

CORINDA BOWLS CLUB INC



INFORMATION FOR NEW MEMBERS

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this handbook is to give you an overview of the operation of your Club and to tell you about some of the procedures that will help you assimilate quickly and painlessly.

ABOUT YOUR CLUB

A meeting convened at the Sherwood State School in July 1944 unanimously agreed to form a bowling club with the name Corinda Bowling Club. A photograph of the original committee is on the wall in the club lounge. The Club took possession of a section of Nosworthy Park on lease from the Brisbane City Council in July 1945. Play commenced in August 1946. A Ladies' Club was formed early in the next year.

Our impressive flag pole was donated by Mr and Mrs E M Cox and family "In memory of Neville Holt Cox and the boys of this district killed in the war 1939-45". A plaque recognizing Edward Marshall Cox as the founder of the Corinda Bowls Club is also on the pole.

The Club emblem of a sulphur-crested cockatoo was chosen as the Oxley Creek area was a nesting place for the birds. It is interesting to note that Graceville Bowls Club has for their emblem both the cockatoo and the redbill, while Chelmer elected for the redbill as their emblem. Both birds were common in the Chelmer/Corinda area in the old days.

Our Club has produced some good players. The honour boards list the Club's achievements. Without doubt, two of the best players were Bill Sneyd and Win Jarrott. Bill won an Australian Fours Championship and was Club Champion seven times. He was also a newspaper photographer of note. A number of his pictures were used in the book, "Bowls the Australian Way". Win Jarrott represented the State on many occasions and was Club Champion fifteen times over a period of twenty-six years. He also wrote a bowls column in *The Courier Mail* and *The Sunday Mail* for a number of years and was active in the Royal Queensland Bowls Association.

OTHER HISTORICAL ITEMS OF INTEREST

The first bowls club to be established in our area (and the fifth in the Metropolitan area) was the Graceville Bowling Club. It was founded on 11 February 1919 with 70 members. The area was still semi-rural at that time and the founding members recognized its diversity by including on their club emblem the sulphur-crested cockatoo which nested in the Corinda area and the redbill which populated the swamps at Chelmer (near where the Western Suburbs Australian Football Club is now). Over the years, Graceville Club earned a formidable reputation for its many successful teams. The second green facing Long Street West was not opened until 1971. The other Club with a special connection is Chelmer, founded in 1954. When the Chelmer Club closed in 2003, many of its members chose to join Corinda. This brought a considerable financial benefit to our Club.

ADMINISTRATION

Our Corinda Club occupies part of Nosworthy Park under a five year lease from the Brisbane City Council. We have been assured verbally by representatives of the BCC that we will have no trouble extending the lease at the end of the current period. It must be remembered, however, that the BCC retains the right to terminate any lease if we fail to do the right thing by the community in general and our neighbours in particular. This is a condition of all BCC leases.

The Corinda Ladies Bowling Club shares the facilities and contributes to the upkeep of the clubhouse and greens. Although they are separate organisations, there is close co-operation between the two Clubs.

The lease and the liquor licence are both in the name of the men's Club which is incorporated and operates under the appropriate Act.

MANAGEMENT OF THE MEN'S CLUB

Traditionally, the management of the Club is vested in a Committee consisting of: the Patron, President, Senior Vice President, Junior Vice President, Immediate Past President, Secretary and Assistant Secretary, Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer, Provedore, Games Director, Greens Director, Delegate to Cunningham District Bowls Association and five committee members. Currently, not all positions are filled. The Club Executive consists of the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer.

The names of the current office holders are shown on the board in the lounge. Positions on the Committee are declared vacant at the end of each club year. New nominations are called and the incoming Committee appointed at the Annual General Meeting which is held in August. The names of the President and the Club Champion for each year since the Club's formation are listed on an honour board in the dining room.

The Committee meets monthly—usually on the second Tuesday of the month at 7pm. Members may attend as observers but cannot vote. A Half-yearly General Meeting is held in February of each year. If there are matters you wish to raise with Committee, you can approach one of the Committee members or write to the Secretary.

AN EXPLANATION OF THE DUTIES OF SOME OFFICE BEARERS

Many of the positions on Committee are standard (e.g., President, Secretary and Treasurer). However, some explanation may be helpful with regard to positions such as Provedore, Games Director, Greens Director and Cunningham District Bowls Association delegate.

The Provedore is responsible for procuring the food and drinks, running the bar and kitchen and employing kitchen and bar staff.

The Games Director runs the club championships as well as special events such as District and higher games which may be held at our Club.

