



Weekly Bulletin

Peter Hanlon - Chief Executive

bowls victoria

Bulletin No. 40 Friday 20 May 2011

CHIEF EXECUTIVE NEWS – Peter Hanlon

Two major documents are accessible via links from this Bulletin. Please ensure that you download and copy them for discussion by your Board/relevant Committees.

1. BOWLS VICTORIA REGULATIONS

The Board of Bowls Victoria thanks all Region and Division Transition Committees and the Clubs which responded to the draft of the Bowls Victoria Regulations. The input was extremely valuable. The BV Regulations are intended to be a "living document" which can be amended quite readily by the Board in response to proposals as they arise. The Board will be pleased to receive constructive suggestions in relation to such amendments.

The key clause to be considered under the new [Regulations](#) available [here](#) are particularly:

1. Definition of "Bowler" in Definitions 2.2 (not previously included)
2. Definition of Nominated Club in Definitions 2.2 (changed to include pennant competitions)
3. Dual Member – in Definitions 2.2 and 17 Dual Members
4. Discipline of Affiliated Members by Clubs – allowing for appeal to Bowls Victoria (15.6)
5. Pennant Permits (18) – to enable Affiliated Members to play pennant at a Dual Member Club under defined conditions.
6. Committees-Region/Division (27.2) – these definitions are quite dynamic at present due to the work being done on the base terms as presented here. The Greens Committee Terms of Reference for Region/Division Greens Committees has been updated considerably since its early draft (thanks to work by John Drummond and his Committee). Other Committee Terms of Reference will be updated in the light of further contributions from State and Region/Division Committees.
7. Please note the detail on the role of VRAG Representatives at 27.11 and 27.12.

Please familiarize yourselves with the Regulations, especially as above.

2. METROPOLITAN PENNANT COMPETITIONS (only applicable to Metro Pennant)

(Regions and Division Representatives are meeting with BV next week to be advised on possible pennant competition structures for 2011-2012)

In the limited time available since the announcement of amendments to the new Equal Opportunity Act in Victoria (to come into effect on 1 August 2011), the competitions to be offered in 2011-2012 have been reviewed by the Board and management, discussed with and confirmed by the Metropolitan Pennant Committee. **The full Metropolitan Pennant Paper is available [here](#).**

Background in summary

General

1. Bowls Victoria is not required to conduct single gender pennant – the “strength, stamina and physique” criterion in the Act **still applies** (there have been some people quite vocal in their interpretation that the Equal Opportunity Act has been overturned completely – that is inaccurate);
2. Under the exception (rule 17(1B) of the Act) Bowls Victoria has the **ability** to make assessment in relation to the need to conduct single gender competition specifically to **“facilitate the participation in the activity” of one gender/sex**. It cannot simply conduct Men’s Pennant and Women’s Pennant.
3. Bowls Victoria recognises that **women are under-represented** (2:1) in our sport, and that a number of women will be retained in the sport/return to the sport and perhaps be recruited to the sport if they have access to **Women’s Pennant** in which **women only** can participate, or in which men’s participation is **restricted**;
4. Under the Act, and in the circumstances described in (3) above, BV can **exclude** or **restrict** the participation of men in competitions to facilitate the participation of women;
5. However, many clubs either **cannot** (due to numbers) or **will not** (due to being satisfied with mixed/open pennant) **enter sides of women only**; they need or want men as part of their sides.
6. Under the Act, BV must be mindful of the **consequences** any changes (under 3 - 5 above) introduced to pennant competitions have upon the excluded or restricted sex

(men) and whether there are other opportunities via which they (men) can participate in the activity;

7. Bowls Victoria does **not** regard that access to a **Saturday** pennant competition automatically provides the opportunity for men **to participate** in pennant should mid-week become women only; there are many men who **cannot** or **do not desire to** play on Saturday;
8. To offer **only** a women's only pennant competition as Tuesday Metropolitan Pennant would **not** satisfy the requirements of the Act – clause 17(1B) (b) ii-iii (as in point 6 above).

Tuesday Metropolitan Pennant

9. Therefore, Bowls Victoria Tuesday Metropolitan Pennant will invite entries from clubs into **two separate competitions**:
 - a. **“Women’s Pennant”** - Women only (Divisions W1, W2, etc), and
 - b. **“Mixed Pennant”** – open to teams selected on merit (Mx1, Mx2, etc.)

