

What's Next At Tranmere

Shade System Project

Thanks to the good weather conditions, and Tranmere urging Berry Bowling Systems to start as early as possible in April, our new C green shade system is up and fully operational. We appreciate the support of the owners of Tranmere House, Mr. and Mrs. Connolly, who allowed access through their property for machinery and other equipment.

Despite some unexpected setbacks – who knew powerlines, water pipes and old concrete stormwater systems were where they were - Berry completed the installation in three weeks; a very good result for us.

Our members and visitors can now enjoy those shade conditions, when we need them, for pennants, tournaments and club championship events. Thanks to the continuing support from our members, our night owl bowlers, winter bowlers and visitors, we are fortunate enough to be able to generate the funds to finance such projects.

With these projects there are always many additional tasks necessary to complete the project. Hundreds of pavers were re-laid, concrete was repaired, rubbish removed and many other sundry jobs were done.

Thankfully we always have another small group of willing and very able volunteers with our dynamic duo of Bob Gilby and Mike Porter ably supported by Sam Caon, John Genovese and others. Well done and thank you to everyone who helped.

What Else Is In The Pipeline?

Further to the shade system we have let the contract to Premium Home Improvements to install a wet weather veranda at the northern end of C green. When funds are available we will also install wet weather verandas to the southern ends of all greens.

During the winter months we will be upgrading some of the sliding door cupboards in the main kitchen with roll out drawers.

Future projects include the upgrade of the outdoor floodlights to LED lights (the old lights have lost some of their strength), replacing the sand in our greens ditches with synthetic material, removing the old evaporative air conditioning units from the roof (anyone want one?), upgrading our main electricity boards and cables plus some smaller sundry jobs.

Planning For The New Season

Already your bowls committee is well advanced with planning for next season. Our new secretary, Darryl Stanton, has settled in well. Barry Handke has taken up the new role of membership officer. Barry will be looking after our member database with Bowls SA. John Bartram, our Treasurer, is looking forward to collecting money. Sue Sanders is our catering co-ordinator.

Bob Bussenschutt and Eddie Dolan are looking after our three major tournaments. Shirley Willis and Paul Maslin will be looking after our Cosmo Triples breakfast days. Anne Lippis and Ann Ellis are looking after our Ladies Medley Skins day. Members playing winter bowls would have noticed that entry forms are already up for our first three tournaments. And it's a big thank you to Daphne Centofanti who agreed to naming our annual Men's Fours Medley day, the Augie Centofanti day, for this year.

Bob Gilby and Pam Fullarton will be looking after our club championship events and our night owl program, co-ordinated by Geoff Thomas, commences in mid October with an entry of some 40 teams.

'Gee it's good to play bowls at Tranmere'

Mike Porter



Mitre 10 are sponsors of Winter Bowls at Tranmere

Winter Social Bowls is Underway

Our popular winter social bowling program has been in operation since Saturday 12 March. This year, we have introduced a couple of changes; starting time on all days has been brought forward to 12 noon and the much-loved 2-4-2 pairs format has been adopted for Saturday as well as Friday. Wednesday remains a two-bowl triples event.

Up to and including Wednesday 8 June, there have been 153 different players featuring amongst the bowling prize winners. Many more have won raffle prizes and other sundry prizes for resting touchers, 6 or 8 badges, Friday Question answers, lucky card draws and special recognition events.

Know Your Role - Second

Last month Tranmere Times brought you the first instalment of a four-part series on the role of the lead, second, third and skipper in a fours team. This month, we look at the role of the second.

The most important thing for you to remember as a second is to play the shot the skipper calls you to play, not the shot you can see and that you think might be appropriate. Do not predetermine your shot and stay off the mat until you've received directions from the skipper. The skipper will have his or her reasons for calling a shot, which might be attacking or defensive. If you see the situation differently, do not engage with the skipper openly there and then. Play the shot the skipper has called and either discuss the situation after the match, or, if it is likely to be brief, mention it as you change ends.

Pennant bowling is overwhelmingly about draw bowling, either to the jack or to a position bowl behind the head. In rare circumstances you may be asked to draw a position bowl in front of the head. Your first priority should be to become the surrogate leader and recover the situation in the event that your lead bowler has not performed up to the mark.

A second must pay particular attention to weight. Unless specifically called to do otherwise, a second should always aim to reach or be past the head. Short bowls are the greatest crime a second can commit.

