



Gippsland Region Board summary

The Gippsland Region Board met on Monday 22 January at Maffra Bowls Club. The following is a summary of matters discussed and decisions made.

Pennant

The Board noted that the Competitions Committee is meeting this week to determine the venues for the pennant finals. Detailed finals information will be sent to all participating clubs in due course.

Following the completion of the finals, the Committee will undertake a comprehensive review of the 2023/24 season, including divisional structure, scoring, duration and Conditions of Play. Any recommendations will be presented to the Board, and once approved referred to the clubs for feedback.

Affiliation fees

The Board noted the 16 January email to clubs from Bowls Victoria (BV) expressing concern about clubs under-reporting their membership and the potential impact this had on government funding and commercial sponsorship. The issue will be an item for discussion at the Delegates Information Session on 19 February.

Region Sides

Sides Managers presented preliminary reports on the 2024 Region Sides Championships held in Ballarat, noting among other things:

- the new format of three games on one day followed by finals the next day did not provide sufficient opportunity for competition
- splitting the event over four different venues detracted from the atmosphere for such a major event.

Following discussion, the Board agreed that:

- selectors should be non playing
- a review of team accommodation be undertaken
- team changes at the event should be the responsibility of the Sides Managers.

Regulations

The Board endorsed the proposed changes to the GBR Regulations, subject to additions to the Representative Sides Terms of Reference. The revised Regulations will be presented at the Delegates Information Session.

Junior development

Nigel Plunkett advised that School Sports Victoria will run a primary school competition at Bairnsdale Bowls Club in April. Clubs already working with juniors will be encouraged to take part.

Protected events

The Board reminds clubs that State events are protected. Where a club championship clashes with a State event, clubs must give their players the opportunity to play their game on an alternative date.

Next meeting

Monday 19 February 2024 at Bairnsdale BC following the Information Session.

Bronwyn Thwaites
Region Secretary