



BORONIA BOWLS CLUB

New Members Welcome Handbook

WELCOME MESSAGE

Welcome to Boronia Bowls Club and congratulations on becoming a member.

The one thing that the Club prides itself on, above all others, is that of being the “Friendly Club.” The Club has a rich history dating back to the 19th May 1952, when the Club was formed after an inaugural meeting that was held at the Boronia Progress Hall. Since then, the Club has been providing enjoyment to locals and the community, and will continue to long into the future. A future that you are now a part of as well.

To discover more about the history of the Club, please head to our website - <https://www.boroniabowls.org/>

WHAT IS CONTAINED IN THE HANDBOOK

This handbook is designed to give new members an understanding of the following key points;

- Walk-through inside the club
- Your obligation to the Club as a volunteer
- Walk around the outside grounds and greens
- On the green
- Basics of the game
- Etiquette of lawn bowls
- Practice sessions and times
- Playing Pennant
- Our Club competitions
- Social bowls

It is a mandatory requirement that all new members attend an Induction session with the Membership Committee and talk through the information in this handbook.

The importance of this is two-fold;

1. The Membership Committee will know you have been given all the information you need to start to engage at the Club and begin bowling. And most important, enjoy your lawn bowls with others
2. This provides an opportunity for new members to meet each other and form connections, as well as ask any questions you have about how things work at the Club

WELCOME LETTER AND PACK

At your new member induction, you will receive a Welcome Pack. The Welcome Pack includes;

- This Welcome Handbook
- Welcome Letter
- Name Badge
- Current Fixture Book
- Rules and Regulations Booklet
- The Taylor Way – A Guide for New Bowlers – provided in digital form

Let us now dive into the induction and step through the contents of this handbook.

WALK-THROUGH INSIDE THE CLUBHOUSE

Kitchen - tea and coffee making facilities (please clean and tidy up after yourself).

Whiteboard for in house social functions with names of committee members (otherwise known as the Crafty Ladies who meet every Wednesday morning from 9-12am for coffee and a chat as well as making lovely 'crafty' items for sale).

First aid equipment and defibrillator.

Sponsors Box.

Pennant Selection Boards.

Whiteboard for pennant match results - ROW - rink of the week - all rink members get presented with a pen at the end of the season.

Whiteboard for club functions - We always need club members to help at these events - whether on the green, in the kitchen or just setting up the hall. Cut your teeth helping on a Twilight Bowls session every Friday night 6-9pm during daylight savings - these are great fun.

Office and meeting room.

Toilets and change rooms - Including the Disabled toilet with baby change table and shower.

Bookcase - free books for members to read and replace.

Noticeboards in foyer;

- This is where everything happens so make sure you read them carefully. Names are added to the lists for all sorts of things from social bowls to social events
- Folder containing details of other clubs' competitions in the area
- Point out cleaning roster, new membership forms and used bowls and clothing for sale
- New merchandise can be purchased at the bar or for other clothing - club shirts, vests, jackets, please see Peter Crocker
- Names of key members who form the COM - committee of management - elected at the AGM

OBLIGATIONS OF MEMBERS

The Club is run by the support of all members volunteering their time and effort, so there is an obligation for all members to lend a hand, pitch in, and support the Club in whatever way they can. Do you have any special talents that you would be willing to share for the benefit of the club? Everyone needs to share the load.

Look for opportunities to get involved with the Club, such as Friday Night Barefoot Bowls and other functions.

ON THE GREEN

The Club gates open at approximately 8am and close at approximately dusk each night. This includes the outside toilets and mat and jacks box.

Mats and jacks box - please make sure lid is closed but not locked when you leave so contents do not get wet.

Point out umpire's box.

Direction of play notice on deck.

Toilets

Front and Back greens -please use the boundary pegs when practicing rather than the numbers to spread the wear of the green more evenly. Also use the back green for practice unless Guy (the green keeper) is working on it. You can always speak to him if unsure - he is very approachable and always keeps the greens in great condition.

The bowls and equipment cupboard – this is usually locked so you need to obtain your own set of bowls as soon as possible so that you can practice whenever you wish. The club can lend you an older set of bowls together with a bag while you are considering your options for purchasing your own set.

You do not need to purchase new bowls at approximately \$700 - there are plenty of secondhand sets out there that will serve you comfortably for half that price. If you need to be pointed in the right direction for websites, just ask.

