

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NSW BOWLING GREENKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION



THE BOWLING GREENKEEPER

JULY 2015

VOLUME 63 NO 62

Bowling Greenkeepers converge at Bankstown for State Conference



Greenkeepers enjoy a tour of the famous Bankstown Oval
at the NSWBGA Conference

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

Find out who took home the glory from State Championships Week

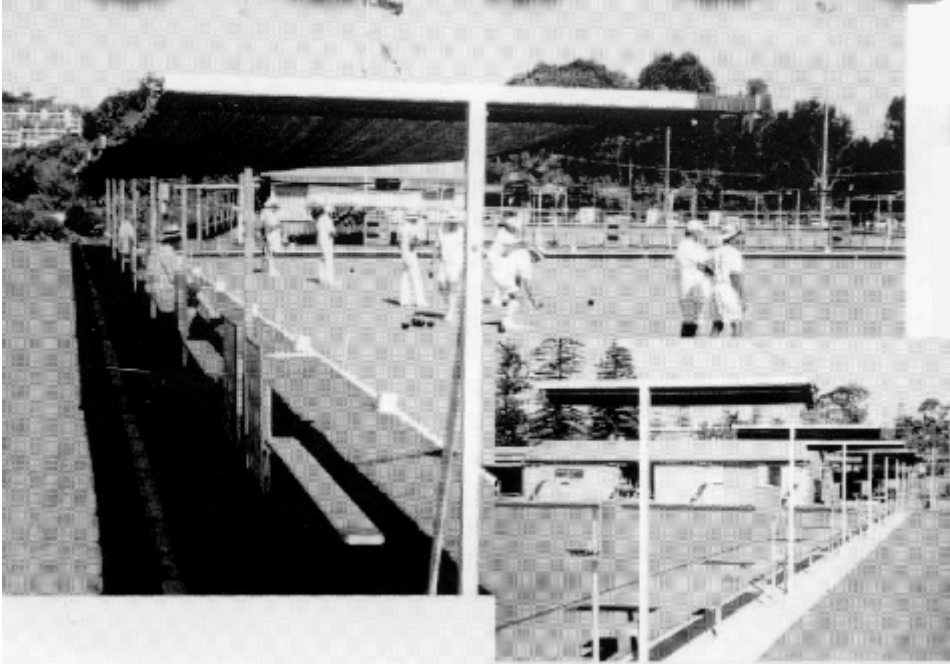
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The Bowling Greenkeeper

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The NSW Bowling Greenkeepers' Association
ABN: 36 390 545 887

Editor:

John Flaherty Ph: 0402 572 021
nswbga@gmail.com

NSWBGA

PO Box 791 Ashfield NSW 1800
www.nswbga.com.au

NSWBGA Committee

President:	Mick Woods	Ph: 0402 073 152
Secretary/Editor:	John Flaherty	Ph: 0402 572 021
Assistant Secretary:	Andy Rodger	Ph: 9809 2071
Treasurer:	Brent McCristal	Ph: 0416 858 236
Senior VP:	Simon Cooper	Ph: 0425 280 306
Junior VP:	David Hukins	Ph: 0418 399 505
Bowls Secretary:	Shannon White	Ph: 0404 812 748

Committee Members:	Col Ridge	Ph: (02) 9521 5548
	Sean Bellotti	Ph: 0412 425 900
	Adam Troth	Ph: 0400 158 874
	Matt Keough	Ph: 0411 301 570
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President's AGM Report with Mick Woods

With no AGM during Federation years, it has now been two years since first being appointed as President of the NSWBGA. While at times the role of President may have seemed overwhelming, the willingness of others to offer up assistance and advice when needed has made the past 24 months pass very quickly.

