



# Darwin Bows and Social Club

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## Newsletter – June 2010

### In This Issue

- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary
- Bowls News
- Club Rules
- Green's Directors Report
- History of the game of Lawn Bowls

### Welcome

The Dry season seems to have finally arrived and with it will be the onset of a full calendar of bowls events and a very busy time for the club. This year we also celebrate our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and have two special events planned – a State of Origin Fun Day on Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June and the official Celebration and Dinner on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> December.

Although we have a lot to celebrate this year, we need to take a moment to remember that we have sadly lost three valuable members at the club since December 2009. Adie Bruce, a long term life member of the Darwin Bows Club and stalwart of Wednesday night bowls passed away in December last year. In January this year, the club was shocked by the sudden passing of Ruth Jordan. Ruth was a very popular member of the club and her happy smile is very much missed. The third member of the club to pass away was Paula Addison in February. Paula had been a member of the club for many years, and even though she hadn't been able to visit the club and bowl for some time, will also be sadly missed.

The next few months will be a particularly busy time for bowlers, with the new Territory Wide Shield, State Championships, State Trials and Carnivals all being held. Club Championships have commenced with the Ladies and Men's Fours, and these will continue from August. Club Calendars are available at the club or on the internet at [www.darwinbowlclub.com.au](http://www.darwinbowlclub.com.au), so make sure you keep up to date with what's on and get your names down for events.

Happy bowling for 2010.

### 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations

Many people would be aware that 2010 is the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Darwin Bows Club and we will have two major events to celebrate.

#### State of Origin Fun Day

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> June** is the first event to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with the Club hosting a "State of Origin Fun Day". Teams will be selected with players based on their origin of birth. The day will kick off at around 9.30 with bowls starting around 10.00 and will include fun activities, prizes and a gourmet barbeque. The day will also include a 60's theme so come along in your best 60's gear. The event is only \$8 per person. To register to play put your name on the nomination forms at the club. If you don't want to bowl, but want to join in the fun, please come along.

#### Official 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Dinner

The first game of bowls and the official opening of the club occurred on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> of December 1960 at 3pm. Accordingly, we will officially celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary on **Saturday the 4<sup>th</sup> December** this year.

The day will have something for everyone with the format for the day shaping up as follows (weather permitting):

- Social bowls in the afternoon with entertainment to be provided by the Darwin Brass Band which played on both the 1960 opening day and the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary day
- 5.30pm drinks and presentation of the club championships trophies and other annual awards
- 6.00pm closure of the club to general public and non-ticket holding members for commencement of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Dinner
- 6.30 pm arrival of official party and VIPs
- Followed by three course table service Gala Dinner, entertainment, and dancing into the night. This will be a fully ticketed event. Dress will be Territory Rig or late 50s early 60s theme.

The club will require a number of volunteers to assist run the night, so even if you do not want to buy a ticket to the dinner there are other roles that you can play on the evening to help – see Tony Shelley to put your name down.

If you would like a memento of the Club's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Polo Shirts to commemorate the event are available in ladies and men's sizes for only \$30. Please ask at the bar.





### Darwin Bows Club Board of Management and Bows Committee

Darwin Bows and Social Club has a volunteer Board of Management and Bows Committee who are elected at the AGM, usually held in November of each year. The Board of Management has overall responsibility for the management of the club, while the Bows Committee has responsibility for all bows related activities.

If you have any question or want to raise anything to do with either the running of the club or with bows, the office bearers for 2010 are:

#### Board of Management:

Chairperson: Tom Palazzi  
Vice Chairperson: Stuart Bell  
Secretary: Robyn Mitchell  
Treasurer: Roger Hamill  
Green's Director: Tony Shelley  
House & Social Director: Wayne Roberts (Robbo)

#### Bows Committee

Men's President: Ian Belsham  
Ladies President: Sandy Brown  
Secretary: Scott Chamberlain  
Ladies Games Director: Arlene Foley  
Men's Games Director: Ryan Freedman  
Ladies Representative: Kaye Tyrrell  
Men's Representative: Andrew Hudson

The Board and Committee have become concerned about some of the behaviour at the Club which detracts from the friendly welcoming atmosphere we want to encourage for members and guests. While at the Club, members and their guests are asked to be mindful of other people and in particular refrain from:

- using offensive language, and
- being over loud and/or aggressive

A member recently advise the Board that they thought they could smell persons smoking illicit substances on the premises. This is, of course, strictly forbidden.

