



# Tiger Tales

Tall tales but true (perhaps, slightly embellished with a hint of fact) from the Tigers' Den.  
The official newsletter of the Richmond Union Bowling Club. Established 1868.

**October 2018 – edition 4**



## The words of our club team song 'Tigerland'

Oh we're from Tiger land  
A fighting fury we're from Tiger land  
In any weather you will see us with a grin  
Risking head and skin  
If we're behind we'll never mind  
we'll fight and fight and win  
oh where from Tiger land  
we never weaken til the final bowl is bowled  
like the tigers of old  
we're strong and we're bold  
oh we're from tiger  
-YELLOW AND BLACK-  
oh we're from Tiger land

## Tiger Roar (From the President)

A quick note to thank each and every one of you who attended and helped with the makeover of the club on Sunday, thanks to Nathan for providing a cooked breakfast.

On behalf of the Committee thank you very much.

As President there are a lot of issues to be across but to see 30 odd members, a lot of new faces turn up and work hard, I was very proud to be a member of Richmond Union.

Lloyd Carrick won best dressed.

I have noted that some members have had the initiative to get their names embroidered onto their uniforms and or hoodies, this is excellent initiative.

However, can we all just hold the bus on this until the committee identifies a standard font and standard placement of your names, otherwise we will have names in comic sands, to old English on the left or on the right. We will have some guidelines very soon.

Our 150th is fast approaching and we need all members who are attending to put your names on the list in the members area.

We encourage all members to invite former players to the celebrations as we may not have their contact details and finally remember to put November 5th into your calendar.

Richard Konarik  
President #yellowandblack



## ***Jungle Beat (news from around the club)***

Flakey Paint, told us, “no worries, It'll all be done by our birthday party”!

Well personally, I was worried, very worried.

However, Flakey was true to his word and the make-over is nearly over and what a marvellous transformation it has been. The only thing left to do is put everything back. Now, what hangs where??? Holy f\*#k!

I guess this will be flicked over to Greg Harrison as he is in charge of the 'hang-ups' department ... any volunteers?

Speaking of volunteers what a great turn out the other day. 30 members turned up and went hammer and tongs at it. I haven't seen that much action since I was 16. Special mention to Lloyd Carrick who was resplendent in his boiler suit.

The bowls storage rack has been moved to the front of Swingers garage and we are planning additional bowls storage, east of the Front Green as well. The library and bowls cleaner has been relocated and now fills where the bowls storage was.

In addition, we're creating a BOWLS OPS room. Stay tuned.

## ***Tiger paws (bowls operations)***

With the fifth side finally scheduled to play, we did not have enough players to field a team. Hopefully, with more players available we will be able to rectify that in round 4 for their first home game.

Now selection is not an easy task and its made even more difficult when players do not let us know about their availability or more importantly, their unavailability.

Like all bowling clubs, during pennant season all bowlers are considered available unless they formally notify us to the contrary.

Like all bowling clubs, this is done by filling in the unavailable list on the selection notice board. You can't miss it. It's a rather large double A3 sheet.

DO NOT assume we know all bowler's movements.

So show some courtesy and when and where necessary use the A3 Unavailability List on the notice board.

Now, I'll type this slowly, so it's got a chance to sink in.

When completing rink reports for both for the Ron Fordham and Joyce Clogan (Tuesdays) medals please award votes on a 3-2-1 basis only. From now on reports with 2-2-2 or 3-2-2 or any departure from 3-2-1 will be returned to the player to complete correctly.

For ratings out of 10 please complete a rating for **all 4 players**, including yourself.

## ***Coaches corner***

### **HOW TO PLAY SINGLES (Source: Rod Huddle *eCoach Bowls Newsletter # 14*)**

Singles is a great game, not loved by everyone but the most pure test of skill in bowls. I am sure John Snell's secrets are the ones to learn, however I have observed many a championship game and present a summary of great singles play. One of the first things I noticed was the best players not changing hands on their 2nd bowl, even though the “obvious” shot was on the other hand. They were n a level or two above my thinking at that time as a novice bowler.

The obvious main difference between singles and other forms of bowls is that there are less bowls involved at the head. The maximum bowls in a head before the last bowl is played would be 7. In fours this would be 15 and in 3 bowl triples (not my favorite) this would be up to 17!!! More bowls means more potential for crowded complex situations. This leads to unexpected results, some may call this luck, but the unpredictability of the subsequent contact can be exciting, can be surprising, and can be disappointing. This makes singles somewhat a simpler game. My recent skipping at a lower level division to help them out reminded me of how hard it is to skip in that situation with no chance for a game plan!

Mental application is vital to be successful in singles. You can't rely on others to get you out of trouble or for

support. It can be a lonely place out on the green in a singles game, whether you are winning or losing. It's no use looking over your shoulder for help you must be able to perform when it is most needed.