NSW was host state for the 2014 Federation, with the Canberra region selected as the destination for the event. The crew from the 5 clubs that were to host days did a tremendous job in the lead up to the week, with many fundraiser days put on across the various clubs. I was fortunate enough to attend one of these days and to no-one's surprise the week went without a hiccup. Peter Watts made it as far as the semi-final in his attempt to defend his National Singles title. Peter was just pipped 25-24 in a thriller. The fours final was an all NSW affair with Pat Chorley, Mark Bateman, Martin Gosper and Kevin Bowcock coming away victors over Dan Ryan, Simon Cooper, Brian Anderson and Ray Cooper 23-16. Unfortunately we were unable to have a team make the pairs final that saw two S.A teams fight it out with Rowdy and James holding out for a 22-21 win over Roger and Dave. I firmly believe that our Association has again set the bar for these weeks. Finally thanks to all the companies that supported the week.

July saw Davistown RSL on the Central Coast host the Legends Day which also coincides with the Greenkeeper of the Year being awarded. The day commenced with Phil Harfield receiving the award for Greenkeeper of the Year for 2014, this being the second time Phil has received this honour which is testament to the commitment and dedication Phil has for his job.

After lunch we took to the greens to take on the Legends of the game of bowls, while a valiant effort was made by us greenkeepers and the rink wins being 3-3 we went down on the master board by a small margin. This year's Legends Day will be held at Corrimal on the South Coast.



With the Association's website becoming infected with a virus late in the year, it was decided that it would be in our best interest to start again and at the same time modernise the sight to more reflect our values. To complete a web designer was engaged to rebuild the site. The website is now much more modern and easier to navigate. This has also seen more visits to the page on a monthly basis. If you have not yet visited be sure to get on and have a look at www.nswbga.com.au.

Recently the State Championships were hosted at South West Rocks Country Club for the first of two years, both the Club and Mark Wilcher did themselves proud with the club presented immaculately both inside and out. With attendance numbers up, it was decided that the country vs. city test would again be played with the country boys coming away decisive victors, we will endeavour to continue this in coming years. We all look forward to visiting again in 2016.

Finally I would like to thank all the other Executive members for their ongoing work and for giving up so much of their own time to continue the work of previous committees.



Pictured: Steve Britt in action at State Championship Week at South West Rocks Country Club

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Bowls Report by Shannon White



The NSW BGA State Championships have been decided. This year the event was held at South West Rocks Country Club.

The Pairs saw some great early match ups with most of the favourites getting through to the quarter finals. Luke Wade and Adam Troth defeated Terry Doyle and Mick Bottles 22-13 and Shannon White and Brent Norman defeated Garry Witte and Tom Mulley 19-10. Daniel Ryan and Jason Aurisch got three on the last end to defeat Simon Cooper and Peter Watts 16-15, while Nick Hancott and Mick Woods needed an extra end to defeat Ray Cooper and Martin Gosper 19-18. Semi-finals were

two very competitive games with Hancott and Woods defeating Wade and Troth 24-14 with White and Norman falling over the line 22-20 against Ryan and Aurisch.

The final was an attacking game, with both teams dropping some big numbers throughout the game, but a man of the match performance from **Nick Hancott** helped him and **Mick 'Woodsy'** claim their maiden title **25-22** over Shannon White and Brent Norman.



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The Singles also saw some great games and making it through to the semi-finals, where Daniel Ryan was up against Jason Aurisch, with Jason wearing Dan down after being 13 all early to win 31-22. The other semi-final of Shannon White and Adam Troth saw them trade blows throughout the evening with Shannon sneaking over the line 31-30. The final also was a great game which saw 39 ends of bowls. But after losing the pairs final, **Shannon White** was determined not to make it two

losses and converted some good heads to beat Jason Aurisch 31-22.

Congratulations to all the players involved for making it a great week. Thanks also goes to the team from South West Rocks Country Club for their hospitality. Look forward to seeing everyone next year and hopefully a few more new faces as well.

Good Bowling.