A list of club rules is included in this newsletter.

### BOWLS NEWS

#### Club Competitions

The Darwin Bows Club championship competitions have commenced with the Fours nearing completion. With the bows calendar being so busy through June and July with Club Dedicated Days, Territory Wide Shield, State Championships and the Carnivals, club competitions will be on hold for a while, recommencing in August. Keep an eye out on the notice boards for nomination sheets and dates of events.

### Territory Wide Shield

This year a Territory Wide Shield event will be held. The event will be an opportunity to showcase the best ladies and men's bowlers from each region of the Northern Territory, as well as recognizing developing talent.

To cut down costs for participants having to travel, the event will be held across the June long weekend (12-14 June), immediately prior to the State Championships and State Trials. Regions that will be forming teams are:

- Darwin North – includes Nightcliff Bows Club and North Darwin Bows Club;
- Darwin Central – includes Darwin Bows Club;
- Darwin South – includes Palmerston Bows Club and Humpty Doo Bows Club;
- NT Regional – includes clubs from Katherine, Alice Springs, Tenant Creek and any other affiliated regional clubs.

Games will be played at each 2 green club (Palmerston, Darwin and Nightcliff) as follows:

#### Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> June (Morning and Afternoon Games) – Darwin

- 8.30 a.m. Opening ceremony
- 9.00 a.m. Commence roll up and Game 1
- 12.30 p.m. Sausage sizzle
- 1.30 p.m. Commence Game 2

#### Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> June (Morning and Afternoon Games) - Palmerston

- 9.00 a.m. Commence roll up and Game 3
- 12.30 p.m. Sausage sizzle
- 1.30 p.m. Commence Game 4

#### Monday 14<sup>th</sup> June (Morning and Afternoon Games) - Nightcliff

- 9.00 a.m. Commence roll up and Game 5
- 12.30 p.m. Sausage sizzle
- 1.30 p.m. Commence Game 6
- 5.00 p.m. – Closing ceremony - presentation of Medallions and shield

### Carnivals

This year the Darwin Bows Club will host the Top End Combined Ladies Carnival between 24<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> July 2010, and the Annual Darwin Classic Men's Carnival will be between 10<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> July 2010. Why not plan some time off to enjoy the beautiful dry season bowling conditions then.

Entry forms are available at the club or on the Internet.





### Top End Shield

The Top End Shield is due to kick off on Saturday 7 August, and the format will remain the same as last year – ie mixed fours. Last year Darwin Bowls Club won both the A and B grade Shields and we are looking forward to another successful year this year. Nomination sheets are up on the notice board at the club for members to indicate their interest and availability, so make sure you get your name down.

### Social Bowls

Darwin Bowls Club run a number of social bowls events and members and Guests are all encouraged to participate in the events listed below :

Tuesday AM - Club Selected Pairs (9.30am for 10.00am start) – Open to all

Wednesday PM – Club Selected (5.30pm for 6.00pm start) – Open to all

Thursday PM – Magpies (5.30pm for 6.00pm start) – Open to all

Sunday AM – Jackpot Pairs (9.30am for 10.00am start) – Open to all

### Coaching

Want to improve your game, get that bowl away a bit more smoothly, find out how to refine that line and length? Coaching is available at the club on Tuesday afternoons from 5.00pm and Saturday morning from 10.00am with Arlene and/or Dave. No need to book in, just turn up and they will be happy to provide advice and tips.



### Greens Director's Report

Both greens were taken out of play and laser levelled and top dressed last wet season, beginning in November. Since late February patches have begun to show up and the grass is either dying or failing to thrive.

To identify the problem and start the correct treatment, laboratory testing has been undertaken and has shown that both greens are affected by 'Take All Patch' or 'Bermuda Root Rot' which is a root fungus.

Chemical applications have been recommended by the turf analysts. These have been applied and we are hoping for an improvement over the next 6 – 8 weeks. In order for the chemical to get into the root system the greens have been mini-tyned to a depth of 75mm and the product watered in well.

This disease is very difficult to treat and there is no known single application fungicide that is the 'silver bullet'. A rotation of products will be required.

