

# Eagle Wrap January 2019 No. 18

# From the President (by Sam Katsivas)

I am pleased to report that the blueprint implemented by the new Board to turn around the Club's financial position — by curtailing expenditure, by reviewing all activities from a profit/loss vs effort analysis and by re-thinking a few of the long-held practices of the Club that were not as efficient as they could have been — has resulted in a much healthier bottom line, both in terms of cashflow and money at bank.

I thank all members who have supported the various initiatives that the Board has implemented and I encourage you all to continue to support the events that we hold at the Club as these in no small way contribute to our fund-raising efforts.

In particular, the **Friday fish nights** and the upcoming **Quiz Night** on Friday 15 February are two events coming up very soon and we need as many people to participate as possible. The quiz night is a major fundraiser, so even if you can't attend yourself, please tell your friends about it and encourage them to get a table together. It will be a fun night, quite inexpensive and potentially a great boost to the Club's finances.

The information night about future Lockleys development options held on the 7<sup>th</sup> January at the Club was attended by around 30 members who gave their support to the Board to continue on its path of exploring all possibilities for the future development of our bowling club.

# From the Board (from the Secretary)

A few matters from the most recent Board meeting:

#### **Dates for AGM and Presentation Night**

It was noted that while the AGM has traditionally been held on the last Monday in May, this is obviously negotiable. Ashley Halls undertook to review potential dates for the Presentation Night (taking account of pennant finals, AFL fixtures etc), which would inform the date for the AGM.

#### Lockers

it was agreed to continue canvassing members on the cost of locker hire (to be introduced in conjunction with next season's membership fees). It was also agreed it would be useful to convert the women's locker room into an open gender locker room, which would enable the lockers to be removed from the men's locker room, thereby making space for the storage of indoor bowls mats (and gym equipment etc).

#### **Newly-elected Council members**

It was agreed an invitation should be extended to the incoming Mayor to become the Club's Patron (and to attend the Presentation Night).

It was also agreed it would be useful for the President and Secretary to meet with the new Ward councillors, both to brief them on the proposed redevelopment plans and to gain their support more generally.

# Intention to resign

Bill Green advised he will not be seeking reappointment at the AGM, nor continuing next season as the House Director (though he is happy to organise the catering for major events and monthly fish nights). The Chair expressed his understanding and appreciation for Bill's longstanding contribution to the Board and the Club.

# **Bowls update** (from Ashley Halls, Bowls Director)

#### **Club Championships**

Matches are progressing nicely but players, please quickly organise any games that are behind the due date. We are looking to have a finals day on Sunday 3 February, where each of the Club championship singles and pairs will be played.

Men's and women's singles finals will commence at 11.00am. Pairs matches will commence at 1.00pm. We will run a BBQ and would like to see as many members as possible come to the Club to support these events. I would also like to see the Open singles final and men's triples final played on that day, provided players are not involved in other matches.

#### **Taylor Challenge**

Lockleys will be hosting the gold round on Sunday 20 January and the bronze round on Sunday 10 February. Helpers for bar, BBQ and singles marking are needed. If you can assist, please let me know.

#### Karidis Retirement Villages Women's Classic

The Club's Women's Classic will be held on Sunday 24 March. Flyers will be e-circulated shortly and an entry list will be on the Club noticeboard. Please advise women from other clubs when you have an opportunity and help promote the day.

#### **Pennants**

An issue occurred last Wednesday regarding a player not turning up at the Club at the agreed departure time. Can players please note that when we are playing away, if a player has not turned up at the Club by the agreed time, someone should either attempt to contact them or advise the selector.

Should there be an issue, we would then have an opportunity to get another player, rather than playing one short as one of our teams did at Semaphore last Wednesday.

# Premier Home Loans Open Grand Classic

Thank you to everyone who helped make our Open Grand Classic such a success in early January. It was a big money earner for the Club (with net revenue of >\$3500) in no small part due to everyone who pitched in; greens preparation, lunch and kitchen duties, bar staff and umpiring and measuring, and of course, our sponsor, Premier Home Loans.