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Secretary's AGM Report with John Flaherty

Well what a busy two years we've had since our last AGM! The Association has been very active in moving forward and striving to give our members a great Association.

In 2014 it was our turn to host the Federation Week, we took the event to the ACT where the boys down there did a fantastic job organising and running the week. Your effort was very much appreciated and very well received my attendees and sponsors.

We successfully updated and re-launched our website in December 2014 with a very positive response from our members. Over the last six months we have had over an increased number of views of our site and have noticed some significant spikes with Facebook posts also linked to website.

The 2015 State Championship week was held at South West Rocks for the first time with the Club presented in immaculate condition by Mark Wilcher. We even managed to time our week to perfection with the bad weather coming a week earlier and sunshine in order for our week! I know everyone who attended can't wait to head back next year and we may look into the addition of shorts to the uniform for next year.


After some feedback from sponsors at our 2013

State Conference, it was decided to give Sydney a try for 2015. This was the first time we have hosted our conference in Sydney in over 15 years and Bankstown Sports Club was a great venue. We had a very positive response from our members with attendees being up 25 percent on our last event. We attracted some high quality keynote speakers for and received very positive feedback from attendees and sponsors about the conference.

I would like to thank all of the sponsors who continue to support our Association, whether it be advertising in our magazine, supporting the conference or industry awards, it is very much appreciated.

I would like to thank all of the Executive and Committee for their support over the last 12 months, it isn't an easy job keeping up to date with everything going on within our industry so to have people willing to put in their time and effort and have a go makes life a lot easier.

Our magazine is in great shape, we have had some new sponsors join us over the last six months and we always love your ideas and contributions for stories, and photos, so keep them coming. I would finally like to once again thank my wife Lauren for all of her assistance in helping with getting the website online and the magazine to print every edition!



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It's a wrap: NSWBGA State Conference 2015 by John Flaherty

The 2015 NSWBGA Conference was brought to the Sydney Metro area for the first time in over 15 years this year; the very impressive Bankstown Sports Club was chosen as the venue for the two day conference. This is a club that just keeps transforming itself and you can just get lost in the place it's that big!

We are very proud to have such a strong network of sponsors and speakers willing to support our association and the move to Sydney seems to have been a proven success by their willingness to be apart once again.

We would like to thank our Gold Sponsors Tru-Turf who sponsored for the first time and Syngenta; our Silver sponsors PJC Sportsturf, Turfcare NSW, Toro, Globe, and another new sponsor Cutting Edge Turf equipment and also our Bronze sponsor Macarthur Mowers.

It is always hard to find new speakers in an industry so specialised as ours but there is always new information out there that is relevant it's just a matter of knowing what people want.

We had some very positive feedback from this year's speakers and with continued input from our members we can always try to source what you need.



Dr Percy Wong spoke on his continued research on leaf diseases and had been working with a number of Sydney Greenkeepers on diseases found throughout the year. Please don't be afraid to give Percy a call if you find any diseases in your green you're not sure about because if he doesn't know about it he can't research and find a solution.

Once again, Albie Leggett from Syngenta was a great asset to our conference; his knowledge on such a wide range of turf topics is very informative and is always willing to answer questions or assist in any way throughout the conference.

Pictured: Gold Sponsor trade displays from Tru-Turf (left) and Syngenta (right).



Ron Browne from Clubs NSW gave us a run down on how to work with board of directors and gave us an insight on some of the roles they should be carrying out, Ron had plenty of questions fired at him throughout which was great.

On the Tuesday we were lucky enough to have a guided tour of Bankstown Oval from the club President Bob and Head Greenkeeper Warwick, being one of the most famous club cricket clubs in Sydney, the work that they have done to show off not only the success of their cricket side but also the success of local sports stars in their "Hall of Fame" was very impressive.



We finished the conference with a guide to our Superannuation; this talk was very well received and is something that we need to pay more attention to.

Remember, the Club Plus reps are always available to call out and see you at work - I know a few attendees have already utilised this service since the conference which is great.