The **Entry Forms** will be made available shortly and due no later than **1 August** (a week prior to Saturday Pennant Entries) to enable the Metropolitan Pennant Committee to allocate Sides to Divisions in each competition. (It is impossible to predict how many Divisions of women-only will exist, nor how many Divisions of Mixed).

Saturday Metropolitan Pennant

10. There will be **no changes** to the structure of Saturday Metropolitan Pennant, except:
11. Bowls Victoria also acknowledges that many men and women bowlers may well prefer to play pennant on Saturday in smaller-sided competitions (8-a-side) as women-only or as mixed. Therefore, **Division 9 (Mixed)** and **Division 10 (Women only)** will be offered, following the previous model of “Saturday A” and Saturday B”, but with **seasons** the same **length** as for Saturday Premier – Division 8.

3. PENNANT CONDUCTED BY REGIONS OR DIVISIONS

Bowls Victoria is meeting on **Wednesday 25 May** at **Bowlers House** commencing at **10.30 am** with **one man & one woman** from **each** of the **Regions and Divisions** responsible for conduct **their own BV Pennant Competitions**, at which to explain/discuss new opportunities.

This appeared in last week's Bulletin – please follow up to ensure representatives attend.

ATTENTION: Secretaries of Bowls Regions and Divisions re Pennant Competitions
YOU MUST CONTACT BOWLS VICTORIA WITH NOMINEES BY MON 23 MAY 2011
Send to **Karen Gilmartin** (kareng@bowlsvic.org.au) the **contact names and emails**
Pennant Planning Meeting on Wed 25 May - 10.30 am .

REGION & DIVISION CONSTITUTIONS AND C.A.V.

To Transition Committees/Interim Boards of Regions/Divisions

This week has seen a number of Constitutions submitted by Regions and Divisions “hit a hurdle” at Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV), especially in relation to **rule 10**. The Lander & Rogers template wording for **rule 10** states that in Regions or Divisions: “The Board has no power to discipline Members..” and makes reference in the final paragraph of **rule 10** that “Bowls Victoria has the power to discipline Members ..”. **This MATTER IS STILL BEING RESOLVED.**

BOWLS OPERATIONS NEWS – Graeme Bridge

Bowls Victoria Men's Australian Indoor Qualifying

The draw for this event will be uploaded to the Bowls Victoria website next week.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT – AFFILIATION PAYMENTS 2011-2012

By May 27th all Clubs should have received Tax Invoices for instalment amount of approx 75% of the 2010-2011 membership to be issued, being emailed to CCOs. Invoices payable by 30th June.

In late June, the Forms for submitting New Members will be made available on the website.

On Monday 16th August, a mail-out to CCOs of Club lists, attaching Club Summary Forms and Instructions will be available; to be returned by Clubs by 30th September along with the balance of payment.

GAME DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Game Development – Kate McLauchlan



[Boroondara Community Development Grants](#)

Council's Annual Community Grants Program is now open for 2011.

The Boroondara Council in partnership with the Rotary Club of Balwyn offers annual grants providing funding to community organisations, clubs and groups for one-off projects and equipment purchases that support community-building initiatives and improve the quality of life of Boroondara residents.

This is a great opportunity for bowls clubs to secure some additional funds, so don't miss the closing date!

There are three funding streams:

- Community Projects Grant - up to \$10,000
- Minor Equipment Grant - up to \$3,000
- New and Emerging Community Organisations Grant - up to \$3,000

Applications need to be submitted by **Monday 6 June @ 5pm.**

For more information, guidelines and application: [Community Development Grants](#)



2011 Victorian Seniors Festival

Thank you to all clubs that have registered to host an event as part of the 2011 Victorian Seniors Festival. Can you please make sure you contact Kate McLauchlan – katemc@bowlsvic.org.au with your clubs events details by the end of June. Clubs that fail to contact Kate, will not be eligible to have their event details listed in the 2011 Victorian Seniors Festival event guide.

Any comments/questions: please email to Peter Hanlon c/o kareng@bowlsvic.org.au

For further information on Bowls Victoria, please regularly go to www.bowlvic.org.au