



BOWLED OVER



Newsletter of Aberfeldie Bowls Club Inc – Established 1910

16 January 2023 Issue: 15 of Season 2022/23

Board of Directors

President – Don Leale
Secretary – Nigel Thompson
Treasurer – Clay Beveridge
Vicky Walker
Warwick Robinson
Paul Ives
Margaret Clark

Current Club Champions

Singles: Joe Engert

Minors: Paul Ives

Pairs: John Grogan &
Stuart O'Brien

Triples:

Sean Lee, Manny Flores &
Michael Bialczak

President's Handicap:

Michael Bialczak

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Hall for Hire

First Class Facilities

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Welcome to 2023 – and Pennant is back in action

We hope that 2023 is a positive year for all. Pennant resumed on Saturday and a very, very tight win for Aberfeldie 1 has us in Second place on the ladder with just four rounds to play. A determined effort will see us achieve a Home Semi-Final. Aberfeldie 2 faces a much bigger fight, having dropped two games that were in our pocket – and cannot afford to drop another game.

From the President

Hello all.

Wishing everyone a Happy New year. Let's hope this translates into something special around the Greens as we strive to make finals in all Divisions. Congratulations to our six a side team winning the Spring Edition Sectional Grand Final of this Pennant Division.



Just some housekeeping.

- *Caps and hats have arrived, and I have begun to disburse to people I have seen. For those who don't have theirs, they will be available from the team Managers or stored at the clubrooms.*
- *Jackets - Those who ordered jackets, I have a box delivered but the delivery was short. The supplier does not reopen to 16th January. I will be distributing Jackets once we work out where the balance is. I am sure there was another box they failed to give us. Stay tuned. They will be delivered to you shortly.*
- *New Jacks/Kittys- We picked up 16 new Jacks prior to Xmas courtesy of a grant we received. It has been decided these will be used for Pennant, Tournaments and Club championship games. A box of four has been left on the umpire's equipment box in the cupboard. Duty rinks please remember to use these on Saturdays.*
- *Code of conduct letters - Those who still have not addressed this will be sought out to complete the form. As Nigel has advised we need all members to commit as part of our Good Sports Policy which enables us to apply for grants.*
- *A new dishwasher was installed prior to Xmas. Many thanks to Manny Flores, Paul Ives and the Board for their hard work on this one*

- Club championship game s- Please remember to look at the Noticeboards. First round Pairs games are due for completion by 22nd January.
- Just a finishing note, I overheard several members commenting recently on how pristine and pleasant our outer surrounds were looking. Many thanks to our Maintenance crew for their work in achieving this landscape.
- Finally- COVID - This illness is more prevalent today than it was when we were in an enforced lockdown. If you have any symptoms, whether it be the common cold or Covid related, please stay away from the Club until you are well. Remember to sanitise and social distance where possible.

Club Singles Final - 7th January 2023

This year's Final was played between Robin Stoddart and Joe Engert on the morning of Saturday 7 January in very warm and somewhat oppressive conditions. This was the first Final I had marked as President and I must say I was privileged to oversee a game that was a true spectacle of fine bowling from both players and an absolute classic match. 29 ends it took to decide this year's Champion with neither bowler at any stage out of the game. Those who came and watched would agree a game worthy of a TV Timeslot.

In a tight opening, Joe grabbed the upper hand leading 9-3 after 9 ends. The score didn't reflect the closeness of the game and Robin was always in it. Robin drew level after 12 ends 9 all. After 17 ends Robin had drawn way leading 17-12 and at 20 ends led 19-14. Joe then rattled off 6 shots over the next 2 ends to take the lead 20-19. The lead changed hands several times over the next 5 ends with Joe leading 23-22 after 27 ends. Robin picked up two shots to lead 24-23 after 28 ends. After putting down 116 bowls each, Joe found the energy and strength to pick up two shots, one shot with his final bowl on end 29 to win the match.

Congratulations to Joe Engert on Winning this year's Club Singles Championship – and to Robin Stoddart for his great performance.