The presentation of the ground is a credit to Warwick who was kind enough to give us a rundown of all his machinery that he uses on the wicket table, he also talked us through the preparation practices he uses throughout the cricket season. I know all of the participants found it very interesting and was great to see another side to our industry.

Kenton Boyd only just scraped the surface on "plant nutrition" during his presentation, this is a topic that we take for granted but there is plenty of room to move for us to improve our approach to plant nutrition.

Jack from Frolive gave us a little lesson on setting the back rollers on our queens and some tips on the general upkeep for a better more reliable mower. The back roller is something that everyone has been taught differently over the years so it was great to see Jack in action.



I would like to thank Adam Troth for all his assistance in getting the conference together, we had a couple of close calls in getting the machines in on the Monday morning, but everything worked out great and we're already working on ways to make it bigger and better next year.

Thanks to everyone who attended - I hope to see you all again next year.



Pictured: Keynote speaker session, sponsor trade show and our machinery demo with Frolive.



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New South Wales Bowling Greenkeepers' Association
Statement of Income and Expenditure
For 12 months to the 30th April 2015

2014	Income	2015
3775.00	Members Subscriptions	4467.00
1000.00	Greenkeeper of the Year	-
-	Federation Donations Nett	4720.00
3465.00	Donation	-
913.25	Interest Earned	717.18
192.05	Uniform Sales Profit	254.00
2874.00	Conference Profit	167.67
610.52	Unidentified Income	825.00
12829.00		11150.85
2014	Expenditure	2015
<7525.45>	(Profit) Loss Magazine	<3125.69>
353.80	Printing Stationery & Advertising	1384.22
550.00	Telephone	722.88
2946.74	Travel Expenses	1011.36
235.00	Postage	433.40
236.00	Bank Charges	315.00
375.00	Room Hire	500.00
900.00	Storage	-
50.00	Floral Tribute	60.00
5200.00	Administration Costs	5000.00
1000.00	Greenkeeper of the Year	1000.00
1386.84	Championship Trophies Etc	517.40
266.00	Computer Maintenance & Supplies	-
	Conference Expenses	1186.00
	Federation Uniforms	3685.00
	Apprentice Award	100.00
	Depreciation	552.00
		13341.57
5673.93	Total Expenditure	13341.57
12829.82	Total Income	11150.85
	Loss for the year	2190.72

Balance Sheet as at 1st May 2015

Assets

ANZ Bank	5570.46
Welfare Fund	1000.00
Stock	5914.200
Magazine Debtor	3384.5
Computer	1100.00
Investments	23982.91

Total Assets

40952.07

Less Liabilities

Welfare Fund	7782.91
Reimburse Petty Cash	256.04

Total Liabilities

8038.95

Total Assets over Liabilities

32913.12

Accumulated Funds

Balance 1st May 2014

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Less 2015 Loss

2190.72

Total Equity

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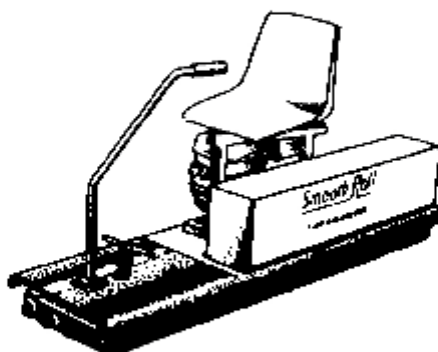


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Rep's Report

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Winter is upon us once again, and holidays are in most greenkeepers' thoughts. With all the rain we've had, winter grass and general weeds have been quite prevalent lately.

Congratulations to Andy Roger on his retirement.

Andy has been a stalwart of the greenkeeping industry and association for a long time. It brought back fond memories reading Andy's recollections and especially about the Greenkeepers' Bowling

Club. We did have a lot of good times with some great greenies. I wish Andy and Cheryl all the best for the future. Andy is one of the gentlemen of the industry.

