

Pennant & Championship Committee Annual Report 2021-22

Pennant:-

Our club fielded 7 midweek and 7 weekend teams in the 2021-22 season.

Once again we had a rocky start to this year's Pennant season with a six week delay due to Covid 19 lock downs.

This resulted in a reduction to 14 rounds for our sides 2- 7 and our 1st side requiring double headers to maintain an 18 round season. Unfortunately it also meant the early withdrawal of our midweek Donvale 8th side due to lack of numbers.

Congratulations to all our players! What a fantastic result for Pennant this season with 6 out of 14 teams into the Finals and two sectional winners and our top side staying in Division 1.

Our weekend teams /Finals:-

Side 1:- Won enough games to stay in Division 1

Side 2:- Section Final/ Lost to Nth Balwyn.

Side 3:- Section Final/ Lost to Brunswick.

Side 7:- Section Semi Final/ Lost to Blackburn North.

Our Midweek Teams:-

Side 1:- Semi Final / Lost to Whittlesea

Side 3:- **Section Final /Winners** – Beat Lilydale. Then won a Division pre- quarter final [Knockout Final] against Hoppers Crossing.

Side 6:- **Section Final/ Winners** – Beat Alphington

Final Ladder 2021-22

Team	Weekend			Midweek			
	Div	Sec	Ladder	Team	Div	Sec	Ladder
1	1	2	8	1	1	2	3
2	3	10	3	2	2	4	5
3	5	4	3	3	4	4	1
4	5	5	6	4	4	5	6
5	5	9	6	5	4	7	8
6	6	4	7	6	5	4	2
7	7	5	4	7	5	5	8

Night Pennant:-

We fielded 2 Tuesday night pennant teams this year which was one more than recent years. We mainly made up our teams from lower-level players and are competing against a lot of Division one players and even some Premier League players so we had few winning scores. We did however open the club house and bar for home games and provided supper for all players. The evenings were very enjoyable and we had many visiting players join us for supper so it was a successful season for attendance and socialising after the game.

Recognition of Volunteers

Running Pennant each year involves a number of volunteers and I would like to thank them all.

Special thanks to the Selection Committee who rarely get the praise they deserve in a most difficult job and have taken on both Midweek and Weekend Pennant. They should be proud of the results they have helped achieve this year.

Thanks to Ray Bridger, Peter Gillett, Helen Milner, Robyn Walsh & Ian Heap.

Thank you:- Mal Shield for running Night Pennant.

:- Ian Bramstedt for your update on the Ladders and Ladder Summaries.

:- Ewan Simpson for the constant Newsflashes and Newsletters.

:- To all our Coaches.

:- Coaching Coodinator: Maurie Vickerman_

:- To those Committee members of the 'Pennant Bowls & Championship Section'. Rob Fairweather, Jill Simpson, Pat O'Meara, Keith Williams, Richard Cardin and Dale Farmer

:- Catering:- Jan Shield .

:- Marilyn Grant with the help of Jill Simpson and others for organising "Food after Pennant".

:- Those on Kitchen Duty and Liz Bill for organising the rosters.

:- Gerry Kearney for his help working out BowlsLink for our Championship and your assistance with Pennant selection statistics.

:- Greens Director: Gary Brady and those members who assisted.

:- Duty Rink: All those pennant players who assisted on Pennant days.

:-Peter Hanslow for his assistance as Covid Marshal

:-All Umpires.

Retiring:-

:I would like to thank Rob Fairweather for his help & contribution over the last couple of years. Rob is stepping down as Vice President this year but assuming he is re-elected he will continue as a member of the Pennant Committee.

Sorry I couldn't name everyone and apologise if I've missed anyone.

Championship Match Committee

The CMC wish to report a busy but very satisfying year.

We have managed to complete this year's Championships on time on budget and met Regional deadlines.

This year's Championship was run as a programmed event with fixed dates with consideration given to changes as long as the match was completed prior to the next round and fitted in with Social and Coaching events. This seemed to have worked well.

We held 10 events and have managed to complete 118 matches compared to 105 last year and 174 in the year before- a non Covid year.

