



HOTSHOT

BAIRNSDALE GOLF-BOWLS CLUB NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2019



Drawn Triples Events



The Drawn Triples events were completed this past month. Congratulations to Eric Yeates, David Formby and David de Moel on their win, along with Judi Hogan, Helen Everett and Lynn Werner in the ladies event.

Bairnsdale Golf v Lakes Entrance RSL Annual Challenge



Wow --how close was that? Mick Bratt and Merv Pratt from Lakes Entrance RSL with Margaret Timmins, Helen Everett and Paul Sampson couldn't believe that missed.



BOWLS PRESIDENT'S REPORT JANUARY 2019 - Steve Beggs

Another very busy month, the pennant season is almost over, many thanks to players and selectors.

Division 4 White are in there with a big chance to win a flag then to move up to Division 3, how good will that be? Go White's.

Division 1 and 2 Pennant semi and preliminary finals are at our Club, many thanks to members who chip in to ensure the days run smoothly.

Stella, Don and myself travelled to Maffra BC for a Bowls Vic meeting with North and East Gippsland divisions. A very informative well run day.

There is lots of support for Clubs if we look for it.

The BV website has mountains of info on different events and strategies to encourage new members and retain existing, also info on available sporting grants. These change all the time so we need to monitor the site as often as possible. New shades on north side of top green is required and 'Sun Smart' grants are regularly listed, but we need to monitor this, and we all can. If you spy a grant tell the committee about it and we will quickly move on it.

Good bowling,

Steve.

GREENS REPORT - Steve Beggs

We all can thank Club greens staff for the fantastic result on the renovation of the bottom green, it has never been this good in the seven years I have been at the Club, well done and thank you Craig, David and Brian.

Congratulations are in order for 40 years of service from David Wallace, a great dedication to the Club and his work, well done David we all salute you.

Thanks to Alan Werner who spent three hours weeding, cleaning and raking the ditches on both greens, a job

ear-marked for Sunday but that was too late and I was really concerned I would not get it done before the semi's. Thanks so much Alan. Also Bev arrived with a bucket of hot soapy water and washed all the sponsorship signs, also a job on my list, but no time. Thank you Bev for taking time from your busy writing career. Both these guys did this without being asked and I am so grateful. I certainly appreciate any member doing any job they see is required, you do not have to be asked.

I will be absent from Friday 8th March for a couple of weeks depending on recovery from a procedure. So all greens helpers please work together to roll, set up and mow the surrounds in my absence.

Cheers,

Beggs'y.



BOWLING GREENS Craig Rimington Course Superintendent.

Both greens are in fantastic condition and the bottom green is now ready for play. The recent renovation of the bottom green is showing a major improvement in the turf health/quality and we hope to have impacted the damage from the recurring root disease issues. Both greens will be treated with fungicide and a pre-emergent herbicide late Feb. early March.

ELLEN DAVIES

We were saddened to hear of the passing of Ellen at the age of 95 years. She was a Chairwoman of our Bowls Club from 1989-91 and Secretary for four years. Ellen also served the East Gippsland Association as Secretary from 1993-95. She was a very gentle lady and one of our best skippers at the time being especially encouraging to new players.

Every bowl, no matter how bad, was a 'good bowl'.

Ellen, along with her husband Ron, were very dedicated to our Club, running Sunday bowls for many years, along with Twilight bowls.

We extend our sympathy to Joan and Keith, and their families.



MANAGER'S REPORT - JANUARY 2019 - Jeff Graham



Following on from the positive feedback I received from last month's report, specifically the section on membership growth, it seems logical to include a monthly section on the specifics of managing a club. This month I'll focus on Membership models and charge rates.

Before we get to that, I just want to congratulate the Pro-am committee lead by Sue Wood on a fantastic event. Building on the years of success from previous committees, Sue performed admirably in her first year as chair and the event continued to grow and prosper. The 2019 event ticked some very important boxes.

