



# GETTING CLOSER

## Assistance to clubs during COVID-19 leading us back to being operational – letter from Bowls Victoria



As I write this message, there are noises being made towards an end to the current restrictions that see our clubs closed for business.

By no means will we be back to full operation, but there appears to be enough positive talk to lead us to think that an easing, to the point of allowing a return to play in a staged fashion is close.

The key now is to use the remaining time in isolation to allow your club to be in the best position when a return is possible.

The team at BV have been a part of many government working parties, with the latest information on assistance for clubs summarised below.

Your club, if on land owned by any form of government (Local, State, Crown, Railways, DSE, etc) should be having conversations with your Local Government around:

- Rent relief
- Utilities reimbursement
- Waiving licensing fees

If you're not sure how to do this, I urge you to work closely with your Regional Bowls Manager whose services are free of charge. They will have good contacts with your Local Government to assist with any queries with the above three points.

There is also a fund titled "Working for Victoria" which aims to utilise Victorian's who are out of work to assist our clubs to be ready to be back and operational – ie cleaning and sprucing up your club for when it opens again. The details are shown below:

### Working for Victoria

The \$500 million Working for Victoria initiative helps Victorians, including people who have lost their jobs due to the

economic impacts of coronavirus (COVID-19), find new work opportunities.

Some of these roles will provide vital contributions to our state's response to the pandemic. We want to support as many Victorians getting back into work as quickly as possible.

### What is Working for Victoria?

If you are a jobseeker in Victoria you are invited to register your details on the Working for Victoria site to access new work opportunities.

Eligible workers can apply their skills to new roles or take up training opportunities for specific roles. At the same time, organisations and employers looking for workers can find experienced and screened staff who are ready to work.

The Working for Victoria initiative is part of the Victorian Government's \$1.7 billion Economic Survival Package. It is designed to connect workers with new opportunities that will help our community and contribute to Victoria's ability to respond to the pandemic.

From all the team at BV, we urge you to make the most of the next few weeks before we are back on the green.

We need you all to come through this COVID-19 crisis and our clubs to return to being the strong backbone of our sport.

All the best and here's hoping for a speedy resumption to play.

Regards,  
Tony Sherwill  
Chief Executive  
Officer  
Bowls Victoria

***The succulents are growing . . . we need more pots. Please, if you have any spare, drop them into the clubhouse.***



# AROUND THE CLUB and there's still no one there (but that doesn't mean nothing is happening)

## AGM FORMS

Forms for appointing a proxy or applying for an Elected Position were included in the AGM information pack, but these are also available on the table outside the office at the club. If you can't make the AGM video meeting on 24 May 2020, please consider appointing a proxy so that your presence and vote are counted on the day. If you are eligible and do intend to join the video meeting, please let the Executive Officer know ([secretary@albertparkbowlsclub.com.au](mailto:secretary@albertparkbowlsclub.com.au)) so you can be sent your invitation. Those eligible are Life Members and Bowls Members who have paid their fees before the meeting.

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

Membership fees for the new year(to 31 March 2021) are now due. Payments may be made by electronic transfer to:

BSB: 063-100

Account No: 00800244

Please enter "MF" and your name in the description field.

## JOKE

I was lonely until I glued my coffee cup onto my car, and now everyone waves at me.

## MAINTENANCE

This is a shout out to our fabulous family members who do all that hard work in our kitchen. When you can all come back, you can now enjoy a new tap on the hot water system, no more dribbling and a good strong stream.



What  
Macca's  
bowl is  
doing in  
isolation  
– going  
for a walk  
around  
the lake,  
stopping  
at every post of course.



Spraying anti-fungicide on our Green which is a good reason not to lick your fingers when Bowling!

## VALE

It is with sadness that Sue Duncan and her family Ann-Maree, Andrew, Louise and Caroline would like to notify the Albert Park Bowls Club of the death of Geoff Duncan after a valiant and dignified struggle with Alzheimer's.

Over recent years a social bowl at the club with his friend Pat and others brought Geoff much pleasure. The family would like to thank all the members who showed Geoff friendship and camaraderie.

Kind regards,  
Sue and the Duncan Family

# What the Board discussed at its last meeting:

- Communication from Bowls Victoria:
  - green/carpet maintenance is 'essential' work
  - re COVID-19 impacts on bowls and clubs, the latest suggesting some lifting of restrictions might not be too far away.
  - BV staff reduced by 1/3
  - Scenario planning for full, partial and substantial reduction in season 20-21
  - Coaches & Umpires – 12 month extension on reaccreditations
  - Advising individual member's portal to go live in new year.
- Financial Reports for April discussed. An offer from deKrester Chartered Accountants to conduct our annual audit for no charge has been accepted.
- Midweek Pennant and Twilight League Summaries discussed. It was agreed that transitioning newer bowlers to competitive ranks is an important objective – to be addressed in new coaching solution.
- Training/Coaching: Search/discussions continue with potential coach(es). The aim is to create a quality coaching program that meets the needs of all members, both pennant and social, and at all stages of development. Ideally this will involve multiple sessions per week, starting in the lead up to the new pennant season.
- Annual General Meeting (24 May 2020)  
Position Applications received to date:
  - Simon Strickland – *President*
  - Graeme McDonald – *Vice President, Board Member*
  - Barry Toll – *Treasurer*
  - Wayne Gill – *Executive Officer*
  - Sue Gill – *Weekend Match Committee*
- Social events – continue with wine night and succulent sale events this coming year.
- Sponsorships to be a priority for the new Board.
- No functions at the moment.
- New Membership Applications approved
  - Luke Thornton (Social)
  - Mark Solonsch (Bowls – returning from St Kilda)
- Membership Renewals:  
104 renewed, 56 outstanding, 9 confirmed not returning (total = 169)
- Council re renovation – Everything on hold. Budget session put back to later this month. Cr Bond has confirmed we were in the original budget, but there is no guarantee this will still be the case in the revised version.
- Seniors Week – waiting on news from council on potential Seniors Week event.
- New facebook page launched.
- Green edges – rework complete – rolling well. Carpet to be sprayed for fungus this week.
- Scoreboards in hand – trials at mounting to shade shelters to be conducted shortly.
- Birko unit repaired – working well.

**While we have decided to postpone our Australia's Biggest Morning Tea fundraising event until we can all get together – we can still donate now via our webpage:**

<https://www.biggestmorningtea.com.au/fundraisers/APBC/AlbertParkBowlsClubsMorningTea>



Moderation is good . . . but boring