

QUEENSLAND

bowler

MARCH 2026



BOWLS
QUEENSLAND



TAYLOR BOWLS STATE CHALLENGE
**ATW WOLVES TAKE
CONTROL IN BUNDY**

**RAFFLE TICKETS
ON SALE**

**FOURS
TOURNAMENTS
OPEN**

CHARITY DAY
**BRIBIE ISLAND
TURNS PINK**

HEADED OUT WEST
**BQ VISITS ROMA
& CHINCHILLA**

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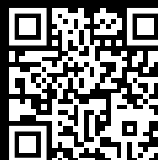
Editorial & Advertising Contact:

E: media@bowlsqld.org

Ph: (07) 3354 0777

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Monthly Update WITH FLETCH

As I write my first article as CEO of Bowls Queensland, I want to begin by saying thank you. Over the past few weeks, - I've been travelling across the state, visiting clubs, meeting volunteers, speaking with players, and learning more about the unique and passionate bowls community that makes our sport so special. I'd also like to acknowledge the privilege of working alongside such a dedicated team of staff and a highly engaged and energetic BQ Board.

What has struck me most is the diversity of our bowls demographic. From lifelong members who have given decades of service to the game, to barefoot bowlers experiencing competition for the first time, to our emerging juniors - bowls in Queensland is far broader and more vibrant than many people realise. My focus as CEO is simple: respect our proud traditions while ensuring we continue to evolve and grow.

One of my early highlights has been experiencing the energy and professionalism of the Bowls Premier League (BPL). To see a Queensland franchise finish runner-up was a tremendous result and a credit to the athletes, coaches and support staff involved. The BPL showcases bowls in a fast-paced, broadcast-friendly format that introduces our sport to new audiences - and Queensland was right at the pointy end.

Events like this reinforce the pathway that exists within our game - from club greens to the national spotlight.

One of the most encouraging pieces of news in recent months has been the uplift in entries for our Junior Championships. Growth at this level is critical. It tells us families see bowls as accessible, inclusive and offering genuine opportunity.

We will continue to invest in development pathways and create experiences that make young athletes want to stay in the sport. Our juniors are not just the future - they are very much part of the present.

Welcoming a Global Brand Puma. I'm pleased to officially acknowledge our new partnership with Puma. Aligning with a globally recognised sports brand sends a strong message about where Bowls Queensland is heading. This partnership will help modernise our image, provide quality apparel options, and strengthen our commercial platform moving forward. It's an exciting step in positioning bowls as a contemporary and aspirational sport. A huge thank you to Brendan Wilson for all his hard work in making this happen.

Another exciting event of the horizon is Bowls for Your Life - Connecting Community with the Bowls for Your Life (BFYL) program continues to gather momentum. Initiatives like this are critical in showing that bowls is more than competition - it's connection, wellbeing and belonging.

I encourage clubs to lean into these programs and use them as tools to strengthen membership and community engagement.

The TBSC finals are shaping up to be highly competitive, with clubs across the state vying for honours. The standard continues to rise, and the pride clubs take in representing their regions is fantastic to see.

Looking forward, I'm excited to share that we are planning a TBSC road trip concept for the 2026/27 season. The aim is to take the competition further across Queensland, increasing visibility, engaging regional communities and building a stronger statewide narrative around the series.

More details will follow, but the intent is clear - we want to take bowls to the people.

As I continue settling into the role, my commitment is to listen, learn and lead with clarity. Bowls Queensland has strong foundations. With our Strategic plan now set for a review, commercial growth, and a united approach across clubs and regions, I firmly believe the best years are ahead of us.

I look forward to meeting many more of you on the greens in the months to come.

Fletcher Dyson

CEO, Bowls Queensland

Proud Partners of Bowls Queensland



2026 STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS



ENTRIES CLOSE MARCH 9

DON'T MISS OUT, ENTER NOW!

