

HAMPTON RSL BOWLING CLUB

RULES

These Rules are effective from 19 May 2019 and supersede the Rules dated 25 May 2015

1. Name

The Bowling Club is a Club formed within the Hampton RSL Sub-branch named "The Hampton RSL Bowling Club" and is herein after referred to as the Bowling Club.

2. Membership

- a) Membership of the Bowling Club shall, at all times, be contingent upon financial membership of the RSL Sub-branch. Each member shall be issued with or have access to a copy of the Rules of the Bowling Club and shall be bound thereby.
- b) The full name and address of each member shall be recorded in the Register of Members.
- c) Full membership means any member who shall pay the full annual subscription, or in the case of a new full member joining after the first day of January in any year and prior to 30 April next following, half the amount of the annual subscription.
- d) Social members are entitled to all rights, privileges and voting powers of a full member and to enter all Bowling Club championship events and in Bowls Victoria Champion of Champions. Social members are not eligible to play in Bowls Victoria Metropolitan Pennant competitions. The annual subscription for social members shall be twenty-five percent (25%) of the full membership subscription.
- e) Life Members. A Honorary Life Membership may be granted to a member who has rendered conspicuous service for a minimum period of ten (10) consecutive years to the Bowling Club. A two-thirds majority of the full Committee shall recommend nomination for such membership. The recommendation of the Committee shall be submitted to the Annual General Meeting and must be agreed to by a majority of two-thirds of the members present. An Honorary Life Member so elected shall thereafter be relieved from the payment of annual subscription.

3. Subscriptions

- a) The annual subscription shall be set by the Bowling Club Committee each year for the period 1 May to 30 April. Members will be notified of the annual subscription which will be due and payable from 1 May.
- b) Only financial bowlers can be registered with Bowls Victoria. Therefore any unfinancial member at the commencement of Pennant will be unable to represent the Club in such competitions.

- c) Members will be considered unfinancial if they are not members of the Hampton RSL Sub-branch and/or have not paid their Bowling Club subscription prior to the start of the Club Championships.

4. Election of Members

- a) All applications for membership shall be made in writing to the Secretary using the appropriate form.
- b) Each person having been elected as a member of the Bowling Club shall be notified in writing by the Secretary and informed of the subscription payable. If such amount is not paid within one month after the notice, the election may be declared null and void by the Bowling Club Committee.

5. Management of the Bowling Club

- a) The general management of the Bowling Club shall be vested in a Committee which shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and a maximum of five (5) members of the Bowling Club.
- b) At all meetings of the Bowling Club Committee, members present shall constitute a quorum, and no meeting shall be held unless duly notified.
- c) The Bowling Club Committee shall deal with and decide upon all applications for membership, shall pass all accounts for payment, and shall manage the business affairs and discipline of the Bowling Club.
- d) The Bowling Club Committee shall have the power to review the membership of any member whom it considers has behaved in a disorderly or improper way or who brings the club into disrepute, and to take any appropriate action to warn, sanction, suspend or expel the member.

A bowler will have the right of appeal and to seek arbitration and resolution in accordance with the rules set out by the Sub-branch for any disorderly behaviour within the Club environment. Bowls Victoria Rules apply for any disorderly behavior at Bowls Victoria competitions.

- e) Pennant Sub-Committee: the Pennant Sub-Committee is responsible for selecting players to represent the Bowling Club in all external competitions, such as Metropolitan Pennant and Night Pennant. This Sub-Committee is also responsible for setting Club goals, arranging and monitoring skills training, and assessing team and individual player performance.

Nominations for Selectors shall open twenty-one (21) days after the Annual General Meeting and close seven (7) days later. The bowls committee will then choose a minimum of three of the nominees as selectors to form the selection committee. The Chairman of selectors to be chosen by the selection committee at their first meeting after the close for nominations.

- f) Match Sub-Committee: the Match Committee is responsible for managing the Club Championship events and consists of three bowlers. The Match Sub-Committee is appointed by the Bowling Committee.

6. Financial Year

The financial year of the Bowling Club shall commence on 1 May and close on 30 April in the following year.

7. Notice of Meetings

Not less than seven days notice in writing shall be given by the Secretary to members of all annual or special general meetings of the Bowling Club.

8. Annual General Meetings

- a) The Annual General Meeting of Bowling Club members shall be the controlling body of the Bowling Club and shall be held in the month of May each year on a date fixed by the Bowling Club Committee.
- b) The business of the Bowling Club Annual General Meeting shall be the consideration of the Annual Report and financial statements; the election results for President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and up to five (5) general Committee members; and the making of any other appointments that may be considered necessary; the consideration of Notice of Motion, and any other business considered essential by a majority of the members present at the meeting.
- c) Members present shall constitute a quorum at all annual or general meetings of the Bowling Club and no meetings shall be held unless duly notified.
- d) Any financial member from the previous season may nominate for Committee and/or vote at the subsequent Annual General Meeting.