Despite these setbacks, both greens are now operating but they will not be running as fast as last year.

### Club Rules

Darwin Bowls and Social Club want to ensure that the club provides a happy, welcoming and comfortable atmosphere for all members and their guests. To ensure this is occurring, the Board and Committee ask that, while at the Club, members and their guests act with courtesy and respect for each other, including:

- Not using offensive language
- Not instigating or encouraging altercations
- Not using illicit drugs anywhere in the Club or on premises that form part of the Club
- Not being loud, argumentative or aggressive
- Not acting in a manner that can be considered as bullying or harassment.

We also want to ensure that bowlers and the greens are protected at all times. Some basic club rules for use of the greens have been developed and must be adhered to:

- NO BARE FEET – Wear only completely flat soled shoes (thongs are fine)
- No drinking on the greens
- No children on the greens (bowls can cause injury)
- Do not drop or throw bowls on the greens
- Do not sit on the edge of the greens
- No "dumping" bowls on the green
- For the enjoyment of all, do not use offensive language

The Club also has dress codes for various types of competitions. The Dress Code was published in the April 2009 Newsletter and a copy is on the notice board with the competition nomination forms.





### A Short History of the Game of Bowls

As the club is celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, it seemed like a good time to have a look back at the history of Lawn Bowls. This extract is from the Bowls Victoria website:

Dating back to origins in ancient Egyptian times, "Bowls", "Bowling on The Green", "Bocce", "Lawn Bowling" has been around for several thousand years.

Historians suggest the game made its way from Egypt across Europe with Julius Caesar's centurions. At that time, and still today among Italians, the game was known as "bocce". By the 13th Century, "bowls", was entrenched in the British Isles. At the turn of the century, 1299 AD, the Southhampton Old Bowling Green Club was organized in England. The club remains active today, the oldest on record in the world.

In the 14th Century, bowls was banned for commoners in France and England because, due to its popularity, participation in archery, essential for defense, was declining. In Scotland the game continued uninterrupted, a favorite among even such legendary notables as Sir Walter Scott and Robert Burns. In Glasgow today 200 public bowling greens are in operation, including some enclosed greens for winter play.

Today's rules, the flat lawn, and even a dress code, seem to derive from the Scottish. Over time, the waves of Scottish emigrants took their game with them and established clubs in many countries, the colonies of the Western Hemisphere among them.

One famous story is that Sir Francis Drake and Sir Walter Raleigh were in the middle of a game of bowls when word reached them of the impending assault of the Spanish Armada. As the story goes, Sir Francis insisted on finishing the game before setting sail to engage the Spanish; coincidentally, he had to wait for the incoming tide to peak before he could get his ship out of the harbor anyway.



### Check us out on the Internet

The Darwin Bowls and Social Club Internet site is updated regularly with all current information on club news and events. Make sure you visit us at [www.darwinbowlsclub.com.au](http://www.darwinbowlsclub.com.au).

### Quiz Night

A quiz night will be held at the Club on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> June, starting at 6.30pm sharp. We will have a lot of visiting bowlers in town from around the Territory for the Territory Wide Shield to be held over the long weekend following the night.

The format is:

- Tables of 6 at \$50 per table
- 8 rounds of 10 questions
- Random special bonus questions
- Supper will be provided
- Heaps of prizes

### Things to Remember

- 6 June - 50<sup>th</sup> Celebration, State of Origin Fun Day
- 11 June – Quiz Night
- 4 December – 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration and Dinner
- Check out the notice boards around the club for club information, game nomination forms, game times etc.
- You can purchase a Club Calendar from the bar for only \$2.00
- Club shirts, bowls accessories and club merchandise available—ask at the bar.
- Got some free time and want to help out the club? Volunteers always welcome for many jobs and we are always happy for more volunteers to help out in the bar.
- Don't forget to update your contact details so we can keep you up to date with club information.

### Let Us Know How to Contact You

The Darwin Bowls and Social Club Board and Committee are keen to keep members up to date with club news. One easy way to do this is by sending information out via email, so if you have an email address, please come in to the club and update your contact details to include an email address, or send us an email to [darwinbowlsclub@bigpond.com](mailto:darwinbowlsclub@bigpond.com). If you don't have an email, don't worry, we still want to be sure you get updates, so just make sure we have your correct mailing address and phone numbers.