The 2026 State Championships will commence on Monday 11 May and finish on Sunday 24 May. They will be played at clubs in the Gold Coast area with a finals venue to be announced soon.

Queensland's State Championships are open to all Bowls Queensland affiliated bowlers. These championships enable players to compete for state titles in Singles, Pairs, Over-60s Pairs, Mixed Pairs, Triples and Fours.

Schedule:

Mixed Pairs – May 11, 12 & 13

Men's Triples & Women's Triples – May 14 & 15

Men's Fours & Women's Fours – May 16, 17 & 18

Men's Pairs & Women's Pairs – May 19, 20 & 21

Men's Over 60 Pairs & Women's Over 60 Pairs – May 19, 20 & 21

Men's Singles & Women's Singles – May 22, 23 & 24

BACKING THE PEOPLE WHO KEEP QUEENSLAND CLUBS THRIVING



Why Asahi Created Club Connect

Queensland's clubs don't run on passion alone. Volunteers are the backbone of community sport, contributing millions of hours and an estimated \$4 billion to the Australian economy every year*. From setting up on game day, managing league compliance, MCing trivia nights, to stocking the bar, they do it all - for the love of the game and their community.

Developed for grassroots clubs, Club Connect is designed to make life easier for those running their club bar or canteen. Club Connect is an online beverages store exclusively for community sporting clubs (www.clubconnect.net.au) where you can purchase Asahi's wide portfolio of beers, RTDs, sports drinks, soft drinks, and bar snacks. That aims to solve two of the bigger issues for Community Clubs - time and fundraising.

"Clubs run on a different timetable to a standard hospitality business", noted Club Connect Business Manager, Rebecca May.

"Our customers often juggle their primary job, manage their families as well as other commitments. They don't have time to load up the boot every Friday in order to stock for weekend matches. And they certainly don't have time to wait all day for a delivery. We deliver in the time window that suits the volunteer, need it during Thursday night training? Choose our 4- 7pm delivery window. We even deliver on Saturdays for those who are only able to be at the club on weekends."

Club Connect aims to revolutionise how clubs purchase drinks. After registering, clubs can log-in to place orders online and then simply choose their preferred delivery day and time window, with free delivery always included, saving valuable volunteer time.

Additionally, Club Connect offers a game-changing system that rewards clubs with cash back on every purchase – including \$2 for a case of non-alc and \$4 per case of alcohol. An average order for a Victorian bowls club earns \$60 in credit, which can be used on a future order.

Ross Veitch knows what it takes to keep a club running. He has been running Templestowe Footballers Social Club

for 18 years now. “I have been with Club Connect since it started in 2021. Competitive pricing and delivery included within our nominated window! Club Connect saves me so much time and shoe leather hunting around for stock, managing retail sales limits, transporting everything back to the club rooms. This is a much more civilised way of keeping the punters happy and the bar stocked up.”

Kathie from Endeavor Hills Footy Club agrees – “The delivery driver is my new best mate” she said. He is so friendly and the rewards program is fantastic. We place an order once a week during the season and the partnership fund really adds up.”

Signing Up

Club Connect was made specifically for community clubs, to take the pressure off volunteers by addressing the specific challenges they face. It offers free delivery when you need it and exclusive rewards to support club fundraising. Proudly part of the Asahi Group, you know you’ll have access to a fantastic range.

If you have juggled a little too much last season, Club Connect might be the solution - and joining couldn’t be easier. No lock-in contracts, sign up fees, exclusivity or minimum spend. Once your membership has been approved, you have access to Club Connect’s wide range of beverages and shopping is as easy as logging in, adding what you need to the cart and choosing the delivery time that suits you.

Delivery

Club Connect delivers on-demand within a 3-hour window, Monday to Saturday.

Delivery Windows:

Monday to Friday

- Morning: 10am–1pm
- Afternoon: 1pm–4pm
- Evening: 4pm–7pm

Saturday

- Morning: 10am–1pm
- Afternoon: 1pm–4pm

Just place your order by 1pm, two days prior to your preferred delivery day and choose a time that suits your club – there is no minimum spend for delivery.

