

Bunbury Bowling & Social Club Inc

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AN INTRODUCTION FOR NEW MEMBERS

BUNBURY BOWLING & SOCIAL CLUB Inc.

So, you've decided to play bowls. Welcome to the club. This booklet is designed to help you find your way around and to introduce you to some of the people you will need to know to ensure you get a game and have a good time. Much of your enjoyment will come down to your own attitude. If you are prepared to pitch in and take part in the activities around the club you will make friends quicker and enjoy yourself much more.

At The Bar

The bar is a great meeting place. All the identities of the club can be found at the bar at one time or another. As a result the bar staff know all the members and are only too pleased to direct you to someone who will be able to help with your query. Subs can be paid, club caps, stubby holders, hat bands purchased, enter footy tipping and lotto and even buy a beer!

Friday—Members Evening

Every Friday, there is a Happy Hour from 5.30PM to 6.30PM
Members Draw 6.30PM, starting at \$100 and increasing by \$50 weekly until won,

Raffles, good prizes, followed by a meal.

A good way to meet members, socialize and have fun

Subs

Pay your subs at the bar in July. At the moment subs are \$200 a year. There are various categories of membership. Social subs are \$40 for which you can use all club facilities except play bowls and vote. Junior subs are for under 18s. Late payment of subs makes you ineligible to win prizes

Coaching.

Many of you may have come into the club via our coaching sessions on Friday morning. Steve Sampey is a qualified coach and conducts coaching sessions Monday mornings from 9am to 11am.

Discs In

When you pay your initial membership fee you will be allocated a round metal disc with your name and a number on it, which will hang in the disc box outside the northern clubhouse entrance for the men. Ladies discs are in the Ladies Lounge.

Open Days & Carnivals

Teams, usually of four players, travel to other clubs to compete for one or two days. There are always good players at these events as there is quite good prize money. If you can get into a team it's great experience to see these better players and compete against them. It's even better when you beat them!

Practice

At almost any time of the week someone will be out there practicing. There is usually no competition scheduled for Monday so that is called Practice Day but you can practice on any green on which a competition is not being played. When practicing it is best to keep well away from players engaged in a competition. The general rule is all practice on **B Green**

When practicing use the white pegs between the numbers as your centre line. This spreads the wear & tears on the green. Morning practice is parallel to the clubhouse. Afternoon is away and towards the clubhouse. Once again for wear and tear reasons. Always return your mat & Jacks to the racks in the clubhouse.

Bowling Etiquette

As in all other sports bowls has a code of etiquette designed to make the atmosphere of the game pleasant. It is really just good manners.

Don't talk or move around while an opponent is delivering his bowl.

Do not applaud the bad or unfortunate result of an opponent's bowl. If he knocks you up for shot do not clap him. Instead say "bad luck"

Give a clap to an opponent's good bowls even if it means you have lost the shot.

By all means have a chat to your opponent but your team still expects you to concentrate on the game.

Do not stray over your rink boundaries when crossing from end to end or following your bowl.

Unlike some other sports ‘sledging’ or criticising an opponent is severely frowned upon.

Other rules of etiquette are on the notice board.

Thursday Bowls at 12.30PM

To put your name in for a game take your disc to the Captains office with \$8 and you’re in. In the draw for the game your disc will be placed on a board of hooks outside the Captains office. This will show the green, rink and group you will play in. The competition is 2 by 4 by 2. This means one player will play two bowls, change ends and you will play four bowls, change ends and your partner will play his last two bowls. This format will continue throughout the game.

Railways---Friday Afternoon at 2.30PM

Selection in this competition is a bit different. It will cost \$5 paid to John & Barry sitting at a table near the snooker tables. At 2.30 you will draw a numbered disc from a bowl. This will give you the group you will play in. The groups are in fours. So, numbers 1 – 4 are in one group, 5 – 8 another group and so on. If you have numbers 1, 2, 3 or 4 you should be on rink 1 but it doesn’t always work that way. Just call out your number and ask for other numbers in your group. This competition is also 2 by 4 by 2.

Cash Pairs/or Disc In-Tuesdays and Saturdays 12.30PM

The nomination form for cash pairs is on the standing desk at the rear of the concertina doors between the bar area and dining area. It is nominated pairs so you must ask someone to play with you. If you have no partner put your name & phone number on the bottom of the relevant nomination sheet and someone will pick you up. Nomination sheets for upcoming competitions for the next few weeks are on this desk also.

This is a 2x2x2x2 game of bowls.

Disc In is the alternative to cash pairs. Players will turn up and pay \$8 to match committee and random draw is done and placed on the board. This is referred to in the fixture book as DC Open Pairs. This is a normal 2x4x2 game.

Scroungers---Sunday Morning at 9.15AM

This is a singles game played at 9.30AM Sunday morning by the men and ladies scroungers competition separately.

Its good practice and a great way to learn the basis of bowling – draw bowls. You will have to pay \$5 annual fee to be a member of Scroungers and \$5 a game. Present your disc to the organizer at the table near the snooker tables. The draw will be shown on the board outside the Captains office at 9.30.

In scroungers only three bowls are used. Points are awarded for the three bowls closest to the Jack. 3 Points closest, 2 points second and 1 for third. There is no score sheet as such. Scores are recorded directly on the scoreboard. More experienced players will handle this. If you haven't scored on an end you will be expected to stay at the mat end to set up the Jack for the next end. The first on the mat will indicate which way he intends to bowl and you will walk up to the mat on the other hand. Sixteen ends are played. The winner takes their discs off the board and puts them in the box beneath in the order of who won their rink. Everyone retires to the bar. The second round all the winners play each other, second place play each other etc. This round is four ends. The final round is over two ends.

