Weekly Message
October 1, 2023
Kathy Walker

The past week the Board has been particularly busy with negotiating and meeting with many different organisations and personnel.

We have met with a number of people who have Bar experience and we are hoping to secure an experienced part time manager as soon as possible. Gerry Cleary one of our social members continues to assist us with setting up accounts for alcohol supplies, kegs and wine and we greatly appreciate his input. We are progressing.

I am meeting with Margaret Monahan on Monday 2 October in the hope of furthering discussions with Margaret working part time as a Functions Manager or to assist in stablishing systems for bookings and functions.

John Lord is meeting with someone on Monday re Point of Sale access for the Bar. We have a few options now and are in the last stages of finalising.

We have two different groups of Pickle Ball interested in utilising some of our land which will add to our commitment to being a community club and help with revenue. Don't panic. They won't be using any Bowls greens!!

We are hopeful that as soon as we have our Bar licence we will see the return of Toastmasters.

We now have four groups of Mahjong running each week.

Bar Training
We have secured the services of a hospitality and training organisation who will be conducting our RSA training at the Club on Wednesday 25th October from 9.30 am
If anyone else wants to undertake this please contact Carol Finlay. This is the last opportunity to do this as a group.

Last week we had a group of about 13 members organised by Lyn Manning who spent almost all day cleaning, sorting, organising the Bar, the Fridges and storage in the Bar area. Old signs were taken off, Phil G has advised re what we need to do re painting and Ellen W is going to advise on colours. It was a huge task and a big thank you to Lyn M and her team for all the work they undertook.

Cleaning
We are obtaining quotes at the moment for a part time cleaner once the Bar is open. This will ensure that our wonderful volunteers are not having to deal with the after function and after a big Saturday or Sunday night of Bar trading. However, this will only be part time and only include Bar areas and toilets in the first instance.

Our Finance Director Alastair MacDonald is on a couple of weeks leave from the Board and we wish him a great and well deserved break.

Processes
The Board has introduced a number of preliminary processes to ensure the smooth running of all events and functions including Bowls events. Lyn Manning and her team have also established a template to assist with events in terms of cleaning, catering, set up etc. Please follow the link in the email to read a bit about how we are organising things. This is to ensure no duplication, financial management and transparency.
As the Club continues to grow, particularly after we open the Bar and functions commence in full, we need coordination between and around any Bowls events as well functions.

One of the Board's key aims is to communicate with all members regularly via our new communication group which is led by Mel Carney. We ask that you send anything you may wish to be distributed re communication directly to me, not Mel so we manage Mel's workload and coordinate when things are sent out.

Website and Calendar
As I reported last week, we are close to having a brand new website. We are starting it with a few sections and building it up over the next 3-6 months. The bowls section will be auditing and editing all old documents so we have only up to date information on the website for Bowls as well as other sections. Weekly updates, newsletters , functions, events, general news will all be uploaded each week so all members can access.

We will start posting hard copies of all weekly updates and general news from me and the Board on the outside notice board that used to be the Tradies Business Cards display.

WI FI
We have joined up with TPG for our internet and just waiting to set up the modem. Hopefully all should be up and running this week.

Grants and Sponsors
I am delighted to report that Pam L has sent off our first grant application with the help of Ivan and the comms team. In this instance we are applying for some smaller Bowls suitable for children. Please contact Pam if you would like to see the grant application.

The Grants and Sponsorship group's major aim is to:
Seek financial support for whole of club initiatives. This is not just Bowls related but for the bigger picture in terms of sponsors or grants that may help us with refurnishing, rebuilding, all sorts of big picture items as well as smaller but important grants or sponsors.
If you have any contacts that may be interested in sponsorship please contact Pam Longley.

Welfare and well being

We are holding our first meeting this week although a few of the working group are away. We will be finalising our aims and a thanks already to Malcolm Peck and Juliette for their offer of speakers and support. If you have any ideas of what you would like the club to do in terms of support, information, health etc please let me know.

As a Board member of Bayciss I was delighted to see that part of the funds raised by the wonderful bowls event "The One" held on Friday, will be donated to this organisation. Janet Mattheson provided a comprehensive overview of the range of things Bayciss does for the Bayside community.

As an extension of our community engagement commitment and a request from Bayciss, we are holding a one week food donation blitz at our club to be given to Bayciss as part of its food bank. Janet mentioned particularly items such as tea, coffee, peanut butter, items that families enjoy. Any donation of food would be welcome. We will set up a table and box for donations on Monday 2 October just inside the function room. Feel free to drop of your donations this week.

It was great to be part of the Bowls event The One last week and a big thank you to Bryan, Phil, their team, to Lyn Manning and her team, Mel who produced the flyer, and how can we pass by the fact that the afternoon tea was particularly amazing with so many homemade cakes. Thanks to you all.

For your diaries Special General Meeting and opening of the Greens
Please ensure you are available to attend our Special General Meeting on Sunday 15 October. More details will be sent but we are excited to be opening the Greens on that day and have special guests!!!

As always, please feel free to contact any Board member if you have ideas, questions or want further information.

Have a great week.
Kathy