To celebrate their launch in Queensland, Club Connect are offering Bowls Queensland clubs, who sign-up with invite code **BOWLSQLD** five bonus cases of Great Northern Super Crisp Lager 375mL Cans (30 pack) with their first order (T&C’s apply**)

Club Connect is available to community clubs: an ABN is required to sign-up. Club Connect is currently accessible to clubs within 150km of Brisbane CBD. To sign up for Club Connect the account holder must be 18 years of age or older and ID is a requirement for every delivery. Alcohol can only be purchased by licensed venues, but a wide range of soft drinks, sports drinks, bar snacks; and coffee are available for purchase by all members.

Sign up today and claim your bonus cases, ends 31st ! Clubs can register at www.clubconnect.net.au

*Australian Sports Commission. (2022). Sport Volunteer Coalition Action Plan 2022–2026 (p.4). Commonwealth of Australia.

** End Date: 31st May 2026 while stocks last. while stocks last. Community Sporting Clubs and Community Social Clubs within QLD who are not already existing Club Connect members and have received an eDM invite with the invite code to redeem the offer. 1 reward/member. Reward only redeemable on your first purchase within 1 month of signing up. Drink responsibly. <https://drinkwise.org.au/>. T&Cs apply.



NEW FARM CELEBRATES STACEY WEBB'S OPEN B GRADE SINGLES TRIUMPH

There is plenty to celebrate at New Farm Bowls Club following Stacey Webb's impressive victory in the club's Open B Grade Singles Championship.

Established at its current Brunswick Street site in 1907, New Farm is the fifth oldest bowls club in Queensland. In 2025, the club marked another important milestone, hosting its B Grade Singles as an Open event for the first time in its history.

The move followed broader competition changes across Brisbane, with lower pennant divisions transitioning to Open formats in recent seasons. New Farm moved in step with that initiative, aligning its own Club Championships to reflect a more inclusive approach.

Stacey's win is a strong example of what that change represents. Having taken up bowls just three and a half years ago, Stacey's introduction to the sport was simple. After moving into a home directly behind the club, she was encouraged to join Wednesday social bowls. Within six months she was selected in her first pennants side and quickly found her passion.

"I was hooked from there," Stacey said. "I had never played any other sport before bowls."

Her rapid rise through the ranks highlights both her natural ability and the supportive environment at New Farm. Over the past five years, club member John Cameron has volunteered countless hours coaching new members, helping them transition confidently into social, pennant and intra club competition.



Above: The Webb family began their bowls journey as regular participants in once a month Turkey Triples Social Sundays at New Farm BC



Above: Stacey Webb & New Farm BC President Dean Merlo

The club's welcoming culture is evident in its growing numbers, with more than 50 bowlers regularly attending Wednesday and Saturday social competitions. Initiatives such as the monthly Turkey Triples, complete with breakfast rolls and a relaxed barefoot format, continue to introduce new faces to the game in a friendly setting.

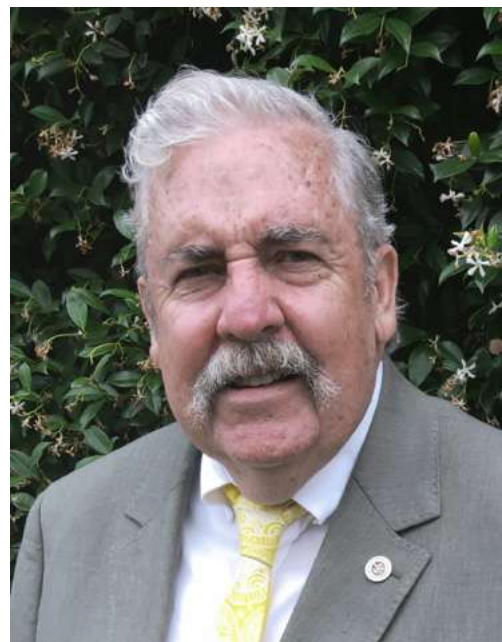
Stacey's Open B Grade Singles title is more than a personal achievement. It reflects a club committed to promoting women's participation, embracing diversity and ensuring bowls at New Farm continues to thrive for generations to come.

