

DONVALE BOWLS CLUB

Minutes of THE **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF 2023**

Held at in the Clubrooms on Wednesday 24 May 2023 at 07.00pm

CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

(1) Confirm the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 01 June 2022

(On website) Moved – F Smit Seconded -John Cobain Confirmed

(2) Presentations:

Keith Rochow trophy for Best Club Person: Jan and Mal Shield

10 Years of service awards: Ray Bridger, Robert Haschek, Maureen Jackson, Ron Jackson, Neville McKenzie, Pat Ryan, Graeme Shaw, Robyn Walsh.

(3) Consider and adopt the Committee of Management (INC) 's Report.

Moved – Michael Meehan Seconded – Jan Meehan Confirmed

(4) Consider and adopt the Treasurer's Report.

Ron Gibbs highlighted several areas of interest.

Ron further explained the circumstances behind not having an external audit of the AGM's financial statements. He asked the members to approve those statements.

Moved – Kim Hemburrow Seconded – Sheldon Lipschitz Confirmed

(5) Consider the annual reports of the Pennant Bowls and Championship Section and the Non-Pennant and Social Events Section.

Moved – Jeff Grant Seconded – Helen Milner Confirmed

(6) Election of office bearers for 2023/24 as follows:

Committee of Management (INC)

Group B positions – nominations received for **Treasurer** – Frank Smit, **Committee member** – David Blyth, and **Secretary** – Michael Meehan.

No nominations received for Vice-Chairman.

As there less nominations than positions, there was no need for elections and those candidates were elected.

Pennant Bowls and Championship Section:

Nominations received for **President** – Ken Eldridge, **Vice President** – Dale Farmer, **Secretary** – Jill Simpson, **Assistant Secretary** – Pat O’Meara, **Treasurer** – Keith Williams

There were no nominations for the two (2) positions of ordinary committee members.

As there less nominations than positions, there was no need for elections and those candidates were elected.

Pennant Selection Committee Members.

There are five (5) positions available, and the following nominations were received:

Peter Gillett, Ian Heap, Helen Milner, John Poulton, Robyn Walsh

As there were equal nominations for positions, there was no need for elections and those candidates were elected.

Championship Match Committee Members.

There are four (4) positions available, and the following nominations were received.

Elizabeth Bill, Ken Eldridge, Robyn Ham, Pat Ryan

As there were equal nominations for positions, there was no need for elections and those candidates were elected.

Non-Pennant Bowls and Social Events Committee

Nominations received for **President** – John Chandler, **Vice President** – Leanne Sullivan, **Secretary** – Virginia McGuinness, **Assistant Secretary** – Ray Heller, **Treasurer** – Kim Hemburrow, **Ordinary Committee members** – Kay Chandler, Ian Heap, Norma Juchno, Jan Shield, and Katie Taubert.

The ordinary committee members will be involved in a spread of sub-committee functions, including Catering, Social Events and Welfare. No need for an election.

(7) Election of auditor

Covered in Section 4 and in page 5 of Treasurers report.

(8) Fix Annual Subscriptions and Entrance Fees for the year 2023/24

ENTRANCE FEES - nil

MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION FEES

The Management Committee recommends the following fees for the 2023/24 membership year:

Full Membership: \$210

Non-Affiliated Social Bowls Membership: \$140

Junior Membership (under 21 years of age): nil

Associate Membership: \$40

Dual Registration Membership (secondary club): \$100

Note: Non-Affiliated Social Bowls Members shall have the same rights and privileges as Full Members, except for affiliation with Bowls Victoria (or any region of BV). They are not entitled to participate in Pennant, club championships, any event registered with Bowls Victoria, any club tournament requiring a club uniform, or at any organised event at other bowls clubs.

Ian Bramstedt provided further background on the establishment of the membership type of Non-Affiliated Social Bowls Membership.

(9) Special Resolutions for proposed changes to the Constitution.

(A) ADD NEW CLASS OF MEMBERSHIP FOR NON-AFFILIATED MEMBERS

The Management Committee recommends the introduction of a new class of membership for bowlers who do not need to be affiliated with Bowls Victoria. Currently our club pays large affiliation fees to Bowls Victoria and Yarra Region for all our playing members, even if they do not play Pennant or participate in any Bowls Victoria events or in any other event requiring an official bowls uniform (as determined by the Committee). Introducing a new class of membership for non-affiliated bowlers will provide greater choice and flexibility for all members, especially newer bowlers and those deciding to limit the number of events they participate in. The club will save in affiliation fees for members that only play in social games and would be able to pass on the savings via a discounted Social Bowlers (non-affiliated) membership. This type of membership is becoming more common at bowling clubs in Victoria. We would also be able to offer Life and Junior members, who decide not to play in Pennant, the choice to be non-affiliated. This would provide a saving to the club in affiliation fees.

