

Your New Committee

At the AGM, held on Sunday 1 May, your new committee was elected.

Tranmere Bowling Club Committee 2016-17

President: Mike Porter
 VP (Women): Anne Lippis
 VP (Men): Geoff Thomas
 Secretary: Darryl Stanton
 Treasurer: John Bartram
 Committee: Pam Fullarton
 Kathy Day
 Sue Sanders
 Anne Ellis
 Ian Abraham
 Bob Gilby
 Peter Holland
 Bob Bussenschutt

We thank Chris Douglas, Bev Cowles, Veronica Dolan and Tom Lycett for their contributions as outgoing members, replaced this year by Darryl Stanton, Pam Fullarton. Sue Sanders and Bob Bussenschutt.

New Pennant Structure

Bowls SA has announced a new pennant structure for the 2016-17 pennant season. The top divisions on each of the three competition days have ten sides and are metropolitan wide (shaded yellow in the table). The next division has two sections, north and south, each of ten sides (shaded green) and the divisions thereafter having four sections, north, south, east and west of ten sides. The bottom division will have as many sections and sides as necessary to fit nominations.

Finals, for the top four sides at the end of the minor round, are to be played in all of the divisions shown with colour

shading including those shaded grey, which includes two divisions that have four sections.

Subject to having sufficient players to fill its sides, Tranmere has been allocated the following divisions.

	SAT	WED	THU
Premier	-	1	1
Div 1	1	1	-
Div 2	-	1	1
Div 3	1	1	1
Div 4	2	1	1
Div 5	2	1	
Div 6	1		

Of note is that Tranmere is the only club to have sides allocated in both Premier and Division 1 for the Wednesday competition.



Jeff Neale, Dealer Principal of Paradise Motors, was on hand to present the winning cash to all prize winners. Members of the winning team, shown here, were Ron Brooks, Geoff Thomas, Trevor Dale, Eunice Dale, Di Born and Judy Brooks.

Doug Jewels just missed out to winning the fabulous Mazda MX5 on display at the club when his resting toucher, the first for the day, came shortly after the deadline of 9:45am.

We would like to thank Jack Cowles, Tom Lycett and Mike Porter as tournament organisers and the catering team led by Anne Lippis for another fabulous lunch.



Paradise Motors Super 6s Tournament

Superb weather, delicious lunch, competitive bowling and excellent sponsorship from Paradise Motors made for a super day. Twenty teams of six players competed for the major prizes over six triples matches.

In the end, no team won all six matches and every team won or drew at least one match. The most ends won in any game was 10 out of 13, showing just how competitive the match-ups were.

Night Owls Wrap

Another hugely successful and ever-popular night-owls season came to a grand finale on 29 March this year. Grand final night is always a lot of fun with many players making a special effort to contribute to not just the bowling but also the after-match ceremonies.



Liz Doudle – a star attraction

The divisional winners were:

Div 1: *All The Gear No Idea* defeated *Dire Straits*

Div 2: *Kitty Kissers* defeated *Lady Birds*

Div 3: *Irish Missed* defeated *Hillbillies*

Div 4: *Magilligans* defeated *Here Kitty Kitty*

Div 5: *Centralians* defeated *Mixtures*



All The Gear No Idea
Mark Scopacasa, Paul Lilley, Matt McNicoll & David Hocking,

The Division I final required a tie-break after both teams won one set apiece. The winning team, *All The Gear No Idea*, came in part way into the season as a replacement side when another pulled out. The Division 5 finalists were both new teams to the Tranmere night-owls competition this year and the eventual winner, *Centralians*, had not won a single match during the minor round. Well done to all players.

Geoff Thomas, our event coordinator for night-owls, thanks all those many club members who have helped him during the season to again make the program such a success. As ever, the 2017 program is already full with a couple of teams on the waiting list.

Schools Program at Tranmere

Each year the school invites senior students to select from a list of sports on offer to them to enrol in as part of their curriculum. Once again Tranmere has been invited by Pembroke Senior School to conduct a bowls program for some of their very interested students.

