

News Archive June & July 2015

From the Secretary - 27th July 2015

An update into what is happening at YOUR club.

1. Leads and Seconds Training Program. Will begin on Sunday 9 August from 10am and will run every week up to and including 20 September. It is to be run by Lynn Jones and Peter Crawford and assistance will come from many of our top side pennant players. These sessions will be part of an important training platform in improving each person's game and performance in the lead up to the 2015-16 Pennant Season. This program isn't just for leads and seconds because everyone can benefit from these training sessions. ALL club members are welcome, so make the most of the opportunity.
2. Somerton is only weeks away from launching a new website. Club members Rob Walton, Nevin Childs, Lee Pratt and Steve Scott have been working feverishly to have the site up and running before the season kicks off. They have garnered a lot of information regarding the club's history to build this new site, however, what they need now is some photos to add to the overall picture. If any club member has some old photos of the club or past/present players please see any of the above and they will gladly have them scanned and returned.
3. Thinking of buying a new pair of bowling shoes? Well why not visit the club first. Somerton has secured some supplies of RDB Comforts bowling shoes in various sizes and the cost to you per pair is just \$45. See Maree Tumbas, David Kay or myself if you want to try a pair on.
4. Need new bowls. The club is offering Henselite Dreamline XG coaching bowls for only \$325 a set plus delivery. They come in five colours and sizes 00-4 (gripped only). If Somerton can order five sets or more then the price per set of bowls comes down to \$300 with a \$10 delivery charge. The training bowls, which are stamped with Somerton Bowling Club, can be used in pennant games. Once ordered the bowls take four to five weeks for delivery. We already have two sets ready to order so get in now, and you can have new bowls before the season starts. Contact me to find out what colours are available and to order.
5. A reminder to pay your 2015-16 subscriptions by 31 August. It is very important because we need to know how many teams to enter for this year's pennants. On present numbers it is looking like Somerton will field only 6 (six) teams for Saturdays, 3 (three) for Wednesdays and 1 for Thursday pennants.
6. Congratulations to Maree Tumbas and Paige Mawer who have been selected for the women's State Development Squad.
7. Bowling Arms - we are finding more people are using bowling arms than ever before, especially in pennants. So if you are having trouble delivering the bowl and don't want to give the game away, it may be an option to consider because they have helped performance in the majority of cases.

Tony Reed - Secretary 0438 259 580.

From the President - 17th July 2015

Dear Pennant Members,

Our club is looking to uplift its overall standing in the bowling community and to win pennants. Last year's performance was variable in both Major League and Metro 1 and, coupled with the fact that we are losing several key players from Major League, we need to shore up our top teams if we are to maintain our position, let alone make further progress. The opportunity is there for us to cover much of the gap by developing/elevating players already at the club.

Consultation between the Chairman of Selectors, Michael White, the Vice President and myself has resulted in an agreed plan that was subsequently presented to the Board for endorsement. That plan is as follows:

1. It is a reasonable requirement that top division players continue to hone their skills and performance. Major League and Metro 1 South teams will be asked to practice together weekly in a Rink practice on Thursdays (from 5pm till 6.30pm). Only players selected for those teams will be asked to attend. This will provide the opportunity to sharpen up skills, gel as teams and become more familiar with teammate bowls in preparation for each forthcoming game. It is acknowledged some players cannot attend for work reasons and special circumstances. Major League and Metro 1 South players will also be asked to undertake specified skills training each week (at a time convenient to themselves) and hand in their results which will be recorded by the selectors - the effort/results will be considered as part of the selection process.
2. Very good players eligible for the top Divisions may not wish to attend Thursday practice. In these circumstances, where there are two or more players with comparable claims for selection, the first selection call will go to the player who has put in the extra training. This does not mean the other player will not be actively considered, only that it is likely to be the point of difference in coming to a final choice.
3. More effort is to be put into developing players across all other divisions through reintroduction of the voluntary Leads and Seconds training program. We will watch how this program unfolds and may follow this up with other supplementary coaching sessions or events, depending on demand. Club coaching resources will be actively promoted too.
4. In all Divisions, selectors will be asked to select players on their ability, form, rink compatibility and demonstrated potential. It is fully acknowledged that there are players across the Divisions who demonstrated their performance capabilities and potential last season. They deserve an opportunity to advance too, which will be an important consideration in the forthcoming trials.

These are sensitive aspects that need to be clarified and discussed. The Board's intent is to be transparent, consultative, acknowledge effort and to deal fairly with people. If you have any concerns over the above plan, any of the above four people (who consulted on this plan) would welcome feedback from you.

Thanks. Russ Thomson - President

From the Secretary - 10th June 2015

An update on what is happening at YOUR club.

Make sure you keep Friday afternoons clear from this week. Starting 19 JUNE, Somerton will begin FAST FRIDAY for Club Members.

The fast-paced tournament which will be over two games of either two-bowl or three-bowl pairs (decided beforehand by the toss of coin) will be held from 2.30pm and be completed by 4.30pm.

Cost for this Friday weekly cosmopolitan pairs will be \$5 PER TEAM, so get your name in early on the entry list at the Club to guarantee a spot in this exciting new competition.

There will be no break between games so if you don't think you can manage to play both games bring along a third member who can act as a 'super sub' at no extra cost.

Then after, stay on and enjoy a drink at the Club's HAPPY HOUR as well as entry in the MEMBERS' DRAW and more.

So keep this Friday afternoon free – and everyone thereafter – for this new social bowls day.

Tony Reed, Secretary