



West Pennant Hills Sports Club Men's Bowls Section

Annual Report 2011/2012

**President
Peter Eagle**

Management Committee

**Senior Vice President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer
Bowls Co-ordinator**

**Warren Phillips
Mathew Stubbs
Dallas Palm
Stephen Watson
Mal Horner**

Committee

**Alan Bowry
Tony Boughton
Max Walters**

Chairman of Selectors

Michael Schwarcz

Chairman of Umpires

Don Couch

Chairman of Coaches

Dallas Palm

Patrons

Doug Gunton, Wilf Morschel, Barry Walker

Life Members

**Doug Gunton, Wilf Morschel
Keith Robinson, Barry Walker**

Permanent Committees and Panels 2011/2012

Match Committee

Mal Horner (ch)
Tony Boughton
Michael Schwarcz
Max Walters

Greens Committee

Peter Eagle (ch)
Mat Stubbs
Warren Phillips

Sub Committees

Communication

Dallas Palm
Tony Boughton
Max Walters

Membership

Max Walters (ch)
Dallas Palm

Corporate

Max Walters

Sponsorship

Peter Eagle (ch)
Alan Bowry
Warren Phillips

Mixed

Tony Boughton (ch)
Peter Eagle
Margaret Wighton
Denise Hopkins

Schools

Aaron Barnett (ch)

Welfare

David Roles

Open Day

Peter Eagle
Dallas Palm
Mathew Stubbs
Warren Phillips
Denise Hopkins
Rosemary Roles

Zone 10 Delegate

Peter Eagle
Warren Phillips (alt)

President's Report

Peter Eagle

It is with pleasure that I report to the bowlers and reflect on what has occurred over the last twelve months. During my initial address it was mentioned that there were a number of challenges that the Management Committee needed to consider and deal with during the course of the year. Before mentioning these, I would like to express my gratitude collectively to the Management Committee for the many hours that they have put into their positions which is entirely voluntary. Without their commitment, the Men's Bowling Section would not function.

The challenges were the state of the greens, new uniforms, the Challenge Cup, training, Open Days, selections and completing a survey of members on a number of issues. These have been completed or are in the process of being completed and will take place in the current year, especially the Open Day. More will be said about the greens in a separate report. My appreciation goes to Terry Barnett who, as the previous President, commenced the new uniform requirements, and to Warren Phillips who took over the role and brought the matter to completion. Many comments have been made internally and externally about the new uniforms on how good they look and especially the return of the Koala logo.

The inaugural Challenge Cup has been played between West Pennant Hills and Pennant Hills Bowling Clubs. This will be an annual event which in 2013 will be hosted by West Pennant Hills. The result was close. I am sure the bowlers are looking forward to being on the other side of the line when next we meet.

The selectors have had an up and down year based upon the number of bowlers that were available. They started off well in selecting sides for the Orange Blossom Festival which was held at Castle Hill Bowling Club. West Pennant Hills won the Festival after an eleven year break. Shortly after, our teams played in the Hornsby Cup which was hosted at Asquith Bowling Club. Although, we were not successful in winning the Cup, the performance of our side was excellent. The results of our Pennant sides were below expectations in some respects, but from the results, I am of the opinion that the club can push forward to win another Pennant. I had the opportunity to watch the final game of the Grade Six side. Although, they lost the game, what stood out was that the three teams did not give up at any time during the game. It is for this reason that I make the comment that we can go further. We also took part in the NSW Bowls Club Challenge this year. To the selectors, you have done an excellent job and I thank you for your dedication.

The training program was greeted by some bowlers with enthusiasm but unfortunately not by all bowlers. The reasons for this were discussed at the Pennant Appreciation Day event. Some interesting comments came from the bowlers which allowed the trainers to be able to expand more on the reasoning behind the program. There is certainly no doubt that the level of enthusiasm amongst the bowlers is there - it is now a matter of wanting to improve. To Michael Schwarcz and Warren Phillips, thank you for your efforts.

The Koala Carnival as well as the Turn-Around-Triples events have been completed this year. Both were very successful. We do have a reputation in hosting our events well and we maintained that position. To the bowlers who participated in both events, thank you for being involved and representing West Pennant Hills.

