



Gippsland Region Board summary

The Gippsland Region Board (GBR) met on Tuesday 30 August. The following is a summary of matters discussed and decisions made.

2022/23 fees

GBR Treasurer Colin Smith advised that invoices for the 2022/23 capitation fees will be sent soon to clubs. The fee is \$6 per full-time member with playing rights, the total amount due for each club calculated on the same number used by Bowls Victoria when determining its fees. The Region will not charge a fee for junior members.

Pennant structure

The Board noted that the 2022/23 Midweek and Saturday pennant structure has been confirmed by the Competitions Committee with no change following consideration of objections submitted by Paynesville (promotion), Heyfield (promotion and scheduling), and Lakes Entrance and Orbost (number of rounds in Midweek). The GBR advised each club about the outcome and rationale for Committee's ruling on their respective objections. The pennant draws have been published on the GBR website and Facebook page.

State events

The Board was pleased with the positive response from clubs about hosting the early State events, with the following venues confirmed:

- Heyfield, Novice Singles on 25 September and 16 October
- Lakes Entrance, 60 Plus Singles on 25 September and 16 October
- Sale (West Sale if overflow required), 60 Plus Pairs on 23 and 30 October

The Competitions Committee is yet to confirm the venue for day 1 of the State Triples on Sunday 9 October.

Number of ends

Under revised Conditions of Play announced by Bowls Victoria, the number of ends including finals is as follows:

- 60 Plus Pairs - 12
- State Pairs -15
- State Triples - 18
- State Fours -15.

Representative Sides

The Board approved the appointment of Keren Blake (Sale) and Ivan Thompson (Paynesville) to the Representative Sides Selection Committee. They join Colin Smith, Brad Lancaster, Pam Carter, Judy Beesley, Ray Kennedy and Ian Johns. Before the Sides competition in Moama at the end of May 2023, the selected Gippsland Region side will play a practice match against Strzelecki at Traralgon.

Junior development

Nigel Plunkett provided an update on the junior development program, highlighting:

- the Gippsland Geckos will be competing at the Doug Kneebone Under-18 Tournament, the first junior bowls competition of the season to be held at Club Sunbury on Friday 23 September
- the Region has secured a trailer for equipment to be branded with Geckos signage
- Bairnsdale Bowls Club has been the training hub for the junior development squad, with a similar hub to be established at a north club
- discussions are under way with Bowls Victoria about the possibility of a junior tournament in Gippsland and the establishment of a junior league involving local clubs as a precursor to the 2023 primary schools competition.

Umpiring

The Board acknowledged the frustration of members who have applied to do an umpiring course and the lack of information about when and where one will be held. Jan Morton is liaising with Bob Carlson of Bowls Victoria about the matter and the urgent need to resolve outstanding accreditation and reaccreditation issues.

Coaching

Nigel Plunkett proposes to run two coaching courses comprising online and on green components. The online component needs to be completed before the qualification is granted. The on green component is scheduled for:

- Monday 12 September at Lindenow Bowls Club, 8.30 to 3pm
- Tuesday and Wednesday 4 and 5 October from 6-9pm, also at Lindenow, primarily but not exclusively for those who work.

Those interested need to apply online using this link [Coaching Course Application Form \(google.com\)](#). They can contact Nigel for more information 0400 569 481 or email plunks991@bigpond.com.

Information session

The next information session for delegates will be held at Paynesville Bowls Club on Monday 10 October at 10am. RSVP to gippslandbr@gmail.com by Monday 3 October for catering purposes.

Bronwyn Thwaites
Region Secretary