

A BOWLS WA PUBLICATION

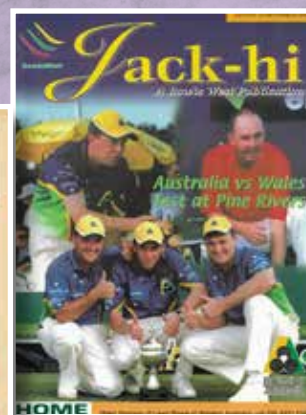


jack hi

Edition 136 • January 2025

jack hi over the years

00s



90s



80s



70s



60s





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Jack Hi Editorial

with **Clive ADAMS**



Welcome to the final edition of Jack Hi as we know it.

From this point forward Jack Hi will become an electronic newsletter style presentation that will be more informative, more current and will arrive directly to you, in your email box.

In this edition we celebrate the history of the Jack Hi, tracking back to the great efforts to produce information in the 50s and 60s, contrasting against the more slick magazine we see today. We also feature a look at the Nationals 2024, we take a look at BPL 20 that's gone, and BPL 21 which is not far away.

We feature the Men's Country Inter League Round Robin results, and the teams that will do battle in the Inter Zone Round Robin to be held at Emu Point in February.

We celebrate the wonderful efforts of Kelli Wray in being crowned Bowls Australia's Coach of the Year, and we take a closer look at many of the major events that brought 2024 to a close.

All that and more in your latest and last of its kind, Jack Hi.



Department of
Local Government, Sport
and Cultural Industries



Features in this issue

Rainbow Versatility Pairs 7 **Nationals Wrap 2024 11-13**



BPL20/BPL21 21 **The History of JackHi 27**



Our Cover



- The popular Rainbow Versatility Pairs bucket hats.

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New changes reflect expectations

Our last Jack Hi in this format, sad in some ways but reflects the world we are in with news being current and relevant.

Print is still important, but being historical in its presentation of events doesn't reflect the demands and expectations of our membership.

We are the last of the States and Territories to move to the newsletter model and we expect it will be embraced by a significant majority of our bowling community.

Synthetic greens and winter bowls have changed the 'off season' to a new season. I played at numerous clubs throughout this period, meeting, talking and learning about clubs, their visions and plans.

Different formats, new competitions and more people playing more bowls, more often. From Exmouth to Leeming, I did some kilometres but was welcomed and educated everywhere. I fear volunteer burnout and would suggest winter and summer Committees, but clubs will manage this as they see fit.

Open Gender has been extremely successful for many reasons and the future looks promising as we transition to the new era. At a Board level, we are focused on progressing and developing the game to meet the expectations of clubs and players.

We are determined to grow the game in a way that reflects the changing times and expectations.

The Board will co-opt people to assist with this process and I look forward to the outcomes they will develop.

Change is difficult for some but necessary for the game to survive, thrive and move forward. Please follow the newsletters to keep up-to-date on proposals and progress.

Highlights in this sport happen on a weekly basis, so to single out mine for the year can be difficult. Previously we've had Kristina winning Gold, but this year it was Kelli Wray being awarded Coach of the Year at a National level. Kelli is a gifted coach and mentor. Her contribution to the Under 18s system in WA is significant and appreciated. It is people like Kelli that make bowls in WA a great place to be. Well done.

Bowls, to the player, is a simple game, but the organisation and administration is a constant workload.

BowlsLink has helped enormously, but hard work continues to keep everything running smoothly.

As President, I see the team at work and I applaud Ken and the entire staff for their efforts. The Board is productive, diligent and professional in its role.

Lisa Featherby keeps a keen eye on finances and we give our time to keep bowls in WA a great place to be involved in.

Welcome Jen Beha!

Bowls WA is pleased to introduce our newest member of staff, Jen Beha. Jen has started in the role of 'Project Officer – Diversity, Equity and Inclusion' and joins to work primarily on the 'Reflecting and Respecting Our Community' initiative.

Jen comes to us with a rich sporting background, having played basketball for the Perth Breakers (now the Perth Lynx) and having played across Australia and overseas. That sporting background has seen Jen in various Management roles across the sport of basketball including General Manager at the Melbourne Boomers.

Jen spent 19 years in the Victorian Police Force. During this time Jen dealt with many challenging situations and was recognized for her professionalism and proactivity on a number of occasions. Jen refers to the police force as a "family" with many of the values upheld in policing reflecting those on the sporting field and in the sporting workplace.

Jen's role has already been full of positivity, with the recent Rainbow Versatility Pairs being a wonderful success, followed up by Doubleview Bowling Club's Rainbowlers event encouraging members of the LGBTQIA+ community to attend and enjoy our great sport for the first time. While much of the work on the day was done by Doubleview, Jen was an active participant on the day and assisted in the marketing in the leadup.

In the new year, we will continue with the great work in the LGBTQIA+ community, and we will also focus strongly on the work we wish to do with the Retirement and Lifestyle Village community, seeking to provide quality introductory coaching and linking villages back to clubs. It is an exciting project and one where we will be reaching out to clubs to get involved and grow their membership. Jen will be at the forefront of both streams of this great initiative, so when you receive a friendly call, or she comes knocking on your door, know that Jen, and Bowls WA, are wanting to help your club broaden its horizons and better reflect the community that our clubs exist within.



• Jen (in the blue hat) at the Rainbow Pairs.



A new era in many ways

Final issue of Jack Hi magazine

President Doug has noted that this will be the final Jack Hi in this magazine style format, as we look to transfer to a newsletter style, produced more often with up-to-date news and information. This continues a period of change with the part transition to Open Gender and continued evaluation of our season structure.

Firstly, to Jack Hi. As we can see from the cover and articles, Jack Hi itself has evolved over the years from a booklet to a broad sheet, hard copy and latterly on-line versions. Clearly the value of the Jack Hi to our members has waned over the years and a further change was required.

With advances in in-house design, we move to a newsletter style, which will see much more current articles and information pieces forwarded DIRECTLY to our members. Relevant information will be received first hand; no longer will be the excuse of "nobody told me!"

Secondly, we are halfway through the season; our first with our major bowls day being Open Gender. Pleasingly there have been few issues to deal with, some errors in selection processes but in the main it has been well received, with ladies certainly making their mark in the upper divisions.

A mid-season forum was cancelled due to a lack of agenda items, primarily focused on the changes made, but obviously not required. So far so good – with a possibility no doubt of some tweaking at season's end.

Thirdly, the Board has commissioned a sub-committee to consider the current calendar's structure, including metropolitan pennant, state championships, inter zone events and country week.

The aim is to 'tidy up' a very busy season, which now stretches to almost eight months. It has been made clear that our current membership seek choice and potential new members not to be locked in for more than half the year.

There are already some exciting options emerging with some sensible moving or 'grouping' of events. More will be communicated at the April/May forum but rest assured the future of members, clubs and the game are at the forefront of thinking.

Importantly the sub-committee is drawn from the Board, Staff, Executive and Members of clubs.

Opportunities at a national level

With Bowls WA continuing to own the Bowls Premier League franchise the Perth Suns, opportunities continue to be provided to local players to compete against the world's best.

Wagin's Warren Holt will become the 12th locally based player to pull on the orange shirt at BPL #21 to be hosted by the magnificent Moama Bowling Club. With our own world class player Kristina Krstic and international skipper Carl Healey to provide a liberal dose of experience, Warren will be able to pit his renowned draw game against the very best.

Believe me the competition is as tough as it can be 11th of 12 at BPL #20 didn't seem a true reflection of the team's play – but that was the outcome in a competition where EVERY bowl counts! Can Wazza be the one to tip the Suns into a much warranted finals campaign?

And speaking of the Suns, we welcome Aviso WA as the naming rights sponsor for the Moama event. Aviso work within the country insurance field, so perhaps pertinent that Warren joins the team as our first truly country bowling representative.



Reflecting and Respecting our Community

What a wonderful event the inaugural **Rainbow Versatility Pairs** was – the first step in building on a theme of inclusivity in our sport.

The weather was perfect, the hospitality provided by the Doubleview club first class, the presentation by Danielle Laidley powerful and the atmosphere incredibly welcoming.

Congratulations to all involved but in particular new recruit to BWA in Jen Beha, Project Officer Diversity, Equity and Inclusion who pushed a doubtful CEO into taking some risks that all paid off in spades. And thanks to those who attended and who made the day such a success.

