board of Management in securing the funds from the relevant authorities.

To ensure transparency with our members in the funds required to operate our great facility, we would like to present some information.

To maintain and operate the facility, excluding the bar activities, it costs circa \$170,000 per annum. This includes green maintenance, operations, compliance and licencing requirements, repairs and



Christou. As a thank you gesture our volunteers were provided with a much-needed BBQ lunch and drink!

**Green 3** - The green was cored and aeriated at the conclusion of the pennant and tournament season.

### **Undercover Shelter between Greens 1 & 2**

Eight rusted columns were identified as part of a safety inspection. A decision was made to repair in-house at a significant cost saving to the Club. The cost of replacement was quoted at \$80K and quotes for repairs approx. \$20K. Seventy-five percent of the repair work has been completed in-house and we anticipate completion prior to October. The Club is most grateful for the material and assistance provided by Darren Spence and volunteers Jason Kotevski and Alan Peters who have ably assisted.

### **Maintenance**

Speed limit signage has been installed within club premises and also a sign indicating that all play must commence on the northern end of Green 1.

Tagging of all electrical equipment was undertaken throughout the facility to ensure compliance with safety standards.

All plant and equipment have been maintained in accordance with the Maintenance Schedule with the majority maintained in-house at a considerable saving to the Club.

A new boom sprayer was acquired to ensure even distribution of chemicals and minimise the workload of our limited volunteers.

Three bench seats were taken out of service for safety reasons. Three seats were repaired and painted and handrails painted black thanks to John Greygoose and Alan Peters for their continued efforts.

The Recycling Program has improved with most members now taking the time to dissect their waste into the recommended wheelie bin however we can still do better. Hopefully we need continuous improvement in this area to reduce landfill waste, protect the environment and leave the world in a better place for future generations.

I would like to personally thank the following volunteers who continue to make a significant contribution to the Club: -

Garden & Surrounds - Ron O'Shannessey, Alex Christou and Jason Kotevski

General Maintenance - Lyall Rogers

Painting - John Greygoose and Alan Peters

Rubbish/Recycling - Graeme Foster, Alan Taylor and Graham McKinnon

Windows - Ken McColgan who continues to clean our windows each month.

On behalf of the Board, I wish to thank our Greenkeeper Shane Grellet and his assistant Jeff Swaby for the way in which they continue to maintain our greens to such a high standard.

**Gerry Edwards**  
**Greens Director**

## **BAR and VENUE OPERATIONS**

**July 2021 to June 2022.**

While the Club's operations have nearly returned to our pre-Covid normal we were prohibited from trading, in the first part of our new financial year, for a total of 87 days in the period from 16 July 2021 – 21 October 2021.

The majority of us have moved on and are adjusting to living in a world with Covid however some people were/are still hesitant, when restrictions were lifted, about being in large crowds and this has had an impact on revenue from our dining area for our outside functions.

Despite the above, the bar continues to be our greatest source of revenue. None of this would be possible without all our wonderful volunteers; Frank Aidone, Henry Barlow, Morag Buckles, Geoff Bristow, George Cairns, Alex Christo, Alesa Daynes, Trish Forder, Ron Gentry, John Greygoose, Laurie Helmling, Sue McKinnon, Iain McKinnon, Graeme Roberts, Lesley Robinson, Kevin Sellars and Cathy Taylor. What a team; I am so proud of your efforts and grateful to you all.

A big thank you, also, to our paid staff; Vicki Abbott, Brooke Hardinge, Betty Hardinge, Jasmine Sparks, Sue Kopp, Lauren King and last but by no means least Tanya King. We have had a slight increase in our bar prices' however, we have added wine and spirits to our discounted Happy Hour on Friday nights, so get down to the Club and enjoy the friendly atmosphere, the opportunity to win at Joker's Wild and cheaper prices from 5:30 – 7pm.

As a Community Bowls Club, I am proud to report that we have hosted a variety of local groups including fundraisers for the Werribee Mercy Hospital and the ALP, and functions for Wyndham Vale Girl Guides, Hoppers Crossing Cricket Club, Ten Pin Bowling Club, a Fashion Parade, Probus, a Classic Car Club, The Jazz Club, Metro West Events and team selection trial, School Sports Victoria Secondary Schools tournament, Werribee Fire Brigade, Probus, MSSA, Wyndham Suns Football Club, Business Network Association and unfortunately a number of wakes for local community families.

A special mention must go to Cathy Taylor, Sue and Iain McKinnon, and Rhonda Edwards who organised a function for Australia's Biggest Morning Tea that raises money for the Cancer Council. This was a raging success and raised well over \$3,0000 for the charity.

Our venue was also used by Jesuit Social Services to conduct a Barista course and we hosted a Pizza and beverages night to thank all our wonderful volunteers.