From the beginning of February to mid May seven students have taken part, on a weekly basis, in an introduction to playing bowls program conducted by Colin Whyte and Mike Porter. This small but keen group of students, all of whom are very sports-minded, are aware that their progress is monitored by their sports master, and that achievement results go towards their end of year assessments.

Colin, Mike and sports-master Jon Fuller have been amazed at the progress of the students. It has been very rewarding to have had an extremely talented group of young students to come along to Tranmere to partake and enjoy the game that we all like playing so much.



Desi Jordon, Nick Holmes, Wes Weeks, Dylan Louca, Harry Roberts, Ryan Halloran, Georgia van Dissel, Jon Fuller (Sportsmaster)

CONGRATULATIONS

Bowls SA State Championships

Congratulations to Darryl Willson, who, together with mates from the West Lakes club, were runners-up in the State men's triples championship.

Bowls SA Champion of Champions

Congratulations too to Claire Pope and Judy Brooks for their performance in getting to the last eight of the champion of champion women's pairs event, losing 15 - 16 to the eventual runners up.

Tranmere's Got Talent



The Eno Sisters, with Mary Vincent on the left

Mary Vincent's got talent. Over the years she has loved entertaining people as a singer, an actor, a playwright and a theatre director. She's performed for the Prime Minister (John Gorton) and the Governor-General's wife (Lady Stephen) and she's won three best actress awards.

It all began in amateur theatre with the Elizabeth Repertory Company back in 1965. A few years later, her husband was relocated to Canberra to work in the Royal Tracking Station for the moon landing in 1969 and Mary joined the Canberra Repertory Society. It was a great way to meet people and continue doing what she enjoyed most. That too was amateur theatre and Mary was very good at her craft. When a co-actor friend opened the first theatre restaurant in Canberra, Mary was offered a starring role and she jumped at the chance. A passion for amateur theatre had evolved into a professional role.

Shows included *Dimboola*, in which the diners at the restaurant were the guests at a wedding reception and Mary was the bride, *We're Just Good Friends*, a cabaret show performed with her good friend Winston Williams and *Hits of the Blitz*, a wartime variety show in which she and two friends sang Andrews Sisters songs. They called themselves the Eno Sisters, because they felt that, 'between the three of them they could give anyone the shits'¹.

Then someone disparagingly said that people who work in theatre restaurants, can't act. Well, that was a red rag to a bull and Mary was determined to prove them wrong. She competed in several drama festivals in Wagga and in

¹ Editor's note: You have to be of a certain age group to appreciate the clever little play on words here, and I reckon the age group at the Tranmere Bowling Club is just right.

Canberra and three times won recognition as best actress (in those days women were still actresses).

Returning to South Australia in 2000 Mary continued her association with theatre, teaching drama at U3A (The University of the Third Age) as well as writing and directing three plays, supported by the Campbelltown Council and performed at the Athelstone Community Centre.

How It All Began

Mary played no sport and took very little interest in sporting matters. Then, fifteen years ago, her Rotary Group had a social day here at the Tranmere Bowling club and Mary came along with absolutely no intention of bowling. When the numbers were one short, John Bennett asked her to play and she thought, why not. Jack Beilby gave her all the advice she needed on the day - 'little ring on the inside and aim for the post' – and she bowled really well. Mary was getting them on or near the jack pretty consistently and, crazily, thought this is the easiest game in the world.



'I think I'll join,' she said. Her children thought it was hysterical. Their mum, without a sporting bone in her body, had decided to join a lawn bowling club. Mary played Melba night owls and Saturday pennant competition to begin with and was bowling very well. Then someone, let's call him Kevin Parkinson, said, 'You need coaching,' and it's never been the same since.

Mary loves bowling at Tranmere. It provides great fellowship, mild exercise, exposure to vitamin D and brain training to remember everyone's names. Mary enjoys the game too because you've got to think about it and concentrate. Mary's won a drawn pairs club championship event with Alana Lomax and been part of the winning team at last year's ladies fours medley skins tournament. She's won two pennant badges and an 8-badge to boot.