“SUPER COACH” DOHERTY ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT FROM COACHING

For health reasons, it is sad that Peter Doherty has decided to retire from bowls to dedicate more time to family, in particular his 5 grandchildren. Peter has battled with an incurable but hopefully manageable form of advanced cancer since 2013 and now has other health concerns overlaying this.

Many bowlers have had the distinct advantage of experiencing Peter’s unique style of coaching. He has the reputation of being an initiator, innovator and a trouble shooter. Giving generously of his time and knowledge with so many over the years. With his advanced knowledge of Human Movement and Bio-mechanics Peter has been able to help bowlers identify faults that may be holding them back and adapt their techniques, sometimes inventing whole new techniques, to become better players. This has helped many bowlers from beginners, school groups, club pennant players, through to national and international players. It has often been said that Peter is the coach that coaches when you don’t know you are being coached. His legacy will live on through those lucky enough to have benefitted from his guidance and coaching.

Many who knew him in the early days predicted a high-performance player of the future, but early in his bowls journey he took the path to help others enjoy this wonderful sport, instead of concentrating on his own development and gave up many opportunities, instead gave his time to developing others.



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YOUNG DRAGON SOARS TO CLUB MAJOR PAIRS TITLE SUCCESS

The Burleigh Dragons are celebrating a remarkable achievement from one of their brightest young talents, 11-year-old Steven Bird-Monk, who recently claimed the club's Major Championship Pairs title.

Steven first picked up a bowl on his 7th birthday, playing with a Size 1 Evolve bowl, and has shown remarkable growth and skill ever since. Partnering with Danyon Christie, the pair combined experience and youthful fearlessness to navigate a tough field and secure one of the club's most prestigious honours.

For a junior to win a Major Championship event is rare, for an 11-year-old, it's exceptional. Steven's excitement on the greens was electrifying, and it was clear to everyone watching that this is a player destined for big things.

Burleigh Heads Bowls Club Bowls Manager Dale Shillington said the achievement has provided a huge boost for the club and highlighted the strength of its emerging talent.

"Here at the Burleigh Dragons, we strive for success at every level. Seeing a young talent like Steven step onto the greens and dominate in key moments has given every one of us a real lift and push in the right direction," Shillington said.

"Steven's growth over the past 12 months has been nothing short of climbing Everest. A big congratulations also goes to Danyon Christie, who has been making waves at the club since moving from Wollongong less than two years ago.

"Achieving a Major Championship title alongside Steven shows his class, leadership, and belief in the next generation. What they've achieved together is something special and we believe this is just the beginning."

The victory now sees the duo progress to the Champion of Champions event, representing Burleigh against other club champions from across the district, a major step in Steven's rapidly developing bowls journey.

Christie said teaming up with Steven had been a refreshing experience and reminded him why he loves the sport.

"Playing with Stevie in the Club Pairs has reignited a passion for this sport I thought I'd lost years ago," Christie said.

"His infectious energy and pure love for the game are impossible not to be swept up in. It's an absolute honour to be part of the journey of this future superstar. Bring on the Champion of Champions!"

From April 12-18, Steven will compete at the Junior State Championships, testing himself against Queensland's best young bowlers. With his goal to play for the Queensland junior state team, this event is a crucial pathway opportunity and a perfect stepping stone.

Steven's success highlights his natural talent, work ethic, competitive mindset, and love for the game. His parents, Ali and Chris, are incredibly proud, and the Burleigh Dragons community is right behind him as he takes on the state's best.