The Club's carpet and all 150 dining area chairs were steamed cleaned at the end of December in readiness for the New Year and we have engaged the cleaning service of a VIP franchise to clean the Club on Friday and Saturday nights however our cleaning crew, that ably assist me, do all the cleaning and dining room set ups for the rest of the 7 days. Special mentions must go to Peter Musial, Peter Williams, Ian Gainey who regularly assist with these chores.

While these people do a great job, we are always looking for more volunteers, to assist with cleaning or to work behind the bar, so if you would like to contribute to the success of our Club, by volunteering some of your time, please see me or one of our Board members.

We are also looking to increase our paid bar staff numbers so, if you know someone who is interested in supplementing their income or pension then please see me.

**Graham McKinnon**  
**Bar and Venue Operations**

## **BOWLS COMMITTEE REPORT 2021 / 2022**

Firstly, I wish to thank the selectors for both weekend and midweek pennant. Your efforts go a long way towards another successful Pennant season.

Thank you to all the Bowls Committee members who have contributed their time towards the club. It is always greatly appreciated.

### **Midweek Pennant Selectors Report**

Thank you to everyone who made sure to forward their names for this upcoming season of pennant. We have entered four teams for midweek pennant and hopefully this will eliminate the need for rotation.

We have also had several new bowlers sign up for midweek pennant and we are looking forward to another great season!

### **New Social Committee**

I would like to mention and congratulate our new social committee members; Rhonda Edwards, Cathy Taylor and Sue McKinnon. Their generous efforts and creativity has led to a very successful Australia's Biggest Morning Tea fundraiser, as well as a fantastic WBC Trivia Night. Both of these events were thoroughly enjoyed by both members and the public. A special thank you to the ever wonderful kitchen ladies who are always ready to lend a hand!

Winter Social Bowls

Winter social bowls on both Tuesday and Saturdays have proven very popular with our members. We have encouraged many new members throughout winter with some signing on to play Pennant.

### **Turkey Triples**

Although Turkey Triples has always been popular at the club, throughout this year and especially throughout the winter season, we have regularly entertained over 40 bowlers each Wednesday. Once again proving what a great game of lawn bowls is for all ages.

Bowls Tournaments:

All but one tournament has been confirmed for 2023. MJ McClure & Sons 2 Bowl Triples has often moved around the calendar and we are awaiting final placement in the 2023 calendar.

Further sponsorship has secured several bowl tournaments including a new entry this year. The WBC Centennial Bowls Tournament will be played on Sunday 23rd October 2023.

**George Cairns**

**Chairperson - WBC Bowls Committee**

## **RECRUITMENT REPORT**

Werribee have had a low intake of new bowling members for several years. This is in spite of being very fortuitously geographically placed in terms of competing clubs and thus potential new members.

One significant positive in the last few seasons is the number of barefoot bowlers frequenting the club. Whilst this is an opportunity, we were not seeing any conversion rate from barefoot bowlers into either social or full bowling members. In order to address this issue it was decided to offer free coaching on a Wednesday evening with advertisement on both social media and in the form of flyers handed out at each barefoot bowls session. The idea was to provide interested individuals with an easy and cost free path to explore lawn bowls and hopefully become more involved.

I am happy to report that this program, although it only commenced after Xmas last season was very successful and along with some other programs, played a major role in the attraction of approximately 50 new social members to the club from Xmas to the end of the season. In addition, holding the coaching on Wednesday evening gave the new bowlers an opportunity to participate in the twilight bowls program running on the same night.

I would like to thank the following people. Gavin Joyce for his help every week with the new bowlers and John Parker who stepped in when needed. Rhonda Edwards gave her time every week to cook the post coaching BBQ and Gary Boddington and the twilight crew who made all the newbies feel extremely welcome.

We will be running this program again this season, commencing a few weeks into the season but moving to a Thursday evening to align once again with twilight bowls. Hopefully the rate of new members we deliver will continue.

**Mick O'Neil**  
**Recruitment Director**

**Item 5:**

**Change to Constitution (draft after discussion)**

The following special resolution was proposed at the Werribee Bowls Club Inc Annual General Meeting, on Thursday 29th September 2022 at the Club rooms.

The purpose and back ground for the change to the WBC Constitution is:

**BACKGROUND FOR CHANGE:**

The current Constitution has an inconsistency within Clause 17.3 that refers to specific positions and terms the Elected Directors are appointed for.

This is a housekeeping issue.

**This does not change the composition of the Board, their authorities, nor the term before being re-elected.**

**This request in no way changes or extends any Director's tenure as elected at the last two AGM's by the Affiliated Members.**

**Under Clause 17.2(a)(i) there shall be seven Elected Directors, and under Clause 17.3(a) the Elected Directors shall hold office until the conclusion of the second Annual General Meeting following their election**

Under Cause 17.2(c) and 17.2(d), the Board appoints the President and the Board may allocated portfolios to Directors.