Special Resolution:

Change the constitution as follows:

In rule 3. (3) (a) add a new rule as follows:

(ix) Non-Affiliated members of all classes of member (where applicable)

In rule 3. (3) add a new rule as follows:

(d) Non-affiliated members for each class of member shall have the same rights and privileges for that class of membership, except for affiliation with Bowls Victoria. Non-affiliated members are not entitled to participate in Pennant, or any event registered with Bowls Victoria, or in any other organised event as determined by the Committee from time to time.

Amend rule 3. (3) (e) as follows:

Any person who, in the Committee's opinion, has rendered exceptional service to the Club may, on the recommendation of not less than four-fifths of the Committee members, be elected a LIFE MEMBER on receiving the votes of at least three-quarters of the members present and entitled to vote at a General Meeting. A Life Member shall have all the rights and privileges of a Full Member, **or at their choice a Non-Affiliated Full Member**, including the right to vote and hold office and shall not be required to pay any annual subscriptions, but otherwise shall be subject to all other financial obligations.

Proposed – Gerhard Blum

Seconded - John Chandler

- Passed unanimously

(B) REMOVE CLAUSE ON LIQUOR PROVIDED TO JUNIORS

Our constitution was changed in 2022 to allow Junior membership for anyone under 21 years of age. However, we left in the constitution a clause stating that liquor will not be provided to Junior members. That clause was fully applicable when all Junior members were under the age of 18, but it is now not necessarily appropriate or necessary to have in the constitution. The club is obliged to abide by all Liquor Licence laws and regulations and follow all responsible serving of alcohol guidelines. The Management Committee therefore recommends the removal of the clause stating that liquor will not be provided to Junior members.

Special Resolution:

Change the constitution as follows:

Amend rule 3. (3) (m) as follows:

JUNIOR members shall not have the right to vote or hold office in the Club but shall be entitled to participate in such bowls activities on the greens as the Committee shall determine. ~~Liquor will not be provided to Junior members.~~ On attaining the age of 21 years, Junior members shall be eligible for another class of membership as provided in the Rules.

Proposed – Norma Juchno Seconded – Leanne Sullivan Passed unanimously.

(C) AMEND WHO FIXES ENTRANCE FEES AND ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

Our constitution states that entrance fees and annual subscriptions shall be fixed by the members at the Annual General Meeting. In practice the fees are set by the Management Committee and advised to members at the AGM. ~~The Management Committee recommends the constitution be changed to reflect what really happens.~~ This will also provide more certainty for the club's financial planning and timing flexibility in managing the invoicing process.

Special Resolution:

Change the constitution as follows:

Delete rule 8. (2) (f) as follows:

~~To fix entrance fees and annual subscriptions.~~

Amend rule 4. (1) as follows:

Entrance fees for all classes of members may be fixed by the Committee and advised to members at or before the Annual General Meeting.

Amend rule 4. (2) as follows:

The annual subscription is payable in advance on or before the 1st day of July in each year. There is no annual subscription for Life Members. The annual subscription for all other classes of members shall be fixed by the Committee and advised to members at or before the Annual General meeting. The Committee may fix a pro rata annual subscription for any person who becomes a member after the start of ~~the~~ any financial membership year.

There was several minutes of confused discussions on this matter, perhaps exacerbated by the Committee of Management's decision to withdraw its recommendation. The motion was eventually put to the vote with no negative votes recorded.

Proposed – Frank Smit Seconded – Norma Juchno Passed

(10) Items of General Business for which written notice has been received.

- NIL

(11) Questions from the floor?

The question of Acoustic treatment of the Al Fresco area was raised as a matter of urgency. Members were advised that Club had received a quote to install acoustic treatment of \$5300 and the Secretary had lodged a grant application with the Warrandyte Riverside Market for that amount. The meeting resolved that this improvement was an essential item and if grants were not available then the club should be incurring the necessary expense.

The issue of providing an extra toilet facility approximate to the Synthetic Green was raised. Ian Bramstedt explained that Manningham Council was not sympathetic to this proposal as they were currently proposing a replacement of the Grass Green with a Synthetic Green and that should reduce the usage of the Synthetic Green and lessen the need for extra toilet facilities.

The meeting was not prepared to accept this view and asked the Committee of Management to explore further options, to provide this facility.

Jeff Grant provided an update on the process to find a replacement coach for Scott Rees who is unfortunately leaving us to pursue his career in the Premier League with MCC Kew. An individual has been identified and consulted but has requested confidentiality. More information will be provided later.

The meeting closed at 08.05pm