This event was but a start of a three-year program that includes seeking partnerships with Retirement/Lifestyle Villages to bring them closer to their local club.

All these efforts part funded by DLGSC will see a greater push for participation in our great sport.



Para Nationals, LGBTQIA+, IDPwD, and VI, BB Groups

Bowls Australia's Para Nationals were held in October at Broadbeach Bowling Club on the Gold Coast. Bowls WA were able to send a side of eight players with two women and six men.

Four of our eight players came back with medals which is the best result that WA has seen yet!

- Diana Nixon (Kardinya BC) **Silver** in B5/6 Women Singles
- Jodie Nikolic (Yanchep BC) **Bronze** in B7/8 Women Singles
- Adam Eksanow (Nungarin BC) and Eddie Gollan (Armadale BC) **Bronze** in B7/8 Men's Pairs.



- L-R: David Russell (Swan), Diana Nixon (Kardinya), Travis Ellison (Como), Jodie Nikolic (Yanchep), Ashley Armstrong (Capel), Denise McMillan (Manager), Adam Eksanow (Nungarin), Eddie Gollan (Armadale), Neil Richardson (Mandurah) {credit to BA for photo}.

Three Year funding from DLGSC

Bowls WA has successfully received three years of DLGSC funding for **'Reflecting and Respecting our Community'**.

This grant gives us the opportunity to address increasing participation from the LGBTQIA+ community as well as seniors living in lifestyle villages.

As a part of this grant Bowls WA have hired Jen Beha as our new Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Officer. The first event aimed at the LGBTQIA+ community has been run, the Versatility Rainbow Pairs at Doubleview Bowling Club, and was an outstanding success! Guest speaker Danielle Laidley had a two-minute extended applause at lunch time after presenting her speech!!!



Development of the VI and BB groups

TA recent initiative in inclusive lawn bowls is the development of the Vision Impaired (VI) & Blind Bowls (BB) Development Reference Group. The mission statement of the group is "To support, promote, and encourage vision impaired and blind bowlers and those who care for and support them."

This group is looking to promote and engage new and current bowlers to become more involved in vision impaired and blind bowls.

- The 2025 Australian Blind Bowlers Association (ABBA) Nationals will be held in May at Mandurah Bowling Club. The VI and BB Reference group will be looking at holding a 'Have a Go Day' in the lead up to this prestigious event on Tuesday 29th April.
- Further projects will be to have a greater tie-in with the 2025 All Abilities State Championships run by Bowls WA and to look at hosting a Forum within the next three years for all aspects of vision services and sports that are important to people living with a vision impairment.

IDPwD acknowledged at Lake Monger

Tuesday the third of December was International Day of People with a Disability (IDPwD) and WA'S Paraplegic Benefit Fund celebrated and recognized this important date at Lake Monger Bowling Club with an open invitation to all people with a disability to come and have a go at lawn bowls.

It was a spectacular event that had people playing independent bowls from wheelchairs, through the aide of bowls chutes, and alongside vision impaired players.



For information on Inclusive Practices please contact Denise McMillan on 0449 619 841 or denise@bowlswa.com.au



Inaugural Rainbow Versatility Pairs event

Bowls WA's Inaugural *Rainbow Versatility Pairs* was held at the Doubleview Bowling Club on Sunday 10th November with thanks to the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries and LotteryWest, and as part of Bowls WA's 'Reflecting and Respecting Our Community' initiative.

A field of 30 pairs took to the greens to compete for the inaugural title, but not before they were each presented with a colourful bucket hat to wear throughout the day and beyond, symbolizing what the day was all about. A spider to kick things off saw Lee Barry land closest to the jack and take home the first prize of the day.

The atmosphere throughout the event was one of celebration, acceptance and friendship as seen via Bowls WA's Live Streaming coverage of the day, with thousands of people having since viewed the footage online.

Undoubtably, the most powerful moments came at lunchtime, when special guest **Danielle Laidley** (born Dean Laidley) spoke about her lived experiences as a member of the LGBTQIA+ community. Danielle's raw, honest account of the challenges and attitudes she has faced had the crowd silent and spellbound, some in tears and some finding it an incredible learning experience.

At the conclusion of Danielle's speech, the applause were long and genuine as Dani and her partner Donna were presented Rainbow Versatility Pairs event hats that had been signed by many of the participants throughout the day. Dani then showed her expertise on the green drawing a near toucher on her very first attempt.



A remarkable day saw Eddie Gollan and Mark Rollings crowned champions as one of only two teams to win all four rounds of competition. More amazing was that the pairing only formed on the morning of the event following Gollan's original partner being unavailable to play.

The images captured throughout the day sum up a brilliant step forward for bowls in Western Australia. Watch out for more as part of Bowls WA's wonderful initiative aimed at growing participation in bowls throughout our great State.





Courses for Umpires planned in 2025

Over the last couple of months, Presenters and Assessors have been busy conducting courses in both Metro and Country areas. The commitment made by Presenters and Assessors by way of time and effort is greatly appreciated.

Early in 2025, courses are being planned for the Metro area with a couple of courses being planned to coincide with Country Week to allow country umpires an opportunity to reaccredit.

A Face-to-Face course will be conducted in the Metro area in February. Bowls WA and the State Umpires Committee appreciate the many clubs who willingly avail their club facilities to conduct courses for reaccreditation and for new umpires.

Marks on the surface of the green

The Law Book clearly specifies how a green should be marked. The law book states what you can have as markings on the green and makes no mention of what is not allowed.

It has been noticed that there are markings on some greens which may seem like a good idea but are clearly not approved.

Examples:

- The marks on the centreline of the rink, 2metres from the front and rear ditch must be marks in the form of a 'T'.
A continuous line across the green at the 2metre mark is not allowed.
- The centreline of the rink can be marked with a continuous line starting 2metres from the rear ditch and finishing at any point up to but not more than 23metres from the front ditch.
A continuous line, a dotted line, a dashed line or T marks are not allowed to be marked across the green at the 23metre mark.
- The side bank must be marked with pegs discs or other markings at the 2metre and 23metre mark. If marking the side bank, the marks must be at the 2metre and 23metre mark on either the face of the bank, or if using pegs – on the top of the bank.
Some greens are only indicating the 23metre mark and not the 2metre mark.

Boundary Pegs

Boundary pegs must be **fixed** vertically to the face of the green or if on top of the bank they should not be more than 10cm from the face of the bank.

For outside greens, if boundary pegs are fixed to the face of the banks, they must be not more than 5cm wide and the centreline of the boundary peg must be marked with a thin black vertical line.

Boundary pegs fixed on top of the banks shouldn't be more than 2.5cm wide and **cannot** have a thin black vertical line marking the centre of the boundary peg.

*Boundary pegs must be **fixed** to either the face of the bank or on top of the bank.*

Nationals 2026

The Nationals are scheduled to be held in Perth over a two-week period in 2026 and we will require a number of Umpires and Markers from W.A. to officiate at these events.

Many of the Umpires required will probably come from the Umpire Development Group.

This group has been formed to develop and improve the skills of umpires who may wish to umpire at a higher level in the future.

Some members of the group have only recently achieved their accreditation as a National Umpire and others in the group have more experience. We are all learning from each other.

Anyone interested in joining this group – both Metro and Country, is asked to contact Bowls WA for further information.

New Academy Blitz



Cambridge hosted the inaugural Bowls WA Academy Blitz tournament in December where players that may have aspirations to represent the State in the future had the opportunity to show their wares.

A very successful day with some experienced State players and squad members on hand to 'manage' the teams, saw the AFGRI Chargers successful in a closely fought out final round.

Shane Smith, Debra Whitely, Joshua Sattler, Brian Davis, Rachel McDonald, Claire Ferguson and Ty Vandertogt, coached by Mitchell Biglin made up the Chargers team, and we will keep a close eye on them, plus other standouts from the day, to see how their various State careers might evolve.

Importantly the Academy is a wonderful breeding ground for aspiring players to develop their skills, both on the green, and with the mental approach to the sport as a whole.



Memories of early Jack Hi editions

The end of an era as this is the last copy of Jack Hi, a comprehensive and entertaining account of bowls news from the past three months or so.

As my memories go back many years, I think of what was happening 38 years ago because I'm looking at the only copy I kept (from January 1986), of course I still have it because, along with many others, my photo is on the front page!