#### Off-season indoor bowls

We're investigating the prospect of entering one or more teams in the metropolitan winter open

indoor bowls competition, which would be in addition to but separate from the current women's competition. Details will be advised in due course but if you're interested, please mention your interest to me.

# **Membership** (from the Secretary)

No change this past month to our numbers – still very impressive at just under 250! A special welcome to Ross Bennett, who transferred from Holdfast earlier in the year but has been absent for the past several months on account of ill health.

#### Social events (from Sam Katsivas)

The first 'Fish Night' of the new year is on this Friday (18 January). Names on the notice board ASAP or contact Bill Green on 0417 821 922. Please note there will not be a Fish Night in February because of the Quiz Night.

The **Quiz Night** is being held on Friday 15 February, commencing at 7.00pm. Tables of 8-10 (but single entries or lesser numbers can be incorporated). Bring a plate to share. \$20 per person. Book by contacting Lyn Nixon or Sam Katsivas or by adding your name to the booking sheet on the Club noticeboard.

A reminder also that we're still raffling a **new set of Taylor bowls**, valued at \$630, to be drawn in March (generously provided by Taylor Bowls as part of the sponsorship arrangement for the Taylor Bowls Super Challenge).

# A bit of history

Members may find interesting the following excerpt from *Times Have Changed: celebrating 100 years at the Lockleys Bowling Club 1912-2012* (as researched and written by Vern Butler):

[By the 1960-61 season, it had become evident that the existing venue at Cross Street, Lockleys had become overcrowded, so a Special General Meeting in June 1961 approved (by 63 votes to 9) a transfer to the Lockleys Oval Reserve.]

The new site contained a large sand hill, used by the Reedbeds Rifle Club as their shooting range, which required the removal of 10,000 cubic yards of sand at a cost [to the Club] of £866. By the end of January 1962, as a result of many hours of voluntary labour, the four greens had been levelled, concrete surrounds laid and water connected; they were now ready for planting.

Three of the greens (A, B and D) were planted with couch grass and C with bent grass. This particular couch grass had been brought to South Australia many years ago by an English sea captain to make a tennis court at his Goolwa home. The tennis court was eventually dug up and the couch thrown into a paddock, where it took root and grew into a lush green carpet.

A member heard this story and gained permission to use the grass for the new greens. This exercise was carried out by about 40 members who were organized to take a truck and keg of beer on a daylong excursion to the paddock near the lake at Goolwa, where sufficient couch grass runners were loaded and mixed with grass from the Cross Street venue to plant the new site.

By March 1963, there was a sea of green grass and ... after some levelling work ... the greens were ready by September 1963. Some games of the Labour Day Tournament, held in October 1963, were scheduled for the new Rutland Avenue greens ... [and] those who played on the new greens thoroughly enjoyed the experience and had the honour of being the first to bowl in competition at the new site.

# **Grants and sponsorship** (from the Secretary)

No further news on grants.

Sponsorship commitments for this season have increased marginally to \$21,150 (comprising \$14,900 in cash and \$6250 in product), as a result of Karidis Retirement Villages offering \$1000 to sponsor the Women's Grand Classic and Air Comfort Services agreeing to provide 4-monthly maintenance checks of the evaporative air conditioning system as a sponsorship.

If you're aware of grant opportunities or possible sponsors, please contact Bob Ormston, as both are important sources of revenue for the Club.

# **Our volunteers**

In our last edition, we featured the work of the *Sandwich-making team*. In this issue, we recognise the work of the *Selection Committee*.

The team is headed by Ashley Halls, as Chair of Selectors. The Wednesday selectors are Theo Katsivas, Bob Ormston and Bill Green. The Thursday selectors are Margaret Collins, Marlene Recchi and Karen Kovaleff (who's taken over post-Christmas from Liz Ormston). The Saturday selectors are the Wednesday and Thursday selectors combined, plus Mark Ballestrin.

It's often said that selection is the most thankless job in any sporting club. However, because our selectors work collegiately as a team, with discussions progressed in open forum, their decisions are shared by the whole team, which hopefully provides both objectivity and transparency, and a sense (from the selectors' perspective) that their decisions are reasonably based — though it's unlikely that everyone's preferences and aspirations are going to be met all the time..!

