

BUNINYONG BOWLING CLUB Incorporated



New Members Information Booklet



2023-2024

BUNINYONG BOWLING CLUB Incorporated

INFORMATION FOR NEW BOWLERS

Address: 705 Inglis St, Buninyong. 3357
Phone: (03) 5341 3577
Email: buninbc@gmail.com
Website: www.buninyongbowlingclub.com.au
Governing state body: [Bowls Victoria](#)
Governing bowls region: [Ballarat Highlands Bowls Region](#)

On behalf of all members of the Buninyong Bowling Club, the Board would like to extend a warm welcome to you and hope that you have many happy years as an active member of our club.

As a new member you will be assigned a buddy/mentor, usually a Board member or senior member of the club. This is the person who you can call on for any assistance you might need until you become familiar with the club. They will also introduce you to other members and help you feel at home.

CLUB FACILITIES

Greens

The bowling greens are generally open from September to April. As a member you are entitled to use the greens for practice at any time other than:

- when official games such pennant games and tournament are being played
- before 11.00 am each day (to allow greens staff to prepare the surface)
- if the greens are closed by the Greens Director, greenkeeper, or other club official.

Practice

Official practice times are:

- Wednesday afternoon from 3.00 pm onwards (or earlier if you would like), and
- Friday afternoon from approx. 3.00 pm onwards (or earlier if you would like).

Bar and Clubhouse Facilities

The bar and clubhouse facilities are open to members and their guests during the bowls season on practice nights and also on Saturdays. The usual opening times are:

- Wednesdays from 4.00 pm to approx. 8.30 pm
- Fridays from 4.00 pm to approx. 8.30 pm
- Saturdays from 12.30 pm to approx. 8.30 pm (in pennant season)

Members playing away are encouraged to return to the Club after your game to enjoy the company of other members and reflect on the day's play – and hopefully to celebrate a win.

During the non-bowling season, the Club is open for members and their guests on Fridays from 4.00 pm to approx. 8.30 pm.

Please note: Bar closing times are dependent upon the number of members present.

Club Facilities for Hire

The Club facilities are available for hire to both members and the general public. It is a great facility for weddings, parties, funerals, wakes, meetings, etc. Members get a discounted rate. Go to the Club's website for more information (click [Club room hire](#) link)

Indoor Bowls

During the non-bowling season, Club members plays both men's and ladies' indoor bias bowls. If you are interested in learning about indoor bias bowls, ask your buddy/mentor or another club member.

GENERAL

Club Communication

Members will be kept informed of teams, results, upcoming events and achievements through the clubrooms noticeboards, regular emails from the Club's Secretary, Facebook posts and newsletters. All information is also available on the club's website at www.buninyongbowlingclub.com.au or by inquiring on the club email at buninbc@gmail.com.

Management

The club is administered by a Board of Management, which is elected annually at the club's Annual General Meeting, usually held in May.

Board:

President:	Graeme Nicholson	0419 303 141
Vice President:	John Beames	0417 958 884
Secretary:	Allan Donelly	0400 418 395
Treasurer:	Sue Simmonds	0418 427 366

Board Directors: Yvonne Clark, Chris Kruger, Barbara Voigt, Sandra Chapman, Narelle Smith, Jack Forsyth

Committees / Coordinators:

Governance & Finance:	Graeme Nicholson	0427 808 263
Bowling / Player Development:	Barbar Voigt	0407 048 159
Infrastructure:	Jack Forsyth	0448 509 974
Membership / Community Engagement:	Sandra Chapman	0427 808 263

Coordinator positions:

Bar / Trading Manager:	Tom Lempriere	0418 120 899
Catering Coordinator:	Marita Beames	0427 808 263
Clubroom Bookings:	Rod & Rhonda Woodrow	0409 179 303
Corporate Bowls:	Sue Simmonds & Yvonne Clark & Wayne Morgan	0418 427 366 0419 336 603 0419 595 610
Greens Director:	Graeme Nicholson	0476 673 868
Health & Safety Coordinator:	To be determined	0408 979 370
Membership Officer:	Allan Donelly	0400 418 395
Pennant Uniforms:	Wayne Morgan	0419 595 610
Publicity Officer:	Wayne Morgan	0419 595 610
Website Coordinator:	Allan Donelly	0400 418 395
Welfare Officer:	John Nunn/Leonie Donelly	0466 217 893 / 0409 433 529
Member Protection Information Officer (MPIO)	Julie Pobjoy	0437 765 398
MPIO backup	Sandra Chapman	0427 808 263