This is a snapshot of what was happening back then.

- Rod Wishart was RWABA President and Kevin Graham Secretary, whilst the President of WALBA was Mary Slavich
- Clubs were being fined \$5 for not getting pennant returns in the mail in time to reach the office. This was also identified as a problem amongst Leagues. Hasn't BowlsLink made things easier in that regard!
- Ray Pride, our CEO Ken's father, and his partner Jack Rothwell from South Perth won the Doubleview Masters Pairs from two young stars in John Rainoldi and Dennis Katunarich. This was a \$3,000 event so I'm thinking big money back then.
- Geoff Oakley beat Laurie Slater in the Royal Park Masters Singles final.
- You could go on a 15-day Pacific cruise with Dennis Katunarich and attend lectures with him whilst on board. The price to get on board started at \$1163.
- Dennis Cowper was in charge of Umpiring.
- We lost a stalwart in Jim Murray. Jim was a past President and was Vice Patron of The Royal West Australian Bowling

Association and at the time donated the Murray Medal for the Most Outstanding Country Bowler. And no, I didn't mention that because I had won it, no way and far from ever winning it.

- That year a Country team from Gingin won the Ladies Masters Fours. Joyce George, Judy McLennan, June Buttler and Skip Margaret Jones. Well done to these Country Girls.
- The Ladies Masters Triples had a Country flavour with a team from Mandurah, skippered by Val Budd, with Norma Brimson and Polly North, going down to team skippered by Anna Klap.

This might be our last copy in this format but be assured Clive Adams and his team will keep us right up to date with our new digital copy coming directly to you via your email.

Out here in the bush we are over halfway through pennants and have played our League sides in our Zone competitions after which the four Zones will meet in Albany, at Emu Point, on 1st and 2nd February.

I'm hoping for a strong side from that event to take on our City mates the night before Country Week gets underway.

Lastly a reminder to get ready for the best Carnival of the year, Country Week. Entries are open right now for the Women's event and the men's draws aren't far away.

– **Phil Manning**

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For access to the key policies, and more information head to:
www.bowlswa.com.au/nationalintegrity

WARRIOR WELLBEING ARTICLE

You Can Teach an Old Dog New Tricks

BY THE REGIONAL MEN'S HEALTH INITIATIVE
January 2025

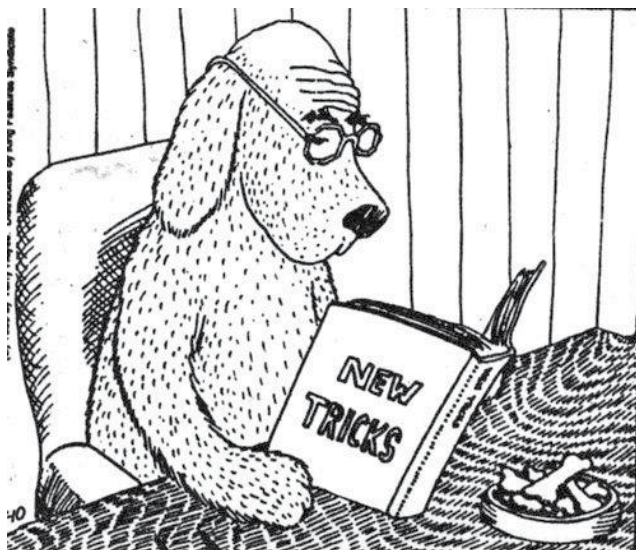
Celebrate the power of people continuing to learn throughout their lives. Australian and international research supports that when people take an active approach to learning in their adult years, they develop skills, confidence and courage to live independently, find work and shine at new skills. *Lifelong Learning* encompasses a wide range of learning opportunities from schooling, other formal education institutions, workplaces and through community participation.

Does this mean we all have to enrol in University, TAFE or a certified training course? The short answer is no, as learning is no longer considered an activity confined to education institutions. Rather, it is recognised as happening in the workplace, in the home and during leisure time. This is known as *Informal Learning*, which does not result in a qualification or certificate, but can be considered to embrace a whole range of activities that enhance life skills such as:

- Reading
- Using the computer or the searching the internet (you must be careful here!)
- Watching TV / listening to the radio
- Visiting libraries or museums
- Playing sport
- Attending community forums or information sessions (guest speakers)
- Joining a Men's Shed / CWA / or other community groups
- Volunteering
- Mentoring within the workplace

It never ceases to amaze me the stories we hear from blokes involved in WA Men's Sheds who have either reconnected with or learnt a new skill. This in turn can create a sense of pride, achievement and that all important sense of meaning and purpose that we all, especially blokes, seek in life's journey.

At Regional Men's Health we talk about our social / spiritual wellbeing which is one important aspect to our overall health and wellbeing. It is this aspect of our health that is unique to the individual and can be what each of us wants it to be. It is where we get our identity, individuality, sense of self, meaning, purpose, passions and interests. Sometimes though these things do not just simply appear or develop by themselves without effort; some of us will have to spend time to grow and nurture our passions and interests.



Learning experiences may not always come our way. We may need to actively seek them out or expose ourselves to the right environment to provide this opportunity, and this could mean trying more than once. Like the old saying 'If you do what you have always done, you will get what you have always got'. Getting out of our comfort zone, trying something new, and revisiting the things that used to get us excited can help enhance our sense of fulfillment and happiness.

 @RMHI_4blokes

 Working with Warriors Podcast

 regionalmenshealth.com.au

Kristina's medal haul highlights WA's effort

It took perhaps to the final stages of the Nationals 2024 for WA's stars to shine brightest as Kristina Krstic backed up a record breaking home season, in which she claimed four of the five major State titles, by claiming a host of medals during the Australian Championships week.

Here we take a look back at all the events during a wonderful Nationals 2024, staged on the Gold Coast, the biggest stage of bowls in Australia, but from a WA perspective of course...



With **Shane Knott** unable to make the trip to the Nationals, **Kristina Krstic** was WA's only competitor in the Australian Champion of Champions event. Trying conditions greeted the field with strong winds and plenty of rain even seeing the event transferred to the Club Tweed Indoor Green at times.

Krstic's campaign started a little slowly, although against very strong opposition – **Dawn Hayman** (NSW) took the win in their first match 21-13 before Krstic lost a nail-biter against South Australia's **Karen Gatto**. From there however, Krstic reeled off 4 wins from her next 5, keeping three of those opponents to single figure tallies.

The result was a well earned BRONZE medal in an event that is always tough to win.

Australian Under 18s

WA's biggest under 18 team for many years did battle at Club Tweed, with our five boys and four girls joined by an ACT representative to form a full girls team.

Our boys team of **Callum Alberti**, **Harper Wass**, **Edan Manifs**, **Dante Burnham** and **Jarrood Steele** did us proud, as did **Drew Gunson**, **Sophie Hays**, **Sylvia Burgess** and **Eleana Manifs** joined by **Telara Edwards** (ACT).

While medals proved out of reach this year, there was certainly some outstanding performances nevertheless and experiences that will prove useful for these young players as they carve out their bowls careers.

The conditions were tough (the same as the Champion of Champions) making consistent play hard to find – again, great experience for young players to deal with.





Australian Senior Sides

Three losses straight out of the blocks, with a close one against Tasmania, left the WA Women's Team with plenty to do to climb the ladder in the closing rounds.

Wins in three of their last four matches, over SA, ACT and NT saw them climb to fifth on the table.

In the end the team will rue the close matches against Tasmania and New South Wales where wins could've seen them challenging nearer the top of the table.

Pam Chalmers was named Women's Player of the Series skipping her rink to 5 wins and 20 shots up.

The Men's competition was similar to the women's where the team unfortunately just didn't get going early. A win over Tasmania on the afternoon of day one presented an opportunity, but losses in the next three left the WA team chasing and eventually finishing fifth.

Steve Cerff was crowned Men's Player of the Series in what was a very even performance across the board.



Australian Para-Nationals

Diana wins Silver

A wonderful medal haul for our Para-Nationals team headlined by the **SILVER** medal for **Diana Nixon** in the Women's B5/6 Singles.

Nixon claimed two of her three matches, only falling short against eventual gold medalist Carolyn Nelson of NSW.

