



# HAWK EYE

October 1, 2020

## Hilton Park Bowling Club Newsletter

If you have any tidbits of information for the newsletter please contact Dorraine Stone or Roy Gibson at [hpbowling@westnet.com.au](mailto:hpbowling@westnet.com.au).

### Hello again – we are back



Welcome to the third season of Hawk Eye – Hilton Park Bowling Club's monthly newsletter and the plan is for the newsletter to be published around the start of each month through the summer season. It is designed to keep members and friends up to date with everything that is happening at the club both on and off the bowling green.

### Looking back

Before we look ahead to season 2020/21, we want to look back at last season. A nasty virus we will call COVID-19 ended the season prematurely in the middle of March, closed down the bowling club for several weeks and wiped out the April and May editions of Hawk Eye.

It cost us the chance to boast about what a fine season Hilton Park had in 2019/20. The previous season Hilton failed to get its win:loss ratio above the 50 per cent mark for its seven teams but last season with eight teams there was a terrific improvement.

Counting only actual games played (and not cancelled games which went down as draws) Hilton's overall record was:- Played 112 games, Won – 68; Lost – 42 and Drawn – 2.

Summing up, our Tuesday ladies finished 5th with a 6-7 win:loss record; and the Saturday ladies finished 7th with a 5-7 record.

On Thursdays, Division Two finished 3rd with 10 wins, 5 losses and 1 draw; Division Three finished 4th with 9 wins, 5 losses and 1 draw; and Division Five finished 5th with 6 wins and 5 losses.

On Saturdays, Division One finished 4th with 11 wins and 5 losses, Division Four finished 1st (and got promoted) with 11 wins and 3 losses; and Division Five finished 2nd with 10 wins and 5 losses.

### Promotion play-off

Bowls WA decided to try to wrap up the 2019/20 season with promotion play-offs in the middle of September which meant that our Saturday Fifth Division side (which finished second) had a home game against third-placed Willetton on September 19.

In the end, Hilton had only 13 players qualified for selection and available to play.

On the day, the weather was terrible – cold and windy with rain threatening – but Hilton worked hard to record a 22-shot victory and win promotion to Division Four.

Peter Baldey's rink was ahead all game and won comfortably 26-11 while Graham McKenzie's rink pulled away in the second half of their game to win 26-13. Steve O'Reilly's rink had a close game all day but went down 14-20.

And so that wrapped up last season with promotion for two of our Saturday teams. Doesn't it sound so much better to say we have pennant teams in Divisions 1, 3 and 4 rather than in Divisions 1, 4 and 5? The challenge now is to find a few more players and work on those teams being competitive in a higher division.

### Looking forward

We promise to try not to mention COVID-19 too often but it must be recorded that the virus affected both pennant and club competitions, delayed the club's AGM and trophy presentation night and hammered the bar takings and the club's finances.

Eventually, the AGM and trophy presentation were held on a Sunday morning in August when some changes were made to the committee line-up, when treasurer Craig Standley explained the financial position and when some serious decisions were made about club membership and the raising of funds to change A green to a synthetic surface.

In his treasurer's report, Craig Standley pointed out that the pandemic (see, we didn't mention COVID-19) which closed the bar for some weeks meant a loss of about \$40,000 in sales. An operating loss for the year halved the club's bank balance to just under \$40,000.

The Federal government's cash boost to cover part of the loss from March 20 to April 30 as well as Jobkeeper payments for bar staff and greenkeeper's wages did not come until into the new financial year.

## President's Wrap



At the AGM, Richard "Barney" Young moved into the president's chair for the second time and he has some strong views of what he hopes to achieve over the next couple of years.

"I am delighted to be back as president of Hilton and my main aim will be to get a synthetic green on A green up and running by the end of that time," he said. "That is what I will be pushing for during my time as president as it would mark a great improvement in the club's facilities.

