



MT Pleasant Bowling Club (inc)

21st April 2020

Dear Members

With each passing day we get a day closer to bowling again ... the only thing is we do not know when that day will be ... but it is getting closer, who knows maybe the first half of May?

We are guided completely by the position Bowls W.A. have on the matter and the most recent update on April 15 on their website confirmed that there was to be no bowling of any type until further notice from them.

Please bear with us through this extraordinary time. We will be back bowling the minute we receive clearance to do so.

However, I am writing to you today because 19th April was to have been the day of our Half-Yearly Meeting, held each year prior to 30th April, at which members of the Men's and Ladies Bowling Committees are elected. While this meeting did not occur due to restrictions on gatherings due to COVID-19, the Executive can convene a Special General Meeting, with 10% of full and honorary members representing a quorum, and presumably hold an election for the positions outlined earlier. As to when or whether this will occur is anybody's guess at the moment.

As I recall, we received only one nomination for a position and that was from Terry Ridley, thank you Terry.

Unless people fill these positions the Club cannot run, it's really that simple. I must sound like a broken record; but to help people in deciding if there is something they can do to help I want to give you all an idea of the Club Committee system and what is required to comply with the Club Constitution.

Under the Club Constitution, management of the Club is vested in the Executive Committee, Men's and Ladies Bowls Committees and Standing Committees as required.

The Executive Committee comprises of The Club President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Greens Liaison Officer, President of Men's Bowls and President of Ladies Bowls and Chairperson of each Standing Committee. Standing Committees are Bar & Social, House & Works, Sponsorship and such others as are required from time to time.

Both the Men's and Ladies Committees have the following positions – President, Vice President, Chairperson of Match Committee, Bowls Secretary, Chairperson of Selection Committee and Delegate to Bowls W.A.

As you can see both Bowls Committees then have Match and Selection Committees which have Chairpersons and in the case of the Selection Committee up to 4 members elected annually and the Match Committee "a number of self nominating persons" elected annually.

Literally a cast of thousands as they say, but by my count if all positions were filled it could number anywhere between 20 and 25 persons at a minimum. Last season we had about 10 persons filling the available positions outlined above.

So assistance with the Men's and Ladies Bowls is the immediate problem, in particular getting members to join either the Selection Committee or the Match Committee. The longer term issue concerns the Executive Committee.

As a minimum going into the 2020/2021 season we need:

A full Executive Committee. Last year we did not have a Treasurer and a Greens Liaison Officer.

More help to assist the Men's and Ladies Bowls Presidents, no other positions were taken on those Committees last year. More help is needed to spread the workload.

The Executive Committee also had two persons who handled Bar & Social and House & Works respectively. The House & Works area includes responsibility for Dad's Army which as I have said is in danger of becoming a platoon. There are some great workers involved but they need more help. Dad's Army meet most Monday mornings for a couple of hours work and a cuppa. I think for many it is a relaxing outing, a type of bowler's Men's Shed. If you have some spare time give it a go.

Please consider the above request for assistance seriously as the future of the Club is at stake and remember that many hands make light work. Please talk to any member of the Executive, who I am sure will be happy to answer any questions that you may have. Now on to other matters:

THE NEWS

So what has been happening behind the scenes while the Club has been closed ... in a word plenty:

1. An application has been made to Lotterywest for grant funding to assist the Club due to the loss of revenue from the Corona Virus.
2. An application has been made to the City of Melville for financial assistance under the City's relief package (\$750,000 is available in total).
3. The Club qualified for the Government's Small Business Assistance Package and following lodgement of our BAS for the March quarter should receive additional funding from the Australian Government.
4. A further request has been made to the City of Melville to pay the Club the 2 months of greenkeeper fees which were refused in November/December due to our profitability in those months.
5. We have applied for the Government's Jobkeeper Relief Package to enable us to keep paying the wages of Ellie our senior barperson during the period of the Club's closure.
6. Work continues on the Business Plan but there have been some delays due to the Corona Virus making it difficult to obtain quotes etc in respect of the proposed building renovations. We have also received contributions from both Tingara Netball Club and Melville Cares for inclusion in the Plan.
7. We have also received another enquiry in connection with the use of the Club's kitchen.

So that's about all the news for now. Look after yourselves and stay healthy.

See you on the greens SOON.

John O'Brien

Club President