

BOARD REPORT FOR THE PERIOD 1 MAY 2019 TO 30 APRIL 2020

On behalf of the Board it is my pleasure to report on the club's activities for the year ended 30th April 2020.

In early March 2020, the Club was in a strong position with everything under control and progressing nicely towards the conclusion of a successful season. Then in late March the season was abruptly brought to an end by the nationally declared lockdown due to Covid-19. With the majority of our members in the most vulnerable age group, your Board took the advice of Bowls New Zealand and closed the Club for the remainder of the season.

On a positive note, I would like to extend a very warm welcome to all new members who joined our club during the year and I trust that you enjoyed the fellowship, camaraderie, facilities and playing competitions offered within the club.

GOVERNANCE:

The club continues to be governed by a Board of elected members. Board members during the year were Stuart Jamieson Chairman, Bruce Aley President, Sandra Coombe Vice President, Jo Baxter Secretary, Tony Popplewell Treasurer, David Pearse, John Gledhill, Allan Langley, and Arthur Beale.

The Board has again functioned well, with their objectives for the club largely being met or advanced.

To all my fellow board members, thank you for the time and energy you commit to the running of the club. Your contributions make sure that the club functions smoothly.

You have already been notified that Bruce Aley is not seeking re-election as President. After 10 of the last 12 years as President, Bruce feels he has contributed significantly to the Club and feels it is time for some fresh input. Also Arthur Beale, who with the assistance of Janne, has expressed a desire to relinquish the position of Facilities Hire Co-Ordinator which is also a Board position. Both these positions are extremely important to the successful functioning of the Club and your Board asks any of you suitably qualified to seriously consider offering your services to the Club.

I would like to thank Bruce Aley for his contribution over many years to the smooth functioning of the Club and similarly thank Arthur and Janne Beale for their contribution. Non Board members who contribute significantly to the smooth administration of the Board include Gayle Wilkinson as Membership Secretary and Barbara Crawford as Minutes Secretary. Thank you both for your contributions, they are truly appreciated.

BOWLING ACTIVITIES:

Your Programming, Match and Tournament committees did an excellent job, to ensure that the majority of events were completed. There were several events which were not completed before the Club was shut down in late March and where necessary and possible these events may be scheduled during the coming winter season. Thank you to these committees and their helpers for planning, organizing, and executing our seasons playing programme.

Generally, club championship events were well supported and attracted strong competitive fields. Congratulations to those who became club champions or were runners up in the various events.

The club enjoyed success in Centre events by winning the Pennants Men's Premier Division and the Cadness Cup. The players who represented the Club in the Premier Division were Murray Radojkovic, Ian Hardy, Kevin Cameron, Mike Wilkinson, Larry Cain, Alan Daniels, Ian Coombe, Brian Nolan and Allan Langley. The Cadness Cup team was skipped by Kevin Sturgeon with Tony Popplewell, John Lindsay and Allan Langley making up the team.

CENTRE TITLES:

With none of the Champ of Champs games played at time of writing, the Club has not been successful with any Centre Titles this season.

Teams who represented the club in the various centre events were selected by the club selectors, Leon Wech (convenor), Colleen Rice, Alan Daniels and Peter Orgias. We thank them for their work in grading, handicapping and selecting players.

Club Open Tournaments played on Tuesdays and Thursdays continue to be well supported by our members. Whilst numbers are down on past attendances, and attracting players from other clubs is difficult, we still enjoy strong fields and competitive games. Thanks to the tournament committee members who organise and run these tournaments.

Once again, the Arena Living Triples has proven to be an excellent tournament with a good level of entries. Played throughout the season, on the 1st Tuesday of the month, it culminates in a final late in the season. We are grateful to Arena Living for their support of this major Club tournament. Our thanks to Sandra and Ian Coombe for their organisation of this important Club tournament.

Harcourt's Cooper & Co continue to support our club as sponsors of both the Harcourt's Classic and Harcourt's Mixed Fun Day. The Classic again had a full field and was a great success. To the Club members who organized these events, Barry McCrystal who liaises with the sponsors, and Robyn Coles and her team from the Mairangi Bay branch of Harcourts we offer our sincere thanks for your ongoing support.

Jackpot Pairs was again played on Friday afternoons. The event has proven to be very popular, so much so, that it is fast becoming a major Club event. We were fortunate in attracting a new sponsor, Silverfin Capital, for this event, however the lockdown prevented the final 2 tournaments being played and therefore the benefit for the Sponsor was curtailed. We hope that they will continue their sponsorship next season, however we need to have a discussion with them about it.

The Bays Junior Cup was again played this year on Labour Day. Entry numbers were down but it was successful and enjoyed by all participants. Thanks to Les Boulton for his continued contribution to the success of this event. We also greatly appreciate the contribution from Joanne Mimmack and James Dixon from Harcourts Cooper and Co. Mairangi Bay who contributed towards the successful running of this tournament.

The Saturday afternoon Huggle was again well supported and popular. Thanks to Rex Redfern, Ian Hardy and Gayle Wilkinson for organizing this event.

FINANCIAL:

A summary of the club's financial position has been provided separately to members. Any member wanting a full set of accounts can obtain a set from Tony Popplewell, the club Treasurer. The year ended April 30th 2020 has again been successful for the club

The accounts reflect an excess of income over expenditure of \$7,671. With the carpet green being capitalized a more realistic measure of the Club's position at year end is the fact that we had a positive cash flow for the year of approximately \$32,000 which is an excellent result. Bar trading surplus at \$24,357 was up on budget. We thank Colleen Rice and all those members who assist her in running the bar so efficiently.

