

Winter Bowls 2021

With the ever-present prospect of COVID-19 restrictions or lockdowns hanging around, it was pleasing to see winter bowls for 2021 begin immediately after the end of the pennant season and, with only limited interruptions, continue through to the day before Opening Day 2021.

Only seven days were lost to a mid-season COVID lockdown in late July and just three days were lost to rain. Fifty-four playing days compared to just thirty-one last year were welcomed by all who participated. With COVID restrictions eased, Wednesday bowls reverted to two-bowl triples while the popular 2-4-2 pairs format was retained for both Friday and Saturday. Player numbers were of course higher than the previous year both because of the longer season and the triples format on Wednesdays – 3087 registrants compared with 1876 last year.



John Feddersen, Rob McKeown, Claus Schonfeldt, Malcolm Gardiner, and Geoff Thomas

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For the most part players enjoyed excellent winter weather and playing

conditions. On days when overnight and morning rain flooded our greens and threatened the afternoon bowls, John Feddersen's optimism often prevailed, clouds cleared on cue and brilliant, sunny winter afternoons broke through. Thanks to those players who helped sweep off water when required; in particular, regulars Martin Fry, Rob McKeown and John Feddersen.

The continuing support of our major winter bowls sponsors—Stephen Briffa (Harcourts Real Estate), Back In Motion and SA Gourmet Meats (Magill), is much appreciated. Together with other goods, donated from time to time, these contributions are valued as prizes in raffles and other rewards for bowling achievements.

Once again, many people featured in the prize pools for the winners and runners-up and in the raffles. There were 147 players to feature at least once in the bowling prize winners. Geoff Thomas, in a back-to-back performance, featured most often at 15 times, with Malcolm Gardiner second at 11 times. The Dolans continued their freakish success at being among the raffle winners most often.

A big thank you to John Feddersen, Claus Schonfeldt and Rob McKeown as organisers of another very successful winter bowls program.

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