The Championships at South West Rocks were a big success, listening to some of those who attended. The fact that the Country Club want to continue hosting the event for the near future indicates the boys certainly made a big impression. Congratulations to all concerned and to the winners of the Championships.

Enjoy the winter and well deserved holidays.

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AROUND THE ASSOCIATIONS

Mid North Coast Report by Danny Knight

As you know the Mid North Coast once again hosted the recent State Championship Week in early May. The weather had been awful in the lead up, however, the cloud disappeared and the sun shone throughout the course of the week. South West Rocks was the venue and host greenkeepers, Mark and Nathan, did an awesome job in presenting their venue. The boys must have felt chuffed seeing the finals played on a green that had only been re-grassed in December. They even had to combat an "Apocalypse" of late season Black Beetles which paid an unwelcome visit early on Monday evening. The club itself was overjoyed with our patronage and is already making plans and fine tuning for next year.

We recently held a meeting on the banks of the Kalang River at Urunga. Our annual Carnival Day to be held at Scotts Head was discussed. Due to our initial date clashing with State Pennant playoffs we decided to move our day back two weeks to Tuesday August 18th. Dave Croad at Hat Head, Mark Wilcher from South West Rocks and Gary Witte, who plays at Macksville, have all won their way through to the State playoffs. Good luck to them all.

A couple of us recently attended a trade show at Bonville International Golf Club. Although golf aligned, it was interesting to talk to some of the Supers and chemical technicians about possible approaches to somehow control ground pearl. While there is no registered cure, the consensus was that whatever we are trying needs to be delivered deep into the profile. Our best chance is to treat the affected areas regularly throughout the year with the goal of somehow breaking their life cycle.

The effects of ERI were also discussed and it seems that building the root health over the spring period with Trichoderma is having positive results. We discussed both these issues at our meeting and their prevalence over the last 10 years being in pattern with the deregistered residual chemicals (the likes of Deildren, DDT etc) finally breaking down in the soil.

All attendees at the meeting are reporting varied forms of ERI. We spoke about taking more regular photos of outbreaks and comparing notes at upcoming meetings. It seems that all of the greens in our area are reporting varied forms of the disease.

On a sad note Club Coffs, previously the Coffs Harbour Catholic Club shut its doors for good in April. They had been under the watch of administrators for a number of years. The club has been home to well known greenkeepers including Barry Dray, Tommy Smith, Brett Long and its final custodian Dave Wills. Dave had been loyal to the club for over 30 years working under all of the above. He finally got his opportunity to take the reins when Brett moved to Bribie Island. Dave was doing a fantastic job hosting many high end events but slowly budget cuts led to staff cuts. The infrastructure was deteriorating which was all the time making Dave's job harder and less enjoyable. It was Dave's nature though to push ahead with the hope of brighter times ahead. Anyone who has ever met Dave would agree he deserved much better. On last report Dave was waiting for the dust to settle and was weighing up options. We all wish him well.



Northern Rivers Greenkeepers with Duncan Elphick

34 teams played through showers at our most recent bowls day held at the newly-reopened Lismore Heights Sports Recreation and Community Club. Better known as The Heights bowlo.

Host Greenkeeper Bob Everingham has been employed at the club for 30 or so years and has seen the club operating under several titles in that time. A three green (tiff) club, "The Heights " closed its doors when the Lismore



Workers Club withdrew its financial support not believing the club had a viable future as a bowling club....a plucky band of loyal members and volunteers has managed to get the club up and going with full restaurant, TAB, keno and bar facilities available but also most importantly is the bowling club membership. It's strong and numbers on the greens are as good as any in Lismore. Bob himself put in countless hours, volunteering his time onsite trying to keep the Greens and substantial surroundings presented well during the closure (2 years) and his efforts were outstanding and well appreciated by all the membership.

