



# TIGER TRACKS

OCTOBER 2009



## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING ...

Against all odds, the VLBA Tuesday pennant team has emerged from the first two matches of the season unscathed and soaring along in the top two positions of it's A2 section. A 2 rink win at home against Mt Waverley was followed by an unexpected triumph on the very slow green at Oakleigh. Keep it up girls and guys!!!!

Two of the biggest names in Australian bowls, Noel Dalrymple and Neville Rudd were on hand at the club for our Revolution 2009 day. It was great to see the big turnout from the community, and the club welcomes all its new members who signed on the day. Many members took advantage of the Henselite product demo and take a sneak peek at the new Alpha bowl. Thanks to Bear and Sharpie for running the demo on our newly opened tift green.

The 2009/2010 pennant season is upon us after an interesting mix of practice matches. It started in late August at Port Melbourne where coach Neville Rodda discovered that a difficult rink and a quality opponent can make play very tough indeed. We should also make mention of our cross town rivals Melbourne, who chose not to play our scheduled practice match. It seems Demons are afraid of a Tiger scratch or two.

The new uniforms are in and looking amazing. For those who want to order extra items, there are order forms at the end of the bar. Orders close 12<sup>th</sup> October. A big thank you to Katrina and Noelene who have tirelessly, and without payment, altered peoples pants. Great work girls. It's these types of thankless tasks that members perform that make this club so great.

The AFL Grand Final function at the club was a huge success. Many thanks to all who turned up for what was a great game. Thanks also to the volunteers on the day who made it such a wonderful occasion. The club will be hosting many more of these types of days over the year, so watch out for these upcoming events. We are claiming some type of win here as the Cats are in the feline family (go little Tigers!!!!).

## AND FROM THE COMMITTEE

The committee would like to welcome the following new members to Richmond Union. Please make them feel welcome in our Tiger way!!!!  
John O'Donnell, Stephen Claney, Alan Hilton, Richard Konarik, Craig Ruxton, Richard Sanzin, Ivan Gaal, John Chamberlain, Vera Macklin, Jeff Brimble, Tim Haslett

Due to the increasing amount of inside functions requiring table space, the committee has decided to relocate the pool table to the back lounge area. This will be for a trial period and re-examined in January.

Most of you are now aware that the club is now doing its own in house catering. This will enable the club to now make some money out of the large amount of functions during the year.

The committee would also like to thank Ken Barker for his efforts during the year in organizing the footy tipping comp. Congratulations to the winners Peter Byrne, Jo Williams and Renae Bendeich.

## THRU TO THE KEEPER

Nathan says the new tift dwarf green can be expected to be slow for another few weeks while it is still establishing itself and coming out of dormancy. It will be much better in the second half of the season and running 15 seconds by the masters. He says it will be up to 13 ½ seconds by the end of this month.

Nathan asks that club members don't practice too often on rinks 8, 9 and 10 on the bent, and 6 and 7 on the tift. He asks that members help spread the load over the green by electing to practice more often on the other rinks.

A gentle reminder also to smokers if they could please ensure that your butts are in one of the many ash trays provided. If you see any butts in the ditches then please help the club by picking them up. Cheers.

## PUT THIS IN YOUR DIARY

- |                                 |   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>3<sup>rd</sup> October:</b>  | First round of Pennant. WOO HOO!!!!   |
| <b>4<sup>th</sup> October:</b>  | Entries close for Club Singles / Daylight Savings begins<br>NRL Grand Final Function at the club – club opens 12 noon |
| <b>6<sup>th</sup> October:</b>  | Entries close for Metro Triples   |
| <b>9<sup>th</sup> October:</b>  | RUBC Calcutta night. 7pm  |
| <b>11<sup>th</sup> October:</b> | Club Singles 1 <sup>st</sup> Round – first games 10.00am start  |
| <b>18<sup>th</sup> October:</b> | Club Triples sectional play – 10.00am start   |
| <b>25<sup>th</sup> October:</b> | Traralgon Shield – at Richmond Union – 10.00am start  |

## WHAT SHOULD I DO COACH??

This month I'd like to express the importance of teamwork. A fours team that can set written goals together, make positive plans to improve each others game, practice together and offer support individually and collectively is a team that is bound to succeed.