Above: Winners - Steven Bird-Monk & Danyon Christie

Below: Club Pairs Finalists - Clinton Bailey & Scott DeJongh, Steven Bird-Monk & Danyon Christie





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THE GOLDEN WOLVES ARE TRUE HUNTERS

The Waves Bundaberg Wolves will head to the Taylor Bowls State Challenge (TBSC) Gold League “State Final 8” brimming with confidence after an outstanding inaugural season that has firmly established them as one of the competition’s most formidable teams.

Across the regular season the Wolves proved almost untouchable, dominating their section and finishing with an impressive 102 competition points while remaining undefeated. Their consistency across every round saw them emerge as one of the standout teams of the Gold League and positioned them as genuine contenders heading into the State Final 8, which will be held at Noosa Sports Club on 28–29 March 2026.

The strength of the Wolves lineup has been a major factor behind their success. The side boasts an impressive mix of representative experience and proven performers, led by 2024 Queensland Champion of Champions Singles winner and Queensland Senior representative Adele Pershouse. Alongside her is former Maltese international Connie-Leigh Rixon, adding valuable international experience to the squad.

Team captain Tim Smith, a Queensland 40–59 representative, has guided the side throughout the campaign, supported by a strong core including former Queensland Under 25 representative Paul Kajewski, 2025 Queensland Champion of Champions Mixed Pairs winner Ian McMaha, and long-time Bundaberg District representatives Brett Davis and Michael Tobin. Together, the group has combined skill, experience and strong team chemistry to drive the Wolves’ remarkable run through the competition.

For Club President Brian McMaha, seeing the team progress through the season undefeated has been a source of immense pride for the Bundaberg club.

“The club is incredibly proud of what this team has achieved,” McMaha said. “To go through the season undefeated and earn their place in the State Final 8 is a fantastic result for The Waves Bundaberg. The players have represented the club brilliantly and we’re all excited to see them take on the best teams in the state at Noosa.”

While the Wolves’ results have been impressive, captain Tim Smith believes the real strength of the side lies in its collective mindset and commitment to the team format.

“Every player has played their role this season and really bought into the format,” Smith said. “Even though it’s a rink orientated result each round rather than a masterboard format like pennants, everyone still made sure we presented as a united team on the green. That team-first attitude has been a big part of our success.”



With momentum firmly on their side and a squad packed with experience, the Waves Bundaberg Wolves will arrive at Noosa ready to test themselves against the state’s best. If their dominant season form continues, the Wolves could well be one of the teams to beat when the Gold League title is decided at the TBSC State Final 8 later this month.

Left: Gold Section 8 Winners celebrating their outstanding regular season.

RACE TO THE STATE FINAL 8 INTENSIFIES

With the inaugural Taylor Bowls State Challenge (TBSC) season rapidly approaching its climax, clubs across Queensland are entering a thrilling run toward The State Final 8, as teams battle for the remaining qualifying positions across the Diamond, Gold, Silver and Bronze leagues.

At the top level, the Diamond League is producing some of the most compelling storylines of the competition. In Section 1, the Pine Rivers Pirates have been the standout performers and have already secured their place at The State Final 8, with the minor premiership still within reach. Behind them, the race for the remaining spots remains wide open. The Windsor Wombats, Algester All Stars, and Maroochy Swans all currently sit inside the top four but are yet to secure qualification, with multiple games remaining that could still shift the ladder dramatically. Meanwhile, the Kawana Thunder remain within striking distance and will need at least two wins from their remaining four matches, alongside strong rink counts, to force their way into the finals picture.

Section 2 of the Diamond League has been headlined by the dominant form of the Musgrave Pelicans, who remain undefeated through six matches and have already locked away top position in the section, establishing themselves as one of the competition favourites heading toward The State Final 8. The Helensvale Hawks have also secured qualification, though final ladder positioning is still to be determined. The fight for the remaining spots remains intense, with the Broadbeach Bulls and Paradise Point Dolphins currently holding the final two places but facing pressure from the Burleigh Dragons and Carina Tigers, who could still surge into the top four if results fall their way.