Jodie Nikolic took the **BRONZE** in the Women's B7/8 Singles going down in a tight encounter against Australian Para-Jackaroo **Serena Bonnell** from Queensland 15-11. Bonnell claimed the gold in a close final.

And it was **Eddie Gollan** and **Adam Eksanow** taking **BRONZE** in the Men's 14 point pairs event. Progressing through a tough section which included the strong Queensland duo **Damien Delgado** and **Cooper Whitestyles**, the pair found the going too tough in the semi-final, but were all smiles coming home with a bronze medal around their necks.



National Championships Wrap - 2024



Australian Sides Championships

Both the Men's and Women's Open State Teams finished fourth in their respective competitions, both experiencing some highlights and perhaps some disappointments throughout the week.

No doubt the highlight for the women was a big win over the very talented Queensland outfit, with two rinks home by double figures in that one, whereas for the Men it was the win over Victoria (the third in a row) again with two rinks home by healthy margins.

With both teams losing to Tasmania in close matches in the first round, it was that result that prevented a higher placed finish on the table for both teams.

A pleasing result in the annual Ford/Wishart trophy battle against South Australia with WA taking the trophy with 2 wins against 1.

Players of the series were named with **Scott Walker** and **Shari Solly** very deserved winners.

Australian Championships

A wonderful week of Australian Championships success for WA was highlighted by our **GOLD MEDAL** winning Women's Fours team of **Kristina Krstic**, **Hailey Packer**, **Robyn O'Brien** and **Helen Heal** who defeated the Queensland crew of **Lynsey Clarke**, **Chloe Stewart**, **Kelsey Cottrell** and **Kira Bourke** in a brilliant final.

Our WA crew grabbed a big five early in the match courtesy of a Hailey Packer trail shot, and despite a charge from their high credentialed opposition it was WA that held on for gold.

The good news didn't end there however with **SILVER** medals going WA's way in the Women's Singles (**Kristina Krstic**), Men's Singles (**Cody Packer** representing Manning, WA), Men's Pairs (**Russell Bates** and **Brad Ball**) and the Women's Triples (**Kristina Krstic**, **Hailey Packer**, **Therese Hastings**).

Add to that the **BRONZE** medal collect for **Lisa Featherby** and **Bill Brandsma** in the Mixed Pairs and it was a very successful Australian Championships campaign for WA.

Australian Senior-060s Sides Results

Women

Vs	TEAM RESULT	KATHY GOBBART MAGGIE NEWTON IRENE LEAHY LIZ MATTHEWS	PAM CHALMERS SIAN SMITH RINSKE BUTCHER PAULINE BOURNE	LINDA WARBURTON RHONDA PROSSER JENNY BRUCE WENDY STOWER
VIC	LOSS 51-73	DRAW 20-20	LOSS 11-33	DRAW 20-20
TAS	LOSS 58-59	LOSS 20-25	WIN 21-16	LOSS 17-18
QLD	LOSS 47-67	LOSS 12-22	WIN 23-17	LOSS 12-28
SA	WIN 56-51	LOSS 19-20	LOSS 14-16	WIN 23-15
NSW	LOSS 55-58	WIN 19-18	WIN 24-14	LOSS 12-26
NT	WIN 68-47	WIN 17-14	WIN 33-11	LOSS 18-22
ACT	WIN 71-51	WIN 21-15	WIN 23-22	WIN 27-14
	3 wins (406-406)	3½ wins (128-134)	5 wins (149-129)	2½ wins (129-143)

Men

Vs	TEAM RESULT	JOHN GODDARD KEVIN PICKERING STEVE CERFF PAUL DAVIES	BRAD KING PETER LEESON ROSS BOLTON PAUL KNIGHT	GRAEME WISHART STEVE RUSHFORTH GEOFF MAIN JEROME CLAYTON
VIC	LOSS 46-68	LOSS 13-19	LOSS 19-24	LOSS 14-25
TAS	WIN 63-56	DRAW 19-19	WIN 25-11	LOSS 19-26
QLD	LOSS 49-67	LOSS 17-20	LOSS 12-29	WIN 20-18
SA	LOSS 35-69	LOSS 7-22	LOSS 15-25	LOSS 13-22
NSW	LOSS 40-62	LOSS 14-22	LOSS 12-26	DRAW 14-14
NT	WIN 68-50	WIN 31-13	LOSS 7-27	WIN 30-10
ACT	WIN 61-44	WIN 18-16	WIN 26-15	WIN 17-13
	3 wins (362-416)	2½ wins (119-131)	2 wins (116-157)	3½ wins (127-128)

Australian Sides Results

Women

Vs	TEAM RESULT	KRISTINA KRSTIC CHRIS ACE-WATSON LISA BRANNAN LISA SMITH	HAILEY PACKER HELEN STEVENS KAITLYN TYRRELL DEB SAUNDERS	LISA FEATHERBY SHARI SOLLY DENISE KELLY JENNY PARKER
TAS	LOSS 55-60	LOSS 18-19	WIN 23-22	LOSS 14-19
SA	WIN 71-53	LOSS 18-22	WIN 25-17	WIN 28-14
QLD	WIN 63-46	WIN 28-9	LOSS 15-28	WIN 20-9
ACT	WIN 61-53	WIN 29-13	LOSS 15-23	DRAW 17-17
NSW	LOSS 56-60	LOSS 17-18	LOSS 16-22	WIN 23-20
VIC	LOSS 47-81	LOSS 13-22	LOSS 12-40	WIN 22-19
NT	WIN 92-32	WIN 31-10	WIN 19-15	WIN 42-7
	4 wins (445-385)	3 wins (154-113)	3 wins (125-167)	5½ wins (166-105)

Men

Vs	TEAM RESULT	ANTHONY WILLIAMS SHANE GIUDICE-NAIRN WARREN HOLT BEN LEGGETT	BLAKE NAIRN BRAD WHITE BILL BRANDSMA SCOTT WALKER	JACK EAST CLIVE ADAMS DAVID DOWNEY RUSSELL BATES
TAS	LOSS 52-57	LOSS 17-20	WIN 20-18	LOSS 15-19
SA	WIN 64-61	LOSS 14-25	WIN 30-19	WIN 20-17
QLD	LOSS 44-75	LOSS 14-28	LOSS 13-26	LOSS 17-21
ACT	WIN 66-47	WIN 23-15	WIN 32-13	LOSS 11-19
NSW	LOSS 49-66	LOSS 15-24	LOSS 14-23	DRAW 19-19
VIC	WIN 63-49	WIN 21-14	WIN 30-11	LOSS 12-24
NT	WIN 57-35	LOSS 13-14	WIN 22-14	WIN 22-7
	4 wins (395-390)	2 wins (118-140)	5 wins (161-124)	2½ wins (116-126)

Country quartet dominant in Women Fours

Kardinya Bowling Club played host to the 2024-25 Western Australian Men's and Women's State Fours.

Women

The Women's first semi-final saw the Southern Zone Composite side of Karen Miller (Mt Barker Golf), Beryl Cooper (Middleton Beach), Bridget Michell (Newdegate) and Ann Hornibrook (Middleton Beach) take on Liz Matthews (Manning) Sharon Lynch (Manning), Robyn O'Brien (Manning) and Saffronne Alden (Bassendean).

Matthews jumped out to a quick 5-0 lead but was hauled in by Miller by the fifth end, with the score at 5-5. After Miller then established a handy lead, the Matthews team won six out of the next seven ends, including three twos, to draw level at 16-16 going into the last end. In a tense affair, Miller was not required to play her last bowl and moved into the final with an 18-16 win.

The Women's second semi-final had the experienced Irene Arndt (Safety Bay) at skip with Debbie Smith (Safety Bay), Karina Gale (Manning) and Liz Marshall (Sorrento) versus WA Hall of Famer Noelene Abe (Corrigin), with Bev Davidson (Kukerin), Shelley Radcliff (Mosman Park) and Irene Leahy (Kalgoorlie).

The game ebbed and flowed with Arndt scoring first but then for Abe to win the next two ends. Arndt struck again with the following two ends to lead 5-3 with the two teams then trading ends before Arndt scored a three to lead 9-5.

Again, Abe hit back by taking singles in the next three ends but once again Arndt countered with another three to re-establish a four shot lead 12-8. This time Arndt was not going to allow Abe to hit back and won the next three ends to score a match winning lead.

