



# TIGER TRACKS

SEPTEMBER 2009



## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING ...

If you've been in hibernation like most Tigers over Winter, you've missed an amazing transformation to our club rooms including new plastered walls, rendered outside, new plasma TV's, renovations to the bar and new lighting throughout the building. Those of you who enjoy a refreshment of the amber variety will be astounded at our new range of ales, ciders, wines and spirits. Please say hi to Shirl.

In progress is sourcing new furniture and upgrading our garden and BBQ areas for the summer. There is a planned garden working bee for Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> September. Volunteers welcome!!!

Bowls wise, a number of members took part in various Winter comps around Melbourne and interstate. Special mention to Stueie Garland and our Albury brother Brad Smith who made the finals of the prestigious Deni pairs tournament.

Well done also to the team who finished runners up in the inaugural Bowlsworld Winter Pennant.

Meanwhile, down near the docks, the RUBC rink of Noelene, Trucky, Shazza, Lawman and Gerts unloaded a major share of Port Melbourne's mid week Winter tournament prize money.

In August, after an exhaustive 18 month search covering more than one continent, the club is proud to announce the appointment of Neville Rodda (pictured) as our club coach. Please make yourself known to "Nev" and make him feel welcome.



## AND FROM THE COMMITTEE

The committee wishes to advise that as of Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> August, the club will no longer be holding "Happy Hours" at the bar on Mondays and Wednesdays. This is in keeping with the club's desire to be part of the "Good Sports" program.

The Greens Policy has also been reviewed earlier than expected in response to the overwhelming enquiries for social bookings over the November / December peak period. In consultation with Nathan Swincer (Greenkeeper), the committee has approved the Manager to take large social bookings on both greens during this peak time. Luke will try as much as possible to reserve some rink space for members on Fridays and Sundays. Training nights are not affected by these alterations.

## THRU TO THE KEEPER

Nathan has been hard at work getting both greens ready for the upcoming season. The bent green is due to open on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> August (official opening day) whilst the Tift will be opening on 20<sup>th</sup> September as part of the clubs REVOLUTION 2009.

No, you're not seeing things!! Nathan has purchased a new line marker that allows multiple lines to be marked on our greens that are designed to last for up to 6 weeks.

Re-painting of the tops of all the ditches is also underway and due for completion soon.

With the social season approaching, all members are asked to help protect our greens by keeping an eye out for the odd rogue bare footer!!!

## PUT THIS IN YOUR DIARY

- 30<sup>th</sup> August:** Opening Day of bent green
- 6<sup>th</sup> September:** Garden Working Bee
- 9<sup>th</sup> September:** Mid Week Bowls re-starts
- 12<sup>th</sup> September:** Practice Match vs. Moonee Ponds (away – Mufti)
- 19<sup>th</sup> September:** Practice Match vs. Fairfield (away – Club Uniform)
- 20<sup>th</sup> September:** REVOLUTION 2009. 12 Noon
- 26<sup>th</sup> September:** Grand Final Day
- 27<sup>th</sup> September:** Div 1 Round Robin at Fitzroy Victoria

## WHAT SHOULD I DO COACH??

Start thinking about every bowl before you release it. The great Don Sherman, the 1982 Commonwealth Gold Medalist, taught me as a young fella to be consciously objective, with yourself talk before every bowl. This self talk must be exact as your sub conscious will only respond to definite, purposeful instructions. This is the greatest piece of advice I can give anyone to start the season.

## DO YOU KNOW ... ?

Neville Rodda, Club Coach

**Age:** 25

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

I started playing in 1998 and had two years off in 2005/06.

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

I lived two blocks from the Daylesford Bowling Club and I used to walk past and think that it looked easy. When I started practicing I realized how hard it was, and became fascinated with getting better. I love to win and that drive pushed me into the game because I couldn't walk away from a challenge.

### **Who is your hero and why?**

In bowls, Ian Schuback because he is a fighter who will do anything to win and treated bowls like an elite sport.....doing weights, training 8 hours a day. He proved that you can be the best if you give everything you have to your objective. I pride myself on being taught Shuey and giving everything to get the same results. Outside of bowls, my hero is Muhammad Ali because he is "the greatest". He had the courage to not only think it, but tell the whole world. That takes balls.

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

To win the world singles championship for Australia.

### **What have you achieved in bowls?**

Vic U18 Pairs Winner, Vic U18 Rep, Vic Dev Squad, Vic U25 Rep, BRBA Singles Champion, Group 1 U30 Singles Champion, Vic U30 Singles R/Up, BRBA Champion of Champions, RVBA Champion of Champions 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Aust Indoor Championship R16, BRBA 4's Champion, Aust Silver Tier Squad Member, QLD Open Singles Q/F, SA Squad Member

## FROM THE TIME CAPSULE

Most of us know that Richmond Union dates back to 1868. That makes us exactly 141 years old on Remembrance Day, November 11. The club was formed when Richmond councillors played their counterparts from Brighton ... Richmond lost badly, it seems. When the Richmond Town Hall was being built a green was constructed out the back. The green opened on November 2, 1869.

## SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

Gauvinier took his stance on the little black mat. He delivered his first wood. It looked to be going nicely, but instead of stopping where it was meant to stop, it seemed to take on a life of its own and wander aimlessly on and on and on. Gauvinier was to find that this frequently happened.

Gauvinier Takes To Bowls (1949), by Hugh de Selincourt

## HAVE YOU HEARD??

**MATCHED (sorta):** Congratulations to Nathan and Jodie on their engagement. We don't know if the grin on Nathans face was from the proud news or the state of the greens.....

### **BIRTHDAYS FOR SEPTEMBER**

4<sup>th</sup> – Sharon Warfe

5<sup>th</sup> - Julia Graham

11<sup>th</sup> – Denis Moloney

12<sup>th</sup> – Sarah Howard

27<sup>th</sup> – Des Tutton

28<sup>th</sup> – Tom Jones

If you thought it was bad enough losing the Ashes to England, well there's worse to come. That Ollie Bryant chap (aka Mr Jones), who was there cheering on the poms even though he is now officially an Aussie.

## OUT OF BOWLERS HOUSE

The RVBA Council last month made changes to the Rule for Pre-Pennant Practice that it had passed in June. The previous wording was regarded as inappropriate and the new wording reads:

### **Rules 10A and 14B**

Before 12 noon on the day of a match any player due to play in that match can with the permission of the Venue Club practise on any rink of the green on which they are scheduled to play.

### **Rule 10B and 14C Draw for Rinks:-**

The draw for rinks and opponents will be conducted after the completion of practice by the opposing Managers who will exchange cards and shuffle them after which the cards of one side will be placed name downwards by one of the Managers and the other Manager will then place a card on each and the teams will play as thus drawn.

This rewording has moved away from the previous ruling which denied players the ability to practise on the rinks allocated for play.

## IN THE SHOPS

Are you in the market for new bowls? Well our friends in Darebin have a new product on the market, the Henselite Alpha.

Henselite says the Alpha is designed specifically for synthetic and faster greens. The bowl is distinguished by its steady curved arc and flat finish into the head and also features a unique non-slip grip, they claim.

Mark Hensell, managing director of Henselite is confident that Alpha is the best bowl for fast greens that Henselite has created in its 80 year history manufacturing bowls in Australia.

It is available in sizes 2, 3 and 4 and can now be found on the shelves of all good bowls shops in Victoria.