

Bowls Victoria Boundary Review Meeting

The Bowls Victoria Boundary Review Committee meeting for the Central Goulburn Valley Bowls Division was held by video conference on Tuesday 31st March, 2020. As a result of this meeting I am able to pass on the following:

Changes

- It is anticipated that the allocation of new boundaries will occur prior to 30th June, 2021 but will occur after the 2020/2021 pennant season. The current system of 16 regions will continue.
- There has been an alteration to the CGM boundary. The only changes being:
 - Wallan will fall into the metropolitan catchment
 - Broadford and Kilmore will move across to a new region which will encompass the current Central Highlands Division. I am currently awaiting confirmation of the full list of clubs that will fall within this region.
- The aim of this review is to remove divisions within a region so as to reduce one level of governance, streamline finances throughout a region and reduce the number of volunteers to sit on committees.
- Pennant play within each region will be conducted in a manner as decided by each individual region i.e. the ability to set up different divisions within their boundaries and if sufficient interest their own premier league across the region.

Governance

- Bowls Victoria will provide a new constitution template to ensure all clubs and regions are aligned.
- Bowls Victoria undertakes to pay all government fees associated with the constitution amendments.
- Packages will be forwarded to clubs and regions in the near future but no date was placed on when this was to occur.
- Each region and club will have the ability to establish their own by-laws and conditions of play regulations in relation to pennant play.
- Each region will have their own committees with board members responsible for specific sub-committees which could include but not limited to pennant, greens, umpiring, junior development, coaching, sponsorship etc.

Concerns were raised for the Yea, Alexandra and Eildon bowls clubs as to their viability to be able to play pennant within the new boundaries. Bowls Victoria responded that they would make contact with each club to discuss this matter. Due to previous requests made by the Seymour and Seymour VRI Bowls Clubs to transfer to the Goulburn Valley Bowls Division Bowls Victoria is not anticipating making contact with these clubs.

The above are only recommendations to the change in boundaries but the abolishment of divisions will proceed. Bowls Victoria has placed a deadline of Tuesday 14th April, 2020 for each Division to respond to these proposed changes and provide feedback.

Please cause this information to be disseminated throughout your club so that it may be discussed among your members (via the phone).

I would like each club board member to respond to me prior to Sunday 12th April, 2020 via email so that I may have a response prepared prior to the cut-off date.

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