"We have been given an estimate of \$220,000-\$240,000 for a new pitch and all the required surrounds and we will be approaching the State Government for as much as possible in grants. I intend to make approaches to local State MP Simone McGurk and Fremantle's Federal MP Josh Wilson.

"It is likely that we will also have to get a loan from Fremantle Council. Our position overall will be improved if we can show that we are capable of raising substantial money ourselves through functions and fundraising. That is why we will be plugging the plan to sell off square metre sections of the green at every opportunity.

"It won't happen quickly but let's all work to make it happen within a couple of years."

In a perfect world, we would secure grants of \$80,000, borrow \$80,000 and fundraise \$80,000.

## Office bearers

Also at the AGM, some committee members were re-elected and a couple of new faces were elected. Craig Standley continued as treasurer and Dorraine Stone continued as secretary. Brian Smith resigned as bar manager, signing off with a plea to members to "drink more" and Michelle van de Ven replaced him while her husband, David van de Ven, put his hand up to be men's captain.

Former president Ron Turner stepped down and took charge of the greens and Micky Glynn was welcomed on to the committee as the man in charge of the clubhouse.

## New life members

Two new life members – Val Turner and George Annandale – were announced at the annual general meeting and it is planned for the next

edition of Hawk Eye to bring you the full story of how they came to achieve such an award.

## Trophy winners



Newly-elected men's captain Dave van de Ven's first task was to present the trophies from season 2019/20 – so he set up a table exclusively for Rod Butler near the front so he didn't have so far to walk each time. And Rod won plenty as the following list shows.

- Men's singles – Rod Butler
- Men's Pairs – Daniel and Dave Newton
- Men's Triples – Rod Butler, Travis Simpson, and Chris McMahon
- Men's Fours – Michael Glynn, Rod Butler, Chris McMahon, and Travis Simpson
- Men's 100 Up -Tony Maxwell
- Men's Handicap Singles – Gary Dodd
- Men's Novice Singles – Dave van de Ven
- Ladies' singles – Liz Mann
- Ladies' pairs – Anne Mauri and Maria Alberti
- Ladies' Novice – Judy Dean
- Mixed Pairs – Val and Rod Turner
- Mixed Fours -Val Turner, Ron Turner, Barrie Douglas, and Eddie Clarke
- Mixed 100 Up – Roy Gibson
- Mixed Handicap Singles – Liz Mann
- Ladies' Bowler of the Year – Val Turner
- Men's Bowler of the Year – Rod Butler



## Free membership

A motion put to the AGM by Ian Gray that new members should be given free membership for their first season found unanimous support at the meeting.

Promoting his plan, Ian said: "Extending this offer costs the club nothing whereas a new member would not only bolster available bowling numbers but also lead to increased revenue by way of spending over the bar, paying green fees and attending club functions.

"It is hoped one new member will introduce another new member and so on. Once new members realise what Hilton Park has to offer and experience the way we operate then I believe there will be continued support and the introduction of further new members."

At the time of writing, one new member – Martin Bouma – has signed up for free membership and is intending to play pennant bowls. And he has already won some money at the Thursday triples.

## Fundraising

As stated earlier in the President's wrap, the club wants to make a green synthetic and some of the money will have to come from fundraising. At the AGM, an idea first raised by Warren Edwards and followed up by Doug McKay to "sell off" square metres of the green for \$25 each was approved.

Club sponsors Admiral Print has designed a sign which is now up inside the clubhouse (near the bell) and the fundraising has started in earnest. A green measuring 40 metres by 40 metres equates to 1600 square metres – and at \$25 a time the plan is to raise about \$40,000. A few club members have already paid for their piece of the green but there's plenty of space still available. So, get buying.

Raising this sort of money is going to take many months – maybe even a year or two – but let's start with a determination to get it done. And every opportunity to promote the "buy a square metre of the green" plan must be taken in the coming months.