Abe won the last two ends, including a five on the last end but it wasn't going to be enough and Arndt moved into the final with a 17-14 win.

The final started off at a great shot scoring pace. Karen Miller's crew jumped out of the blocks with a big four shots only to see Irene Arndt's rink return the favor with their own four shots on the second end.

Three consecutive ends to Miller saw her establish an early 10-4 lead and when she scored a two and a three over the next three ends, the final looked like it could be over early.

It was then the Arndt rink dug deep and when they grabbed a four, a single and a three, the game was back on with Miller's lead reduced to a single shot 15-14. For the next four ends the teams' traded blows and singles with Miller still leading 17-16 with only two ends to play.

For sixteen ends Karen Miller had been in front, and they were not going to be denied in pursuit of the title. A two on the second last end gave them a three-shot advantage going into the final end. Needing a four, Irene Arndt played her last bowl down in the head and, with no chance of enough shots to win, tried to kill the end.

Fortunately for Miller it was not to be, and it was the country based crew that were crowned the 2024-25 WA Women's State Fours Champions with a 21-16 victory.



• Women's State Fours winners: Ann Hornibrook, Beryl Cooper, Karen Miller, Bridget Michell

Exciting finish to Men's Fours final

Conditions were perfect for plenty of great bowls and close results at Kardinya Bowling Club.

Mens

The Men's **first semi-final** was a cliffhanger with scores level going into the last end.

The South Perth team of Paul Davies, Mitch Biglin, Troy Kinnane and John Percival were up against the Composite team of Wayne Neilson (Bassendean), Wes Neilson (Bassendean), Andy Elmer (Morley) and Grant Stokes (Bassendean).

Throughout the match, the teams traded leads with Davies first away to an early two shot lead only for Neilson to fight back to hold his own two shot lead.

With scores then level, Neilson got a single to take the lead but ends and shots continued to go back and forth.



• **Men's State Fours winners: Tristan Massang, Ryan Brown, Dale Marsland, Kevin Crowle.**

The tussle continued until finally, after seventeen ends, the teams were back level at 15-15 and the final end would decide the winner. It was an extremely tense affair, but it was Davies that came through at the end and moved into the final with a 17-15 victory.

The **second-semi final** had Ryan Brown (Osborne Park), Dale Marsland (Osborne Park), Tristan Massang (Osborne Park) and Kevin Crowle (Cambridge) up against Doubleview's Ryan Moyle, Brad White, Brad Pearce and Blair Griffiths. This match also looked like it was going to be close all the way to the end, with teams trading leads and eventually coming together at 7-7 after nine ends.

However, it was then that Brown went on a run – the lead was only stretched slowly with mostly singles and a couple of twos, but after winning five ends in a row, Brown had a match winning 14-7 lead after fourteen ends.

A couple of singles to Moyle were cancelled out by a big three to Brown and with an eight shot lead going into the last end, Moyle couldn't get the jack out of bounds to continue the game, so Brown progressed to the final 19-9.

The **Final** was set up to be a classic, with both teams in very good form, and the healthy crowd was not to be disappointed.

The scoring was opened by the Ryan Brown team with a two on the first end, but the Paul Davies team responded by getting a two themselves and then a single to move into the very early lead.

While no one knew it at the time, the fourth and fifth ends turned out to be decisive with Brown conversions seeing his team grab a three and a four on consecutive ends to lead 9-3 after five ends.

As the game began to tighten up, it was these two ends that proved to be so important to the final results. To ensure the crowd was on the edge of their seats Paul Davies made sure everyone stayed to the end by levelling the scores at 15-15 collecting a three on the second last end.

The last end was tense with nerves on both sides, but it was Ryan Brown's quartet victorious for a first WA State title for all but the previously successful Marsland.

Basso too strong

Bassendean once again hosted its Masters Triples tournament in November and it was a case of home town heroes as the team of David Rhodes, Grant Stokes and Russell Ellis took the championship albeit assisted by super-sub Simon Alden who came in for an unavailable Ellis on the final day.



- **Men's Master Triples winners: Simon Alden (sub), David Rhodes, Grant Stokes.**

Twenty teams took to the greens in pursuit of the title, and by the end of a hot day one, the final eight was a strong contingent of star players, with all teams progressing having won a minimum of two of their three qualifying matches.

Rhodes crew winning a close final round matchup against Clive Adams, with David Goddard and Calvin Rodgers, who also qualified despite the close loss.

On the final day, the number one seeded Segan Pasalich, Shane Loftus and Rhett Butler were eliminated by the Adams trio, while Rhodes' crew, seeded seventh eliminated the second seeded Ruairi Kenyon, Matt Whitley and Norm Kirkup. Alongside, it was Justin Opie, with Kyle McIlroy and Gavin Faulkner too strong for Mike Vitale, with Mick Marovic and Stuart Lofthouse – a reversal of the result between the two teams the previous week – and finally, it was Blake Nairn, with Warren Holt and Mark Wunnenberg defeating Ben Leggett, Chris Leggett and Wade Clatworthy.

The semi-finals were both quite one-sided affairs with Nairn putting on a master class to eliminate Adams, and Rhodes well in front throughout against Opie.

In the end, in a tightly fought out final, it was Rhodes taking out victory 13-11.

Helen and Deb storm to victory



It was a case of building momentum throughout the tournament for Helen Morss and Deb Saunders as they stormed their way to the North Beach Masters Pairs title earlier this month.

Morss is a future Hall of Famer, with plenty of experience of high level bowls, and Saunders is one on the rise, full of confidence and always looking to improve her game – a great recipe for a great pairs combination.

Morss and Saunders were challenged in the early rounds, winning their opening match again Rosemarie Lenzo and Annalyn Powell 21-15 before surviving a close one against Wanneroo's Liz Ritchie and Karen Weir 14-11. From there however, momentum began to build, and more convincing wins came in round 3 and the quarter finals.

Meanwhile, the eventual champions' final opponents, Rinske Butcher and Annette Campbell survived their own round 3 thriller, over the line by just one shot against Lily Rughoobur and Caroline Soro, but safely through nonetheless.

The semi-finals were both entertaining matchups. Morss and Saunders up against two wonderful characters of our game – the Claire's – Ferguson and Buchanan – appearing to be representing Scotland for the day. Well the Scottish pairing nearly got the job done, coming up just two shots short and it was Morss and Saunders into the final.

Alongside, Butcher and Campbell had their hands full with the talented pairing of Lisa Featherby and Cathie Smith. Featherby and Smith had worked their way through some close ones during the tournament, but this one was a bridge too far with a three shot margin going the way of the North Beach combination of Butcher and Campbell.

Another high quality matchup in the final, however Saunders was outstanding leading for Morss, proving the difference and seeing them through to a Masters Pairs title 20-7.



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Men's 060s Triples



Eagles flying as the Swans soar...

Bruce Eagles, Peter Flack and Greg Taylor are the Men's Over 60's Triples champions after a nailbiting run to the final saw them home over Chris Margin, Neville Stevens and Garry Booker.

Eagles is a regular at the business end of these events, but it could easily have been different. His crew won just one game by more than just five shots throughout the tournament, with a one shot win in the last 16 match against Ron Treasure, followed by another one shot result over Brian Ledingham in the quarter finals.



- Men's 060s Triples winners: Peter Flack, Bruce Eagles and Greg Taylor.

Two shots was the margin in the semi-final, winning 15-13 over Geoff Watson, Trevor Evans and Tui Niwa.

For Margin, a slightly more comfortable run, culminating in a 10 shot win in the semi-final over Robert Carruthers, Pasquale Riggio and Tony Williams.

At 7-6 after 8 ends of the final, it looked like another close on could on the cards, however Eagles produced a run winning six of the next seven ends to establish a match winning lead, and despite losing the final three ends, the gap was four shots in the finish.

Women's 060s Triples

Eastern heritage features in final

The Women's Over 60's Triples final was perhaps a showcase for Eastern Zone Country bowls, as all six finalists proudly boasted having started and represented in the Eastern Zone over many years.

Lisa Featherby, fast becoming dominant in the Over 60's events since having qualified two years ago featured in another final alongside two stars in Chris Ace-Watson and Denise Kelly.

Their opponents, a Northam based combination of Dot Glass, Lynda Coxon and Jenny Treasure.



