

# The Hawthorn Herald

News Magazine of the Hawthorn Bowling Club

**The Hawthorn Bowling Club is a friendly, successful innovative bowling club offering the highest standard of facilities whilst promoting bowls as an enjoyable healthy sport for people of all ages and ability.**

March/April 2010

**FROM THE EDITOR**

**Rose Mitchell**

**In our lives, there is a time for everything from when we are born to when we die. For Maurie Simpson, his seventy four years of life ended with his death on Easter Monday 2010. Over seventy club members attended his funeral, a fitting tribute to a man who had worked tirelessly for the club. In July, Lois will scatter his ashes at his favourite fishing spot in Queensland, their winter retreat, among the many friends they have made there over the years.**

**An unsung hero, he was adamant that a Profile for the Herald should not be written about Lois and himself. What they both did for the club was given voluntarily and we all know what gaps will have to be filled. More likely we don't know just how many yet until, over time, we find little things not done.**

**Maurie was a true blue Aussie male and not given to expressing sentiment with the exception of the performance of footballers and their coaches and the wisdom of selectors in a variety of sports. His stock answer to "how are you" was always "wonderful" and when he became ill, he said it was "flu".**

**He was very protective of Lois. The driver of the women's team of a Saturday could expect a brief word from Maurie before leaving the club. Reticent but the intent very clear - you are driving Lois, therefore there will be no doughnuts, no burn outs, no dragging off the others at the lights; her return will be at the earliest possible time without you breaking any traffic laws.**

**Not given to a lot of smiles, when it was your turn at the bar he would simply look at you while extending one arm towards the fridge. Clearly this was no time to say that you would like one of those green bottles, don't know the name and can't see it at the moment.**

**We are shocked by his death, saddened by our loss and grieve for Lois and their family. Vale Maurie Simpson, you were a top bloke.**

**I would like to thank everyone for their care and concern for Maurie during the weeks he was ill. It meant a great deal to myself and our family at this very difficult time. Thank you also to all those who came to his funeral and for your ongoing love, kindness and sympathy for me. Lois**

## **REPORTS**

### **PRESIDENT**

**Jan Lind**

#### **2010/11 Competition Policy...draft**

Bowls SA has been granted a two year exemption by the Equal Opportunity Tribunal to organize and conduct single gender bowls competitions. However, Bowls SA also recognize the need to continue to provide the opportunity for members to participate in open competitions.

To this end a draft policy has been formulated to incorporate single gender and open gender competitions.

It is suggested that the Metropolitan competition be as follows:

Wednesday: Men

Thursday: Women

Saturday: Open

Women's triples

If a club has insufficient same gender players available, then any eligible member of the club with comparable playing ability may be used in the club's lowest side and may only play as a Lead or Second.

I stress that this is a **draft policy** that will be discussed at Bowls SA Council meeting on April 27<sup>th</sup>, but I personally believe that the final document will be very similar.

#### **Social Bowls at HBC**

Before the commencement of the Pennant season the Board made a decision that we would encourage social bowls to be played alongside Pennant matches on Saturdays. This decision was made to accommodate those bowlers who wanted to play but did not want to commit to playing regularly.

A huge "thank you" is extended to Rose Mitchell and Anne Wehr who volunteered to take charge of this group and make new bowlers welcome.

A steady number of people turned up to play each Saturday and as a result several will play Pennants next season.

This activity is a worthwhile venture and must continue next season.

#### **Thank you**

As this is my last contribution to the Herald, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the members of the club for their friendship and support over the past 15 years.

I have enjoyed my time at the club immensely.

**VICE PRESIDENT - WOMEN****Evelyn Manser**

This has certainly been an interesting season for the Club, with mostly good results all round! Ladies Premier 2 retained its position brilliantly, finishing second on the ladder and then contesting the Final which went to Ascot Park. Well done girls! Our Metro side after a difficult year finished ninth out of twelve and were not disgraced – well done!

As this is my last report as vice-president I would like to pay tribute to the Members of the Board for their efforts on behalf of the Hawthorn Bowling Club. Each member has brought their own special talents to the task in hand, voluntarily, and has contributed to the smooth running of the Club.

Mention must also be made of the other contributors to our Club – Tournament Committee, Social Committee, Membership Committee (mostly newer members) Selectors, Social Bowls organizers, Fiona our caterer, and all those who volunteer their time when the Club has outside tournaments here. Not forgetting our Greens Staff – Simon and Co. who work hard to keep our greens in good condition. Our Club, thanks to these people, is forging ahead while others round us are failing – we need to keep up the good work.

A golfing friend of mine who had been a member of the golf club years before I joined, was asked how she thought the current committee was doing the job. Her reply was –“I am not prepared to put myself out to do the job they are doing, therefore I am not entitled to criticize those who are.” She never did and that is a maxim I think we should all follow don't you think?

*Has anyone else found that the most important information on any map is on the fold?*

**VICE PRESIDENT - MEN****Bob Wadsworth**

Four weeks is obviously a long time in pennants. Things were looking gloomy when I reported at the last Board meeting that our top sides were “looking down the barrel”. As far as the Saturday pennants were concerned, the Premier one side put together a staggering run of five successive wins which saw it rise like a phoenix from the ashes of relegation to finish seventh. This all happened without any dramatic change in personnel and I think augers well for next season. Metro I West put in better performances towards the end of the season and finished fifth. Likewise, the Metro 1 South side finished fifth, which is a very creditable result considering they moved up from Metro 2 at the beginning of the season. Metro 2 South finished eighth, Metro 3 East fifth and Metro 4 South fourth.

