

Weekly Bulletin

Peter Hanlon - Chief Executive

bowls victoria

Bulletin No. 45 Friday 1 July 2011

CHIEF EXECUTIVE NEWS – Peter Hanlon



Bowls Victoria receives VicHealth funding to welcome more women and girls



Bowls Victoria is very proud to announce that we are one of 30 VicHealth *State Sporting Association Participation Program* grant recipients in Victoria.

Bowls Victoria will be implementing state-wide initiatives designed to bring about sustainable organizational and cultural change, with the aim of making the sport more attractive to **women and girls** and **boost community participation in bowls over the next three years.**

Women in Victoria have been actively participating in bowls for over 100 years and Bowls Victoria acknowledges the significant contribution they've played in making our game great. The VicHealth grant will be instrumental in ensuring that women and girls are given every opportunity to participate on and off the green and play a key role in developing our sport moving forward.

VicHealth's Acting CEO Associate Professor John Fitzgerald said State Sporting Associations play an essential role in encouraging people to get active for general good health and chronic illness prevention.

"With obesity and Type 2 diabetes on the rise, it's very concerning that two-thirds of Australians don't get enough physical activity. That's why State Sporting Associations do the community an invaluable service by promoting an active lifestyle, not to mention the mental health benefits their members get from fun and friendship. We are thrilled Bowls Victoria has taken the initiative to build on this great work by inviting more girls and women to get involved.

"Bowls Victoria is leading by example with their commitment to become more inclusive of the whole community and committing to being a safe, accessible, inclusive and equitable place".

Research shows women are less inclined to participate in sports than men. In fact, 24 per cent of women are involved in organized sport compared to 28 per cent of men. The rate of participation drops off steadily as women get older.

Numerous studies show the factors responsible for the lower participation rate of women and girls in sport and physical activity include, but are not limited to, harassment, cultural and social pressures, social stereotyping, and lack of access to adequate and suitable facilities and fewer opportunities available for participation.

There is more work to be done to ensure all sporting codes actively recruit women in leadership and decision making positions, design multipurpose facilities that cater for women and most importantly, create an environment which is safe, accessible, inclusive and equitable. Fourteen other State Sporting Associations in Victoria have also committed to make this happen.

For more information on making sports safer, accessible, inclusive and equitable, visit <http://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/Programs-and-Projects/Physical-Activity.aspx>

BOWLS OPERATIONS NEWS

Graeme Bridge – Bowls Operations Manager

Clearance Forms and Affiliation Forms

Clearance & Affiliation forms for season 2011/2012 have been added to the Bowls Victoria Website, and are now available to be downloaded for Club and Personal use.

As of 1 July, the newly created **BV4 form (Combination of the old BV4 & BV5 forms and replacement for the pink Membership & Change of Advice Form)** will replace the 2010/2011 forms. To enable all clearance application forms to be processed **after July 1 2011**, they must be accompanied by a **BV4 form 2011-2012** to authenticate affiliation to Bowls Victoria.

Clearances submitted on old forms (2010/2011 Clearance or BV4 & BV5 or Pink Membership & Change of Advice Form) will be processed up to and including the 1st August 2011. After this date, their processing will be delayed until they are re-submitted on the proper forms.

Club CCO's will be notified if incomplete **Clearance Forms** have been submitted and what is required to finalise the process.

A new document titled **Members Change of Details Form** will be added to the website soon, and it will be directly accessible to affiliated members, providing them with an opportunity to update their personal contact details direct to Bowls Victoria.

The **Bowls Victoria Pennant Permit Form** is awaiting final approval and will become available shortly.

GAME DEVELOPMENT NEWS
Game Development – Kate McLauchlan



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT – Working With Children Check Renewals

Please be advised all volunteers who were issued with a **Working with Children Check** card in **2006**, that your cards are now due to be renewed. We would strongly encourage all individuals who wish to continue with their 'child related work' to lodge their **renewal application** prior to their card expiring. Expiry dates are clearly marked on the front and back of the WWC Check cards.

Volunteers have a legal obligation to renew their Check if they wish to continue doing 'child related work' after their card expires. The penalties for individuals failing to meet these obligations could be fined up to \$29,000 or 2 years imprisonment or both. All cardholders **should receive a renewal application** in the mail from the Department of Justice **8 weeks prior** to the expiry of their card. Once received, simply take your current card and renewal form to an Australian Post outlet for lodgement.

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.bowlsvic.org.au