Saturday Pennant:

Selection Committee: Ian Voigt (Chair) 0419 505 816
Doug Worrall
Joan Worth
Yvonne Clark, Graeme (Bart) Simpson

Match Committee: Chris Kruger (Chair) 0408 979 370
John Beames
Ian McGregor
Norm Hand,
Doug Worrall 0439 326 730
(Tournament Director)

Tuesday Pennant:

Selection Committee: Terry McDonald (Chair) 0466 824 360
Yvonne Gamble
Jan Forsyth
Ian McGregor

Match Committee: Yvonne Clark
Lyn Treweek
Barbara Voigt
Marg Sultana
Sandra Chapman 0427 808 263
(Tournament Director)

Player Advocates: To be appointed

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Several categories of membership are available with varying fees for each category. The club offers the following membership types for 2022/23:

- Full adult membership - \$180 (allows you to play pennant competition)
- Dual and unaffiliated membership - \$90
- Student Membership - \$45
- Junior membership - \$45
- Social membership - \$40

Membership fees are set at the Annual General Meeting each year and are payable annually in advance of each season and may be paid directly to the Treasurer or by direct debit. If you are intending to play pennant, you must be a full financial member prior to playing your first pennant game.

COACHING

The club has a number of members who are qualified coaches. If you would like individual coaching contact one of the following coaches:

- Keith Chapman - 0477 457 658
- Barbara Voigt - 0407 048 159
- Yvonne Clark - 0419 336 603
- Wayne Morgan - 0419 595 610
- Allan Donnelly – 0440 418 395

Coaching sessions will focus on skills, strategies, and team roles, with practice activities to follow the teaching session. Times for group coaching sessions will be advertised.

UMPIRE / MARKERS

Umpires officiate at important games, rule on matters of law if the team skippers disagree, measure bowls when the Thirds call for a decision, and ensure that the laws of the game are observed by all players. Official umpires are members who have completed the umpires' course.

Markers are used in singles games to keep the score card, set the jack and indicate information pertaining to the head when asked by players.

Players may nominate via the club Secretary to complete the umpire and/or markers course.

TOURNAMENT EVENTS

The club conducts a number of tournament events throughout the season, and these are open to any bowlers who are affiliated with any bowling club in Australia. These events may include, but are not limited to:

- Open Triples tournament (1/2 day on Sunday 19th November 2023)
- Open Fours tournament (full day on Sunday 17th December 2023)
- Mixed Triples tournament (to be determined)
- Ladies Irish Fours (full day on Thursday 14th March 2024).

UNIFORM

Club uniform must be worn for all pennant games and also for Club championship finals. The club uniform consists of:

- Club shirt (available through the Club)
- Bottle green trousers or shorts
- White socks
- Bowls approved shoes
- Club jacket/vest (optional – available through the Club)
- Hat (with approved hatband – available through the Club) or cap (optional).

Approved bowls attire (with the Bowls Australia emblem) must be worn for all tournament events, but this does not necessarily have to be your Buninyong Bowling Club uniform. Many players wear different club or 'tournament' shirts and clothing.

All visible bowls attire **must** have the Bowls Australia emblem. It is also recommended that all players wear a name tag. These can be ordered through the club Secretary.

NB. All items listed above (other than those available from the Club) are available at the Ballarat Bowls Shop.

PENNANT COMPETITIONS

- The Buninyong Bowling Club competes in two pennant sections – Saturday pennant and Tuesday pennant, which are both open to male and female bowlers.
- Green Fees are payable for each pennant game you play and are paid on the day. This fee, like the annual membership fees, is set at the Annual General Meeting. Green fees are to be retained at \$10.00 for the 2023-24 season
- The Ruling Body may vary the conditions of play from year to year and these are advertised prior to the start of each season. These may include the number of ends played, the number of players in each team, the number of rinks in each division and starting times.
- Ballarat pennant season will consist of 18 home and away rounds and 3 finals rounds, with 10 teams in most divisions.