However, it is not possible to have Elected Director requirements of 4 and 3 each alternate year (Cl. 17.3(b)) **AND** include specific roles who may not have served two AGM windows (Cl. 17.3(b)) , **AND** having seven Elected Directors. (Cl. 17.2(a)), **AND** have elected Directors hold office for 2 AGM's (Cl. 17.3(a))

The words we request removing, currently contradict the Elected Director process as, for example, they would require the Vice President and Secretary to be up for re-election every AGM if they were to be the same individual.

The change is to remove the specific references to Presidents, Secretaries, Vice Presidents and Treasurers and leave the reference to Elected Directors. This change will address these inconsistencies within the Elected Director process in the Constitution document and ensure the process can be fulfilled.

**CHANGE REQUESTED**

**CURRENT:**

Clause 17.3 Elected Directors

- (a) Subject to Rule 19, each Elected Director shall take office from the conclusion of the Annual General Meeting at which they are elected and shall hold office until the conclusion of the second Annual General Meeting following their election.

- (b) Four Elected Directors, including the President and Secretary, shall be elected in every even-numbered year and the remaining three Directors, including the Vice-President and Treasurer, in every odd-numbered year.
- (c) Directors are eligible for re-election, however no Director may serve for more than four consecutive terms of two years. However, that Director shall be eligible to return to the Board following an absence of at least 12 months.

**PROPOSED:**

Clause 17.3 Elected Directors

- (a) NO CHANGE TO THE ABOVE
- (b) Four Elected Directors, ~~including the President and Secretary,~~ shall be elected in every even-numbered year and the remaining three Directors, ~~including the Vice-President and Treasurer,~~ in every odd-numbered year.
- (c) NO CHANGE TO THE ABOVE

The full Constitution can be located on our website.

<https://werribeebowlsclub.files.wordpress.com/2021/02/wbc-constitution-december-2020-final.pdf>

For further information, please refer to: Associations Incorporation Reform Act 2012

No. 20 of 2012 Part 5—Rules, Membership and General Meetings Clause 64 Special Resolutions

**NOTE:**

The Proposed changes to the constitution were accepted by 99.5% of attendees as a show of hands at the AGM therefore the motion was accepted and passed, and will be adapted in the new WBC constitution.

**Item 6: BOARD OF DIRECTORS VOTING**

The nominations for the upcoming Board elections are detailed below for the 2 year term;  
Andy Blume, Gerry Edwards, Graham McKinnon, Iain McKinnon, Michael O’Neil

Voting was conducted by all members and the results on WBC Board acceptances are  
Gerry Edwards, Graham McKinnon, Iain McKinnon, Michael O’Neil

**Item 7: PRESENTATION OF METRO WEST VETERAN BADGES**

Presented by Metro West Director, Steve Weston

Steve thanked all the new recipients for their individual contribution to the Region and Werribee Bowls Club; Patricia Bristow, Barry Harbottle, Alwyn (Jim) Rayner, George Cairns, John Robertson, and Valerie Cheetham.

**Item 8: Bowls Committee:**

No change to Committee Members

**Item 9: Selection Committee:**

**Midweek Selection Committee 2022/2023 Pennant Season** - George Cairns, Peter Davies, Trish Forder, Laurie Helmling

**Weekend Selection Committee 2022/2023 Season** - Jenny Parker, Peter Carlton, Snowy Barker, and Alan Taylor. One vacancy still exists! Contact the Board or Peter Carlton to discuss further.

**Item 10: PRESENTATION OF WBC LIFE MEMBERSHIPS**

On behalf of everyone at the WBC, it was our pleasure to introduce three very generous supporters to our Club; Chris Smithwick, Colin Thompson and Denise Thompson as our newest Life Members to the WBC.

Each of these valued members have contributed to the Club over many, many years in varied capacities. Dedicated support like this is why WBC is such a great community club.

Life Membership constitutes a very select group within the WBC and we will do everything possible to ensure Life Membership remains a great source of continued satisfaction for our esteemed members.



**Item 11: Werribee Bowls Club Inc Board Committee's Report**

**For year ended 30 June 2022**

The Committee members submit the financial accounts of the Werribee Bowls Club Inc for the financial year ended 30 June 2022.

**Board Committee Members**

The names of the Committee members at the date of this report are: Henry Barlow, Steve Weston, Graham McKinnon, Gerry Edwards, Lesley Robinson, Gavin Joyce and Mick O'Neil.

**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:

6 months ended 30 June 2021	Year ended 30 June 2022
\$(16,997) loss	\$93,546 profit

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

Meeting Closed at 8.15pm on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022.

