

BOWLSPEAK

The Monthly newsletter of the Warrnambool Bowls Club Inc

JULY AUGUST EDITION 2025

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CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

It has been wonderful to see so many players out enjoying social bowls throughout the week. Our Egg and Bacon Bowls on Sunday mornings have also been proving popular — no doubt helped along by the stretch of beautiful weather we've been enjoying! Hopefully the steak sangas on Thursday evenings will also prove to be a hit.



Recently, the club hosted an 80s-themed Music Bingo night, which was completely booked out — with a waitlist, no less! It was fantastic to see everyone getting into the spirit with singing, dancing, and plenty of neon. From blue eyeshadow to leather jackets, the night was totally rad — and yes, we're still recovering from all the air guitar solos and outrageous dance moves. (*You know it was a real 80s night when even the bingo cards had big hair and shoulder pads!*)

Meanwhile, Tim and I have just returned from the Australasian Gaming Expo in Sydney, where we spent time exploring the latest developments in gaming and hospitality. We also took the opportunity to tour other venues and speak with industry leaders about what's trending, what's working, and what's not. It's been an incredibly valuable experience, and we've come away with some fresh ideas and great connections from across the country — all aimed at helping us continue to improve and innovate here at the club.

Our Air B&B is still being held up while we await some trades but we are still working diligently away. As always, thank you for being part of our club community — we'll see you around the greens!

Warm regards,
Emma Newton

BOWLS CO-ORDINATOR'S REPORT



It's all about the success of our VBL side, the 'Warrnambool Bulls'. Great effort from our team to reach the final 8 and hopefully reach the final. To have the calibre of bowlers representing us has propelled the team into a feared opponent. We all know about our two members in Mark Bowles and Ben Cornick but the other three you may not know about.

Matt O'Brien: Victorian singles winner two years ago, Victorian bowler of the year in 2024, plays premier league for Moonee Valley and is in the Development Squad for Bowls Victoria.

Nathan Lynch: Plays for Victoria, skips for Moonee Valley in Premier League, contested the State singles this year.

Kane Nelson: plays for Capalaba in Queensland, currently is playing for Australia, has won multiple events throughout the Country and is still only 21.

Go Bulls!!



Mark Bowles, Matt O'Brien, Ben Cornick, Nathan Lynch, Kane Nelson

Paul O'Donnell
Bowls Co-ordinator

MATCH COMMITTEE AND SOCIAL BOWLS

Another month is nearly over, with numbers picking up. Fridays are very encouraging with an average of 12 rinks. Next month, September, on Wednesdays we will try new formats: 1st Wed – 2 x 4 x 2 = 10/12 ends, 2nd Wed 3 bowl triples 2 games – 12 ends, 3rd Wed Monthly – 2 bowl triples – 12 ends, 4th Wed 2 bowl - pairs 2 games – 18 ends. These Wednesdays will remain out of the hat except for the \$1,000 monthly triples on the 3rd Wed.

Steak sandwiches started Thursday 21 August as does pennant practice. We will be looking for all you master chefs to ply your culinary skills, sheets are out near the bowls office and b.b.q. area, so don't be shy!

Sheets are up for the Practice games against Drysdale at W.B.C. on 6th September and also at Mt Gambier on 20th September. Sheets are outside the bowls office. Please support these games as they lead up to Pennant.

Regards,
Bill Hunting

SOCIAL BOWLS JULY/AUGUST 2025

4/7	Winners of Winners	B Tory & C Jensen	+11
	Winners of Losers	L Williams & W Cooper	+15
9/7	Winners of Winners	B Tory & T Martin	+9
	Winners of Losers	S Verdon & M McKenzie	+5
16/7	Winners of Winners	B Gleeson & B Hunting	+3
	Winners of Losers	S Verdon & B Standaar	+16
18/7	Winners of Winners	J Murnane & Freedom	+8
	Winners of Losers	J Woolley & G Blandthorn	+9
25/7	Winners of Winners	B Murrell & V Smith	+3
	Winners of Losers	L McCosh & J Rundle	+8
30/7	Winners of Winners	J. Guinan & G Sharpe	+16
	Winners of Losers	G Johnson & B Standaar	+17
1/8	Winners of Winners	R Bell & G Sharpe	+24
	Winners of Losers	B Tory & C Jensen	+15
6/8	Winners of Winners	B Tory & B Hill	+5
	Winners of Losers	P Thorsen & G Sharpe	+2
8/8	Winners of Winners	P Verdon & S Verdon	+14
	Winners of Losers	M Edwards & P White	+19
13/8	Winners of Winners	B Tory & S Verdon	+11
	Winners of Losers	C Jensen & M McKenzie	+12

CONGRATULATIONS!

Huge congratulations to Lyle & Imke Gill on their recently celebrated 67th wedding anniversary!



BREKKY & BOWLS

What a wonderful few Sunday mornings we had with our new bowlers. The enthusiasm and enjoyment of our sport was wonderful to experience, particularly from some very talented kids! A huge thanks to our volunteers who cooked, organised games and helped make the experience one of learning and enjoyment.