Only a small minority of rinks prepare themselves anything like this!! Give this a try and you'll be amazed at the results that start flowing yours and the clubs way.

## FROM THE TIME CAPSULE

When the Richmond Union Bowling Club started playing on its two-rink green in 1869 it had a thespian connection ... a bit like these days with the talented Ross Thompson. The club's first president was George Selth Coppin, a renowned comic actor and theatre operator of the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.

He was born in Sussex in 1819 and left England in 1842, arriving in Sydney on March 10, 1843. After a successful season at the Royal Victoria Theatre he bought a hotel but, being quite inexperienced, lost his money and went to Tasmania in January 1845.

At Launceston he formed a company and in June 1845 took it to Melbourne and opened at the Queen's Theatre. In 1854 he imported an iron theatre in sections which was erected in Melbourne as the Princess Theatre.

Coppin died in 1906.



## DO YOU KNOW ... ?

Nathan Swincer, Greenkeeper

**Age:** 24

**How long has bowls been part of your life?**

I started playing when I was 9 years old. It was at Cowell in South Australia. My father would practice after school and I would go with him and roll the jacks. Then when I was old enough, I started rolling the bowls.

**Why did you choose bowls as a sport?**

When I won \$200 at the Whyalla Easter Mens Pairs with my dad.

**Who is your hero and why?**

Spiderman

**Your main ambition is.....**

To win the Australian Singles title. But now there isn't one.

**What have you achieved in bowls?**

U18 Aust Pairs Winner, 3 x U18 Sth Aust Pairs Titles, 2 x U18 Sth Aust Fours Titles, U35 Sth Aust Singles Title, State Triples Runner Up, Sth Australian rep at U18, U25 and Senior squad levels, U18 Aust Rep, Nth Territory State Fours and Pairs Winner, Vic U30 Group 10 Singles Winner, 2 X Club Singles Titles, Nth Territory State Sides Rep



## SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

A lady who lived in a Melbourne cottage when the city was a tenth of its present size, strolled out on to the sunny verandah with an afternoon tea guest. Together, they stood watching bowlers on a club green in a dale below.

"Just what are they doing," asked the guest of her hostess.

"Playing bowls," the hostess replied. "The idea is to get those big black balls close to the little white one."

"Then," said the guest, "why on earth don't they."

Bowls By Bosisto (1983), by Glyn Bosisto.

## HAVE YOU HEARD??

BIRTHDAYS FOR SEPTEMBER

3<sup>rd</sup> Alan Howie

10<sup>th</sup> Richard Allen

12<sup>th</sup> Ian Robertson

13<sup>th</sup> Terry Merrick

17<sup>th</sup> David Thomas

19<sup>th</sup> Brett Lavery

20<sup>th</sup> Jim Ross

26<sup>th</sup> Darren Hughes

26<sup>th</sup> Ron Barnes

## OUT OF BOWLERS HOUSE

Last week all RVBA and VLBA club secretaries received a joint letter from the VLBA president Maureen Connolly, and RVBA president Graeme Hosken outlining progress over recent months in relation to the proposed unification of the RVBA and VLBA due to be voted upon on December 3 this year.

The letter, in part, advises that "a package will be forwarded to all clubs by mid-October formally advising of the meeting arrangements on December 3, together with details of the resolution to be put and proxy voting details." Perhaps most significantly, the two Presidents call upon the Clubs to support the vote for unification, saying: "Should you have any matters that would currently cause your club to vote against the proposal we would greatly appreciate it if you could advise us of your concerns so that we may address them to hopefully to your satisfaction.

There are many economies to be achieved by unification, with the significant changes to be seen in State administration. Your ongoing support for unification would be greatly appreciated."

## IN THE SHOPS

There's something afoot in the bowls world ... well, to be precise, on the feet. Those excellent footwear makers Asics, famous for long-distance running and training shoes, have jumped into the bowls rolling market with their Gel Hotjacks. Asics claims the new shoe to the sport offers incredible inner comfort and feel.

The SpEVA midsole offers great cushioning with great bounce back properties, while also offering the stability of DuoMax on the medial side. It's available in sizes 7-12 and coloured white with navy and yellow stripes. The RRP is \$120.