ETIQUETTE OF BOWLS

Below is a guide to the expected acceptable conduct of all players;

- Be respectful, courteous, and friendly, to fellow players at all times
- Try to be tolerant and polite to your opponents
- Read, understand, and respect, the written rules of the game before you start playing the game
- Be attired in the correct clothing to show your support for your club
- Wear a name tag
- Be punctual to all games, do not keep your opponents and team mates waiting
- Have your bowls and equipment ready to play at the starting time
- Do not leave a rink during play without firstly advising your opponent you are leaving
- Do not intentionally distract, or aggravate, your opponent when on the green
- Keep excessive noise and chatter to a minimum
- Play the game in a good spirit and compliment any good shots played
- Never query the umpire's decision
- Be a good loser and a gracious winner

PRACTICE SESSIONS AND TIMES

Practice is vital to improve your performance, and hence your enjoyment of the game of bowls. We really encourage new bowlers to get experience early with the game, and this includes plenty of practice. You can come down anytime the gates are open; however, we do have some allocated practice times;

- Thursdays from 3.30pm-6pm are for Skills and Drills and all bowlers are invited to this. These sessions are available for bowlers of all skill levels. A great activity for new members to get involved with and meet some of the more experienced members of the Club
- You can even round it off with Pizza Night when the bar and clubrooms are open every Thursday night
- Currently Sunday afternoons from 2pm-4pm are being used as another practice session for new bowlers, however most afternoons on a pleasant Sunday you will find members practicing

Friday night Twilight Bowls from 6pm-9pm are for beginners too and there are always Club members on hand to give any assistance required. Why not bring the rest of the family down to try the sport or just enjoy a social drink on our magnificent deck? There is nowhere like it when the sun is shining and the smell of BBQ cooking.

Social bowls is played at the following times;

- Wednesday from 12pm-4pm
- Saturday from 12pm-4pm (outside Pennant season)

PLAYING PENNANT

Pennant should be the aim of any bowler and gives you the opportunity to represent your Club, with a group of likeminded teammates. Bowls is a fantastic individual sport; however, Pennant provides an opportunity for a true team experience.

If you are new to Pennant, members at the Club will teach you how to score, measure and use a scoop. Also step you through the roles and duties of each rink member. These include;

- Lead – places the mat, rolls the jack, and commences the end. Also collects the bowls using the scoop at the completion of each end
- Second – follows the Lead and is responsible for scoring
- Third – follows the Second and informs the Skip about the head situation when they are bowling
- Skip – follows the third, captains the team and provides instruction and motivation

There are also some additional duties shared by Pennant players each week when playing at home. These include;

- Inside duty
- Outside duty

You will need to know what time you are expected at the Club depending on your duty. There is also an allocated Side Manager for each Pennant side.

If you are making your own way to an away match rather than travelling with your team, you need to let your Skip know so they do not wait for you at the Club.

You need to make sure that you are attired correctly and are aware of etiquette. Please refer to the previous section on etiquette, as well as taking direction from your experienced team members.

Pennant is currently played on the following days during the season which runs from approximately October-February;

- Tuesday starting at 10:30am
- Thursday starting at 10:30am
- Saturday starting at 1:00pm

Practicing before a match is allowed up to 30mins before the start time.

OUR CLUB COMPETITIONS

A variety of different and fun Club competitions are available for members to enter.

Attire will vary depending on the competition so make sure you ask or read the appropriate email or entry form. Club finals are always played in Club uniform.

Singles matches always require a marker and the match loser usually does this for the next round. If this is you, make sure you are aware of the responsibilities of doing this, (have a practice) or watch a competition.

If in doubt always ask!

The following page contains a checklist of everything that is covered during your Induction. Please check all items off and ask questions if you are unsure.

New Member Induction Checklist

Item	Notes	Completed
In Your Pack		
The Welcome Handbook		
Welcome Letter		
Name Badge		
Current Fixture Book		
Rules & Regulations Booklet		
The Taylor Way Guide		
Walk-Through Clubhouse		
Kitchen		
Whiteboard		
First Aid/Defibrillator		
Sponsors Box		
Pennant Selection Boards		
Pennant Match Results		
Club Functions		
Office & Meeting Room		
Toilets & Change Rooms		
Bookcase		
Noticeboards in Foyer		
On The Green		
Mats/Jacks Box		
Umpire's Box		
Direction of Play		
Outside Toilets		
Front & Back Green		
Bowls & Equipment Cupboard		
Practice Session		
Bowl Selection		
Grip		
Placing the Mat		
Rolling the Jack		
Stance & Aim		

Delivery		
Scoring		