The number of games played each week to complete the Championship has been difficult for a lot of players and I thank those players that persevered.

It would have been especially difficult for those in our top side with Pennant Double Headers on Saturday & Sunday and Championships being scheduled on Friday and Monday which, if it hadn't been changed, would have meant playing 5 days in a row for some players. We recommend that Championship Matches should not be scheduled/attached to those weekends.

Next season we are anticipating having more time to spread those matches out with possibly three weeks instead of two weeks to complete each event.

This year's introduction to BowlsLink for more than half the season, has generally been a success. The start was delayed due to some inflexibility in the system. The advantages being able to link it to our web site without members having to log into BowlsLink itself to check times and results of matches has been a great success. For those entering the results into BowlsLink it can be

Minor- Winners- Robyn Walsh R/U- Bella Pearse

100 Up Winner- Liz Bill R/U- Jan Meehan

Men's

Singles Winner – Scott Rees R/U- Jeff Grant

Pairs- Winners- Gerhard Blum / R/U -John Poulton/
Ian Bramstedt Dennis Johnson

Men's

Minors Winner- Gary Brady R/U- Malcolm Shield

100Up- Winner- Ron Pretto R/U- Richard Davis

Open Mixed Pairs

Winners- Warren Strybosch / R/U- Barry Wilkins /
Teresa Bowden Leanne Sullivan

Open Triples

Winners – Lindsay Ridgwell R/U- Ian Bramstedt
Barry Wilkins Geoff Smith
Jeff Grant Gerhard Blum

Bill and Sheilah Scull - Perpetual Trophy

Donvale Women's Club Champion- Fay Giules 2021-22

Coia Perpetual Trophy

Donvale Men's Club Champion Scott Rees 2021-22

Performance Awards:

Our Selection Committee made deserving choices for the following winners which were announced and presented on the night.

Margaret Pepper Shield

Midweek Most Valuable Player:- **Ron Pretto**

John Pepper Shield

Weekend Pennant Most Valuable Player:- **Dennis Johnson**

Jim Gibson Shield

Midweek Pennant Most Improved Player:- **Lynne Breadmore**

Jim Gibson Shield

Weekend Pennant Most Improved player:- **Gary Brady**

Thank you to the Committee members for their support this year. I would especially like to thank Liz Bill for organising Presentation Night and Rob Fairweather for his help as MC for the evening. Thank you Robyn Ham, Liz Bill and Richard Davis for your support & assistance throughout the season. Richard is retiring from the CMC and I thank him for his contribution over a number of years.

Club Coaching

The past season has seen our Coaching Program continue to play a significant role in the success of our Pennant season and I thank all coaches. Our Senior coach Scott Rees & Barry Ferguson, Sheldon Lipschitz, Pat O'Meara, Bernie Henderson, Brian Dunn, Maurie Vickerman and let's not forget the continued work that Barry & Julie Wilkins do with U3a.

A Sub Committee has been formed and chaired by Jeff Grant to review last season & put forward a Coaching program for 2022-23. Jeff has also agreed to take on the role as Coaching Coordinator for next season.

While not finalised yet it is hoped we can continue with a similar program to last season with some improvements and additions:-

- 1: The Introduction of a Development Squad – comprising selected members who are considered to have great potential for moving up into higher sides.
- 2: One on one coaching on request or recommendation.

Selectors:-

It's been a difficult year for Selectors with players unavailable for Pennant for a number of reasons [including Covid isolations].

This year our Selectors have introduced the 'S' marking system for short bowls and while not popular with all members has been a useful tool in assessing players performance.

Commitments for the 2022-23 season:-

Player Pennant commitments for next season have been called for however responses are still awaited from a number of members. It is important to have all entries in as soon as possible as we need to advise Bowls Victoria of the number of sides we will be entering before the new season draw is announced. Overstating or

understating the number of sides must be avoided as this impacts our ability to provide appropriate competition for all members.

Recommendations:-The number of sides to be entered in the 2022-23 season will be advised at a later date.

Hopefully next season will continue to see us develop as a club and as players. So Good Luck and Good Bowling!

Ken Eldridge

President: Pennant Championship Section