9. Election of Office Bearers

- a) The Office Bearers and Committee shall retire annually and their places shall be filled at the Annual General Meeting. The period for nominations for all Committee positions will be fourteen (14) days. Nominations must be finalised and lodged with the Returning Officer five (5) days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.
- b) All retiring Committee Members shall be eligible to nominate for re-election.
- c) In the event of there being fewer nominations than vacancies, those who have been duly nominated shall be deemed to be elected, and nominations for the remaining vacancies be filled by ballot of members at the Annual General Meeting.
- d) If there are two nominations for the positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary and/or Treasurer a ballot will be held at the Annual General Meeting to elect one person to that position.
- e) If there are more than five (5) nominations for General Committee positions a ballot shall be held at the Annual General Meeting.
- f) Any vacancy occurring during the year in the list of Office Bearers or Committee may be filled by the Bowling Club Committee until the next Annual General Meeting. In the event of their being more nominations than vacancies, the election shall be by ballot of the Committee.
- g) In all elections a Returning Officer shall be appointed to take charge of the ballot and to certify as to the result thereof.

10. Special General Meetings

The Secretary shall call a special general meeting of the Bowling Club at any time when requested by the Bowling Club Committee to do so, or upon receiving a written requisition to like effect signed by no less than fifteen (15) financial members of the Bowling Club.

11. Committee Meetings

- a) The Bowling Club Committee shall meet on a monthly basis for the transaction of the business of the Bowling Club.
- b) Any Committee person who shall be absent from three (3) consecutive meetings without good cause and without the permission of the Bowling Club Committee shall automatically cease to be a member of the Bowling Club Committee.

12. Appointment of Sub-Committees

The Bowling Club Committee shall have the power to appoint such sub-committees as it shall deem necessary to carry out the business of the Bowling Club.

13. Finance

- a) All monies received on behalf of the Bowling Club or any social functions connected therewith shall be paid to the Treasurer and lodged in an account at a bank in the name of the Bowling Club.
- b) Such an account shall be operated upon by two of three signatures of the following officers: President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer who are empowered to sign cheques in the name of the Bowling Club.
- c) The payment of all accounts or any monies by and on behalf of the Bowling Club shall be authorised by the Bowling Club Committee.

15. Interpretation of the Rules

In the event of any doubt or difficulty arising in the meaning of any Rule or Rules of the Bowling Club, the Bowling Club Committee interpretation thereof shall be conclusive. Any member who considers they are aggrieved by any such interpretation may refer the matter to the Bowling Club Committee in the first instance. If no resolution is found, the member can refer their complaint for arbitration by the Sub-branch Committee.

16. Alteration of the Rules

- (a) No Rule or Rules of the Bowling Club shall be replaced or altered, nor shall any new rule be passed without the consent of two-thirds of the members present at a general meeting or a special general meeting of the Bowling Club properly constituted.
- (b) Notice of motion for any alteration to the Rules or any matter of vital importance effecting members shall be signed by the proposer and handed to the Secretary at least twenty-one (21) days prior to general or special meetings at which the motion is to be discussed.
- (c) No alteration or amendment to these Rules shall be effective until approved by the Hampton R.S.L. Sub-branch Inc. Committee.

17. Control of the Green

The Bowling Club Committee shall have the power to prevent play on the bowling green at anytime and, if deemed necessary, appoint a Greens Director to whom it may delegate the abovementioned power. The Greens Director, if appointed, shall have the following delegated powers from the Bowling Club Committee:

- a) To determine at any time which rinks shall be played upon either for matches or practice.
- b) To close any rink or rinks for such time as is thought fit.
- c) To request any person whom they consider is damaging the green in any way to cease playing or leave the green for the time being.

18. Trophies

All trophies shall be competed for under such regulations and conditions as the Match Sub-Committee shall determine. No member who shall compete for the Championship of any other Club shall be permitted during the same season to compete for the Championship of the Bowling Club.

19. Club Competitions

These competitions shall be controlled by the Match Sub-Committee subject to the following provisions:

a) CLUB SINGLES CHAMPIONSHIP

Games shall commence in October each year, and the competition shall be finalised in time for the entry to the Bowls Victoria Men's and Women's Champion of Champions events. Provided the winners of the Singles Championships are able and willing to compete, they shall be entered in the Bowls Victoria Champion of Champions event each year.

b) OTHER COMPETITIONS

Annual competition events other than the Club Singles Championship will be the Minor Championship and the Proportional (100 UP). Any other competitions shall be decided on by the Bowling Club Committee. Handicaps where applicable will be allotted by the Match Sub-Committee.

c) Only financial members may enter any of the Club's Championships or competitions.

d) No member shall practice or play on the same rink to which he or she is to play that day in any competition.

22. Expansion or Dissolution

The Hampton RSL Sub-Branch Inc. (and the proposed Bayside RSL if established) of which the Bowling Club is part shall act as sole arbitrator in all matters relating to expansion or dissolution of the Bowling Club.