- Women's 060s Triples winners: Lisa Featherby, Chris Ace-Watson and Denise Kelly.

In an entertaining final, played at Cockburn in blustery conditions, it was Featherby's crew home 15-8 to take a well deserved victory.

Featherby's path to the final went through Kerry West, Deb Rundell and Pat Huckson in the semi-final 23-5, and Bev Davison, with Kerry White and Robyn Mullan 17-11 in the quarters.

For the Northam trio, it was Lexie Harris, Cathy Smith and Judy Flanagan 15-9 in the semis, and Irene Grout, Roma Dunn and Vicki Warne in the quarters.



Men's 060s Pairs



Margin and Clayton too strong in Pairs

Chris Margin and Jerome Clayton are the Liquor Traders Australia, Bowls WA, Men's Over 60s Pairs winners for the season with the final fittingly played at North Beach.



- Men's 060s Pairs winners Chris Margin and Jerome Clayton.

Margin and Clayton overcame the family duo of Peter Leeson and Don Leeson in the final 21-11 to take the well deserved title. Certainly the Leeson family name is a big one in bowls in WA, making Margin and Clayton's win all the more meritorious.

It was quite a dominant display throughout the tournament by our champions with their closest match being a seven shot win over Chris Lander and Peter Massey in the quarter finals and a similar margin in the semi-final. All other matches were won by bigger margins showing just how well the two combined.

The semi-final saw Margin and Clayton home over Mark Douthie and Peter Flack, setting up the clash with the Leeson pairing.

For the Leeson's, an impressive run, including wins over Paul Davies and Otto Dawson in the semi-final, by just 2 shots, and over Chris Bell and Trevor Thompson in the quarter, by 3.

The Leeson duo showing they could produce the big bowls when it mattered, but finding the going too tough against our eventual champions.

Women's 060s Pairs

Abe and Parker brilliant in the final



- Women's 060s Pairs winners Noelene Abe and Jenny Parker.

Noelene Abe and Jenny Parker have taken the Liquor Traders Australia, Bowls WA, Women's Over 60s Pairs titles after a brilliant performance in the final at Manning recently.

Abe is a legend of the sport, inducted into the Bowls WA Hall of Fame earlier this year, and has a host of titles to her name, whereas Parker is one who is becoming a regular at the final stages of events, and is now starting to reap the rewards.

Abe and Parker had an impressive run to the final, barely challenged against some talented combinations, with the eight shot margin against Jennie Bruce and Lex Harris being the closest anyone could get.

Given that impressive Maggie Newton and Karyn Mears faced an uphill battle in the final and that played out in the final scoreline, being 25-6 to the champions.

For Newton and Mears however, still a very successful event, defeating Jennifer Petty and June Lewer in the semi-final 19-14, whereas it was a 22-13 win for Abe/Parker over Chris Ace-Watson and Wendy Flack in their semi.

Mt. Lawley Consistency Singles

Slavich/McLaughlin dominant in Singles



• Charlie Slavich and Jenni McLaughlin with Neil McAullay and Stuart Irving.

Mens

The traditional opener for the new season, the Mount Lawley Consistency Singles, was held in September with two new winners taking the crowns.

The Men's event saw some of the best players in the State progress to the semi-finals, all well respected for their draw game, but also known for other skills of the singles discipline.

Doubleview's Charlie Slavich met perhaps the most in form singles player in the State at the moment Shane Knott of Mount Lawley in the first semi-final.

A thrilling matchup came down to the last few bowls and it was Slavich that progressed to the final 130-125.

The second semi-final saw Emu Point's Matt Mitchell face Jimmy Buchanan. Remarkably the match concluded with an identical 130-125 scoreline, with Mitchell, a perennial finalist in this event, just getting over the line.

Mitchell then pounced first in the final leading 81-59, and then 90-70, but from there Slavich began to close in.

In almost linear fashion Slavich reduced the deficit to a level 110 each, and then pulled away to win 150-135, claiming his first Consistency Singles title in the process.

Women

In the women's draw, again it was the semi-finals finishing with the same scorelines of 100-78.

Osborne Park's Pam Chalmers, a player synonymous with success in WA, has shown great form in recent times, finishing runner-up in last season's State Singles, showing up again here with a win over Manning's Liz Matthews.

In the other semi-final it was North Beach star Jenni McLaughlin too strong for Chalmers' Osborne Park teammate Amanda Masters.

The final saw McLaughlin out of the blocks first, moving to a 16 point at the halfway stage of the match. In the consistency format, a double figure lead can be hard to track down as both players are always scoring. That's the way this one went with Chalmers unable to bridge the gap and McLaughlin completing victory 120-108.

WA BOWLS RANKINGS

Based on prestigious events over 3 years

MEN			
Rank	Name	Club	Total
1	Holt, Warren	Manning	211
2	Knott, Shane	Mount Lawley	179
3	Butler, Blake	Manning	146
4	Kemp, Miles	Manning	143
5	Trehwella, Daniel	Mount Lawley	142
6	Leggett, Ben	Mount Lawley	126
7	Nairn, Blake	Cambridge	112
8	Brandsma, Bill	Kalamunda	108
9	Opie, Justin	South Perth	103
10	Bates, Russell	Pinjarra	98
11	Mitchell, Matthew	Emu Point	97
12	Neilson, Wes	Bassendean	80
13	Jones, Nathan	Manning	79
14	Adams, Clive	Cambridge	78
15	Marsland, Dale	Osborne Park	70
=16	Brown, Ryan	Osborne Park	64
=16	Crowle, Kevin	Cambridge	64
=16	Massang, Tristan	Osborne Park	64
=16	Rowland, Darren	Mount Lawley	64
=16	Slavich, Charlie	Doubleview	64
=16	Williams, Anthony	Doubleview	64

WOMEN			
Rank	Name	Club	Total
1	Krstic, Kristina	Manning	372
2	Featherby, Lisa	Mosman Park	307
3	Butler, Laura	Manning	214
4	Morss, Helen	South Perth	177
5	Ace-Watson, Chris	Mosman Park	169
6	Packer, Hailey	Manning	134
7	Hastings, Therese	Quinns Rocks	124
8	Saunders, Debbie	Cambridge	122
9	Leahy, Irene	Boulder	121
10	Arndt, Irene	Safety Bay	120
11	Chalmers, Pam	Osborne Park	112
12	Masters, Amanda	Osborne Park	106
13	Andersen, Kerry	Mosman Park	104
=14	Parker, Jenny	Mosman Park	97
=14	Warburton, Linda	Brunswick	97
16	Heal, Helen	Manning	94
17	Kelly, Denise	Mosman Park	88
18	McLaughlin, Jenni	North Beach	83
19	Butcher, Rinske	North Beach	79
=20	Cooper, Beryl	Middleton Beach	64
=20	Hornibrook, Anne	Middleton Beach	64
=20	Michell, Bridget	Newdegate	64
=20	Miller, Karen	Mt Barker Golf	64



BPL20/BPL21

Tweed Ospreys too strong in BPL

Bowls Premier League edition 20 was billed as the biggest yet, featuring new franchises and new players, plenty of internationals and plenty of team changes.

The Perth Suns went into the tournament as just one of four franchises to be fielding an unchanged lineup from BPL19, while the Geelong Jets and Sydney Saints joined the fray, albeit with some players that were familiar to BPL audiences.

Carl Healey took the skippers reins for the Suns and was joined again by Perth Suns stalwart Kristina Krstic and 2021 Australian Singles Champion Blake Nairn.

Bill Brandsma once again coached, and it seemed early that the known quantity of the Suns was proving an advantage.

After four rounds of the event, the Suns had recorded three wins and were sitting atop the table. Unfortunately from there however, as can happen at a BPL, the Suns lost the next five matches only managing to grab one set during that time. That left the Suns, remarkably, at the bottom of the table and it was a long way back from there.

The Suns quality of play was unquestionable, however at a BPL the big moments simply have to go your way. A tiebreak record of 3 wins from 9 tiebreaks indicates that things just didn't quite fire for the Suns, especially given the tiebreak stat translates directly into wins.

Looking at other stats, 21 sets won across BPL20 is comparable with finalists, despite the Suns finishing 11th out of the 12 competing teams. The Melbourne Extreme made finals with less sets won, and both the Sydney Saints and Adelaide Pioneers finished just ahead of that number.

