



Gippsland Region Board summary

The Gippsland Region Board met on Monday 14 August at Bairnsdale Bowls Club. The following is a summary of matters discussed and decisions made.

2023/24 pennant

The Board noted that following feedback from clubs, the 2023/24 pennant schedule has been finalised and distributed. Jan Morton advised that the draw will be done once the Bowls Victoria (BV) Conditions of Play for the coming season are received. Among factors that need to be considered is the number of available greens at clubs.

The Board supports pennant games being played under lights, subject to agreement between individual clubs. In such cases, the host club will need to advise the Competitions Committee beforehand via gippslandbr@gmail.com.

State events

The Board approved the State events calendar and Expression of Interest form for clubs wishing to host an event. It set the entry fee at \$10 per player, \$5 of which goes to the host club and \$5 to cover prize money. The GBR Junior Championship has been included in the calendar for the first time.

The Board is concerned that clubs organise their championships without always considering that some are a pathway to prestigious State events, eg Champ of Champs. As such, it encourages clubs to develop a championship calendar that maximises player participation and availability.

Region Sides

The Board noted that Bowls Victoria has selected Ballarat as the venue for the 2024 Region Sides Championship, to be held over two days on 13 and 14 January. An Expression of Interest form will be available on the GBR website for players wishing to be considered for selection in the men's and women's teams.

Regulations review

The Board noted that a comprehensive review of the GBR Regulations is under way to ensure they are fit for purpose. The Regulations include:

- the Region structure
- governance including the Board election process
- the number of committees, their responsibilities, and nomination process
- program of events
- finances and assets
- disciplinary processes, region standards and policies.

If amended, the Regulations will be implemented before the 2024 election cycle.

Social media

The Board discussed a recent inappropriate post by a bowler from a member club on the Bowls Talk Victoria Facebook page. It reminds clubs that the Region's social media policy must be followed by all bowlers. The matter has been referred to the club concerned for action.

Board meeting schedule

The Board adopted the following 2023/24 meeting schedule:

- 11 September
- 9 October (preceded by a delegates Information Session)
- 13 November
- 11 December
- 15 January
- 19 February (preceded by a delegates Information Session)
- 18 March
- 15 April
- (Sunday) 26 May Annual General Meeting.

Competitions Committee

The Board has appointed Jeff Wheaton (Maffra) to the Competitions Committee.

Capitation fees

Clubs will soon receive an invoice for 2023/24 capitation fees, set at \$10 per member with full playing rights (juniors exempt) based on numbers supplied by Bowls Victoria. Fees will be payable by 30 September.

Bronwyn Thwaites
Region Secretary