We have had a difficult year weather wise. Twenty nine days have been lost when we budgeted for only eighteen days. On top of this we were unable to host corporate events that had been booked, Probus bowls days and twilight bowls. This has had an impact on our income, though

after taking into consideration what has taken place, we will not be far off the mark in relation to our budget.

Due to the number of bowlers who did not renew their membership this year because of ill health, which was in excess of twenty, the committee felt that it is necessary to hold an Open Day. We have not held an Open Day for at least five years. A lot of the preparation work has been completed and it is planned to hold the Open Day in the latter part of 2012.

As mentioned, a survey of the bowlers has been completed. I understand this was the first time this has occurred. Its purpose was to provide the Committee with insight on a range of issues. The survey was anonymous and a good response was received. The results have been discussed with the bowlers, and a copy of the results has been supplied to the Directors of the Sports Club.

Welfare of our bowlers is an aspect that we like to maintain. It is important that should a bowler become ill or is unable to bowl due to some other factor, contact is maintained. I would like to thank David Roles for his dedication as Welfare Officer. David has kept bowlers up to date on what is happening and dealt with other requirements when necessary.

West Pennant Hills has a number of representatives who occupy Zone 10 positions. I would be remiss in not mentioning those people: Michael Schwarcz, Warren Phillips and Les Watkins. Robert Cole and I have also provided assistance during the year to Zone 10. The positions are voluntary. It is important that we be involved at Zone level for the sake of our club and bowls in general.

On behalf of the Committee and bowlers, I wish to extend to our sponsors a special thank you for the support that you have provided over the last twelve months. We are most grateful to:

- Richard Hickey & Co
- Homeway First National Real Estate (Bill Austin)

We hope that we will be able to maintain your support in the coming years. It is very much appreciated and we look forward to continuing the relationship.

To the Chairman, Richard Hickey and the Directors of the Sports Club thank you for your wonderful assistance during the last twelve months. Also, to the bowling club Directors, Steve Brady and Keith Robinson your guidance is very much appreciated.

I would like to extend to Jason Read, the Sports Club administration staff, the bar staff and Peter and his Restaurant staff, a thank you for the support received. Jason has always been ready listen to our ideas and concerns plus provided advice and recommendations on a course of action where necessary. Without that support we would not be in a position to successfully stage events and complete our requirements.

Finally to the bowlers, umpires, coaches and selectors thank you for your support over the last twelve months. You are the backbone of the Men's Bowling Section. I hope 2013 will be a successful year for all bowlers and that your ambitions will be fulfilled.

Match Committee and Bowls Secretary Report

Mal Horner (Bowls Co-ordinator)

As mentioned in last year's report, the program required to run the Men's Bowls Section championships each year is becoming more difficult. The goal is to manufacture a program that enables all nine men's championships and two mixed championships to be scheduled in a such a way to fit in with all of the other events such as ten (10) weeks of State Pennants, plus five (5) weeks of Midweek Pennants and a similar number of Mixed Pennants that are to be played on Saturdays during October and November. There are at least two external Pennant Trials, plus (6)

weekends for State Singles, Pairs and Triples. Added to those we also have to allow for the annual events such as the Koala Carnival, the Turnaround Triples, the Orange Blossom Challenge and Hornsby Cup competition. In addition WPH also took on the responsibility of running a section of the Zone Senior Singles and Pairs

Over the past few years, the message conveyed from some of our members is that they don't want to play on Sundays. With that in mind, this year we moved some of the events to Wednesdays or in the case of Mixed Pairs and Triples, to alternate Tuesdays and Wednesdays. All of those events turned out to be popular and successful. In addition, we also scheduled Rounds 2 and 3 of the Pairs and Triples matches to be played on the same day. Whether or not we took that option depended largely on the number of entries we received. This had the effect of taking pressure off the programming as a whole.

This year we have lost so many days through rain, however with some minor program changes we have managed to retain our schedule. We must be thankful for the support the players gave when we had to make last minute program changes because of the rain.

During the year, the Novice Singles was replaced by the Ken Wighton Singles. The Novice Singles proved to be rather restrictive in so much that eligibility was for bowlers who had registered with the Royal within the past four years. Eligibility for The Ken Wighton Singles allows for anyone who has not won a Major or Minor event at WPH or any other club to participate. There are no membership time limits on the Ken Wighton Singles.

