



# GOULBURN VALLEY BOWLS DIVISION

## BULLETIN

GVBD Chairman (James McLeod) and the Executive Board Members welcome all to the new 2020/2021 Season of bowling and we trust that a very enjoyable and successful season will be experienced by all.

As everyone is aware the season is not commencing in a positive way due to the COVID-19 Virus and the relevant restriction Stages imposed upon us.

We ask Member Clubs and their Bowlers to understand the huge difficulties being experienced by us all but working together we will be able to come out of this Pandemic in a positive way.

The Board is taking this opportunity due to being unable to meet in person to forward this Broadcast updating everyone in what has been happening in the bowling world of the Goulburn Valley Bowls over the past few months.

**Noting:** The Goulburn Valley Bowls Division 2020/21 Season will not experience any changes to the format **BUT** at the beginning of July 2021 the proposed Bowls Victoria Boundary Reviews and Dissolution of Divisions will come into play.

The effect on GVBD Member Clubs will be the bowling administration will be run by a Nine Member Regional Board covering the Region from Jerilderie to Eildon.

### INTERIM

#### **GOULBURN VALLEY BOWLS DIVISION – Board & Various Committees** **2020/21 Season Representatives.**

The Board has worked extremely hard to ensure all interim positions were filled for the coming 2020/21 Bowling Season so planning and preparations could be undertaken. We thank the Directors of the various Portfolios for the huge amount of work undertaken with their Various Committees to ensure the 2020/21 Bowling Season is off to a great start (But due to COVID-19 we do not know when that will occur).

We trust Member Clubs will endorse the actions taken.

#### **GVBD Executive Board: -**

- Chairman - James McLeod.
- Deputy Chairperson & Portfolio: Midweek Match – Jean Sprague.
- Portfolio: Welfare, Promotions & Sponsorship – Grace Kenworthy.
- Portfolio: Weekend Match – Rob Sceney.

- Portfolio: Coaching, Law & Umpires – Gordon Nash.
- Portfolio: Junior Development and Web Co-ordination – Bill Chilcott.
- Portfolio: Greens – Peter Naughton.
- Finance: Treasurer – Peter Naughton.
- Administration – Secretary - Joy O'Donnell.

### **2020/2021 Committees:**

#### ***Match & Pennant Committees:***

**Weekend (Saturday) -** Rob Sceney (Chairman): Stuart Florence: John Stokes  
Kevin Cox & Paul Beecroft

Portfolio Director – **Rob Sceney**.

**Midweek** - Lyn Nicholson (Chairperson): Grace Kenworthy: Di Hands: Sue Moreton &  
Marilyn Cox.

Portfolio Director – **Jean Sprague**.

#### **Coaching Committee:**

Portfolio Director – **Gordon Nash**.

**Greens Committee:** Rob Sceney: Jason Carter & Mal Williams.

Portfolio Director – **Peter Naughton**.

**Umpires Committee:** Doug Maconachie (Chairman): Leanne Russell-Jones:  
Maureen Shepherd: Rob Brent & Glenn Lockwood.

Portfolio Director – **Gordon Nash**.

#### **Selection Committees:**

**Men's Team:** - John Stokes: Daniel Nichols: & Peter Naughton

**Women's Team:** - Jean Sprague: Di Hands & Jo Crowe.

**Welfare Officer** – Grace Kenworthy.

**Publicity Officers** – Weekend - Daniel Nichols and Midweek – Naomi Cartwright.

**Web Master** – Bill Chilcott.

**(GVBD) Auditor** – Bruce Doherty.

### **Central Goulburn Murray REGION (CGM) Representatives:**

**Board (Representing the GVBD)** – James McLeod: Peter Naughton.

**Delegates (Representing the GVBD)** – Grace Kenworthy & Gordon Nash.

**Selection (Representing the GVBD)** – Jean Sprague & John Stokes.

## **Katandra West: Seymour & Seymour VRI Clubs:**

The GVBD again welcome the above Clubs participating in both the Midweek and Weekend Pennant programs for 2020/2021 Season and trust all will have an enjoyable and successful bowling season.