Saturday Pennant

Teams

- Saturday Pennant is played on Saturday afternoons:
 - Roll-Up: 1.00 pm (**please arrive 30 minutes before this**)
 - Start 1.15 pm
 - Break: 2.45 pm
 - Resume: 3.05 pm
 - Latest time to complete match: 6.30 pm
- In 2023-24, BBC has the following Saturday Pennant teams
 - Division 2 (4 rinks with 4 players in each rink)
 - Division 3 (4 rinks with 4 players in each rink)
 - Division 5 (4 rinks with 4 players in each rink)
- Each rink has a Lead, a Second, a Third and a Skipper.
- If there is an afternoon tea break, players playing at Home are asked to supply a plate of afternoon tea.

Selection

- All players are asked to read and ensure they understand the Club's Selection Policy. This policy is emailed to all members and is available on the Club's website at <https://buninyongbowlingclub.com.au/governance>
- The Saturday Pennant selection committee (5 members) meets on Wednesdays and the teams are posted on the club noticeboard that evening. Teams are also emailed to members, posted in Bowls Link, and put in the Ballarat Courier.
- If you are unavailable on a particular Saturday, please place your name under the appropriate date on the Unavailability Sheet on the club noticeboard. (*Please do this as soon as you know that you will be unavailable – no matter how many weeks in advance it might be*).

- If you have any queries/issues regarding your **own** selection, please book a time to meet with the selection committee as per the Selection Policy or see a Player Advocate. Individual selectors should never be approached re your selection inquiries without an appointment.
- Please remember that selection is a very difficult task and that our selectors are important volunteers who are trying to select the best teams for the overall success of our club.

It is not possible to please all players all the time and there will always be valid reasons for selections, so please make an effort to communicate with the selectors rather than criticising them.

Game day procedures

- If your team is playing Away, team members generally car-pool and travel together. Players meet at the clubrooms (meeting times are included with the team sheets) and leave from there.
- If you wish to travel directly to a game, please put your name on the Travel Direct list in the clubrooms, so that Team Managers will know who has already gone.
- Each team has a Team Manager, whose responsibility it is to make sure all players are present, organise what rinks each team plays on, toss to see which team bowls first (usually termed 'who gets the mat') and manage team sheets, green fee collection and results.
- Green fees are collected in each rink by the Second.

Game play

- Matches may be played over 21 ends. The conditions of play are advertised before the start of the season (these can be found on the [Ballarat Highland Bowls Region](#) website)
- Each bowler bowls two bowls (alternating with their opposition player), in order, that is, Lead, Second, Third, Skipper.
- Before the actual match starts, there is a two-end practice session, commonly called a 'roll-up'. This is conducted in the same order that the match will be played and allows bowlers to assess the speed of the green, the wind and any other conditions that may be relevant.
- The team whose turn it is to bowl first is said to 'have the mat'.
- If you are the Lead bowler in your team, it is your job to position the mat and roll the kitty down before you bowl your first bowl.
- When you are not actually bowling, it is recommended to move back and stand on the bank to watch, not remain on the green.
- Your Skipper will instruct you as to what he / she wants you to bowl (or at least try to bowl).
- After the first three bowlers have bowled both their bowls, players swap ends and the two Skippers bowl their two bowls.
- When the Skippers are bowling, only the 3rd players remain on the green at the head (where all the bowls are), and they will instruct the Skippers as to the current situation and what they want the Skippers to do.
- After all bowls have been bowled, the two 3rds will look at all the bowls (called the 'head') and agree on which bowls are closest, including measuring if needed, and then communicate the

score to the 2nds who keep the scorecard and also change the scoreboard (only 3rds measure – other bowlers are to remain off the green while measuring is being done). If the 3rds cannot agree, they will call for an umpire.

- Scores are kept according to which team's bowls are nearest to the kitty (also called the jack or cat). The team with the closest bowl to the kitty has the 'shot' bowl. One shot is awarded for every bowl that is closer to the kitty than the opposition's closest bowl.
- After the score has been called by the 3rds, players (with the exception of the lead from the side who has won the end) collect the bowls. In order to keep the game moving the lead from side who won the end should collect and place the mat in readiness for the next end to proceed when all bowls are behind the mat.
- At the end of the match, when all rinks have completed the required number of ends, the total 'shots up' are added up for both teams and the winning team is the team with the highest number of shots.
- Ten (10) points are awarded to the winning team and two (2) points for each rink won, so the maximum possible score is eighteen (18) points (in a 4-rink match).