In Wednesday pennants, the Premier one side had been flirting with relegation all year but some better performances in the last few games saw the team retain its position in

Premier One league. This proved to be very important because our Metro 1 South side put in some very strong performances over the closing games to take out the pennant and earn promotion to Premier Two next season. Our Metro 2 side also performed well to come second while the Metro 3 side finished fourth.

I think it is reasonable to say that the Hawthorn Bowling club has had a very successful year on the greens and the signs are that we can look forward to next season with confidence. The club has finished on a high.

## **TREASURER**

**Andrew Kleinig**

See pages 7-8.

## **GREENS MANAGER**

**Bernie Manser**

Once again as the season finishes the greens are probably at their best. The timing of playing pennants doesn't match the prime growing season for our grass. Little growth is able to be achieved before the Christmas break and by then the season is half over. Maybe sometime in the future the timing of the pennant season will recognize this.

The recent heavy rain caused flooding of all greens but they all recovered quickly. The drainage on the eastern end of B green is still an issue, if not as bad as in previous years. The greenkeepers' plan is to core, fertilise and top-dress it this week and to repeat this over the Christmas break. It is hoped that the introduction of additional sandy soil will further improve the drainage and thus achieve a better grass cover in the problem area. The alternative is to excavate the whole green and start again. The cost of doing this is considered to be out of our financial reach at this stage. It is planned to keep this green out of play until the start of the pennant season.

No major work is planned for the other greens in the coming season.

The Club has been successful in obtaining a grant to go towards the cost of installing retractable shades between C & D greens. This work including repairs to seating, will be carried out over winter in readiness for next summer.

Mitcham Council will be installing new plinths on all greens but as yet have not advised when this will happen. It will probably be included in their budget for 2010-2011.

Our thanks go to Simon for his professional approach to the presentation of the greens, well done Simon. Thank you also David for the multitude of tasks he attends to, in particular to the way he presents the gardens and surrounds.

Enjoy the winter bowling season.

**CHAIRPERSONS OF SELECTORS****Women - Thursday****Bev Ploenges**

Our season began under the guidance of Club Coach Trevor Sharpe who co-ordinated skills practice and individual coaching. "No short bowls" was his war cry - unfortunately it did not seem to register some days. Due to ill health Trevor resigned before Christmas but still managed to support Hawthorn Pennant days.

Premier 2S

A very successful season, finishing 2nd on Table and in doing so, qualified to play the Finals.

Results ----1st semi -- Lost to Ascot Park  
 Prelim -- Won against Beaumont  
 Grand Final -- Lost to Ascot Park

Congratulations to all players for their efforts during the season and on reaching their goal, playing in a Grand Final for Hawthorn. I hope you all enjoyed the experience.

Metro 1S

Finished 9th on Pennant Table. Competition was very strong and being a 12 side division, Hawthorn was unlucky by having to play the top clubs twice, not the lower clubs. Practice was well attended and the girls worked very hard all season.

Thank you to all the men who have played for us the last two seasons especially Ron Lind and Colin Watkins who were permanent players for Premier 2.

To Jan and Ron Lind ---- Good luck and best wishes on your "sea-change" and we will see you on the greens down south.

The Selectors thank players for their support and co-operation during 2009 -10 and hope to see you all next season. Enjoy winter and laugh a lot - best remedy for all.

**Women- Saturday****Margaret Lamshed**

Saturday Ladies Triples finished up 6th on the ladder and we were very pleased with this result.

We thank Myra Materne, Iris Nicholas, Noreen Stanley, Marion Powell, Jill McAuliffe, Helen Richter and Leonie Ashby for standing in when we were short. Thank you also to Barbara Payne who stepped into the position of skipper as from the 6th match. We enjoyed the season.

**Men – Wednesday****Graham Dodd**

The 2009-10 Wednesday pennant season ended very well with:

- Premier 1 finishing 6<sup>th</sup> and retaining strongly in that grade.
- Metro 1 South taking the premiership and putting themselves in a position for promotion into Premier 2 for the 2010-11 Pennant season. The last game happy snap of the final victorious Side is below with a total of 26 players contributing throughout the Season. Thank you to all those contributing players – you made it happen!



- A very good 2<sup>nd</sup> place for the Metro 2 South Side who are now in a position to be eligible for promotion to Metro 1.
- A strong 4<sup>th</sup> for the Metro 3 South Side.

Congratulations to every bowler in the 2009-10 Wednesday Pennant for a job well done!

A feature this season has been the introduction of the organized Tuesday practice after Christmas that resulted in better team performances and ratings amongst team members. The combination of exercises for bowlers, skill practices and competitive games improved our preparation for the Wednesday competitions.

The Wednesday Selection Committee of Graham Giles, Bernie Manser, Brian Harmer, Barry Hanna, Ron Jones, & Glen Dow worked together extremely well to shape the teams for the success achieved. Congratulations and many thanks to each of them for an enjoyable and productive season!

The challenge lies ahead for us to step up to playing in Premier 2, and getting even more success for all our sides in 2010-11. **CARN HAWKS**

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