## **VIC OPEN:**

**2020/21 Season Victorian Open has been CANCELLED**

## **Important Information:**

### **STATE EVENTS:**

- All 2020/21 Season State Events details will be listed in the new Season Handbook and on the GVBD Events Calendar forwarded separately to Clubs.
- The **FEE will be \$10-00 per entry** plus \$6-00 Green Fee payable to the host Club.
- **Noting** – Bowlers pay their entry fee to their respective Clubs.
- GVBD will forward a detailed invoice to Clubs following the completion of all State Events held for 2020/2021 Season.

With the Victorian Open being called off by Bowls Victoria, this could be an indicator of Bowl Victoria thinking about the Pennant Season and State Events. With last Season's State Finals still not played, this season's State Events would have to be in doubt. There could be a possibility of playing the GVBD games of these events later in the season. Again, the number of players allowed on a rink and a green would be a major part of the equation.

## **GVBD Pennant Guidelines and Rules for Competition -Season 2020/2021:**

GVBD Director – Coaching, Law & Umpires (Gordon Nash) and Umpires Chairman (Doug Maconachie) have been very busy undertaking a review of GVBD Pennant Guidelines and Rules for Competition for both Midweek and Weekend Pennant for the 2020/2021 Season, plus updating the role of Managers. Bowlers are asked to please update their information for both Pennant and Competition from the Handbook. Noting a lot of time has been spent in preparation of the details provided to assist all.

***Both these documents are currently on the GVBD Website under the Documents Tab.***

## **PENNANT:**

**There are **NO Midweek Restrictions** for the 2020/21 Pennant Season.**

## **All GVBD Midweek & Weekend Pennant Draws are located on the GVBD Website.**

For the information of Clubs, the Pennant Season at this stage is still on commencing as follows - Midweek – Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2020, and Weekend Pennant – Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2020.

At this point there is no direction from Bowls Victoria (or the Government) suggesting otherwise.

The GVBD decision on the Pennant Season will depend if the restrictions are lifted by a date that gives the GVBD latitude to run Midweek and Weekend Pennant.

Some interesting aspects concerning Pennant this season will be: -

- The number of Players allowed on a rink and a green at the one time.
- Players travelling in cars together and keeping social distancing.
- Breaks, afternoon teas for Weekend Pennant and lunches for Midweek Pennant.
- If the Pennant season does not commence until after Christmas, what format will it take and how long will it go for.

### **Important Message -FROM Web Master – Bill Chilcott**

As Web Master I have prepared the pennant draws for both Midweek and Weekend pennant for season 2020-2021.

These draws have been placed on the BOWLSLINK section of the GVBD website.

It should be noted that the Tatura Hilltop team are shown as Hilltop Club, however, the playing location for each of their home club matches is listed below that match.

All players for this year's pennant shall have to be listed as financial members with playing rights. Those without this endorsement will not be able to be added to the team.

It is thus imperative that all clubs have their membership details brought up to date to prevent players from being unable to be selected.

Many of our bowling members have incorrect and/or incomplete details recorded against their profile.

I encourage all members to check their own details and update them where required.

Instructions to access your account details are available under the Documents tab of the GVBD website, or alternatively click on this link

<http://goulburnvalley.bowls.com.au/wp-content/uploads/sites/371/2020/01/STEP-BY-STEP-GUIDE-TO-REGISTER-WITH-BOWLSLINK-1.pdf>.

## **Handbooks – Season 2020/21:**

**Club information** – Would be appreciated if Clubs can forward their Interim Office Bearers (and to those Clubs who have -please ignore this request) and tournament details if possible.

## **Club Advertisement:**

As for previous season's Clubs placing an advertisement in the GVBD Handbook for the 2020/21 Season the cost is as follows: -

- Full Page - \$75-00 per Club.

(Noting – GVBD will forward a detailed Invoice in due course – all Clubs will be invoiced whether they have an advertisement or not).