A larger commitment from the Major Sponsor The Big Garage & Subaru

An increase in members/amateurs playing the event (up from 38 to 54)

An increase in professional entries. Over 80 PGA professionals entered even though the PGA limited spots to 65 (via ballot). We also had one of, if not the strongest quality fields of professionals I've ever seen for a Pro-am, some very good players needed invites to get a start!

A definite increase in spectators, not just from observations but from food and drink sales on course.

A winner in Marcus Fraser who pronounced that *"Bairnsdale Golf Club is not just one of the best courses in Victoria, but in his opinion Australia."*

Once again, congratulations to Sue and the team, Terry Hughes, David Pollard and Wayne Thomas.

A special mention also goes to the 30 plus volunteers who assisted throughout the event.

Membership models and charge rates (Member based Golf Clubs only):

The first and most crucial step is to identify what type of club you are, the most important thing for a committee is to pick a model and stick to it. Types of club membership models include:

Exclusive model: - This model is most prevalent in the inner suburban clubs and works on the simple principle that the more money members pay, the less access "non members" have to the club.

A good example would be the Melbourne Sand-belts clubs where you would pay a minimum of \$5,000 and in some cases over \$10,000 per (and that doesn't include joining fees).

Utilisation model: This model offsets membership fees by allowing green fee and social/corporate income to access the facility, this would be the most common model at clubs today but there is a problem with this model. Its becoming increasingly more difficult to run a Golf Club if the Golf Course is the only/prime form of income, even packing out the course with Green Fee players and members, its a tough slog. That's where the below model comes in.

Diverse model:

More and more clubs are looking at ways other than golf to offset the charge to members subscriptions rates. The best diverse model clubs do this by sourcing profits from ancillary activities such as catered functions (weddings etc.), additional sports (bowls etc), gaming machines, social events, raffles and fundraisers, bistros, on-site accommodation etc etc...The big benefit of a diverse model is that the revenue that is critical to run a club is 'diversified' so if one sector is struggling it won't bring the whole club to its knees.

Clubs get themselves into trouble when they want exclusive access levels for members (limited Green Fees) but only wish to pay utilisation level rates without a diverse source of revenue. Unfortunately this culture is endemic in Golf Clubs.

So where does Bairnsdale Golf and Bowls Club sit? At this stage I'd estimate we are somewhere between Utilisation and Diverse whilst moving closer to diverse, and that's a good thing. It's no accident that the committee and management are looking at as many additional revenue streams as possible, this will help keep subscription rates low, whilst providing members and guests with quality facilities.

I should point out though, we have no plans to add poker machines to the club. Our attempts have been social/bistro/events based along with increasing the total number of members (utilisation).

Jeff Graham General Manager Bairnsdale Golf Club

David Pollard
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BGC PRESIDENT'S REPORT - Stephen Mann



PRO-AM

Firstly, let me congratulate the Pro-Am Committee comprising Sue Wood (Chairperson), Jeff Graham, David Pollard, Wayne Thomas and Terry Hughes for their great work in making the 2019 Pro-Am such a great success.

Reports following the event have been excellent and I am sure all members will join me in congratulating them.

An event like this cannot succeed without the great work of our volunteers who worked tirelessly for the full week preceding the event, then turning up for a clean-up next day. Well done.

Very special thanks for Lyn Johnston and Marg Brooker and the team of ladies for their great work in providing food for everyone. You are a credit to our club and yourselves.

To Craig and the Wallace boys, a huge thank you for having the course in such terrific condition, especially considering the lack of rain we have had.

You received some great comments from the professionals on the state of the course.

Let us hope we are worthy of another Best Country Pro-Am award.

CORPORATE CUP 2019 - Friday 15th February 2019

Our Corporate Cup will be conducted on Friday 15th February and we encourage members who are not playing in the event to assist with tasks before and on the day.

Please contact Stephen Mann, David Pollard or Jeff Graham if you can assist.