Don.

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Saturday Pennant

Aberfeldie 1 – (Match report from Michael Bialczak)

Playing at Doutta Galla, this was a game for the ages and as tense a finish as you could want. In very hot and blustery conditions, and luckily starting a bit earlier than usual, Doutta Galla got the jump on us very early on and after 28 ends, led 32-15. At around the halfway point, we managed to claw back a few shots to trail 28-41. After that, all our rinks started to improve and with a number of 4's and 5's, we were only 1 shot down with 4 ends to play, Ian's last end and Manny's last 3 ends. Ian's team managed to win 2 shots on their last end which meant we

hit the lead for the first time all game, one shot up with 3 ends to go. Manny's team won the 82nd end by 1 shot, which gave us a 2 shot buffer, only for Doutta Galla to hit back on the 83rd end to win 3 shots and take the lead back again, by 1 shot. That set up a very tense and seemingly endless 84th end. Some great lead bowling by John Pater then by Robin Stoddart saw us holding 2 shots, only for their 3rd to hit the kitty back, which fortunately landed near our bowl - 1 up with 7 bowls remaining. Nothing changed until their Skipper's first bowl, a heavy draw, which clipped the kitty, and with everyone eagerly looking on, the kitty went out of bounds. So, onto another 84th end. John Pater started off his first bowl just about 18 inches away to the side and was holding shot until their 2nd drew one close behind, only about 12 inches back - and in the really difficult conditions, hard to beat. That's when you need someone with nerves of steel and a cool head to step up, and in this case, it was Lynne Grogan, fresh from dousing her head with water from the water fountain, drew her 1st shot a couple of inches back from the kitty, making the overall scores level and the crowd went wild. But it was nothing like when Lynne with her 2nd shot does it again just a few inches away, and gives us the lead back. Waiting with bated breath to see what their Skipper would do, both his bowls were slightly narrow which meant a 1 shot victory for us, 74-73.

John Grogan, Wayne Harper, Frank Piccolo, Stuart O'Brien - 14-26

Tough day, starting off 0-13 down after 7 ends but, importantly for the overall score, fought it out to the end to outscore Doutta Galla 14-13 in the last 14 ends.

Ian Ferretter, Don Leale, Endre Rakosi, Lorenzo Di Sipio - 19-21

Lost a 5 early on and were playing catch up for the rest of the game but never gave up. Were down 7-12 after 11 ends but brought it back to 19-21 at the end, including a crucial 2 on the last end which gave Aberfeldie the overall lead for the first time.

Sean Lee, Joe Engert, Bill Walshe, Michael Bialczak - 19-14

In what was a seesawing affair all the way though, with only ever a couple of shots in it, and their Skipper saving at least 10 shots during the game, and with Sean crucially converting a number of ends our way, it wasn't until a late 5 saw us draw away to win by 5 overall.

Manny Flores, Lyn Grogan, Robin Stoddart, John Pater - 22-12

In a really solid team performance, which ended up giving us the overall win, we were always leading, up 11-6 after 11 ends - and kept on extending the lead and as described in the summary above, finishing with 2 amazing bowls from Lynne.

Aberfeldie 2 – BYE and now needing to win our concluding three games.

Mid-week Pennant – resumes on Tuesday with both our teams sitting atop their respective ladders.

Club Championship

See Club President Don's report above – great game in tough conditions.

Runner Up Robin Stoddart (Left) & Club Champion Joe Engert



Social Bowls

A reminder that social bowls on Thursday is 11.45am for a 12pm start. Use it to hone your skills.

Club Diary

Saturday 21 January – Saturday Pennant Round 11

Aberfeldie 1 V Craigieburn at Home

Aberfeldie 2 V Sunbury at Sunbury

Sunday 22 January – Completion date for Round 1 of Club Pairs Championship

17 January – Mid-week Pennant Round 10

Aberfeldie 1 V Sunshine RSL at Sunshine RSL

Aberfeldie 2 V Strathmore at Strathmore



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