BIRTHDAY FOR AUGUST & SEPTEMBER

August Birthdays

**Gary Bartlett, Kathleen Brockett, Grant Gibson, Barry Gleeson
Colin Jensen, Donald Wilson**

September Birthdays

**Bryan Bath, Adam Cust, Peter De Jong, Michael McCallum,
Sam Muscat, John O'Brien, Jeffrey Rundle Sean Verdon, Isaiah Mcleod
Paddy Hurley**

Happy birthday to all our amazing members celebrating birthdays and August and September. Don't forget to claim your \$10 Birthday Voucher off you Member Card. 😊

MANAGER'S UPDATE

Hello WBC Members, we've got plenty cooking at the Club over the next month, both in the bistro and around the venue.

Here's what's on the menu:

Our new menu is here, and the big highlight is lighter portion options on many of our main meals. Perfect for those chasing value for money in the current climate, or for members who prefer a smaller plate at lunch.

Later in September, we'll also be launching our Sunday Roast special – a hearty roast and dessert for under \$30. Add to that Kids Eat Free Tuesdays (one free kids meal with every main meal purchased), and we think there's something for everyone.

And don't forget, Father's Day is around the corner – we'll be running our \$27 300-gram Porterhouse Steak & beverage deal, plus dads dining in go in the draw for our famous "Height in Beer" raffle.

From September, alcohol prices will see a slight increase – around 50 cents on average for beer and RTD items. We've absorbed costs where we can, but with supplier and wage pressures, a small adjustment is needed. That said, we're still confident our prices remain some of the best value in Warrnambool.

It's not just the food and drink bringing people together – our entertainment lineup is building too:

- Musical Bingo is back on Friday 20th September, 8:00 PM. Last time we packed out the Club with over 160 players – book early if you don't want to miss out.
- Bo Jenkins returns at the end of September with his one-man blues/rock show. Perfect timing to recover from the AFL Grand Final weekend.
- Speaking of the AFL Grand Final, we'll have the game live on the big screens, a free half-time BBQ, and bar specials running all day.
- The Ball Machine will be coming back to the Friday Night Raffle, in September. I am currently on the hunt for new prizes, that hopefully everyone will get excited about. Keep an eye for updates and the return date.
- Lastly, keep on eye for more info coming soon on our Melbourne Cup Day, which will be back for 2026.

That's all for me this month, good luck to our VBL team playing in Moama. See you all around the Club and back here again next month.

Cheers,

Tim Smithyman



BOWLED OVER

(thanks to Sean Verdon for sharing this...)

I discovered that with growing older, football left me black and blue
I was too old to play, it was too physical, so what is a man to do?
I thought I'd give lawn bowls a go on those greens so inviting and neat
They looked so quiet and peaceful, yep I'll give myself a treat

I had watched them play on telly, I studied it frame by frame
And I reckoned with some regular practice I could do the same
It just can't be all that difficult, this game is so gentile
I reckon it could easily be mastered once you play the game for real

Well, I was well and truly sucked in and I was feeling especially fine
When I was told a champion I'd soon become if I bowled straight down the line
But what they failed to tell me is that the bowls they don't go straight
The buggers weight them on one side – it's called a bias mate

And all these elderly gentlemen, so polite while their tea they sip
They certainly change when they grace the green, they really let it rip
My first game was against Bill Wilson, he's eighty-five if he's a day
I'd been practising non-stop for weeks, I couldn't wait to play

My bowls I rolled so gently, they rested close to the kitty each time
Four shots I held on that first end, a win would soon be mine
Bloody Bill he moved so slowly with his stick he could barely creep
I waited patiently for his shot and did my best not to go to sleep

Bill stumbled to the mat with the aid of his stick, he looked so frail
I was uncertain if he could make that bowl as I feared his heart might fail
But then he let that bowl go, it was the fastest shot I'd ever seen
It smashed into my four bowls and knocked them all fair off the green

My jaw dropped open slowly and my knees they started to bend
Because Bill's bowl sat next to the kitty and thus he won the end
Well that's how the game developed and after each end what could I say
Every time I looked a winner, he smashed by bowls out of the way

So do I have to really tell you that I lost the game that day
And I've never been back to the green again, yeh I game the game away
At least with playing football all you can lose are chunks of hide
So I'll leave the bowls for a bit later on while I've still got a bit of pride



2026 SHB +
Business & Wealth Advisers

PRELUDE SINGLES
\$10,000 LAWN BOWLS TOURNAMENT

 **MONDAY 5TH JANUARY 2026**

 **ENTRY IS \$70 PER PERSON**
ENTRY INCLUDES A BBQ LUNCH ON THE DAY



To register your interest in this event contact Paul O Donnell

 bowls@warrnamboolbowls.com.au

 **03 55614586**

2026  **Aussie Broadband +**

NEW YEARS TRIPLES
\$18,000 LAWN BOWLS TOURNAMENT



 **TUESDAY 6TH & WEDNESDAY 7TH JANUARY 2026**

 **TOURNAMENT TEAM ENTRY: \$360**
ENTRY INCLUDES LUNCH ON BOTH DAYS

Register your interest in this event:

 bowls@warrnamboolbowls.com.au

 **03 55614586**

QUBE

2026 AUTUMN CLASSIC

Pairs & Fours Tournament

With a total prize pool of \$30,000, this event promises intense competition, top-tier bowling, and a fantastic atmosphere for players and spectators alike.



TUESDAY, 7TH APRIL 2026

SUNDAY, 12TH APRIL 2026



PAIRS TEAM ENTRY: \$240

FOURS TEAM ENTRY: \$480



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