The Suns conceded the most shots of any team in the competition, suggesting perhaps that defensive play may need to be a focus moving forward.

While BPL20 was touted as being about the new teams and the new internationals taking part, the end conversations were focused on two young Australian players – Nathan Black and Dawn Hayman. The two were simply outstanding throughout the event, and were rewarded with places in the BPL20 Allstar team, alongside Aaron Wilson. Black was crowned MVP.

The Tweed Ospreys' crew of Aaron

Teys, Corey Wedlock and Chloe Stewart claimed another BPL title with a brilliant display on finals night.

A similar tiebreak record to the Suns could've seen the Ospreys in strife, however just 3 straight sets losses during the 22 qualifying rounds is an impressive display and set them up for a great finals run.

The Suns have announced a change to the lineup for BPL21 with Warren Holt being injected into the team to replace Nairn and Aviso WA coming onboard as team sponsor. Nairn has been a wonderful servant for the Suns over the past 5 series, however the Suns have long had a policy of rewarding great performance with a Suns' berth and Holt has been in sensational form in recent years. Holt will join Krstic and Healey in the quest for BPL glory.

BPL21 starts on February 17th and runs through to February 21st.



• Blake Nairn at BPL20.



• Kristina Krstic at BPL20.



Kelli Wray...BowlsWA Coach of the Year 2024

Eighteen months ago, Bowls WA crowned Kelli Wray the Bowls WA Club Coach of the Year in front of an appreciative and acknowledging crowd at Optus Stadium for the Bowls WA Awards Night.

Wray's contribution to the sport of bowls in Western Australia has been as tireless as it has been dedicated. Wray has had a huge impact on many in the sport, across the State and across the Country, working with juniors, with new players, and with existing players that need assistance to grow in confidence and grow their game.

"To see players develop their skills and their abilities is something that is just inspiring to see" said Wray in accepting the Bowls Australia award. "Coaching is an opportunity for me to use my past experiences to help others – to see the confidence grow in people, to see the belief in them and to see them be the best version of themselves that they can be is something I cherish".

A star player herself, and starting as a junior, Wray has been instrumental in establishing the Cockburn Bowling Club Junior Academy focusing on introducing and developing the young people in the sport.

The Cockburn Club, with Wray driving the programs, has attracted new young people to bowls and has assisted greatly in the development of these young people with many representing WA at the recent Nationals 2024 event on the Gold Coast, with Wray along as the Head Coach.

Speaking about the academy in her acceptance speech Wray said "we are introducing young people to a sport they can truly shine in".

Wray has a strong culture and mindset that brings the best out in people, but she also paid tribute to those around her that contribute to her success as a coach. In thanking her family and partner, Wray noted: "you saw the passion I had, I wanted to help people and I wanted to Coach".

Wray also specifically thanked Anthony Burnham, Kerry Hutchinson and Ann Lloyd who have all had a significant impact on Wray's coaching development throughout the years.

Bowls WA CEO Ken Pride was quick to add his congratulations, commenting that "Wray is a wonderful asset to the sport and to coaching in general, and this award is a fitting acknowledgement of her efforts".



• Kelli Wray – 2024 Coach of the Year.

Maylands Bowling Club Open Gender Club Singles

One of the youngest club Singles winners...

At just 15 years of age, Drew Gunson is making her way in our great sport, recently capturing the Maylands Bowling Club Open Gender Club Singles title.

Now we aren't sure whether Drew is the youngest Club singles winner, but she must certainly be in the conversation.

Drew is no stranger to playing the big bowls when they count having represented WA in the National Championships over the past two years, both here in WA and on the Gold Coast in October last year. Clearly that experience has proven crucial in the growth of Drew's game.

Maylands boasts three generations of the Gunson family which showcases what is great about our sport. Drew, in particular, is also impressive on the footy field, so she is clearly blessed with sporting talent.

Congratulations to Drew and we look forward to tracking her path through the Champions of Champions event later this year!



• Drew shows her winning style.

IZRR Team Announcements



Teams have been announced for the Men's Inter Zone Round Robin to be held at Emu Point on February 1-2.

NORTHERN ZONE

Inter League Results:

Batavia Red 13, Central West Coast 10, North Midlands 9, Moore Districts 6, Batavia White 3, Central Midlands 3.

Teams selected for Inter Zone Round Robin

Skip	Third	Second	Lead
J Leeson	B Preston	P Fewster	W Glenister
S Fewster	C Eva	S Beckwith	G Bone
B King	M Ford	W Benton	G Cripps
J Kay	S Donohoe	M Rodin	W Matthews
L Litchfield	P Leeson	B McGree	M Adams

EASTERN ZONE

Inter League Results:

East Avon 8, South Eastern 6, Avon 4, Goldfields 2, Wheatbelt 0.

Teams selected for Inter Zone Round Robin

Skip	Third	Second	Lead
J Sharp	A Sharp	A Hall	Z Parker
G Main	J Menzies	S Bartlett	D Butler
D Thomson	M France	A Mackin	K Furniss
K Carr	D Miguel	J Beddow	B Wilkes
R Griffiths	M Crameri	C Hayes	S Starling

SOUTHERN ZONE

Inter League Results:

Great Southern 10, South Central Arunga 6, Lower Great Southern 4, Central Stirling 4, Upper Great Southern 4, South East Coastal 2.

Teams selected for Inter Zone Round Robin

Skip	Third	Second	Lead
M Schinzig	R Schinzig	H Rick	C Hitchcock
J Fiegert	P Walker	J Cowie	M Colgan
M Mitchell	L Brown	S Tuffley	P Garbellini
D Harris	G Prowse	K O'Neill	J Gillett
M O'Neill	J Davy	T O'Meehan	J Repacholi

SOUTH WEST ZONE

Inter League Results:

South West 6, Murray Districts 4, Leeuwin 2, Blackwood 0.

Teams selected for Inter Zone Round Robin

Skip	Third	Second	Lead
G Keep	M Baker	M Warburton	J Exton
S Pennington	T Wilkinson	G Rundell	C Wellington
D Goddard	L McIlvenny	K Fittler	D Foster
M Simpson	T Hyatt	L Birch	R Tyrrell
G Caffell	B Coote	M Head	P Coxon

Bowls from a different perspective



The South West and Southern Zones recently held coaching sessions under the Country Coaching Enhancement Scheme – the sessions were very informative, well received by attendees and overall a wonderful success.

Linda Warburton, a star player herself, still winning major titles headed up the South West Zone scheme at the Brunswick Club in late September. Interest was strong for the 24 positions made available, so selecting the successful applicants from those who applied proved challenging.

The day itself was well supported by South West and Murray League coaches in Yunderup's Kaylene Pearson, Harvey's Anthony Burnham, Elaine McDonald from Eaton and both Judy Flanagan and Ross Warburton from Brunswick – the array of coaching talent and experience meant participants were kept busy throughout the day.

A highlight of the day was a presentation from Australian Para-Jackaroo Calvin Rodgers. Calvin, albeit humbly, spoke about his achievements in the sport, and spoke about the tools he uses to achieve his success. Being a bowler with a visual impairment, Calvin spoke about the importance of muscle memory and visual imagery – tools that any bowler may wish to use in their approach and technique.

Plenty of questions were asked of Calvin, and then a session followed where players were blindfolded to simulate the conditions under which Calvin plays – this forced players to focus on their delivery, while concentrating more on communication and trust of teammates.

Throughout the weekend, there was plenty of emphasis put on shot selection, training and practice techniques, head reading and plenty of other tips and tricks for players to improve their game.

In the Southern Zone, at Gnowangerup, Jeff Hewton conducted a similar session for players from the Southern Zone. This was Jeff's first experience of conducting such a session so it was as exciting an opportunity for him as it was for the 21 attendees.

As with the South West Zone program, the weekend was a wonderful success with the reviews for both programs showing participants were very happy and appreciative of the experience.



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BOWLS
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ILRR Pairs – Eastern/Southern League Round Robin sees good bowls...

The Eastern and Southern Zones have completed their Inter League Round Robin Pairs events with some impressive displays across the boards.



- **Great Southern League winners in ILRR Pairs.**

Civic Bowling Club in Merredin hosted the Eastern series, and after a hotly contested event it was the South Eastern League emerging victorious with 8 win points compared to Avon on 5 points and the Goldfields on 4.