Unfortunately (but luckily for The Heights) Club Lennox has a similar story. And lessons learned through their experience helped no end getting The Heights operating. This is a familiar story as many clubs across NSW have closed because of mismanagement. We are lucky to have these two clubs trading in our area and we wish them many years of happy bowling.

For those in the South who think we in the sub tropics get the better of the winter conditions for tiff, the challenges of maintaining a surface still remains. And with clubs looking to utilize greens in different ways to make them less of a financial burden such as less formal bowling days . . . weddings . . . boxing matches...parties...etc.

Mick Anderson from Cherry Street Sports and Recreation Club in Ballina (*pictured with Gavin Spears*) has given up on winter grass control and decided to oversow with poa trivialis on the green that has become the social place to be on any given Saturday night in Ballina. Mick has had to juggle all these kind of events and keep the surface fit for play. Never shy of experimental practices, Mick opened the surface with a light groom and dusted lightly before drop spreading the poa seed. Another dusting and a light rub with a mat and some typically wet winter tropical rain has had a mixed result. He has taken his lead from several golf clubs who have struggled with diseases scared hybrid couch surfaces around Northern NSW and have been able to produce putting surfaces of a very high quality. Regardless of the result Ando certainly is looking forward, and advancing the trends we all may adopt in the future.



Overall it's been quite a mild winter so far, also quite persistent light showers mixed with rain periods have meant the mowers are more active than previous winters and those who have had areas of thinning coverage are dealing with the dreaded glazed over appearance...that's ok at home in the bedroom, but when algae takes a hold this time of year and the weather gods conspire there are no happy endings!

Our next bowls day is being held on the plateau with the "Red Soilers" up at the mighty Alstonville bowlo in August. Looking forward to another good turnout.

Three of our members attended the championship week held in South West Rocks and I would like to take this chance to congratulate the NSWBGA, the Club and Greenkeepers for putting on a fantastic week. It was great to catch up with some old mates and get the chance to make new ones!

ACT Region with Mark Bateman



Greens in our region have all stop growing thanks to regular days starting in the minus. We have even had a few -6 degree mornings with severe frosts.

Doyley, Jimmy, Dags and Myself went to West Wyalong on behalf of our Association to check out then purchase a John Deere Aercore 800.

We plan on hiring it out on a pay per day basis to the members of our Association to help cover the cost of purchase and maintenance of the machine.

We believe it will be great for coring at reno time or putting in the Needle Tines and punching some small holes in your green while it is still in play to help relieve compaction and assist in heat stress.

We are getting together to do some work on our big custom built dual axle trailer that carries the rails and massive screed. We have decided to sell it because it hasn't been used for over 10 years.

Our plan is to drop off the screed and rails at a scrap metal yard to get some cash then get the trailer roadworthy, registered and sell.

Queanbeyan Bowling Club is just about to make official what is happening with the Club since shutting. Hopefully the news will be positive and I will have more info next magazine.

Come & Play



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Tweed/Byron Bowling Greenkeepers Association with Michael Turner

President: Paul Earl

This is our first time writing for "The Bowling Greenkeeper".

This year saw us going to Nimbin to join in with the Northern Rivers greenkeepers. We took two teams of four to the day and were lucky enough to come out the winners with the team from Pottsville.

Our next day was held at Kingscliff with again another good turn out with 20 teams of triples. It was a very good day with the winners coming from Mullumbimby, with greenkeeper Mark Brown in the side.

Our next day was on Friday the 10th of July at Condong. We had a great day with 24 teams of triples -72 in total.

We had teams from Ballina RSL, Kingscliff, Nimbin, Cabarita, Pottsville, Ocean Shores, Brunswick Heads, Tweed Heads, Condong & Burringbah. The day was won by Richard Scott's team with 3 wins plus 33.

Our next day will be the tournament that is put on by our Association in August at Cabarita.