Tuesday Pennant

Teams

Tuesday Pennant is played on Tuesdays at the following times:

- Roll-Up: 10.00 am (**please arrive 30 minutes before this**)
- Break: 11.45 am
- Resume: 12.05 pm
- Latest time to complete match: 4.00 pm

- In 2023-24, BBC has the following Tuesday Pennant teams
 - Division 1 (3 rinks with 4 players in each rink)
 - Division 2 (3 rinks with 4 players in each rink)
 - Division 4 (3 rinks with 4 players in each rink)
 - Division 5 (2 rinks with 4 players in each rink)
- Each rink has a Lead, a Second, a Third and a Skipper.
- BYO food and drinks for consumption during or after play.

Selection

- As above for Saturday Pennant.

Game day procedures

- As above for Saturday Pennant.

Game play

- As above for Saturday Pennant.

SAFETY

While lawn bowls is hardly regarded as a dangerous game, there is still the need to be careful around the greens.

Please be aware of the step down from the bank to the green as this drop can sometimes catch you unaware. Also on the bank are jack markers, number discs and rink boundary markers.

On the green, bowls are scattered around the head or the mat. A good idea to remember is to *never walk backwards* on the green. Not only might you trip over something, but you might also knock a bowl out of position.

ETIQUETTE

Bowls etiquette can be defined as the unwritten laws of sportsmanship, courtesy and respect that make the game more enjoyable to all who are taking part in the game including players and spectators. Friendly and sporting acts towards team-mates and opponents should be appreciated and reciprocated. We should all approach our bowls with enthusiasm, friendliness, and tolerance.

Please remember that our bowling greens are precious and at times delicate. The wearing of flat soled bowling shoes plays a big part in keeping our greens in good condition and are the only shoes that should be worn. Shoes with rippled soles or heels should never be worn on the greens.

Some examples of etiquette are:

- Never clap a bad bowl from your opponent or express delight that they have missed their shot.
- Always stand well back from the mat when your opponent is bowling.
- When changing ends, avoid straying onto the neighbouring rinks – walk within your own rink boundaries.
- The control of the mat lies with the bowler on the mat from the time of delivery until their bowl comes to rest.
- Remain aware of what is happening in the game and be ready for when it is your turn to bowl.
- It is the usual custom to offer your direct opponent a drink after the game.
- Always be punctual for a match.

Smoking – Smoking is only permitted in designated areas.

Alcohol – The consumption of alcohol is not permitted on the green.

VOLUNTEERING FOR YOUR CLUB

To enable the Club to function and to keep fees as affordable as possible, we rely on the generosity of our members to volunteer for at least one of the various volunteering opportunities available throughout the year. It could be helping at the bar or preparing food on Friday nights, attending working bees, assisting with catering efforts or other Club roles. Remember many hands make light work.

OTHER IMPORTANT CLUB POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Club has a number of important policies and procedures that all members are expected to adhere to. These are in place to protect the health, wellbeing, and safety of all members. All the following documents can be found on the Club's [governance webpage](#). We urge you to read these when you get a moment:

- BBC Incorporated Constitution (29th May 2023)
- BBC By-Laws (July 2023)

- BBC Bowling Club Strategic Plan 2020-23 (under review)
- BBC Selection Policy (2023-24)
- BBC Codes of Conduct (2021-22)
- BBC Member Protection Policy (2021-22)
- BBC Member Protection Procedures (2021-22)
- BBC New Members' Information Booklet (under review)
- BBC Alcohol Management Policy (8 February 2021)
- BBC Safe Transport Policy (8 February 2021)
- BBC Smoke Free Policy (8 February 2021)
- BBC Illegal Drugs Policy (8 February 2021)
- BBC Childsafe Code of Conduct (9 November 2020)
- BBC Childsafe Policy (9 November 2020)
- BBC Facility Hiring Policy (9 November 2020)
- BBC Licensed Premises - House Policy (9 November 2020)
- BBC Bowls Etiquette Policy (9 November 2020).

CONCLUSION

It is our wish that your time at Buninyong Bowling Club will be a very pleasant experience. If you have any concerns, please raise it with a Board member so that it can be addressed in a timely and appropriate manner.

Lawn bowls is one of those games where members can participate in a fun and friendly environment with like-minded folk.

Enjoy the game and the fellowship that the club can provide.

Welcome to Buninyong!