## **Club Fees for 2020/21 Season:**

The GVBD Affiliation (Capitation) Fee for the coming 2020/21 Season has been set at **\$14-00 per Player**.

*(Noting Regional levy will be \$5-00)*

Pennant Team Levy Fees for the coming 2020/21 Season have been set as follows: -

- **16 Player Team - \$64-00**
- **12 Player Team - \$48-00**
- **8 Player Team - \$32-00.**

(Noting – GVBD will forward a detailed Invoice in due course).

(Clubs - please note if no Pennant is played this season – GVBD will refund Pennant Fees).

## **CENTENARY YEAR:**

The GVBD Board is delighted to inform Clubs 2021 is the Centenary of the Goulburn Valley Bowls Division (formerly Association).

The Board would greatly appreciate if any Past or Present Bowlers has any historical items of interest which could be lent to the Board, they are asked to please contact any Member of the Board or the GVBD Secretary.

## **GVBD REPRESENTATIVES GENERAL MEETING DATES – Season 2020/2021:**

***All GVBD Club Representatives please note the following: -***

- GVBD Annual General Meeting (AGM) and 2019/20 Presentation of Trophy Winners is still set for Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2020 commencing at 10.00am – venue to be confirmed.

Please note choice of venue will depend on the impact of COVID-19 and hopefully we will be able to hold this function – possibility - if Stage Two has been introduced by then **IF NOT** official advice will be forwarded detailing relevant date/venue to Clubs as soon as possible..

- If Stage Two has been introduced when holding of this AGM - Board requests **ONE** Representative from each Club attend the meeting and accept the trophy on behalf of their Club Winners.
- Clubs are being asked to undertake presentation of their Club Trophy Winners at their own Club in due course.
- GVBD Representatives General Meeting Dates at this point have not been set, official advice will be forwarded detailing when we can all meet once again.

### **IMPORTANT DATES FOR CLUB CALENDARS:**

- GVBD Centenary Celebrations to be held on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> March 2021
- GVBD Presentation Evening will be held on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2021
- GVBD AGM to be held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 10.00am.

### **REQUEST TO CLUBS:**

Clubs are asked to please notify the GVBD Secretary (Joy O'Donnell) of any bereaved Club Members **OR** any unwell Club Members, so the GVBD can arrange for cards to be forwarded.

Unfortunately, Clubs have not been undertaking updating as requested, several recent bereavements have been picked up from local papers, we again request Clubs to please advise us via email.

Support from Clubs for this request would be greatly appreciated as many of our Bowlers and their Families (from feedback) greatly appreciate receiving them.

### **Update on Proposed New Regional Board for the 2021/22 Bowling Season:**

As everyone is aware Bowls Victoria has advised all Regions and Divisions across the State that effective from July 2021, details of the Boundary Reviews, finalisation of Bowls Divisions and the formation of a new Nine Member Regional Board will come into play.

This Bowls Victoria proposal will affect the Central Goulburn Murray (CGM) Bowls Region with the dissolution of the three Divisions – Central: Goulburn Valley & Murray and the current CGM Bowls Region Board.

The proposed boundary review will have an impact on the southern end of the Goulburn Valley Bowls Division with Bowls Victoria advising that Central Division Clubs will be split as follows: -

- Seymour: Seymour VRI: Eildon: Alexandra & Yea to join GVBD.
- Broadford & Kilmore to join Central Highlands.
- Wallan to join the Northern Gateway.

Representatives from Central Goulburn Murray Bowls Region and the three Divisions have met with Bowls Victoria Boundary Review Working Party Members recently to discuss the proposed Bowls Victoria changes. We, the GVBD Representatives certainly put our case to the proposed Boundary Reforms and the dissolution of Divisions.

With this reform there is no impact to the Member Clubs of the Murray Division, but there certainly is with the Goulburn Valley Bowls Division, the five Central Division Clubs –(Seymour: Seymour VRI: Eildon: Alexandra & Yea) will join the southern end of the Division.