In September we have the Tiff dwarf Shield which is a combined side of Tweed - Byron and Northern Rivers playing against Queensland which will be held at Burringbah.



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Victorian Greenkeepers Association with Shane Harling

VGA President's Report

It's that time of the year now where we can sit back and recharge our batteries after another season with an inconsistent summer. The lack of hot days caused some issues for some greenkeepers out there, but we also saw more tif dwarf greens being planted in Melbourne.

The Association continues to grow and our membership is increasing each year. Our regular articles in Bowls Victoria's magazine "The Shot" have proven to be very successful and have not only greenkeepers reading it but bowlers as well. Well done to Warren Maynard on his informative writing over the past few years. A shame that there will no longer be any more publications of this magazine.

We continue to strive to be the No1 Association for lawn bowls in Australia and hope that we continue to grow what is already a very productive organisation. We continue to provide education for our members as well as some great social activities. A great turnout to the Etihad Tour and Yarra Cruise and great day had by all. The turf tour was a raging success, as we visited Adelaide with over 20 Victorian greenkeepers. A tour of Adelaide Oval one of the many highlights.

This year's committee have continued their hard voluntary work for the Association, be it through acquiring new sponsors, new members or helping to promote natural grass greens.

We are only 2 years away from hosting Federation Week in Melbourne and we aim to set the bar high and make it the best one to date. The committee are already deep in planning this event and can't wait to show off what we have here in Melbourne.

Everyone on the committee has contributed in their own special way and I thank you for your time and efforts.

I hope to catch up with you all at our Seminar on August 5th at Kangaroo Flat, until then enjoy some well earned rest.

Shane Harling



Notices

Awards & Wages

The new award name is: Registered and Licensed Club Award 2010.

The following wages apply as stated on www.fwc.gov.au.

Turfcrafterman	Wage	Hourly rate
Level 1	\$664.80	\$17.49
Level 2	\$687.60	\$18.09
Level 3	\$724.50	\$19.07
Level 4	\$769.90	\$20.26
Management/Level 1	\$844.70	\$22.23
Management/Level 2	\$919.70	\$24.20

Apprentice

A horticulture apprentice is paid at a percentage of the Standard Rate.

1st year	55%
2nd year	65%
3rd year	80%
4th year	90%

More information, including a list of Modern Awards, is available on the Fair Work Australia website www.fwa.gov.au or the Fair Work Australia Ombudsman at www.fairwork.gov.au.

Available now – Relief Greenkeeper

Ray Cooper is an experienced greenkeeper with more than 35 years experience, currently available for relief greenkeeping statewide.

If you need an extra pair of hands or holiday relief, please contact Ray on 0421 004 642.

Frequently Asked Questions: Awards & Pay Rates

What can I do if my take-home pay is lower than the modern award?

You can't have your take-home pay reduced as a result of the commencement of the new Fair Work System. Modern awards commenced on 1 January 2010, along with the new National Employment Standards.

The commencement of these new entitlements is not intended to result in employees receiving a pay cut. If you believe your take-home pay has been cut, you can apply to Fair Work Australia to make a 'take home pay order'.

What is a take-home pay order?

A take-home pay order can preserve your existing rates of pay while you remain in the same job. It can apply to wages and allowances, as well as incentive based payments and overtime. An order can apply to an individual or a class of employees or outworkers who are in a similar position.

A take-home pay order can be made if:

- A modern award applies to the employee or employees, and
- The employee or employees are in the same job as they were before the modern award commenced, and
- The amount of the employees' take-home

pay for working the same sort of hours or the same sort of work has been reduced, and

- This reduction in take-home pay has occurred because of the commencement of the modern award.

Who can apply for a take-home pay order?

You or your union can apply to Fair Work Australia for a take-home pay order. In addition, a person acting on your behalf or on behalf of a class of employees may apply.

An application for a take-home pay order can also be made by an organisation representing outworkers on behalf of those outworkers.

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