



SBC Newsletter

January 2025



Happy New Year!

Happy 2025 Everyone. Wishing you all happiness, good health and good fortune, on and off the greens.

A message from our President, Graham Hughes - President's mid-year review

On behalf of the Board, I would like to wish you and your family a safe, happy and healthy 2025.

Playing Performance

Our team performance so far has been largely positive with the Premier League team unbeaten in the Saturday competition, we also have several teams in promising positions. Hopefully we can go on and have a successful year. Go Seagulls!!

Operating Performance

Our financial position is tracking nicely compared to budget and last year. Bar margin is at budgeted levels and Dane ensures the operation is efficiently managed. Our club benefits from the number of teams in the pennant competition with a weekly average of 190 players which, together with Night Owls, provides a steady income. Our emphasis on cost control has been successful and has been greatly assisted by the contribution of our volunteers, for example, in the reduction of paid bar staff costs. The contribution from raffles continues to be important.

Sponsorship remains important to our results. We have maintained support from our major sponsors this season with the addition of Jarvis Toyota and Phil Hoffmann. We are always seeking additional sponsors so if you see an opportunity, please contact Deb Peake who will make contact. Please consider using our sponsors when appropriate.

We have committed to purchase two batteries to function with our solar panels utilising a grant and expect to reduce our electricity costs accordingly. We have also ordered the materials to provide shade for rinks 8-10 next to the clubhouse.

Facilities

One major disappointment is the condition of our greens which are not acceptable for a Club of our stature. Despite a significant effort in spring the patches have not recovered and the restoration of the greens is a top priority of the Board.

We have allocated significant funds towards taking steps to improve the greens and appreciate the assistance of Steve Dennis and James Gregory who have generously donated their time to assist Dane. We will develop a detailed plan for when the season finishes to improve the greens to the highest standard possible.

Fundraising

The team has had a very successful start with its' activities and has already raised a balance of around \$4000 which will be used to directly benefit members. The support from all members is greatly appreciated by this hard-working group.

Safety

In 2024 we had three serious injuries whilst on the greens, please be extra vigilant and be aware of bowls around the mat and stepping onto the green!!!

*Cheers,
Graham*

Country Carnival and Club Super Challenge at Somerton

Somerton will be hosting rounds of the 2025 Country Carnival in February. Sectional fours and singles on Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th then knockout pairs on Friday 7th and singles on Sunday 9th. On that Sunday evening, we will also be hosting the Club Super Challenge (formally Taylor Cup), so come on down and support our side and watch some good bowls. It will be a busy week, and we will need plenty of support, so if you are able to help as a marker, umpire or just with some tasks around the club, please get in touch with David Kay.

Premier League Marquee Games

MBA has arranged several matches to be played on Friday evenings to provide an opportunity for all pennant bowlers to watch Premier division games. Somerton will be hosting their home match on January 31st. Why not come to the club and check out some great bowlers in action. More details on other marquee games, which will also be live streamed, can be found on the [MBA Website](#)

Functions

We have hosted some very successful birthday parties and end of year break-ups at the club recently. Feedback from the guests has been really positive and they have had a lot of fun giving lawn bowls a try, many for the first time. We would like to acknowledge the help of many volunteers who have given up their time to help with these events. Thanks to all of you.

Night Owls Bowls Equipment

The club's stock of lawn bowls is carefully curated by our night owls team for use by our night owlers. A couple of sets appear to have gone awry, however. If you have borrowed any bowls from the Night Owls cupboards, particularly the ones shown here, please return them as the second half of the night owls season has resumed this week. Thank you.



New Members

Welcome to Mark Noonan.

Duty Rinks

Some of our new bowlers have asked about the role of duty rinks at home games. so here are some details about the responsibilities of duty rink members.

Duty rinks are allocated at selection for each pennant game and are noted on the right-hand side of the selection sheets on the web and the information kiosk in the club. If you are in a duty rink here's a high-level list of what you need to do.

Before the Game

1. All set-up is to be completed before practice starts (Saturday 12:00 pm, Wednesday 11:15 am and Thursday 9:00 am)
2. Put out mats and jacks
3. Put out green-side flags (including the plastic sleeves). Raise the Australian flag and the large Somerton Seagulls flag (all flags are in the men's locker room).
4. Ensure all scoreboards are reset to zero
5. Check supply of water cups at water coolers and top-up as necessary
6. Move umpire equipment trolleys from the hallway to each side of the clubhouse
7. Unfold sun-shades on rinks in use at both ends of greens

After the Game (once all rinks have concluded)

1. Return mats and jacks into the clubhouse
2. Lower the Australian flag Somerton Seagulls flag and return them to the locker room
3. Return green-side flags (with sleeves) to the locker room
4. Ensure that all sunshades are folded away neatly
5. Tidy up any rubbish left on the tables or seats outside
6. Return umpire equipment trolleys to the hallway
7. Return used glasses, cans and bottles from outside to the bar, clear away any rubbish

A more detailed checklist is on display on the notice board in the breezeway, and if you need help just ask one of your team-mates, or chat with Board members, Yvonne, Paul O' or David.

Spotlight on our Sponsors

Pedro's Pizza

Pedro's Pizza, located near the corner of Oaklands and Diagonal Roads, are great supporters of our club, supplying prize vouchers to support our bowls programs. They are also our preferred supplier of pizzas for night owls and events such as the Christmas pennant break-up. We acknowledge the ongoing support of Pedro's Pizza and ask that you patronise them when you can.

What a fabulous night the Christmas Cabaret was. Thanks to the members of the Fundraising Committee and all their helpers for putting on the event, to Petar Cirovic for some great music and to Karen and Eric for sharing their dancing prowess



Current Sponsors

Here are the businesses that support our club. Please support them where possible and remember to mention you are from Somerton Bowling Club. Because of the strength of our club, we can help local businesses reach a wide audience. Keep an eye out for any prospects and mention them to Deb Peake or Graham Hughes.



News desk 12th January 2025
admin@somertonseagulls.com.au
Paul O'Callaghan (M; 0438 178 022)