Scroungers are a great way to learn bowls and meet the guys.

Pennants

This is the serious end of bowls. Pennants are competition against other clubs conducted over the whole season.

Ladies pennants are played on Tuesday mornings. Their pennants competition consists of two or three rinks of 4 ladies on each rink. Points are awarded for rink and overall wins. As you get more proficient this is a great competition to be in as it is a team game and a representation of your club

The men have two different pennant competitions held Saturday and Tuesday afternoons. There are two or three rinks of four players who compete as a team. Each winning rink scores a point and then all scores are added up for overall points. Some people enjoy the seriousness of pennants and some can't stand it. Don't be afraid to give it a go, as you will never know if you will enjoy it if you don't. It's a great way to meet people from other clubs and improve your game.

Dumping and/or Dropping of Bowls---CLUB policy

1. Dumping and dropping of bowls damages our synthetic playing surfaces over time and every player has a responsibility to make sure this does not happen.
2. All bowls must be delivered from below the knee but no higher than 300mm from the playing surface.
3. The Match committee/umpires shall warn a player if (in their opinion) the delivery has the potential to cause damage to the surface.
4. The Match committee/umpires shall have the final say as to whether or not the player is dumping.
5. Up to three warnings may be issued to players.
6. If you cannot correct the fault, you will be asked to leave the game thus penalising you team and your entry to future events may be refused.
7. The Match committee and Club Coaches can offer advice on how to correct delivery faults, or on how to use a Bowling arm.

Getting a Game

The Ladies Captain Ann Dunn and Men's Captain Mick Delfs are only too happy to help you get into a team. Just let them know you are interested. If they are not around ask the Vice Captains or a member of the Match Committee whose names are in the Fixture Book.

Fixtures for the week are written on a white board on the wall opposite the bar next to the huge club logo and on the Ladies Board in the dining room next to their honour board. This supplements your fixture book.

Ladies & Mens Days

Wednesday is reserved for Ladies to play and Thursday is for the Men. Ladies Championships are played on Wednesdays along with their other club events. Don't be afraid to put your name in for these competitions as it's great experience and a very good way to improve your game. The worst that can happen is that you don't win. Keep an eye on your fixture book so you know what competitions are coming up.

Knowing where to play

The greens are identified by letters. A green is outside the bar entrance between the clubhouse and Forrest Ave. Greens B; C & D are numbered consecutively around the clubhouse. All greens have large letters prominently displayed. Rinks are numbered from 1 to 7 starting nedoorswhere the mats are kept. There are signs for greens open.

Attire

At first most of your games will allow civvies or 'mufti' but as you progress and start to play championships and pennants you will have to wear 'club colours' or the club uniform. This can be purchased at the office. There are rules governing clothing including hats which can come in all shapes and sizes. Club caps and hat bands can be purchased at the bar.

Other Games

The Bowling club is a hive of activity other than bowls.

Snooker

The snooker tables are for the use of all members. Getting someone to play with you is the only problem. A group of four old mates play Friday lunchtimes and before cash pairs. If you get a playing partner uncover the other table and 'rack em up'. There is no formal competition for snooker.

Darts

Once again the two dartboards are for anyone's use. There is a dart team associated with the club. Contact Paul Donovan or the bar staff for more information.

Cards

A game of 'cards (bridge ,or euchre)is always played on Saturday afternoon. The money raised from cards is put back into the club.

Euchre is played Wednesday afternoons starting around 1 o'clock in the winter and around 1.30 in the summer. Ask club stalwart Alan Castles if you are looking for a game.

Other Club Activities

School Groups

We host groups from schools and businesses who come to have a game. The school groups only play for half an hour. Businesses hire the BBQ facilities and have a sausage sizzle and a few drinks as well as a game. Helpers are always needed for these events. It's a great way to be involved in club activities and meet people.

The Workers

In a large club like ours there are always gardens to be tended, leaves to rake, lawns mowed. If you are interested in helping out around the club, contact Co-ordinator of Greens Mick Spadaccini who supervises all these activities outside the clubhouse. They often need a hand with jobs and they appreciate any volunteers. Just remember – you haven't any right to criticise if you haven't been on the job.

Evening Functions

Bingo

Every Monday evening our Bar Manager Dixie Wallis runs Bingo. Eyes down are 7pm. Great money prizes. We always have a very good rollup with over 150 attending most nights.

Corporate Bowls

The very popular Corporate Bowls is run Tuesday and Wednesday nights In the summer time.

First year novice full members of the club are eligible to play Corporate Bowls(1 player/team) . You can have great fun helping out. Coaching non-players with the fundamentals, selling drinks greenside, sizzling sausages. If you are present you could get a game filling in if someone doesn't turn up. First year bowlers can play with the committee approval, as can Social Members and Restrictive members, who don't need the approval.'

Contacting the club

If you have your name in for a competition and can't play for some reason or if you want to know if a competition is still on because the weather is bad ring up on 9721 3291 and let the club know. **Call Secretary Laurie in the mornings and he will take your calls.**

We hope this little booklet is a good start to a great time at the Bunbury Bowling Club.

Bowls Delivery-Bowling Arms---See Laurie if you need more info