The Greens Director is the liaison between Committee and the Greenkeeper. He does not direct the Greenkeeper how to prepare the greens but he ensures that the work is done and that the Greenkeeper is aware of coming games and that the greens are ready at the required time.

The CDBA Delegate represents the Club at the meeting of the District Association. The operation of the District will be explained later.

REVENUE

The sources of revenue available to the Club are:
Contributions from the Ladies Club, green (playing) fees, annual subscriptions, sponsorships, bar profits, merchandising, raffles, hire of the facilities and fees from bare-foot or social bowls.

MEMBERSHIP FEES

Membership fees are payable annually in advance but may be paid half-yearly by arrangement. Failure to pay fees on time will result in the member being unable to vote at meetings and may lead to termination of membership.

EXPENSES

The operating expenses include items such as:
Wages, affiliation fees, light and power, chemicals and soils for the greens, repairs to machinery both for the green and within the club house, maintenance of the club house and grounds, telephone and Internet, postage and stationery, BCC rates and trophies.

CLUB EMPLOYEES

We currently have no permanent employees as the Greenkeeper is a contractor and kitchen and bar staff are employed on a casual basis as required. The men operate the bar on a voluntary basis. Work in the kitchen is done by the ladies. Both Clubs co-operate to reduce operating costs.

SELECTORS

The three Selectors are elected at the Annual General Meeting and operate for the following twelve months. Their function is to select representative teams for Pennants and inter-Club matches. They report to the Management Committee.

The Games Room Manager organises the Wednesday and Saturday social games and any other mid-week games.

COACHES

A number of club members are qualified to coach. A bowler has to have had four years' experience as a bowler before he can become a coach. A coach must have completed the necessary training and tests and be registered with the District, Bowls Queensland and Bowls Australia. A coach must renew his qualifications every four years. Coaches are available to help all players, not just beginners. They run general coaching courses from time to time. It is up to the individual bowler to approach the coach if assistance is required. All coaching is voluntary.

UMPIRES

After a qualifying period, bowlers may elect to become Umpires. As with coaches, they undergo training and sit for an examination before being registered with the various bowls authorities as Umpires. They officiate at important games, rule on matters of law on which the team skips disagree and ensure that the laws of the game are observed by all players. Members may also do a course to qualify as a Measurer.

VOLUNTEER WORKERS

The Club could not exist without volunteer workers. Some of the workers are known as "Dad's Army". Their twice-weekly efforts help keep the Club house clean and tidy.

Other volunteers manage the Games Room, mow the surrounds, help look after gardens, serve behind the bar, sell raffle tickets and help by opening and closing the Club house when our facilities are hired out to various tenants. On each bowling day, the Duty Officer performs a number of tasks to help the day run smoothly. This list is certainly not exhaustive. Other jobs are called as required. The Club assumes that its members will make themselves available, where physically practicable, for some form of voluntary work to minimise running expenses and avoid higher fees and charges. **Ask how you can help.**

DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION

The main method of keeping bowlers informed of events in the club is the announcements at afternoon tea. This is part of the tradition of bowls clubs. Also, a number of notice boards are situated around the club house. The patio notice board mainly concerns games in the immediate future as well as notifying games called for competitions. There is a general board behind the main office where notices of events at other Clubs are displayed together with items of general interest. In the same area is a board used to display competition draws and notices calling for nominations for club championship events. In the bar area is another notice board displaying District and Bowls Queensland notices as well as a whiteboard giving brief information of coming events. While it may seem a scattered system, it saves cluttering up one giant notice board. Make it your business to read these boards.

The Annual Report of the Club also contains general information and reports on club activities. Our website (corindabowls.org.au) shows the draws for, and results of, Club Competitions and other general news.

OTHER BOWLS ORGANISATIONS

The sport of lawn bowls is world-wide. The world organisation is the IBB. Bowls within Australia is controlled by Bowls Australia (BA). Each State elects representatives to the board of Bowls Australia. The game in each State is, in turn, governed by a state organisation. In Queensland, it is Bowls Qld (BQ).

Queensland is divided into Districts with each District representing a particular zone. Because of the large number of clubs in the Brisbane metropolitan area, Brisbane is divided into four Districts: Cunningham (our District), Brisbane, North Brisbane, and Gateway. The Districts elect representatives to BQ.

Cunningham District Bowls Association (CDBA) comprises 29 clubs stretching to Rathdowney in the south, Toogoolawah in the north and Boonah in the west. Each club is represented at the District Council Meetings. Regardless of its size, each club has an equal vote.

GAMES

The information above should give you some understanding of the administrative side of bowls. The most important aspect, of course, is how to get **yourself** organised to step on to the green and play the game. Your coach will have told you about the types of games that can be played in the sport of Lawn Bowls. These are Singles, Pairs, Triples, and Fours.