In regard to the two carnivals we ran this year, the TAT was fully subscribed and was a success, and the Koala Carnival was also a success albeit with 22 teams entered. The lack of entries can be directly attributed to the number of carnivals run by other clubs. If we are to fill the full 28 team limit, then we may have to consider a revamp of the way we run the carnival. Once again we must thank our sponsor *Homeway First National Real Estate* for their generosity by providing not only the prize money but also the big screen television set that made a big profit in the main raffle.

Finally, there have been so many people who have helped me to carry out the Bowls Secretary's duties, and it would be remiss not to thank the members who put their hands up to run the two Zone events and to act as Umpire, Marker and Controlling Body.

Coaches Committee

Dallas Palm

Keith Robinson, Ken Wighton, Michael Schwarcz have again been committed to providing coaching for new bowlers, and remedial coaching to existing bowlers when asked.

Warren Phillips successfully completed the 'Club Coach' course early this year and has been busy working with new bowlers, taking some of the load from the other coaches. We welcome Warren to this very rewarding element of the sport.

With the changes to the coaching regime, the emphasis is now on getting new players onto the green with minimal coaching. To assist with this, we had 4 of our members (Peter Eagle, Warren Phillips, Mat Stubbs, and Max Walters) satisfactorily complete the "Introductory Coaching" course. Denise Hopkins and Rosemary Roles also completed the course. The Introductory coaches provide an opportunity for potential new players to experience the game of bowls. Candidates that show interest in taking up the sport with our club are then handed over to our Club Coaches (Keith Robinson, Michael Schwarcz, Ken Wighton, Warren Phillips, Dallas Palm) to develop their basic skills, basic rules, and an understanding of playing the game in safety, and hopefully convince them to play and stay at West Pennant Hills.

Michael & Warren were instrumental in establishing a training programme for our Pennant teams this year. They provided coaching sessions prior to start of the season and for the whole of the season. This took quite a bit of their time and I'm sure those that participated were grateful for their efforts.

I give my thanks and appreciation to all of our coaches for their input and their support over the past 12 months.

Umpires Committee

Don Couch

Chairman:	Don Couch		
	Lorraine Begg	Barbara Hazeltine	Michael Schwarcz
	Tony Boughton	Dallas Palm	Geoff Seamons
	Bob Cole	Warren Phillips	Les Watkins
	Peter Eagle	Rod Roberts	David Wilson

Highlights during the year include:

- Involvement for all men's section events, zone events & some women's pennant & club championships.
- Warren Phillips being elected as Zone 10 Treasurer.
- Les Watkins, Michael Schwarcz & Bob Cole continue to occupy Zone positions and/or assist in helping in umpiring duties and managing the Metropolitan Zone 10 Senior Side.

I thank all my umpiring colleagues for the time & effort required for the successful running of all events.

Selection Committee

Michael Schwarcz

The selectors fully appreciate all the members that played for and on behalf of the West Pennant Hills, whether it was playing Pennant or representing the club in district events, or those bowlers that turn up on our social bowling days (Saturdays, Wednesdays and Fridays). All the aforesaid is what makes this club the friendliest in our Zone. So many times I go to clubs who have no social bowls and I find these clubs cold and with no fellowship. I am always glad to leave their premises, which is not a feeling I have at WPH.

I suppose there are a number of members that would like to know some facts and figures of our past Pennant season. This year was not one of our more successful but by no means the worst. I will talk a little about the results of the different grades.

	Grade 3	Grade 5	Grade 6
Result	Played nine games: won 0 from 5 at home won 4 from 4 away	Played 10 games: won 2 from 3 at home won 2 from 3 away	Played 10 games: won 1 from 6 at home won 1 from 4 away
Points	24.5	25.5	15.5
Shots for	522	558	494
Shots against	532	610	604
Finished	6th out 10 teams	11th out 18 teams	18th out of 18 teams
Most successful skip	Ross Tinmouth (on count back)	Matt Stubbs	Barry Walker (on count back)
Points	5	7	2
Shots for	195	212	179
Shots Against	158	185	207
Comment	This year was a complete reversal of our previous year where they won all their home games and lost all their away games. Actually this time, the rest of teams were more successful than the skips.		We must commend the players in this grade as they stayed focused throughout the season. They had to contend with changes of players due to the higher grades having players away.