Across the Gold League, several clubs have already stamped their authority on their respective sections.

Edge Hill secured the Cairns regional position early, while teams including the Mooloolaba Snapper, Pine Rivers Pirates, Bribie Island Breakers, Logan City Rollers, and Robina Eagles have all emerged as current section leaders. One of the standout performers has been The Waves Bundaberg, who have dominated their region with consistent high-level performances to comfortably claim their section title and position themselves as a strong contender for The State Final 8.

The Silver League remains one of the most tightly contested divisions in the competition, with several sections still undecided heading into the final rounds. Clubs such as Mooloolaba Snapper, Tewantin Noosa, Pelican Waters, Kawana Thunder Black, Aspley, Pine Rivers Pirates Blue, Chermside Lions, and Northern Suburbs Phoenix are among those locked in intense battles for top spot. Once section winners are confirmed, four playoff matches will determine the final teams advancing to The State Final 8.

Similarly, the Bronze League continues to showcase the depth of participation across the state, with many sections still wide open. Edge Hill has already qualified as the Cairns representative, while clubs including Narangba Green, Geebung Green, Macleay Island Seahorses, Chinchilla Cactoblasters, Musgrave Pelicans, Calliope Crocs Black, Yeppoon, and Cunnamulla Red have secured their sections. A series of six playoff matchups between section winners will ultimately determine the final teams progressing to The State Final 8.

With only a handful of rounds remaining in many sections, every rink and every point is becoming increasingly crucial. As clubs push toward qualification, the closing weeks of the TBSC season promise high-pressure matches, dramatic ladder movements, and plenty of excitement before Queensland's best teams converge at The State Final 8.

FINAL 8 – STATE FINALS

The Diamond League Final will be held at Club Pine Rivers, while Noosa Sports Club will host the Gold League Final. Logan City Recreational & Sporting Club has been selected for the Silver League Final, and Coolum Beach Bowls Club will stage the Bronze League Final. The TBSC Committee thanks all four venues for their support in hosting the finals and providing quality greens and welcoming environments for players and spectators as the competition reaches its exciting conclusion.



ALL STATE FINALS WILL BE LIVE STREAMED AND STREAMING INFORMATION WILL BE SHARED ON THE OFFICIAL TBSC FACEBOOK PAGE

PROUDLY SPONSORED BY



TAYLOR BOWLS STATE CHALLENGE GOES WEST

On the weekend of 21–22 February, two teams from Cunnamulla, along with sides from Charleville and Roma, contested their sectional rounds of the Taylor Bowls State Challenge.

Cunnamulla Red emerged as the winners of Section 19, finishing with an impressive 76 points from five wins.

Congratulations to all players involved, and a big thank you to Roma Bowls Club for hosting the event. Cunnamulla Red now progress to the State Finals and we wish them every success on the big stage.

The Taylor Bowls State Challenge has given these clubs the opportunity to compete in a statewide competition for the first time, and their enthusiasm was evident throughout the weekend. It was also pleasing to see strong female participation, with 12 women taking part in the event.

On another note, the Open Gender Pennant has provided Charleville with its first opportunity to compete in an inter-club competition since the days of the Collaroy Cup, last played around 1995. The Collaroy Cup was named after, and donated by, Collaroy Station in Charleville.

I often hear bowlers in the south-east corner bemoaning the fact that they don't want to travel more than an hour to play in competitions such as the Taylor Bowls State Challenge. By comparison, the Cunnamulla players undertook a ten-hour round trip just to participate in this event. In the far north of our vast state, players from Weipa must fly to Cairns to compete.

Perhaps next time we think about the distance we have to travel to enjoy our game, we might spare a thought for our country cousins.