The type of game to be played on any day will be announced in advance of the event. Singles is not played as a social game.

CLUB GAMES

The standard playing days for the Men's Club are Wednesday and Saturday. The Ladies' Club plays on Thursdays. Special games are run on other days. For example, mixed pairs is usually run on the fourth Monday, while the Ladies Club runs a mixed triples game on the second Monday of each month.

Men's Club games may be on a "club selected" or "self-selected" basis. Details of each game will be announced in advance. The standard practice at the Corinda Club is "self-selected" on Wednesdays and "club selected" on Saturdays.

CLUB-SELECTED SATURDAY GAMES

Each member upon joining the Club will be given a membership number. A rectangular piece of metal with your name and membership number stamped on it can be found on a board in the Games Room. This membership tag (traditionally referred to as a "disc" even though Corinda uses a rectangle) is used to identify players wanting to play as well as being an aid for the persons arranging the teams. The procedure is for players to:

- write their name on a games sheet on the patio notice board.
- ring the club and notify the Selector that they intend to play.
- visit the club on the day in question and remove the tag from the board and place it on the table in the Games Room.

When ringing the Club or writing in your name, you quote your disc number. Your entry must be received at least 1½ hours before the start of the game on Saturday to guarantee you a game on that day. Late entries will be accepted but a game cannot be guaranteed.

OTHER CLUB-SELECTED GAMES

The usual practice for club-selected games on days other than Saturday is to display a games sheet on the notice board. Players then list their names. Membership numbers are not necessary. Phone bookings may still be accepted provided sufficient notice is given.

SELF-SELECTED GAMES

The standard “self-selected” day is Wednesday when games alternate between Pairs and Triples. Players are expected to organise their own team and to enter the names of members of the team on the appropriate games sheet.

However, there is still provision for those players who cannot arrange their own team to enter their name on a “spares” list. The Club Official organising that day’s play will try to place the players in a team. Alternatively, players looking for another player to make up a team can select a member from the spares list. If you take a player from the spares list to build a team, please let the player know. Please remember that your name on the spares list does not guarantee a game — check with the Club before turning up for the game.

OTHER SELF-SELECTED GAMES

Some games held during the year are sponsored and involve prize money. These are usually self-selected games and players enter a team. It is not usual to have a spares list. Such games, more often than not, involve visiting teams as well as local players.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

A number of club competitions are held during the year. These are:

- Novice Singles
- Handicap Singles
- “B” Singles (for those who have not previously won the A or B Singles)
- “A” or Championship Singles
- “B” Pairs (for those who have not previously won the A or B Pairs)
- “A” or Championship Pairs
- Championship Triples
- Championship Fours
- Mixed Pairs

The A Singles, A Pairs, and Championship Fours are Masters Events. Winners of any of these games are eligible to play in any game listed as a “Masters” event.

Notice of pending events is publicised and players are invited to enter or nominate a team. These events are organised by the Games Director. Once the nominations close, the draw is made and players (or teams) are then called to play on a particular day at a nominated time. Make sure you are aware of the conditions of play before entering an event. Our competition rules are displayed on the Games Notice Board. The Games Director is available to advise you.

PENNANTS

Pennants is the main inter-club competition and is played among clubs within the same District (CDBA). Clubs nominate the number of sides they wish to enter and their preferred divisions. The District will decide the final allocation.

Each pennants side fields three teams of fours, so twelve players plus reserves are required for each Division the Club has entered.

The pennants competition is held over a period ranging from seven to ten weeks and usually commences in July/August each year. A Finals series is held for sides finishing in the top three of their Division and the winning side is presented with a Pennant Flag which can be flown on the Club’s flagpole. Flags won in previous years are displayed within the club house.

OTHER INTER-CLUB COMPETITIONS

Club Selected: The Super Challenge Competition is held from January to March and involves Singles, two games of Pairs, one of Triples and one of Fours. This competition could involve playing Clubs from different Districts. Corinda may also compete in the Western Challenge Shield, which involves three games of pairs and one each of Triples and Fours. This competition is run within our

own District, so most games are close by.

Self-Selected: The Western Triples is a self-selected competition running for most of the year and open to players from all clubs. This Friday afternoon competition offers good prizes and is played at the following clubs - St Lucia, Corinda, Jindalee, Darra (and Toowong when there is a fifth Friday in the month). Teams nominate at the host club.

