HAMPTON BAYSIDE BOWLS CLUB Inc

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Chairman's Update

Dear Members,

It has been several weeks since I have written an update, but I do believe Kathy Walker's summaries of activities and planned implementation of the emerging club have been detailed and transparent. There has been nothing of significance to add.

Liquor Licence

The Liquor Licence is nearest and dearest to our hearts at present as it is our main source of income over the year, and dictates whether we can host functions, social events and key bowls events. Regrettably I can not give any real detail as the feedback from the agents prosecuting our case for a licence transfer is that even though we are only wanting a transfer, the VLL are quoting the same timeframe as for a new licence. I find this quite incredible but believe me there is no avenue I and our supporters have found to shorten this timeline at present.

What does that mean – if that timeline is maintained it means our licence will arrive some time between mid and end of November. If earlier, then it will be a bonus.

We had some functions booked for November which, to be fair, we will advise them of the situation so they can seek alternate venues. We have several functions booked in December who we will hope stay with us for the journey. Kathy and the Functions Group are managing this on a case-by-case basis with an eye to building and maintaining relationships in the future.

Our future bar staff model is likely to be a blend between professional staff at very busy times and our army of RSA qualified volunteers at others. We have been really pleased to have several of our previous staff express interest in working selected hours for us, and we are now seeking to identify a part time bar manager or other management arrangement to provide overall coordinaion and run the bar operations when we start up.

Hampton Cricket Club

Hampton Cricket Club commence their season this weekend and we wish them every success. Our latest communication with their President indicates they still want to utilise our Club as their social base and venue for functions. They too of course want us to get our licence as soon as possible. They are a large and strong local club and the partnership over this summer should benefit both clubs and perhaps pave the way for a longer-term relationship. It will be exciting to have a large younger cohort amongst us and using our facilities, and of course help our revenue raising efforts to continue to grow the Club into the future.

Volunteers

Kathy Walker in her weekly updates has continually thanked our volunteers and deservedly so. They are the ones who clean up, scrub, and now do nearly all maintenance around the Club. They do tire, and I am sure sometimes wonder why they are doing so much more for the club, but without them we will not continue to function. So, when you leave your cup or rubbish lying around, please remember that it is you who are responsible for removing your own rubbish. Our volunteers add the final polish. Volunteering can be as much as you want, and hour a week, fortnight, or a month. Please consider.

If you are unable to volunteer, we are always open to donations of equipment for internal cleaning (a new vacuum would be nice), gardening or supplies such as paint and brushes. There are many ways we can support our club so please contact Lyn Manning as Volunteer Coordinator or Kathy Walker if you have any questions.

The Future

The Special General Meeting of all members of Hampton Bayside Bowls Club Inc will be held on Sunday 15th October at 1030, and I hope all members have received notice of the meeting by email or mail. The primary aim is to adopt the new Constitution which lays down the rules for the Club as a business into the future, updating our previous Constitution which had become dated and conflicting with so many changes over recent years.

We need a quorum to conduct the meeting, and then afterwards at 1130 we will open the new Claude Wood green and revisit the history of those recognised by having the other greens named after them – William (Bill) Quick and Margaret Radford. A significant day in our history and even more so this year with what has evolved. After the brief ceremony we will have light refreshments. I am grateful some of our local representatives will join us briefly for the opening of the greens.

Lastly, as we continue the process of slowly opening the Club to all members, and to more of our social and community activities, I ask us all to be aware it is not, and will not be, the same as it was. As a Club we have had a traumatic year, and building from almost nothing we are building a new club. We will retain those traditions and those things we love and want, but our Club needs to set itself up for the future, and be the bowls, social and community club we voted for in 2022. By embracing our new environment, we have the chance to build a iconic institution for Hampton and Bayside.

Warm regards and again thank you for your support.