Graham Lewis

Director of Finance, Bowls Queensland





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TEAMS ARE ALLOWED 30PTS

DIAMOND - 15PT | GOLD - 8PT | SILVER - 5PT | BRONZE - 2PT

6 GAMES - 13 ENDS | 4 GAMES SATURDAY & 2 GAMES SUNDAY

OPEN ONLY TO PLAYERS WHO COMPETED IN THE 2026 TBSC COMPETITION

1ST \$4,000 - 2ND \$2,000 - 3RD \$1,000

4TH \$760 - 5TH \$620 - 6TH \$620

DAY 1 WINNER \$500 / LAST ROUND WINNER \$500

CLUB
Kawana



SCAN TO ENTER

ENTER VIA BOWLSLINK



18TH & 19TH APRIL 2026 WOMEN'S FOURS

6 GAMES - 13 ENDS | 4 GAMES SATURDAY & 2 GAMES SUNDAY

OPEN ONLY TO MEMBERS OF CLUBS WHO
COMPETED IN THE 2026 TBSC COMPETITION

1ST \$4,000 - 2ND \$2,000 - 3RD \$1,000
4TH \$760 - 5TH \$620 - 6TH \$620
DAY 1 WINNER \$500 / LAST ROUND WINNER \$500

The waves
club caloundra



SCAN TO ENTER

HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY KEITH MOORE FROM ALL AT GAYTHORNE BOWLS CLUB

On Tuesday 17th February 2026 Keith Moore a 36-year member of the Gaythorne Bowls Club celebrated his 100th birthday. To mark this great milestone, his friends and fellow members put on a small party with a magnificent feed and a wonderful cake after social bowls on Wednesday 18th February 2026.

Keith still plays social bowls at Gaythorne on Friday afternoon and indoor bowls on Tuesday at the Gaythorne RSL. A retired printer Keith has been a resident of the local community for 70 plus years, and he is well known for his community spirit and his skill on the bowls green. Over the years Keith has passed on his vast knowledge and bowling skills to a great number of his fellow members at the club. He also served as Club President in 2000, was a ball room dancing teacher, softball coach and played tennis and squash. His story shows age is no barrier if you love a sport and being part of your community.



Above: Keith and his lovely wife Dawn



WEARING PINK FOR HANNAH: SIX YEARS OF REMEMBRANCE AT BRIBIE ISLAND BOWLS CLUB

For the past six years, Bribie Island Bowls Club has paused each February to remember Hannah Clarke and her three children, Aaliyah, Lianah and Trey, and to stand visibly against domestic and family violence.

What began as a single day of reflection has grown into an annual awareness initiative that now forms an important part of the Club's community calendar.

On 19 February 2020, Hannah and her children were murdered by her estranged partner after he stalked them, doused their car in petrol and set it alight. In the wake of this devastating loss, Hannah's parents Lloyd and Sue Clarke, established the Small Steps 4 Hannah Foundation and have campaigned tirelessly for coercive control to be recognised as a criminal offence in Queensland.

This month, the Club once again invited members, visitors and staff to wear pink to honour the memories of Hannah and her children.

But it is also a day of education and action. By wearing pink, the Club helps shine a light on Small Steps 4 Hannah and other organisations like them, which provide critical support to those affected by domestic violence and coercive control. Members have also bravely shared their own DV experiences which reinforces that this issue is still far too prevalent in our community.

Pink holds particular significance. In Hannah's relationship, she was not allowed to wear the colour pink. Which is why pink has become a powerful symbol of visibility and hope and is proudly displayed by the Small Steps 4 Hannah Foundation as a reminder of the importance of recognising early warning signs in coercive relationships.

Understanding these signs can save lives, whether by helping a potential victim seek support or preventing further harm from occurring. By standing together in pink, the Club hopes to send a clear message that domestic and family violence has no place in our community.

Those wishing to support the cause can donate to Small Steps 4 Hannah, helping to HALT (Hannah, Aaliyah, Lianah and Trey) the incidence and severity of domestic and family violence.