Summary

Early on in 2012 after discussion by the selectors with members of the Management Committee it was decided to concentrate on the fives with the view to winning a flag within three years. This meant that there would need to be a commitment on the players both in playing and training.

Our decision was enhanced by the fact that 60 players turned up to a seminar on training run by Michael Beaumont (RNSWBA). When the forms of commitment were filled out we found that 97% made a commitment to train and about 85% to play the 10 games. We also informed the potential grade 3 players of what was intended by the selectors, and also asked whether there were any players that would come and help this experiment - 4 players volunteered to play in the 5s. So the selectors and the Management Committee felt they had the backing of club Pennant players.

The result was that for the whole Pennant season we had 72 absentees, amounting to 7 players a week that a replacement had to be found. This did not help to provide consistent team selections.

Most intended players in grade 5 and grade 6 and few in grade 3 did the benchmark tests, which did show up a few problems in the players. All Pennant players were given exercises for their intended position, and except for the selectors, only about 7 players did the exercises. No one approached the coaches for help with their issues.

In comparison to similar size clubs with a similar culture one might extrapolate that this club is not interested in winning a flag.

Beecroft for the last 3 years out of 4 has reached post sectional playoffs and twice won the flag. What is the difference? They had two teams only with the same players making a commitment for ten weeks year after year. The other thing they do is train weekly. No big name players, no payments.

Gladesville have won consistently over the years moving from grade 5 to grade 1 with mainly the same players. Why? - Player commitment and training.

The same goes for Dural who were very close this year to get at least one team in Post Sectional Play.

And the same goes with Hunters Hill.

Conclusion:

The club needs to decide whether they want to win a flag and go into 2013 with 2 teams and an internal competition. It will mean a commitment of 10 weeks and to train by the teams selected.

Does the club want to enter the Pennant competition as a social event, with no social events on Pennant Days (nothing wrong with this)? This will result in the loss of better players who leave for a club focused on winning a flag as has happened over the last few years.

My opinion is that whatever the club wants to do is ok by me. I will still be happy to select. I am too old to leave a club I am comfortable to be at.

Note: In October 2012 there will be two courses put on by Bowls Australia

- Selection (how to) \$50.00 per person
- Competition (how to prepare for) \$50.00 per person

These modules are open to everyone (budding Selectors should go)

I would like to thank my fellow selectors for support and assistance over the past year especially Warren Phillips, who also acted as secretary to the selectors.

Greens

Peter Eagle

During the last twelve months a great deal of effort has been applied to improving the state of the greens. It was recognised by the Greens Committee that unless improvement was forthcoming, West Pennant Hills would face a lot of difficulties. From the effort expended, I feel that it is safe to say that there has been a great deal of improvement.

During the course of the year, a new greens contract was signed and a new green keeper appointed. The appointment of Steve Arhipoff as the green keeper and the development of a closer working relationship have seen the quality of both greens improves enormously from the condition they were in twelve months ago. A great deal of credit goes to Steve as he is enthusiastic, completes his tasks on time and attends to other requirements without any prompting.

The wet weather in some respects has been kind as it has limited the amount of watering required; however it has also been a nuisance. The wet weather has allowed black spot to occur and other fungus. This has been treated but it has not interfered with the quality of the grass

and playing surface. The northwest corner of the bottom green and the northwest and southwest corners of the top green are slow to dry which has restricted the turning of the greens. Also, seepage from the northwest bank above the bottom green has not helped the situation.

The gum nuts, leaves and twigs that fall from the gum trees located on the western side of the top green is a continual problem. Currently, we are looking at a solution so the rubbish may be removed more easily than the method that has been employed in the past. A trial has been taking place which may be the answer.

