

Board Reports to Members – November / December 2016

The 114th AGM of WBC was held on Sunday 13th November 2016

Chaired by Ann Dooley with a quorum of 25 full members in attendance.

The main business was:

1. To consider and accept the Balance Sheet, Profit & Loss Account and the reports of the Chairman & Treasurer for 2016. The financials showed that the Club made a profit of \$4,781 compared with a loss of \$32,140 the previous year. Also pleasing was that Gross Profit improved in both absolute and margin terms.
2. To approve that the Board shall now consist of seven (7) Directors which shall comprise a Chairman and six (6) other Directors by removing the two social directors positions. The current presidents of the Men and Women's clubs shall be ex officio directors.

The background and purpose of this change: As of 1st January 2017, the Registered Clubs Act restricts the size of all club Boards to a maximum of nine (9) directors. As a small club, the Board believes that a smaller Board of seven (7) directors will better serve the members. The Board believes the treatment and rights of directors, by having two (2) classes of directors, being Full Bowling and Social, is inconsistent with the Club's constitution. The Board therefore proposed to eliminate the requirement to appoint up to two (2) Social Directors. This will in no way restrict any Social Member, having served the required qualification period for election to the Board, from upgrading to full membership status and being eligible for nomination to the Board at that time.

3. To declare the results of the election of the Chairman and up to six other directors for the ensuing year and, if necessary, to elect further directors.

Chairman Ann Dooley was re-elected unopposed

President of the Ladies' Club Janine Mountain re-elected

President of the Mens Club Greg Cutler new

Bowling directors

Judy LeGras re-elected

Graham Johnstone re-elected

Graham Walton new

This left one vacant position that the Secretary Manager asked that someone with accounting knowledge stand to be the treasurer. Peter Read volunteered as he has a Bachelor of Economics degree and is a well-experienced company director and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

3. There was some discussion regarding communication to members. Peter Read volunteered to write the monthly report.

The Ladies Club AGM had been held earlier

President Janine Mountain re-elected

Secretary Judy LeGras

This year the Ladies won the district Pennant for grade 3 and won both knockouts to get to the state playoffs, which all enjoyed. Next year the Ladies will be teaming up with Roseville for the pennant season and will be in grade 2.

The club triples championship is currently underway.

The Mens Bowling Club AGM was also held on Sunday 13th November

Officers elected were:

President Greg Cutler new

Secretary Russell Tuckwell (Rusty) had previously been acting as President.

Rusty was thanked for stepping in and doing such great work, and also in becoming our representative to attend Zone 9 meetings.

The Pennant team had a great year as runners up in Division 7. We will field a team again in 2017 hopefully also in Division 7, unless Zone decides that we have to move up to Division 6.

Match committee

Greg Cutler

Joe Wolford

Martin Fitzgerald

Selection committee

Greg Cutler

Russell

Joe Wolford

Board Reports of Meetings held on Tuesday 29 November 2016 and Tuesday 31st January 2017

New Directors

Chair welcomed newly elected directors Greg Cutler, Peter Read & Graham Walton.

Member Welfare

Marie McCredie is recovering well from her stroke, still in Greenwich.

Allan Mann is now back in the Club after being in intensive care for a perforated bowel.

GPS bowls

It has been proposed to offer the club for GPS 2017. Concern expressed about the full cost of hosting the GPS, i.e. the cost of an additional staff member for 5 hours, the cost of the green keeper coming in on 7 Sundays, the free food, and the opportunity cost of the club being completely taken over by the bowlers for the entire day, as in past years.

Any bowls activity is a good thing if it is financially viable so it will be offered on the basis of increased green fees, bowling on Green2 and end of day presentations in the functions room. This will allow others to use the Club whilst GPS is on.

Financial

Reviewing the results for the first half of the financial year compared with 2015:

- Bar takings have grown by \$25k whilst total income is up by \$52K, mainly due to improved poker machine takings and better margins.
- This is reflected in a pleasing net profit, which is a vast improvement on year ago with its significant loss.

- Offsetting this, repairs & maintenance costs continue to grow and will keep rising as building continues to dilapidate \$22k this year, against \$6k last year.
- Green fees totaled \$26k, of which Club greens fees only \$6k against bowls related costs v \$44k, the same as in 2015.
- Also needed to purchase an ice machine for \$5k to stop having to send out staff to the nearest service station for ice.
- We no longer have to charge an Amex surcharge as we have re-negotiated our merchant fee.

Greens and Grounds

- The state of the greens, surrounds and gardens is good now the front garden has been weeded and mulched.
- Green 2 will become our primary green assuming future plans are approved, so during the time the green was out was the obvious time to get the levels correct by the use of laser leveling. As a consequence significant amount of soil was required to be gradually added to the southwest corner. Thus the green was out for almost 12 weeks during this renovation.
- Damage to sunshades from wind – often, with only 1 staff member on duty at sunset when bowlers come off it is difficult to notice sunshades left out and/or difficult to have time to do it as bar is busy. It is the responsibility of the bowler who rolls out the sunshade to put it away. A sign requesting the bowler to retract the sunshades will be installed.

Social

- Balmoral tri-club sponsorship / reciprocal membership arrangement has brought in 150 new non-voting social members so far.
- Will look to hold a Prawn night before the end of summer, Graham Walton has offered to look after the printing and design of advertising material.

Strategic Business Plan

The first draft of stage 1 of Master Plan has been developed.

This involves taking approx. the first 2 rinks from green 1 (about 11m) giving us approx. 375sqm of useful space. Green keeper has advised this would still allow 5 rinks on green1. The plan involves opening up of front of building and roofing, which is already approved in our existing DA.

Key features of the concept on display are:

- 3 tiered entertainment space - the design splits the area into 3 separate useable spaces, at different levels
- A members' casual bar & dining space featuring a Koi pond. Feng shui experts have been used to locate this to recognise the importance of Mosman's changing demographic given that, people of Chinese backgrounds are buying most freestanding properties and we should make our venue welcoming to this demographic.
- A dedicated family dining space including children's activity area.
- One function space with an outdoor kitchen, which can be used to prepare functions, or as a cook your own facility, just like the BV used to have. This can be booked on its own, used in conjunction with the function room or used for a cook your own steak on quieter nights.
- All weather facility via retractable roofing (options are still being considered)
- Wind and noise abatement structures.
- Outdoor gaming / smoking lounge design to be finalised in January

- One function space with external grill / kitchen. This can be booked on its own, used in conjunction with the function room or used for a cook your own steak promotion on quieter nights. Well, it means we are building an outdoor kitchen, which can be used for us to prepare functions, or as a cook your own facility, just like the BV and Oaks used to have.

To advance this plan meetings with architects and dedicated kitchen designers (Project Designers International) will be held in early this year to refine plans and build internal kitchen / bar design. We have also engaged a community planner to advise on the Master Plan.

Peter Read
Treasurer

More gaming facilities with the new Pool Room now open

We now have 2 coin-operated pool tables in the old snooker room and it's only \$2 per game. There is also an e-darts machine (you can play people anywhere in the world!) The room is fully equipped with AV (Both grand finals were show there.) and room bookings are welcome. The club has also installed the great game of Keno.