Tasks will include:

Installing Sponsor banners on the course

Manning drink stations and Bar after golf

Manning BBQ / Food stations

Monitoring 'Nearest the Pin' attempts on some of the Par 3's, 9th Hole shootout etc.

Thanks for your ongoing support of these events.

NEW INITIATIVES

You will all have witnessed the great work of our Manager (Jeff Graham) in creating new fund raising initiatives such as Team Golf and Bistro Meals on a Friday night.

Jeff and his Social Team served over 90 meals on the Friday before the Pro-Am and there were rave reviews on the food quality and service.

Jeff has some great ideas for events going forward and I ask all members to get behind him and support every event you can.

I wish every member both golfers and bowlers best wishes for 2019 and I am very confident we can continue to grow our club to new levels during the year.

STEPHEN MANN (President)



The 200 Club

ARE YOU AWARE OF THE '200 CLUB'?

Get together and buy a disc in the '200 Club' and have the chance to win \$800, \$400 or \$200. \$10 per number. A team of four, \$2.50 each, and you're in with a chance! Support the Club and give it a go. See Dom.



Changed phone numbers.

Please note new numbers for Steve & Julie.

Landline: 51 56 6187

Mobile for Julie: 0490 482 645.



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LADIES' MATCH COMMITTEE REPORT - Wendy Haughton

Congratulations to Angela Boyd and Lui Mosele who competed in the Champion of Champion Singles. They played well but were unfortunately defeated on the day, it was great to see so many of our members there to cheer them on.

Judi Hogan competed at Sale on Sunday 10th Feb. in the Regional State Singles final, and finished runner-up to Jan Morton from North Gippsland.

Drawn Triples were played and won by:
Men...Eric Yeates, David Formby, David De Moel.
Women...Judi Hogan, Lynn Werner, Helen Everett.

Some dates to remember:

Mixed Pairs Championship Feb. 15th.

Handicap Pairs March 1st, entries close Feb. 27th

Monday Triples and Thursday 'skins' are in full swing come along and enjoy some Bowls. Unfortunately Twilight Bowls is not being run this year but will return 2020 with a new agenda.

Thank you to all our Volunteers who work so hard for this club.

Wendy.



MIDWEEK PENNANT - Helen Everett

A reminder to all players that there will be no Mid-week Pennant on Tuesday Feb. 19th due to Paynesville's Week of Bowls.

There are only two more rounds left to play before the Semi Finals for Divisions 2 & 3 on March 5th. At present Division 2 is 5th on the Ladder and Division 3 is first, therefore the final two games are very important.

The selectors thank all players for their dedication and effort each week and also the emergencies for attending the games. We have had to change some players around so that we could qualify others in case they are required for the finals, so thank you for your understanding.
Good bowling to all, **Helen**

On Sunday 10th Feb I went to Sale with Helen & Margaret to compete in the Gippsland Bowls Region State Event Finals which was held at the Sale Bowls Club.

As the EG Singles representative I was to play Jan Morton representing North Gippsland. Jan proved way too good for me on the day winning 25-12.

My reason for writing in the Hot Shot is to thank the wonderful members of our Club for the support they showed me by coming to Sale to cheer me on.

It was very noticeable, the number of people from Bairnsdale Golf Bowls Club, 12 in all, as well as Kate and Alan Carswell, who came to support me.

After presentation, Jan Morton commented on the wonderful support shown to me by our Club.

I thank you all very much for giving up your day, and was very proud to be a member of our Club.

With heartfelt thanks,

Judi Hogan.



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Bairnsdale Golf v Lakes Entrance RSL Annual Challenge



We were once again delighted to welcome the fantastic people from the Lakes Entrance RSL Bowls Club to our Annual Challenge day. A full green of players, a lovely lunch and great company. A big thank you to the ladies who provided lunch and afternoon tea. What more could we want? Maybe a win ..? No, that was not to be, the Lakes players were far too strong on the day. Congratulations to them, but as we keep saying, "there's always next year."