# Our sponsors

As part of our sponsorship agreement with Karidis Retirement Villages, we've agreed to encourage our members to attend the various promotional activities they conduct throughout the year. The next activity is a bus tour of all their metropolitan villages on Sunday 27 February, with morning tea and lunch provided. If you're interested, please contact Karidis Retirement Villages to register (see details on the poster below).



# **Calendar for January**

- Friday 18 January 12.30pm social pairs; followed by Club practice session at 4pm and 'Fish Night' at 6pm
- Saturday 19 January pennants round 12
- Sunday 20 January 6pm Lockleys hosts Taylor Challenge Gold-level round, supporters and spectators most welcome
- Tuesday 22 January 7pm Night Owls
- Wednesday 23 January pennants round 13;
   7pm Night Owls
- Thursday 24 January women's pennants round 12
- Friday 25 January 12.30pm social pairs; followed by Club practice session at 4pm
- Saturday 26 January Australia Day (no pennants)
- Tuesday 29 January 7pm Night Owls
- Wednesday 30 January pennants round 14;
   7pm Night Owls
- Thursday 31 January women's pennants round
   13

# **Calendar for February**

- Friday 1 February 12.30pm social pairs, followed by Club practice session at 4pm
- Saturday 2 February pennants round 13
- Sunday 3 February 11am-4pm Club finals (see earlier details in Bowls Director's report); 6pm Taylor Challenge (gold level) at Grange; Taylor Challenge (bronze level) at Torrensville
- Tuesday 5 February 7pm Night Owls
- Wednesday 6 February pennants round 15;
   7pm Night Owls
- Thursday 7 February women's pennants round 14
- Friday 8 February 12.30pm social pairs, followed by Club practice session at 4pm
- Saturday 9 February pennants round 14
- Sunday 10 February Taylor Challenge (bronze level) at Lockleys
- Tuesday 12 February 7pm Night Owls
- Wednesday 13 February pennants round 16;
   7pm Night Owls
- Thursday 14 February women's pennants round 15; and Valentine's Day
- Friday 15 February 12.30pm social pairs, followed by Club practice session at 4pm; Quiz Night at 7pm – note, no Fish Night in February
- Saturday 16 February pennants round 15
- Tuesday 19 February 7pm Night Owls
- Wednesday 20 February 7pm Night Owls note, no pennants because of Interstate Competition

- Thursday 21 February note, no women's pennants because of Interstate Competition
- Friday 22 February 12.30pm social pairs, followed by Club practice session at 4pm
- Saturday 23 February pennants round 16
- Sunday 24 February 6pm Taylor Challenge (gold level) at Henley; Taylor Challenge (bronze qualifying final) venue TBA
- Tuesday 26 February 7pm Night Owls
- Wednesday 27 February pennants round 17;
   7pm Night Owls
- Thursday 28 February women's pennants round 16

# Keep up-to-date with Facebook

For the latest news and updates on the Club, access our Facebook page on <a href="https://www.facebook.com/LockleysBowlingClub/">https://www.facebook.com/LockleysBowlingClub/</a>
If you have suggestions for material to include on Facebook, please contact Mark Ballestrin on 0417 700 257.

# Finally, some amusing bits from our history

Vern Butler records that:

A contentious issue from the time of the Club's formation has been the consumption of alcohol. Licences were not readily issued to bowling clubs and it was generally accepted that the law was broken at most venues, either by selling tickets to purchase a drink ... or a player providing a bottle in his locker as hospitality for his opponent.

One of our members recalls from the 1960s playing a pennant match at the Adelaide Oval Bowling Club where his opponent offered him a drink of beer from a half empty bottle which had been stored in his locker since the previous Saturday.

Vern also notes that in January 1951, the Board published the following minute:

In future, Ladies are not permitted to consume intoxicating liquor at or within the Lockleys Bowling Clubs clubrooms other than on opening days or at the discretion of the President.

We're checking to see if this resolution was ever rescinded..!