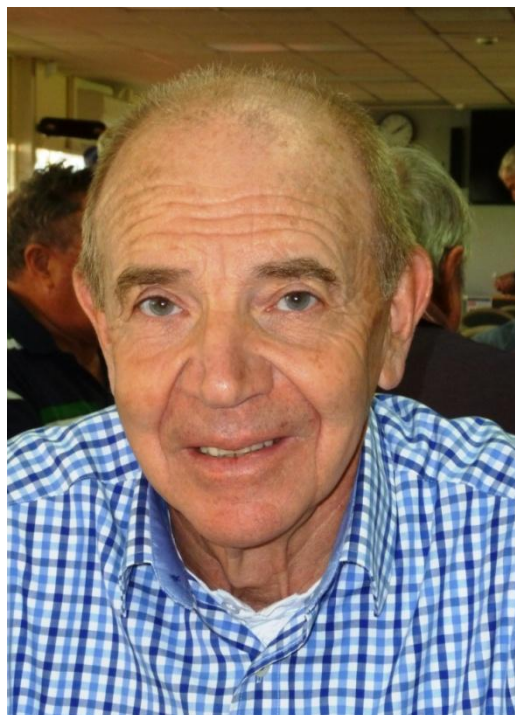
When the skipper asks a second for bowls in the head when the team is not holding shot, don't be overly concerned with getting the shot with your bowls. It helps if you do, but it isn't essential. Your third and skipper will have bowls to come and your bowls in the head will give them confidence to play their shots. On the other hand, if your team is holding shot and the skipper asks for a bowl to the head, don't be afraid of giving shot away and falling short or avoiding the head because of it.

Seconds should ensure that the scorecard and scoreboard are correct at all times. It is good practice to set up an understanding with your opponent at the outset and to verify the result and aggregate score after each end.

Seconds, together with their team mates, contribute to team spirit and harmony by the way they engage with them and deal with their own disappointment should they not be bowling as well as they could. It is never acceptable to openly critique your skipper and other team mates during the course of the match. If there are concerns, these should be held in check until the match has been completed and the team can have a meaningful review of the day.

How It All Began

"I wouldn't mind trying lawn bowls," Joe Saleeba said to his good mate Peter Damiani one day eight years ago. They formed a night-owl team, playing at Hope Valley for two seasons and enjoying it so much they enlisted for pennant bowls for the following season. They haven't looked back since.



Joe had always been an active sportsman. Over the years he played competitive squash, tennis, tenpin bowling, snooker and billiards as well as Aussie Rules football. He played 347 amateur league games with SMOSH, St Michaels Old Scholars, and has been President, Secretary and coach of the club for a period of time. Like most natural sportsman he was pretty good at whatever he tried. In snooker he has a break of 66 to his name and in billiards a break of 62. He has played off in the grand final of the state championships in both events.

After two years at Hope Valley, Peter Damiani transferred to Tranmere and a year later, following favourable reports from Peter, Joe followed. He's loved every minute. "It's like a second family," Joe said when asked what he enjoys most about being a member and playing at Tranmere. "Tranmere is such a well run and friendly club," he went on. "It's very homely and people have been really welcoming. There are no cliques and, whilst winning pennants is important, the emphasis isn't on winning at any cost. I really like the sociable atmosphere.

Fact: Joe's grandfather was the first Lebanese national to immigrate to Adelaide. He arrived in 1886.

Side Selection Panels for 2016-17

The bowls committee has approved a proposal from last season's selection panel, to try a new selection panel format for the coming pennant season. Instead of individual selectors for each side we will have panels of selectors for several sides. There will be two panels for Saturday and Wednesday pennants and one panel for Thursday pennants.

For Saturdays, Panel A, consisting of four selectors plus the chairperson, will select our first three sides, and Panel B, consisting of five selectors plus the chairperson, will select our next four sides.

For Wednesdays, Panel A, consisting of four selectors plus the chairperson, will select our first three sides, and Panel B, consisting of four selectors plus the chairperson, will select the next three sides.

For Thursdays there will be one panel with five selectors plus the chairperson to select all four sides.

Application forms, for interested members to nominate as a selector on one of our panels for next season, will be emailed to members shortly. Application forms will need to be emailed or given to our secretary, Darryl Stanton, by the end of July.

Know Your Rules

A rare situation arose recently during a winter bowls game. Playing west to east on the A Green and down on the end with only his and his opposing skipper's final bowl to come, skipper A drove at the head in the hope of hitting the jack out of bounds and then holding three shots on the re-spot of the jack on the 2 metre line, 1 metre in from the rink boundary on the side where the jack went out of play, as per our winter bowls conditions of play.

It was a hefty drive that hit its target. The bowl became airborne and sailed over the embankment between the A and B greens, giving the players on the B green quite a shock. Despite being a toucher, that bowl was clearly out of bounds and out of play. What about the jack? It cannoned into other bowls on the green and instead of going out of bounds, rebounded forward, coming to rest still in bounds but considerably closer to the skippers' end.

The opposing skipper still had his final bowl to come and the question was, should play continue with the jack staying where it came to rest or should it first be re-spotted?

Who Is It ?



Do you recognise this club member?

See footer next page

Here are the important distances for you to remember. When the jack is first rolled it must be rolled at least 21 metres to be a legal playing length. If, during the course of play, a jack is moved by a bowl such that it finishes less than 18 metres from the centre of the mat line, the jack should be declared dead. The measurement is taken in a straight line from the centre of the mat line to the nearest face of the jack. 18 metres is not to be confused with 14 metres, which is the minimum distance a bowl must travel for it to be a legal bowl.