Thus, this means that several GVBD Members Clubs being asked to travel additional distance and time to these additional Clubs to play Pennant. The main concern is the travelling time and distance to the three Clubs – (Eildon, Alexandra & Yea). From the feedback received, all GVBD Member Clubs certainly indicated they do not want to travel the distances that Bowls Victoria is proposing. We the GVBD Representatives at this meeting argued that our Clubs should and would not travel the distances they were being asked. The most important aspect of the GVBD Board's concerns is not only the travel time and distance, but we are of the belief it will be the lower Division Bowlers who will be expected to play Pennant at these three Clubs.

Bowls Victoria are suggesting three playing areas or sections, this may mean Avenel, Euroa Nagambie & Violet Town joining with Eildon, Alexandra, Yea, Seymour, and Seymour VRI to create this playing area or section. The other GVBD and Murray Clubs making up the additional two other playing areas or sections.

The GVBD Board is of the opinion that Bowls Victoria be required to investigate the possibility for the three Clubs (Eildon, Alexandra & Yea) join with the Eastern Ranges Region and refer Clubs to the attached example chart which has been prepared by Weekend Match & Pennant Committee Representative, giving a guidance to the differential travelling figures as follows:-

#### EASTERN RANGES

#### GOULBURN VALLEY

Distance Kms	Eildon	Yea	Distance Kms	Eildon	Yea
Seymour	97	42	Euroa	89	76
Marysville	48	70	Violet Town	107	95
Healesville	76	70	Avenel	111	56
Yarra Glen	91	60	Nagambie	122	68
Chirnside Park	104	75	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>74</b>
Lilydale	98	72	Murchison	127	91
Warburton	87	99	Shepparton	137	119
Yarra Junction	96	90	Mooroopna	142	122
Cockatoo	114	104	Rushworth	143	107
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>76</b>	Tatura	149	112
Monbulk	112	90	Tallygaroopna	150	138
Eastwood	114	86	Katandra West	155	149
Croydon	107	81	Dookie	158	136
Boronia	114	89	Merrigum	162	126
Heathmont	115	88	Stanhope	164	127
Bayswater	113	88	Colbinabbin	172	127
Ringwood	111	86	Kyabram	177	140
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>125</b>

The chart does not detail the travelling time but the Board's opinion is that Midweek Bowlers will be leaving very early and the Weekend Bowlers leaving earlier than they normally do, thus making it a very long and tiring day for all Pennant Players.

The most disappointing part of the Bowls Victoria decision is the lack of consultation with all the relevant Clubs who are being directed to different Regional areas, discussions have only been held at Region level across the State. The GVBD Board opinion is that Bowls Victoria has stopped listening and talking to Clubs, this is the way it is going to be, and this is the way you are going to do it. Bowls Victoria also stated the decreasing numbers of Volunteers stepping forward to undertake the tasks required, the GVBD Board believes this situation will be further debilitated with the lack of Volunteers stepping forward to fill the positions on each of the 16 New Regional Boards across the State and their Various Committees.

Many other Country Divisions in Victoria are in a similar position, very disappointed with the process and the lack of consultation plus the travelling distance and time to be undertaken by Bowlers, Most Divisions cannot understand WHY the change when each of their Divisions were or are working very well with no issues.

One thing all Clubs can be well assured is that the GVBD Board will be doing everything in its power to ensure the best outcome for all Goulburn Valley Bowlers.

As the GVBD Board has been unable to meet with its Member Clubs it hopes this small insight to what is happening provides an update on the position currently.

**Important Note to Clubs** – At this stage, All GVBD Clubs and Players know as much about what is happening as the GVBD Board and their Various Committees. Any rumours or suggestions about the season in any of these areas are purely speculation and should be treated as such,

The GVBD Board will endeavour to update Clubs as items of interest come to hand.

## GVBD Executive Board Members

James McLeod – Chairman

Directors: - Jean Sprague (Deputy): Grace Kenworthy: Peter Naughton: Gordon Nash: Bill Chilcott:  
Rob Sceney and Joy O'Donnell.

22<sup>nd</sup> August 2020.