CHINCHILLA PRESIDENT'S DAY

Sunday 22 February saw the greens full for President Peter O'Dea's President's Day at the Chinchilla Bowls Club.

Players from the Tara, Durong, Wandoan, Dalby, Miles, Meandarra, North Dalby and Jandowae Bowls Clubs joined teams from the host club to create a memorable day on the greens.

Taking out first place was Chinchilla's team of Annette Coone, Caroline and Sam Roberts, Mick Gleeson and Davie Adamson. Second place went to Matt Prain's Tara team, while Greg Stanton's Dalby side finished third.

With members travelling significant distances to enjoy a day on the green, the Condamine District Bowls Association took the opportunity to make the most of having so many clubs represented by holding their quarterly delegates meeting during the lunch break. It proved to be a great initiative and also allowed members to observe the district committee at work.

Congratulations to everyone involved, with a special mention to Billy George. The Chinchilla Bowls Club is looking a picture, due in no small part to Billy's contribution.





Touchers

I hope that you are all enjoying the various Competitions that are being played every weekend and your Club and District Championships that are also being played during the week and at the weekends.

Also know that the Markers, Measurers and Umpires are having a very busy time officiating all games. It is also a time that many players are requesting information on various Laws of the Sport of Bowls and as I wrote an article and a paper sometime ago to assist the Officials answer the various Law questions, following is information to assist you find the specific Laws quickly and work through the situation with the player/s concerned.

I will set the information out in 2 Columns – March and April, as it covers many Laws and issues that will come up during your bowling games.

In preparation to umpire a game always have with you and be familiar with:

1. **The current Law Book.**
2. **Domestic Regulations.**
3. **Conditions of Play.**

You will need to know the order in which the situation has occurred and knowing where to find the relevant law/s will help you to give the correct ruling and the player will have confidence in your explanation.

There are various Structures and Indexes in the Law Book that you can refer to and which one you use is your personal choice, but you will find as you gain experience that a particular Index will suit you and that is the one you will use frequently.

The Laws deal with all facets of the game namely:

- (a) **The physical arrangements of the surface on which the game is played.**
- (b) **The equipment necessary for playing the game.**
- (c) **The conditions and format of the game.**
- (d) **The rules of the game.**

The following is all contained in the Laws of the Sport of Bowls Crystal Mark 4th Edition, May 2023.

At the beginning of the Law Book there is a Table of Contents which goes from pages 2 to 7. Then the following by:

Forward: Page 8 – this section covers the following:

Introduction: Page 8 – this needs to be read as no laws governing a sport can cope with every situation.

Conventions: Page 8 – the important part of the Conventions is the reference to the words **MUST** and **WILL** in which the action is compulsory. **CAN** the action is optional. **BETWEEN** when used to describe a range of weights or measurements within these laws mean that the smallest and largest numbers given are included within the range.

Definitions: Pages 8 – 14 – these are in alphabetical order within each Section

A - B - C - D

A - Control: Controlling Body – the body with immediate control over the Conditions of Play under which a game is played. The order is:

- A.1: World Bowls
- A.2: A National Bowling Authority
- A.3: Divisions within Member National Authorities
- A.4: The Club on who's green the game is being played.

B - Players: Page 9.

C - Play: Page 9 – 13.

D - Bowls: Page 13.

In closing the first issue of the Laws from the beginning of the Law Book to page 13 is covered and I will complete the remainder of the Law Book in the April Edition.

However, I do emphasize that it is important that you study the Law Book and understand its layout and structure. Take time to practice finding the relevant laws in a timely manner as a player will have confidence in your ability to answer the law correctly. Always take your Law Book with you if having to answer a question relating to a specific law or situation. Wishing you all the best when working through the Law Book and please do not hesitate to contact me if you need any more information and I look forward to you reading the April Edition for the continuation of Laws.

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