

UPDATE - INTEGRATION NORTHMEAD BOWLING CLUB WITH NORTHMEAD WOMEN'S BOWLING CLUB

Members will be aware that Bowls NSW have, informally, asked us to move towards Integration. It is known that our belief is also that such a move is inevitable, and that Committee has been formed to explore the possibility.

When we originally informed members that we were moving in that direction we did say that we would keep everyone informed of progress.

To that end we can report the Committee has made some recommendation to the Board of Directors and that the Board has not indicated any objection to proposed changes.

In moving forward your committee is very keen not change for the sake of change, and our hope is that at the end of the process members will see very little difference in the way Bowls at NBC is conducted day to day.

Listed below are broad topics, in no particular order, that have been considered and our recommendations arising from discussions: -

1. **Bowls Management Committee.** Ladies presently have a non-voting observer on the Committee. Recommendation is that this be upgraded to full voting member.
2. **President(s).** As it currently stands President of the Bowling Club is directly elected by members in a bi-annual election to coincide with Board elections. President is also Chairperson of the Board. It is proposed that this not change but that the position will in future be titled "Chairperson of the Board", and that separate election held at the same time as Board election to select a President and Vice President. The successful candidates may or may not be Board Members.
3. **Volunteers.** Our volunteers are treasured, but the workload is not equally shared between Men's and Women's Club members. Lady members will be asked to involve themselves in such things as Barefoot Bowls and supervising School Groups.
4. **Fundraising** is currently carried out separately. Proposal is to merge all efforts.
5. **Selectors.** It is proposed that two separate Match/Selectors Panels be maintained.
6. **Conditions of Play.** No changes are proposed.
7. **Record Keeping** will be merged.
8. **Zone/District Reps.** Bowls NSW is currently reviewing Boundaries, etc. and will need to "wait n see". But no change is envisaged.
9. **Men's, Women's and Open Gender Championships.** No changes are proposed.
10. **Annual Fees.** Only the administrative changes are proposed here. Fees will be standardised and collection and on payment will be the responsibility of the Club's Administration. Your Club will not be increasing its Membership Fee but will need to pass on any increases initiated by Bowls NSW.
11. **Life Members.** Life memberships, of both Northmead Bowling Club and Northmead Women's Bowling Club, will continue uninterrupted within the new Entity.
12. **Women's Club Funds** will be expended on a worthwhile project to benefit Lady and/or All Members. A suitable project is yet to be identified.

Regarding a timetable for implementation, we hope to be able to put firm proposals before Women's Club and Bowling Club's AGMs later this year.

In the meantime, if any member has any input/suggestions/ additions we are more than happy to hear them. For obvious reason verbal submissions are not all that satisfactory, if you have comments, please send them to richard@nbcsportsclub.com.au.

Every submission will be considered, and you will receive a reply. There needs to be a time limit on submissions so please no later than 15th June 2023.

Thanks.

Brett Hughes
Chair of Integration Committee.