GAMES ORGANISED BY OTHER CLUBS

As a registered bowler, you are eligible to play in events organised by other Clubs provided such events are open to visitors. Notices of tournaments and carnivals are usually advertised on the general notice board. Intending players should read the conditions carefully and forward their nominations as directed on the brochure. Players nominate for such events directly with the Club organising the event and not through your Club Secretary.

As well as special events, most clubs welcome visiting players on their standard playing days. Always contact the particular club involved beforehand.

DISTRICT AND STATE GAMES (OTHER THAN PENNANTS)

Both the District and BQ run Championship events during the year. Such events will be notified in advance and eligible players may enter these contests. A nomination form will be displayed on the notice board and the Club will forward the entries to the appropriate organisation. This is one instance where your nomination goes through your Club Secretary. The draw showing your playing times will be forwarded to the Club to pass on to you. Draws are also displayed on the relevant websites, www.bowlsqld.org for BQ events or www.cdba.org.au for District events.

PRACTICE

A "roll-up" is the common term for practice. Friday afternoon is set aside for members who wish to practise. However, on a few Fridays, events are held which may restrict roll-up times. These are usually tournaments for which advance notice has been given.

The use of the greens at times other than Friday afternoon can depend on their availability not only because of events but also because of work being done on the greens by the Greenkeeper. If you want to practise on other days, consult with the Greens Director. It is acceptable to practise before the start of the normal Wednesday or Saturday social games provided the Greenkeeper has finished preparing the greens.

With competitions, rules apply to practice beforehand. Check with an umpire before any practice on the day of a competition, as the Laws of Bowls specify when and where practice is allowed. This does not apply to the two trial ends which are allowed immediately before a competition. Players are allowed to play "up and back" using the same number of bowls they will use during the event (two bowls for Fours and four bowls for Singles, etc.). This allows players to assess the speed of the green and to discover any peculiarities of the green or wind before starting the event.

HAZARDS AROUND THE GREEN

Lawn bowls is hardly regarded as a dangerous game. However, there are certain aspects you should take into account. First of all, chemicals are used on the green to control insects and fungi. While the Greenkeeper is trained in the use of these substances and the relevant safety precautions for their application, some people may be allergic to them and suffer a reaction. This is extremely rare. Nevertheless, always wash your hands before eating and DON'T lick your fingers.

As well as chemicals, there are physical dangers such as the step down from the bank to the green. This drop to the green may catch you unawares. Also on the bank are jack markers, number blocks, trays and boundary pegs. Don't trip over them.

On the green, bowls are scattered around the head or the mat. One of the instructions given to new players is NEVER walk backwards on the green. You will see many bowlers doing it but

it is still a dangerous practice. Your coach should advise you of these matters when you commence bowls.

ETIQUETTE

When starting bowls, you may have been given a small booklet titled "Coaching Manual and the Etiquette of Bowls". If not, ask for one. In this booklet the definition of "etiquette" is those little acts that help to make our game such a wonderful creator of sociability and friendship. Etiquette deals with the little extras that give the game its great charm and that make the loser feel he has not lost in vain but has gained something from the game. These acts of courtesy are the unwritten laws of the game.

Some examples of etiquette are:

- Never clap a bad bowl from your opponent nor express delight that he has missed his shot.
- If leading, pick up your opponent's bowl if he is first to play unless he requests otherwise. Most will say, "Just kick my bowl up beside the mat." Nevertheless, make the offer first
- When changing ends, avoid straying onto the neighbouring rinks
- For games within your own club, if you are on the winning team, offer to shout your opponent a drink
- If there are visiting teams, the home team player offers his opponent a drink after the game
- Don't enter the dining room at afternoon tea before the President
- Always be punctual for a match.
- The control of the mat lies with the bowler on the mat from the time of delivery until his bowl comes to rest.
- Losing skips should adjust the scoreboard and winning skips place the jack.

These are just examples. Please read the booklet.

RESIGNATION FROM THE CLUB

Life is full of changes so there are many reasons why a member might have to leave the Club. A member may resign at any time by giving notice in writing to the Secretary. However, resignation will not relieve the member from payment of any subscription or other money due. If the resignation also involves joining another Club, it will be necessary to obtain from the Secretary an "Inter-Club Clearance" which is issued to indicate that the member is free of indebtedness to the Club.

CONCLUSION

It is our wish that your time with our Club will be a very pleasant experience. If you are in doubt or upset about any issue, please raise it with a Club Official so that it can be clarified or corrected. Lawn Bowls is one of those games where no matter whether you are a farmer or a pharmacist, a lawyer or a labourer, once you are dressed in your "whites" and step on to the green, you are just one of the group....bowlers all.

Enjoy the game and the fellowship that the Club can provide.

Welcome to Corinda!