The South Eastern team consisted of Heather Lockyer, Ainslie Faithfull, Norma Henderson, Miranda Noack, Karen Poultney, Toni Madigan, Sue Courboulos and Kylie Gibson, with reserve Sylvia Yandle and manager Kaye Geyer.

In the Southern Zone, it was the Great Southern League getting the job done in fine style with 4 wins (14 rinks) finishing clear of Lower Great Southern on 4 wins (9½ wins).

The successful Great Southern League team consisted of Bev Broom, Zellie Schinzig, Jacinta Zadow, Shelley Bilney, Paula Reid, Justine Hughes, Sharon Whana and Audrey Bateup with Yai Heron as the substitute.

Congratulations to all involved.

- **Below: South Eastern League winners in ILRR Pairs.**



Kukerin Classic



Classic Carnival goes down to the wire

The annual A. & M. Williams bowls classic held at the Kukerin Bowling Club on 22nd and 23rd of October was again a huge success for the club.

This very popular event continues to attract bowlers from a wide area of the state which this year included Emu Point, Emu Point/Mt. Barker Golf, Middleton Beach, Albany/Dumbleyung, Safety Bay x2, Manning, Mundaring/Kondinin, Quairading, Kulin, Lake Grace, Dumbleyung/Newdegate, Williams, Gnowangerup, another composite side from Albany and ex local Ross Ditchburn from Eaton with his composite side defending their title.

On the first day bowlers were greeted with almost perfect conditions with light S.W. breezes.

At the completion of the first day only one team had come through undefeated with one team on two wins and a draw and a few teams on two wins. Day two the bowlers were treated to a perfect spring day and some excellent bowls were witnessed.

The first day leaders suffered a loss on their opening game which threw the competition open to five teams with a chance to win the event.

Game two again provided some surprises and left the door ajar for some different teams going into the final game. At the conclusion of the event the composite Emu Point/Mt Barker Golf team of Doug Wright, Ross Skinner, Andy McFarlane, and Kelvin Crosby, won with 20 points and 27 shots up, in second place was a Safety Bay side comprising of Bruce McLean, Norm Read, Neil Smith, and Rob Harcourt on 20 points and 15 shots up, third place went to the Manning side of Mike Carey, Bill Fraser, Greg Hogg, and Anthony Taylor on 18 points and 41 shots up.

First day winners were ex local Walter Mycock and team from Emu Point and second day winners were Graeme Jose and team from Dumbleyung with substitute Clive Morton from Newdegate.

The Kukerin Bowling Club wish to thank all visiting players plus our many sponsors for their continuing support of the event. Many visiting players praised the club on the excellent way in which the event was conducted.

Our final special thank you is to our wonderful small band of ladies who once again catered in their special way and to the men who waited on tables and helped in the kitchen.

- **Below: Doug Wright, Ross Skinner, Andy McFarlane, Kelvin Crosby.**



The History of Jack hi

Jack Hi is an institution in bowls in WA. As an institution it has seen many forms, and we are about to embark on yet another.

Looking back to the 1950's Bowls WA (RWABA) had a publication called the Western Bowler – a newspaper style publication that would eventually evolve into what we now know as Jack Hi.

Looking through the Western Bowler is a walk down memory lane, with adverts for Boans, and Dunlop Bowls on some pages, and incredibly Sheridan's, who we still use today for our pennant badges etc, gracing the ageing pages.

From there, over the years, we have hovered between a magazine style publication and a newspaper style.

The Jack Hi has been there for many momentous occasions including legendary performances by some of the State's greatest. It has reported on the emergence of stars of the sport, as well as informed us what has been going on out in clubland.

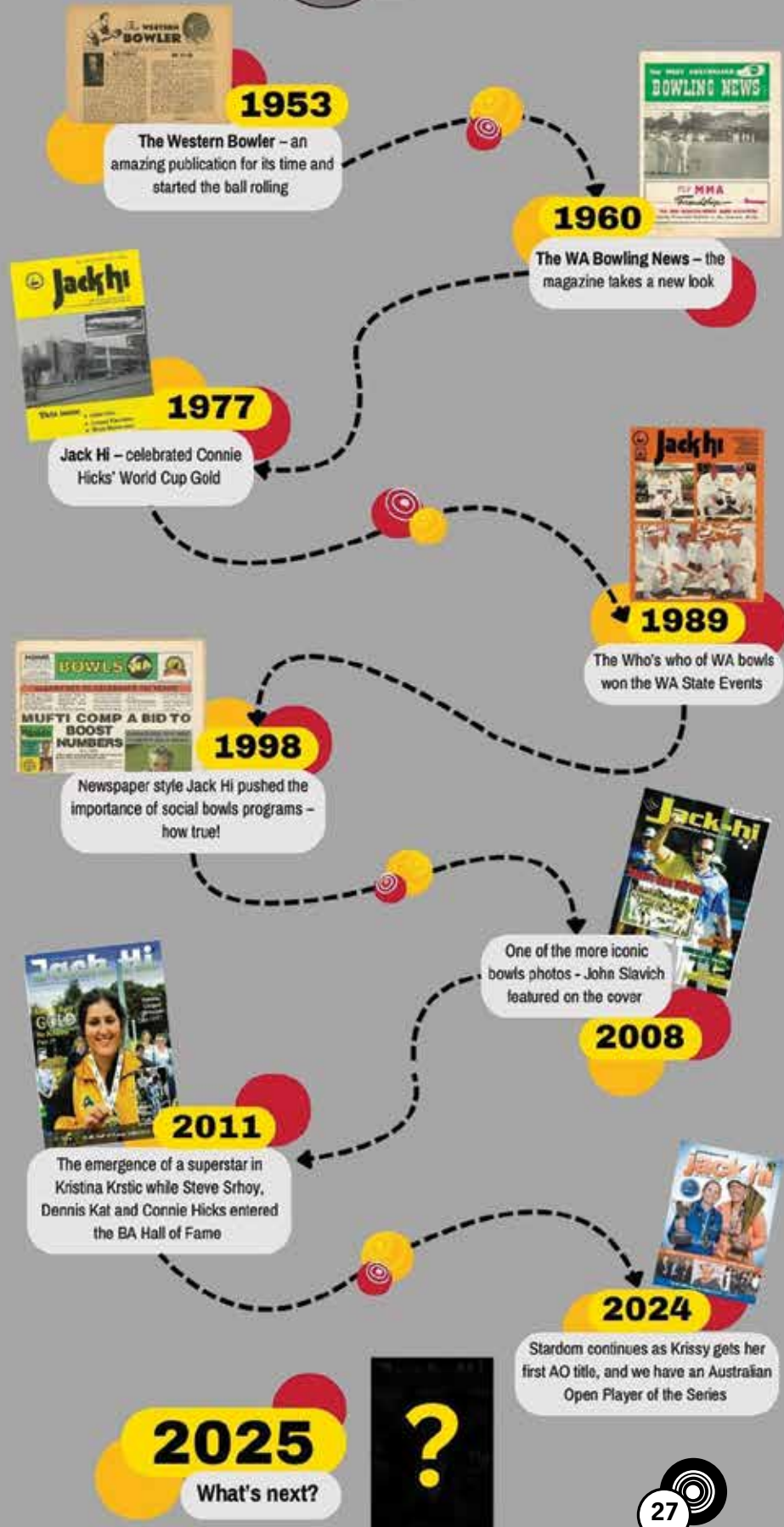
Jack Hi was there for the birth of the Perth Suns, it tracked our State Teams through their heyday and it chronicled the WA visit of the one the greatest ever to play the sport in David Bryant. Of course it detailed the amazing Commonwealth Games Gold Medal winning performance of Kristina Krstic alongside her great friend Ellen Fife (Ryan) in more recent years, and it also celebrated our 125th Anniversary Allstar Teams.

Bowls WA pays tribute to all that contributed stories that have featured in the magazine, and especially to Mr Greg Campbell who has spent over a decade bringing the magazine together with his brilliant design and editing skills.

Jack Hi is not disappearing – rather it is again, evolving. The new Jack Hi will take the form of an electronic newsletter, allowing us to feature more current and future information, rather than the historical reporting tool that it has become.

The interactive format, which will arrive directly to your electronic mailbox, will be easier to navigate, taking you to the information you want, when you want it.

The Jack hi TIMELINE

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