Total income of \$125,681 was in line with budget, but significantly down on last year when we received grants of \$82,000 primarily towards the replacement of the carpet green. We were successful in receiving grants of approximately \$18,000 this financial year. Club expenses were generally in line with budget. Our major expenses continue to involve the maintenance of our greens and surrounds, together with the Club facilities.

The Club's balance sheet remains strong with equity up to \$591,547. Cash reserves have decreased due to the expenditure on the new carpet green but at approximately \$165,000 remain strong.

CARPET GREEN REPLACEMENT:

Whilst the carpet green replacement was completed last season, the Club still retains a small retention as we endeavour to finalise remedial work with Tiger Turf. We thank Ian Coombe for his continued efforts with Tiger Turf to resolve this issue.

MEMBERSHIP:

Membership as at date of writing stands at 155 members, which is 11 less than last year, 80 men, 42 women, 5 Life, 10 Limited, 2 Honorary, 4 Associate, 8 Business House Plus, and 7 non-playing.

The decrease in numbers is disappointing and we must continue to be innovative in providing membership opportunities which fit in with the requirements of potential members but also meet the objectives of the Club.

GREENS AND SURROUNDS:

Knightsbridge and Mayfair Greens continue to play at a very high standard. These two maniatoto greens are professionally maintained by our greenkeeper Hamish Russell and we thank him for his expertise and commitment to keeping these greens in such good condition throughout the year. Also, thanks to Allan Langley for his work as greens supervisor. To all the members, both women and men who have assisted at renovation time, mowing lawns, maintaining gardens and supporting working bees, the Board acknowledges your significant contribution and offers a big thank you.

Over the season the green bench seats which I am told have been at the club for many years, starting to deteriorate to the point where they were no longer safe and needed to be replaced. We held discussions with a number of potential sponsors for the seats, and were sufficiently encouraged to proceed with replacement. Leon Wech agreed to construct replacement seats. Unfortunately none of the proposed sponsorships came to fruition. We then approached club members offering the opportunity to sponsor a seat and as always club members were very generous with their support and we were able to cover the cost of the seats from donations. We sincerely thank all those who contributed for their generosity.

SPONSORS:

The Club would not be able to function without the support of our sponsors. We are always looking for new sponsorships, so if you know of anyone who could be a sponsor please let a board member know. Thank you to those of you who provided leads during the year. Our sponsorship board in the clubrooms lists our sponsors and we encourage members to reciprocate the support of these businesses by engaging their services whenever possible.

COMMUNICATION:

Garth Partridge maintains the Club's website which is now the principal method of communication to Club members. The board thanks Garth for his support in this important area.

Garth distributes on behalf of the board, via email, matters which need to be brought to members attention. This is an essential function and the Board also appreciates Garth's assistance in this area.

FACILITIES HIRE:

There are several reasons why the use of our facilities by outside organizations is important to the Club. Firstly, the council through the local Hibiscus and Bays Local Board have made it clear to us that whilst the facilities are available to the wider community, they will continue to support the extension of our lease. Secondly, the income derived from outside use is becoming significant to the Club, and thirdly, members of the public are being introduced to the game. Whilst this latter point has not directly resulted in many new members, we have had entries to our business house bowls league from casual hirers which is a good way for people to gain knowledge and understanding of the game.

These casual activities can occasionally be disruptive to members but we ask that you look at "the big picture" and appreciate the benefits to the Club. Arthur and Janne Beale have done a fantastic job in organizing this area of the club's activities, however the time has come when they wish to step down from this role and we desperately need to find a member or members who can assist us with this role. There are a number of Club members prepared to assist, we just need somebody with administrative experience to coordinate this function. Arthur and Janne have been ably assisted by Allan Donnelly who is always willing to supervise the green.

BUSINESS HOUSE BOWLS:

Once again business house bowls was a great success with 28 teams playing the pre-Xmas league and 24 in the second league played in February.

During the year the board introduced a new membership category “business house plus”. Recognizing that players playing in business house pay \$120 per season the new category allows BHB players to participate, for a small additional fee, in casual bowls activities, attend coaching, and social activities within the club. Several players from the business house league have taken up the offer.

The board wishes to thank those club members who give up their time to make these leagues such a success.

OBITUARY:

It is with great sadness that I need to report that during the review period we farewelled three Club members. These ladies joined our Club at the time of amalgamation with the Women’s Bowling Club. Joy Cheer became our Patron, and was an ex President, Life Member and Founding Member of the Women’s Bowling Club. She passed away after a short illness. June Fairclough was also a Life Member of the former Women’s Bowling Club, and Barbara Bold was a former President and Coach at the Women’s Bowling Club. These ladies contributed significantly to the Mairangi Bay Bowling Clubs over the years.

We also said farewell to Fata Letoa who many, particularly the juniors, will remember fondly for his bright personality and stoic acceptance of the debilitating illness from which he suffered.

We express our condolences to the families and friends of these club members and we will miss their contributions to the club.

ASSISTANCE:

There is a great deal of diversity of skills within our club membership and the Club would welcome the application of these skills to make the club an even better place to play and enjoy bowls. If you can contribute in any way please advise any Board member.

Before concluding the Board acknowledges the tremendous effort that so many Club members put into running the club. Whilst some have been named above there are many more whose contributions are equally as important. Many of you do so many things for the club, a lot of which goes unnoticed, but I can assure you that everything positive that you do for the Club makes the Club what it is: one of which we can all be proud and one whose atmosphere and camaraderie is admired by outsiders. Thank you and please keep up the good work.

Stuart Jamieson

Board Chairperson