On the day, the rebounding jack came to rest less than 18 metres from the centre of the mat line and, strictly speaking, should have been declared a dead jack. But this was winter bowls, for which there are no dead ends. Our conditions of play state that the jack should be re-spotted. But the jack did not go out of the rink, so it was decided to leave the jack in play where it finished. The opposing skipper comfortably drew his last bowl to claim the end.

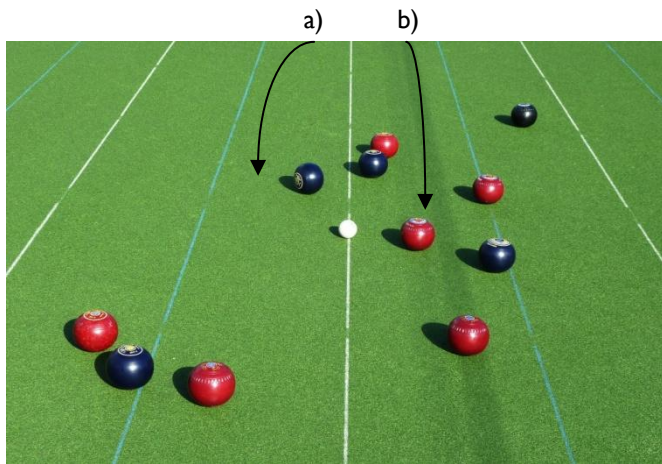
In hindsight, the decision to not re-spot the jack did not properly reward the skipper whose drive was a good one. The jack should have been re-spotted, as per our conditions of play, on the 2 metre line, 1 metre in from the nearest boundary to where the jack came to rest.

And, in a bizarre final note on this situation, law 19.2 provides that a jack is not dead if it comes to rest **on top** of any bowl that is legally in bounds. Theoretically it could rebound to less than 18 metres from the centre of the mat line and still be legal if it came to rest **on top** of a bowl that is at least 14 metres from the mat line. Good luck with that!

What Shot?

In a recent winter bowls triples game the situation shown below arose with only the final bowl from the skipper of the team with the blue bowls to come. Both hands are playing truly without any cross wind to contend with. The game is evenly poised with just three ends, including this one, to complete. It is the second game though and the number of ends won by the winning team matters.

The team with the red bowls is holding shot. The team with the blue bowls has two seconds. Which shot would you attempt?



The two most-obvious options are; a) a forehand draw bowl on the open side to either just come around the blue bowl or run into it to nudge it closer to the jack, or b) a backhand metre-on shot through the narrow gap to punch out the red shot bowl and stay.

The first option has the advantage of not having to negotiate traffic. In addition to plan A, a slightly narrow bowl could hit the inside edge of the blue bowl currently holding down fifth spot and glide in to become shot with or without nudging out the red shot bowl. There is little downside risk. A draw-weighted bowl is unlikely to increase the shot count for the team bowling with the red bowls, but nor is it likely to result in the blue team scoring more than one shot.

The second option offers promise of greater reward, with the perfect bowl delivering a three shot win on the end. But it carries greater risk because it requires a delivery with more weight than simply a draw bowl. An unlucky slice of the jack could result in a two or three shot loss rather than just the single shot as it stands.

Risk versus reward and confidence in playing either of the shot options are the major considerations. You might be tempted to take into consideration that the first option has an open hand whereas the second option has bowls that need to be avoided on the way through.

That would be an error in logic as both options require the delivery to be spot on.

Now for the anti-climax. On the day, the skipper in question chose the second option but played tentatively rather than confidently and failed to reach the head.

Would you have chosen the second option and, would your shot selection have been any different had it been a pennant match rather than winter bowls?

Claus' Conundrum

The International Date Line was the key to solving last month's conundrum. Despite exchanging vows at exactly the same time, Sasha and Lee were married on different days because they stood on either side of the date line. Because it was a beautiful sunny day in February, the South Pole is the only location at which this could have taken place on land. One of our club members suggested it might have been aboard an ocean liner in the Pacific Ocean and, with perfect timing, I guess it could have been.

Mea Culpa: With my proof reader on holidays, a mistake crept through in last month's answer to the previous month's conundrum. It should have read, 'Bev Cowles was using Kathy Day's purple bowls while Kathy was using Bev's sky-blue ones', which I'm sure you would all have picked up in any case. Yes, I've paid my \$1 penalty to the Little Heroes Foundation.

So, to this month's conundrum; an easy one, I'm sure you'll agree. I used to be a high-jump champion at school athletics and, when I was telling Tom Lycett about it this past week, he seemed a little incredulous. So I had a bet with him that I could jump higher than the hand rail between A and B greens. That was the easiest \$10 I've ever made.

Opening Day Season 2016-17

Put this date in your diaries NOW. Season opening day will be held on Saturday 3rd September with a drawn triples game of bowls followed by a tasty Devonshire tea.

Club Pairs Format Changed

The format for our club pairs championship events has been amended such that it is now 12 ends for all the minor rounds and 15 ends for the semi and grand finals.

Let's make it a record year for entries to all club championship events.