Know Your Role - Lead

Over the next four editions of the Tranmere Times we will be discussing the role of a lead, second, third and skipper in pennant matches. Hopefully you'll get something out of it. You may take issue with some of the things stated or have additional thoughts. We'd love to hear them and get a good conversation going.

Pennant bowling is a team game. Each player is selected to give the side in which they play the best possible chance of success and players are selected in specific positions within their team to use their skills to best advantage.

In this edition, we focus on the role of the lead. This is such an important position in the team. A great lead sets the match up for their team, both in putting it on the front footing, as it were, and in the positive energy a good start engenders. Many state sides consider this to be the second most important position in the team after the skipper.

Obviously, consistency in draw bowling is an essential skill of a lead bowler. Having a positive attitude that you can win the game with your own bowling helps a lot. Sure, the opposition will be doing its best to remove or replace your great opening bowls and sometimes they do it. But, not all the time and at least they are chasing you rather than the other way around. And your team mates will relish the opportunity to build on your great bowls.

Never overlook the value of a good second shot. Even if you don't get shot, close bowls will give your team mates something to work with. The general standard you should aspire to depends on the level of competition in which you are playing. At the higher levels, 400mm short to 1 metre behind are good markers and if your first bowl is close, be sure to arrive or be behind with your second bowl.

Normally the narrow hand is easier to play. However, if your opposition is playing the wider hand, your skipper may call you to play the wider hand as well to at least get in the opponents line. You should bowl the same side in both directions unless otherwise agreed with your skipper. This can be reviewed with your skipper during the game and never take it upon yourself to change things without prior discussion. If a bowl appears to be in your draw, don't change hands unless directed to do so. Have confidence in yourself to get under or around the bowl as required.

Rolling the jack can be strategically important. Be aware of where the skipper wants the mat placed and avoid using the same mat position as the opposition. The skipper should be directing both mat position and desired end length and you should be aiming to achieve a roll of the jack to within one metre of the desired position.

Premiership Success

Which metropolitan bowling club won the most premierships in the 2015-16 pennant season? That would be Tranmere, as you might already have known. We won 6 premierships. But, did you know that, over the past four pennant seasons, Tranmere has won 16 premierships, six more than any other club.

Tranmere is one of the biggest clubs in the metropolitan region and you might expect it to win more premierships simply because it fields a large number of sides. Well, that isn't borne out by the results. In fact, Tranmere is a stand-out amongst the bigger clubs in its strike rate of premiership success for the number of sides fielded. The strike rate of the six clubs fielding the highest number of sides varies between 4.5 and 8.3%. Tranmere has a strike rate of 22.5%. The best strike rate of any club is 28% and that belongs to a club that only fields six sides each season. Tranmere has the sixth highest strike rate amongst all 53 clubs.

Not bad for a club that many people outside of Tranmere think of as a nice social club that engages in pennant bowling. Personally, I like it like that. In fact, that is its attraction. We pride ourselves on the sociable nature of the club, its members and activities. After all, people generally want to get enjoyment out of what they do and aren't driven by success at any cost.

But, that doesn't mean you can't attain and enjoy bowling success at the same time, as the results attest.

Claus' Conundrum

Last month's challenge – black is the new black – was not at all tricky. It was simply an exchange of coloured bowls between players. Of course, it helped if you knew the colour of the bowls used by the players who were named. Lui Lippis was using Betty Williamson's white bowls while she was using his orange bowls. Bev Cowles was using Kathy Day's purple bowls while Kathy was using Bev's purple ones. That leaves Geoff Thomas using Barry Robran's black bowls and, hence, Barry was using Geoff's red bowls. Easy when you know, isn't it?

So, to this month's conundrum. Back in February 1986, Sasha Zemanak married Lee Schoen on a beautiful sunny day but, despite exchanging vows at exactly the same time, they were in fact married on different days. You've got all the information you need to know where they were married.