Due to the improvement of the greens, West Pennant Hills was allocated rounds of the Zone 10 Senior Singles and Senior Pairs events. Unfortunately wet weather intervened, which required a number of re-arrangements to be made. I would like to thank Mal Horner for completing the necessary requirements and for his patience. It is not an easy task to run outside events and fit those events into our schedule especially during wet weather. I would also like to thank the markers who stood in the rain so games could be completed and to the umpires and those who acted as controlling bodies who were required to adjudicate on issues that arose. I believe we exceeded expectations required by Zone and hopefully we will be asked to run Zone events in the future.

To the bowlers, thank you for your patience during the course of the year. To improve the greens it has been necessary to take them out of play from time to time. There is more work to be completed; however with your support further improvement can be achieved.

Bereavements

Ted Barfoot

Don Fletcher

Financial Statement – Income and Expenditure

Stephen Watson

	Actuals 2011/12	Budget 2011/2012	Variance
MBC Raffle Takings	\$10,837	\$16,935	-\$6,098
MBC Green Fees	\$32,961	\$44,300	-\$11,339
MBC Green Fees No \$ Rec'd	\$1,430	\$0	\$1,430
MBC Total Green Fees	\$34,391	\$44,300	-\$9,909
MBC Sports Fees	\$7,763	\$11,270	-\$3,507
MBC Koala Income	\$3,471	\$8,350	-\$4,879
MBC Club Shirt Sales	\$4,560	\$4,120	\$440
MBC Sponsorship Income	\$3,696	\$4,000	-\$304
MBC Catering Income	\$2,232	\$2,850	-\$618
MBC Other Income	\$565	\$120	\$445
MBC Mufti/T'around Triples	\$2,589	\$8,150	-\$5,561
Total MBC Income	\$70,104	\$100,095	-\$29,991
MBC Affiliation Fees	\$6,284	\$9,060	\$2,776
MBC Raffle Costs	\$9,074	\$10,560	\$1,486
MBC Green's Maintenance	\$46,018	\$48,000	\$1,982
MBC Other Costs	\$5,346	\$7,550	\$2,204
MBC Club Shirt Purchases	\$11,863	\$15,000	\$3,137
MBC Koala Expenses	\$2,228	\$6,280	\$4,052
MBC Catering Costs	\$4,252	\$8,985	\$4,733
MBC TAT expense	\$900	\$6,950	\$6,050
Total MBC Expenses	\$85,965	\$112,385	\$26,420
Gross Profit (Loss) on MBC	-\$15,861	-\$12,290	-\$3,571

NOTES

As an overview of the past financial year it was a challenge to meet the agreed budget set in 2011.

We had 11 rained out days over and above the budgeted amount and missed out on 6 corporate days as well.

1. Income was down but our Expenses did not reach the budget so we have ended up only \$3,571 behind
2. Based on an average of \$350 per playing day and 11 rain days we have missed on \$3,850 of revenue
3. Due to the weather conditions we lost corporate, Probus and twilight days. It is estimated that we lost approximately \$1,500
4. The sale of new shirts was better than anticipated and the expenses were below expectations.
5. New accounting procedures have been implemented. This allows for the greater control of income and expenses to be allocated under the correct headings.
6. In the latter part of the year Wednesday raffles ceased allowing for Saturday raffles to continue. The expenses have been reduced which is showing in the May and June months.

Looking forward to 2012/2013 Financial Year we are well placed to meet our budget based on changes already made to raffles, Corporate Days and Accounting procedures.

According to the latest weather patterns the high number of wet days should drop back to normal so we should not be as affected by rained out days as seen in 2011/2012.

It has been a pleasure working with Peter and the Committee.

Financial Statement – Budget

Stephen Watson

	Budget 2012/13
INCOME	
Raffle Takings	\$7,020
Green Fees	\$50,137
Sports Fees	\$10,880
Koala Income	\$3,300
Club Shirt Sales	\$480
Sponsorship Income	\$3,000
Catering Income	\$2,400
Other Income	\$120
TAT Income	\$3,000
TOTAL INCOME	\$80,337
EXPENSES	
Affiliation Fees	\$8,628
Raffle Costs	\$5,800
Greens Maintenance	\$48,000
Other Costs	\$9,436
State Playoffs	\$1,500
Open Day Costs	\$1,500
Club Shirts	\$200
Koala Expenses	\$2,650
Catering Costs	\$8,500
TAT Costs	\$2,500
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$88,714