

Gippsland Region Board summary

The Gippsland Region Board met on Monday 7 June 2021 after the GBR Annual General Meeting. The following is a summary of matters discussed and decisions made.

2021/22 fees

The Board capped the 2021/22 capitation fee at \$5 per member per club, based on the number of members with full playing rights on 30 June 2021 as registered on BowlsLink. This decision took account of the one-off transfer of funds from each division to the Region and the recently announced capitation fees being charged by Bowls Victoria.

Pennant

The Board noted that work was well under way on preparations for the 2021/22 pennant season, with a number of clubs already having submitted their teams. It plans to appoint members from the east playing area to the Competitions Committee as soon as possible to join Jan Morton, Pam Carter and James McCausland.

The Board agreed to amend the starting time Rule for Saturday pennant to accommodate the needs of clubs with team members who work. The Rule will be redrafted to the effect that the normal starting time is 1.30pm and can be brought forward up to 60 minutes by agreement.

As advised previously via an email from President Jan Morton, the Board discussed a request from several clubs that there be one team per club in Division 1 Saturday pennant. In recognition that such a move may cause some anxiety, particularly in smaller clubs, it is seeking input from all clubs in the Region.

State events

The Board discussed the generally low number of entries received for State events, agreeing it is essential to encourage more entries to promote greater interest and competition.

In this context, it decided that starting from the 2021/22 season, all State events will be conducted on a regional basis rather than in playing areas. Entries from composite teams in pairs, triples and fours events will also be permitted. This means that a player/s from clubs in the north playing area could form a team with a player/s from the east.

The Competitions Committee will be asked to amend the Rules accordingly. At the appropriate time, clubs will be invited to submit an expression of interest in hosting a Regional State event.

Board and delegated officer positions

The Board elected Nigel Plunkett as Vice President; three director vacancies remain to be filled.

The following were appointed to delegated officer positions:

- Pennant and State Events Recorder, Brad Lancaster
- Web Manager, Simon Alleaume
- Communications Coordinator, Bronwyn Thwaites
- Coaching Coordinator, Nigel Plunkett
- Umpiring Coordinator, Keith Pritchard
- Sponsorship Coordinator, to be confirmed.

Correspondence

The Board noted two letters dated 24 May 2021 from Jeff Amos, Secretary/Treasurer North Gippsland Bowls Division:

- one in relation to a cheque of \$750 from the NGBD state pennant subsidy fund to be used to assist with future club sides competing in statewide pennant titles
- the other in relation to a cheque for \$2425 to be used as an offset for affiliation fees for north section clubs in 2021/22.

Region book

The Board agreed to produce a six-panel brochure with club details, key dates, and other relevant information. The brochure will be published on the Region's website and be available in a downloadable print format.

Clubs will be asked to submit details of their main tournament days for inclusion in the brochure.

Region uniform

The Board agreed to retain black pants and shorts or skorts as part of the uniform. It deferred discussion on the design of the new Region shirt to the next meeting.

Greens inspections

The Board noted that clubs will need to have their greens inspected before the start of pennant. Any club which has reconstructed, converted or resurfaced their greens will require a Bowls Victoria Greens Committee inspection.

Next meeting

Monday 28 June, 10am at Paynesville Bowling Club.

Bronwyn Thwaites
Region Secretary