Joe Bugeja.



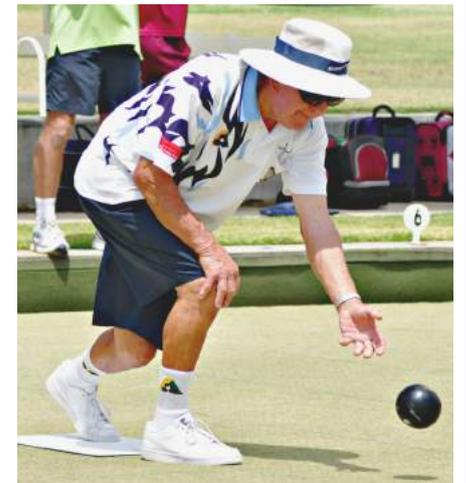
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Bairnsdale Golf v Lakes Entrance RSL Annual Challenge



David Dennison handing over the plaque (once again).



Terry Gill Qld. (Steve's cousin).



Julie Beggs.



Jenny Brown.



Peter North.



Frank Detering.



Geoff Rawlings.


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PENNANT SEASON NEARING THE END

The finals are nearly upon us. A big thank you to everyone who put in for their Club this Pennant season. You all did us proud and we can hope now for Division 3 to come through for a mid-week flag. We will all be supporting our side and looking forward to the excitement which comes with participating in finals. Go Bairnsdale Golf !!!!



Thank you skips, Jill and Shirley.



Good work Pat, you played well all season!

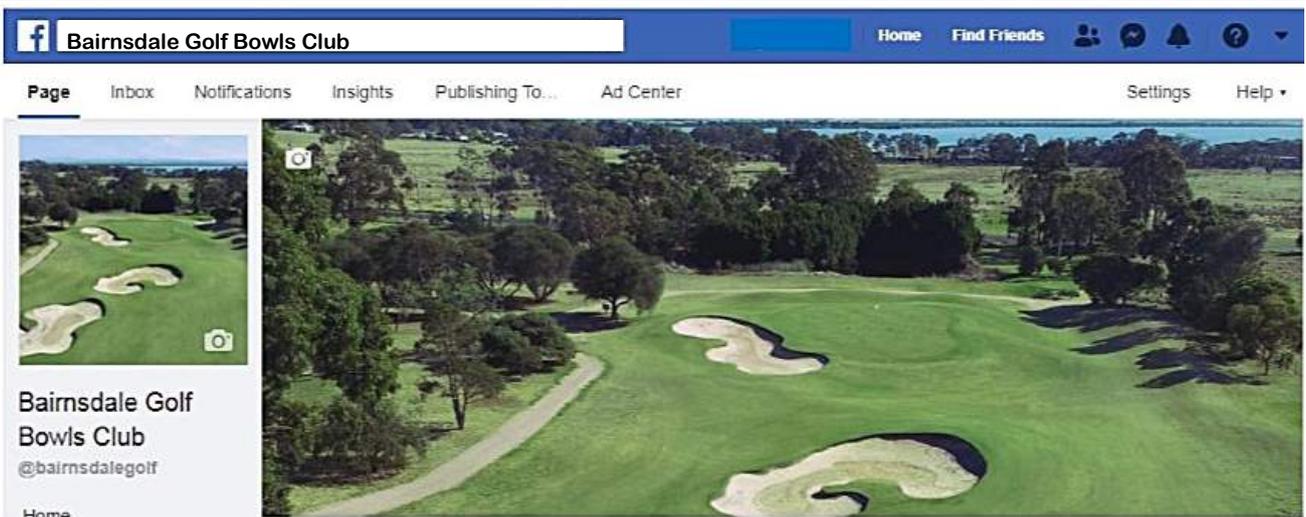


One, two, three ... go!



Can you find Wally? Get your glasses out, he's in this edition somewhere.

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Newsletter compiled by Bev Yeates.

Contact me at: eric.yeates@bigpond.com