## Up north

The Hilton greens and clubhouse might be a bit quieter on the second weekend of October as 12 members are planning to head to Exmouth for the annual bowls carnival. We wish them a safe trip, happy bowling and not too many late nights. A more detailed report on the joys of Exmouth is scheduled for next month's Hawk Eye.

## Well done



Hilton's novice champion from last season, Dave van de Ven, put on a great show when representing the club at the State novices championships held on September 11 and 12 – making it all the way to the semi-finals before narrowly losing.

Dave can feel proud of his achievements over the two-day event at Yokine although he was disappointed at not making it in to the final. He had his chances, but things didn't go his way in a 21-15 loss.

On the same weekend, club champion Rod Butler also played in the Champion of Champions competition at Morley, winning his way out of the group stage but going down in the knock-out round of 16 to a bowler from Bassendean who went out in the semi-finals.

Unfortunately, our women's representatives in the same tournaments – Judy Dean (novices champion) and Liz Mann (club champion) – didn't make it out of the group stages.

However, everyone enjoyed the experience and did the club proud – as did the many supporters who went to watch.

## Opening Day

The club's official opening day for the 2020/21 season is Sunday, October 4. There is a sausage sizzle for lunch at 12.30 followed by the traditional "nearest the spider" competition (with a great prize awaiting the winner) and an afternoon of bowls for all who are interested. Put the date in your diary and help make it a great start to the season.

## Ladies' Day

The ladies formally open their season on Wednesday, October 7, with a champagne breakfast followed by, eventually, a bit of bowling. The starting time for the breakfast is 8.30am and it costs only \$10 a head.

The ladies have also organized a number of pre-season friendlies before the pennant fixtures begin in late October. On Tuesday, September 29, they play Spearwood away, Tuesday October 6 is Melville at home, on Saturday, October 10, it's Rossmoyne away and Tuesday, October 13 is Spearwood at home. On Saturday, October 17, there will be an intra-club game.

Val Turner is again the ladies' captain and helping with selections are Glenice Greenham (Tuesdays) and Denise Hughes (Saturdays). So get on board as the ladies have high hopes of producing some better results this summer.

## New web site

Secretary Dorraine Stone has spent a lot of time recently building Hilton Park's new web site and making the information available more up-to-date and suitable for a bowling club. Check it out at [hiltonparkbowlingclub.com](http://hiltonparkbowlingclub.com) and then tell Dorraine that she has done a wonderful job. Because she has.

## New season

The pennant bowling season for 2020/21 begins on Saturday, October 24 – a date which was probably settled on before the AFL announced that its grand final would be played in Brisbane on the same day. No-one seems to know just yet what is going to happen but there is a chance that the bowls will be moved forward a few hours and start at 10 or 11 am. Watch this space.

Les Onley will continue in his thankless job as chairman of selectors with assistance through the various divisions from Robbie Hunter, Eddie Clarke and Warren Edwards. Make their job easier by making yourself available – or just as important, making it clear when you are unavailable.

# GIG GUIDE

## OCTOBER 2020

FRIDAYS from 8.30pm, SUNDAY SESSION from 4.30pm

- FRI 2/10 Pete Stone & the Hiltones  
FRI 9/10 The Vibrolators feat. Miss Peta Lee  
SUN 11/10 Steve Tallis & the Snakes of Desire  
FRI 16/10 Diamond Dave & the Doodaddies  
FRI 23/10 Pete Stone & the Hiltones  
SUN 25/10 The Western Suntones  
FRI 30/10 The Crowdads

Members should continue to practise social distancing  
1.5m and good hygiene at all times

*Big Kev's Roast Dinners available for sale*

Become a Member today and enjoy bowling, music, good friends and a great atmosphere **SOCIAL MEMBERSHIP IS ONLY \$35**

New bowlers are always welcome and the Hilton Park Bowling Club takes pride in having a friendly, fun and supportive environment for bowlers at all levels of the game



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