

Emu Point Sports and Community Centre Update

After a very successful Bowls and Tennis season, the Club is entering its quiet time of the year.

As most members start to head North to “chase the sun”, it is an opportune time to update everyone on what is happening around the Club.

Annual subscriptions for 2023/24

At the last board meeting, the Club subscriptions for the next financial year were set. Given the expected increase in capitation and affiliation fees charged by the Bowls and Tennis governing bodies, inflation running at 7% and Club running costs increasing, through careful financial management the Board has agreed to limit the subs increase this year to \$5 per member.

As such for 2023/24 the fees will be –

Bowls - competition	\$235
Bowls – no competition	\$175
Bowls – Country	\$ 50
Tennis - Full	\$185
Tennis – Country	\$ 50
Tennis – Junior	\$ 60
Social	\$ 40

Subscription renewals will be sent out in July 2023

Bar

1. Change in bar software.

In 2022 the Club updated its membership program so that all members details were in one central computerised data base. From June 2023 the Club will now

implement stage 2 of the membership program by changing our bar software so that the tills at the bar integrate with the members computer program.

This will allow the Club to issue membership cards to all members.

Members can then use these cards to get discount on drinks they buy from the bar, pay their annual subs, and run a tab – something the current system does not allow us to.

We expect the cards to be handed out in July 2023 when your subscriptions are renewed.

(Don't worry if you forget/lose your card, the system allows our friendly bar staff to enter your membership number manually to receive the same benefits)

2. Change in beer supplier.

In April 2023 the contract for our keg beer expired. We approached the 2 main suppliers of keg beer and requested they provide us with their new supply agreement. Maintaining confidentiality and considering their benefits offered, the Board decided to change supplier to Lion – makers of Swan.

In addition to a reasonable keg price, Swan offered \$2,000 per year as sponsorship to the Club. The Board has agreed to give \$500 each of this money to both Bowls and Tennis to be used as event sponsorship – the rest will be used by the Club to advertise our Club.

3. Increase in Bar Prices

Over the last 3 years, the cost of our beer, wine and spirits has increased significantly whilst our bar prices have not changed.

To ensure the Club has funds to operate profitably, the Board has had to increase our bar prices.

This will be done in 2 stages.

- From the 1st June 2023, the majority of our bar prices for everyone (including non-members) will increase by an average of 50c.

- From July 2023 and once the membership cards are issued, the bar prices for members will remain at the June 2023 price whilst the bar price for non-members will increase by a further minimum of 50c per drink.
- From July 2023 our advertised bar price will be the non-member price. When members buy from the bar, you will present your membership card and automatically receive the discounted member price (being at least 50c less than the non-member price)

Friday Night Meals

Nicholas and Sabrina from French Toast are taking a well-earned break for the majority of June 2023.

The Club has organised several different Food Vans to cater for our Friday night meals whilst they are away. Menus from the food vans are being sent out to members each week – we look forward to your support of our Club and these local business over this time.

Interesting Titbits

1. Xmas in July - Please mark Friday 21st July 2023 in your diary – the Club will be holding a Xmas in July dinner - more details to come.
2. Volunteers BBQ – In late May the Club held a BBQ lunch to thanks all the volunteers that have helped the Club over the last 12 months. It was well attended by Bowls and Tennis members and great to see an interaction between of our Bowls and Tennis Clubs.

Again, thanks to all who have helped out the Club this year – many hands make light work and our Club would not operate as well as it does without your support.

3. City of Albany Combined Bulk Waste Collection – This month all sorts of different bulk waste will appear on kerbsides around Albany.

It is a great opportunity to clean up your house and garden.

Some of our members may need a hand with carting bulky items to the kerb and to prune trees and shrubs in preparation for the collection. If you are needing assistance, please ask around at the Club – there are many members willing to help.

And if you can assist, please let members know. It is the least we can do.

4. Club Sponsors – We are fortunate to have many people and businesses that sponsor and financially support our Bowls and Tennis Clubs during the year (at last count the Club had approx. 140 sponsors).

A letter will shortly be sent to these sponsors letting them know that, through their sponsorship, they will get free access (once per year) to our Clubhouses to hold their own event. Our normal Clubhouse hire fee for non-members is \$88 per hour so this is our way of offering something back for the support they give to the Club.

Please support our sponsors whenever possible – letting them know you are from our Club and that we appreciate their contribution.

Over this winter break, Bowls and Tennis will still be available to those members not heading away. The Club will still be operating as per normal, so we hope to see you down there for a quiet beverage and a chat.

For those that are leaving Albany – travel safe and we will see you back at the Club upon your return.

Enjoy – Gary Philpott

President - EPSCCI

