

# SCHEDULE 1 – IMPROVING THE STANDARD OF BOWLS

Updated to 15 April 2022

## PREAMBLE

5 Over several months the Men’s committee has been considering how to improve the standard of bowls at the club with a view to the club regaining its 1<sup>st</sup> Division status and reinstating its position as a competitive force in the district. The pursuit of this goal is not only for the benefit of those bowlers who aspire to play in the top divisions.

10 This club is at a turning point and decisions need to be made on whether the club is to be a social club at which bowls is played or whether it is to return to being a Bowls club which enters competitive teams in high level competitions as well as conducting successful social and competitive games for all its members.

15 The club needs to re-establish itself as a competitive club to remain sustainable. Members who wish to play social bowls can and should be catered for in both models. However, if we fail to take action, we will not attract any younger, competitive bowlers and those members who wish to play competitive bowls at a higher level will drift away.

20 Our facilities are such that we will continue to be able to attract as new members, retirees who are taking up bowls at an advanced age. Typically, this demographic will play their bowls, engage socially but not spend much money at the club. The club’s financial sustainability and its ability to fill management positions with suitably qualified people will be threatened in the longer term as the membership ages. Our average Men’s Division membership age in October 2021 was 69.5.

## POLICY

25 The Men’s committee has considered a number of submissions and has agreed on the following course of action. Some of the steps to be taken are matters for the Men’s Division. Some will require the board to agree and/ or provide support.

## SELECTION

1. We must ensure players advise and commit to availability for each competition in good time. Players are to complete player profiles and hand them in. Profiles are to be collated (in a spreadsheet) and to be available to selectors. Profiles will include the following data:

Player name	A. Sample
Mobile	XXXX 123 456
Email	Sample.A@gmail.com
Commitment to be available	e.g Full or not available round 2 and/or Possibly unavailable round 4 will know 2 weeks beforehand

## 30 PROPOSED IMPLEMENTATION

Selectors will implement this policy from the commencement of Pennants 2022.

2. Players who do not submit player profiles should be invited to join the reserves list on the basis they do not commit to being available but may be available to fill in if asked. A pool of

35 reserves can prove to be a valuable resource for selectors not only to make up numbers but also to fill a spot without disrupting other teams or rinks.

### HIGH LEVEL COACH SEMINAR

3. The Men's committee will ask the Board to partly fund the invitation of a high-level coach to come in to help coaches develop a program and to conduct a training day which players would pay to attend.

40 **IMPLEMENTATION will require enquiries to be made about cost for a suitable coach and availability and some clarity about what exactly is to be delivered. Consideration of the amount to be paid by players to attend would also be needed. Then an approach to the board WITH A DETAILED PROPOSAL for funding will be required.**

### PRIZE MONEY FOR CLUB COMPETITIONS

- 45 4. The Club will provide substantial prize money for winners/ runners-up in club championship events to encourage more members to take part. Suggested amounts as follows

EVENT	WINNER Per Player PROPOSED - \$	RUNNER UP Per Player PROPOSED - \$
"A" Singles	200	100
"A" Pairs	100	50
Club Fours	50	25
Club Triples	50	25
"B" Singles	100	50
"B" Pairs	50	25
Novice Singles	40	20
Veteran Singles	40	20
Mixed Pairs	40	20
Sub-total	1110	655
TOTAL		1765

### IMPLEMENTATION

50 **This initiative is designed to attract more entrants to club championships. A submission has been made to the board for funding for the 2023 year.**

### COACHING AND PRACTICE

- 55 5. The Men's committee will appoint person to organise and co-ordinate programs for coaching and training players including working closely with selectors in the preparation for competitions (pennants etc) and training during competition seasons. This will usually be the Chairman of selectors or the director of coaching.
- 60 6. Well before the commencement of each competition season, we should hold a meeting of players to arrange suitable times for practice sessions and to get the commitment of players to attend practice. This commitment should be expected from players who wish to play in the higher divisions.

**IMPLEMENTATION This meeting will be convened by the Chairman of selectors .**

- 65 7. The Men's Committee will establish a structured regular practice session to commence before pennants /other competitions. Attendance at regular practice will be highly recommended for players who wish to play in the higher divisions. The practice requirement should be flexible enough to enable players to complete their practice obligations even if they are unable to attend the main practice session. e.g. buddies to complete and record drills together.
- 70 8. Selectors and coaches are to attend to organize and/ or take part in practice sessions. Coaches to attend to set up and supervise drills and coach players.
9. Ideally, practice sessions should be held weekly for at least one month before competitions start and should continue at regular intervals (not necessarily weekly) throughout the competition season. To add to the enjoyment and create internal competition, practice is completed with short selected games for players who wish to take part.

#### RECRUITING

- 75 10. The Club should pursue a recruiting program to try to get a group of younger (40-50) men who like competitive sport (ex-cricketers or footballers) to join the club. Invite sporting clubs to take part in a corporate bowls style event or to hold their end of season "bash" incorporating bowls, at the club. Members with contacts in those clubs should be encouraged to assist.

#### 80 IMPLEMENTATION

Approach local sports clubs to hold social events (Christmas, end of season?) (at modest cost) at the club centred around barefoot bowls and engage with those taking part with a view to recruiting them to the game.

- 85 Reach out to current members who have contacts in local clubs or organizations who may hold potential recruits.