Different singles play strategy:

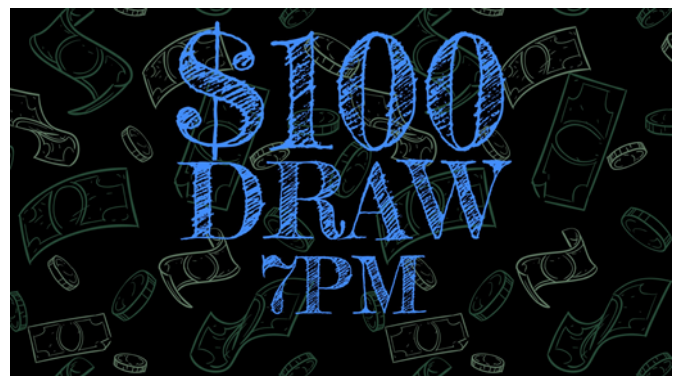
- **The percentage game** is an approach to gain a lot of small advantages and therefore beat your opponent. This is not by flash super conversions but by adding another shot here and there as the opportunity arrives and reducing your opponents scoring. Shot selection is critical in the percentage game as is patience and self-belief.
- **Draw 3 then covert or add** – a conservative approach but ready for any opportunity that arise. This game plan means less aggression, better heads to play into.
- **Lead bowl pressure** – win from the front by playing a high standard first bowl. This puts (again) more pressure on your opposition and allows for position play or to add another shot.
- **Out draw the opposition on long ends and attack short ends** – I know I was on the receiving end of this strategy. Beaten on long ends on a slow green I went short after I finally one an end only for the opposition to play weight accurately at my nice draw shots. Easy targets at a short length.
- **Drive then draw strategy** – Some of the top singles players (e.g. Rob Parella) would not hesitate to drive at a single bowl target. Works for a few but most of us are not accurate enough to succeed at this. Also it depends greatly on the quality and speed of the green. Fast true greens are easier to drive on than slow uneven greens.
- **Draw then drive strategy** – This works better most of the time. If you are a half decent singles player then the draw shot is your weapon. Draw close to a good opposition shot bowl to make it harder for them and to create a target maybe three times wider. Then drive for the result.
- **Beat your opponents bowl** – this is simple but effective. If your opponent draws 1 meter away then you aim to beat that bowl, if they draw close within 20cm you aim to beat that. Any singles player who can do this will never lose!!!
- **Last bowl is the shot bowl** – Some players are experts at getting the shot with their last bowl.

All over the place with their first two they get closer and closer then nail it with their 4th bowl. This frustrates the hell out of their opponent. Not the best strategy as a miss with the last bowl usually means dropping 3 or 4 shots.

- **Same, same** - Get winning length and stick to it. With the first bowl and being able to place the mat and roll the jack this can mean dominating the game. Not a bad idea but beware good opposition players will pick up the length and mat position after a few ends and you are now likely to fool them for long. If you can out bowl them then you will obviously win, but you won't win just by trying to fool them with a repetitive strategy.
- **Variation game.** - The opposite to the Same, same game plan. Changing mat and jack position nearly every end is difficult but can be a big winner. The opposition never settles down and often plays poorly. This affects their mental state and they play and act like losers. Concentration and experience is the key for this to work. Are you good enough to try this?
- **Environmental game** – Play the conditions better than your opposition. Use the wind and green to increase the degree of difficulty. Of course you need to be able to handle it yourself but playing short with a tail wind and long into the wind is a good example of playing the conditions.

## At the Waterhole

Happy hour every day 5.30 – 6.30. Pots \$2.50 and Schooners \$4.00. How's that for a bargain? Drop in for a cleansing ale today.



It's all part of our responsible service of alcohol.



## *Player Profile – Hugh Jass reporting*



Can a person be simply, too nice? Chatting with young gun Ajay Nair, I found myself wondering just that.

AJ got into bowling after winning the social twilight triples. His first season was 2015-2016 and since then he has racked up an impressive list of achievements.

Firstly, he's a regular in the top team. He won the Rose King Novice and was runner up in the Frank O'Connor singles, mixed pairs and club fours. And just to top that off, he won the Ken Young award for the most improved player of the year.

That's pretty good going in such a short career.

HJ: So where are you from?

AJ: India

HJ: What brought you to Australia?

AJ: I came over on a student visa, loved the place and decided to stay.

HJ: What did you study?

AJ: IT

HJ: That's a little left field for a person from India isn't it?

AJ: Not really, but I can understand why people think that.

HJ: I hear you're partial to a good German, how'd that come about?

AJ: I went out with some friends one night and was served up some sauerkraut and well when the bratwurst came out, I was hooked.

HJ: What's the funniest thing that has happened to you at the club?

AJ: Well it's kind of funny and cute. My dad thought my job at RUBC while working as a host was to sit on the dunking machine while people took turns dunking me. Tommy Neal started calling me 'Dunkee' afterwards.

HJ: What inspires you?

AJ: The drive to make a positive impact in the world.

HJ: How would you describe the club colours, yellow and black to a blind person?

AJ: Black feels like being sad and hollow and yellow feels like the warm rays of the morning sun.

HJ: Your skip says, that's okay, we needed one up the back. What do they really mean?

AJ: That bowl is shit. Try to get one near now.

HJ: What is your favourite holiday destination?

AJ: I really love Wonthaggi, but my favourite place for a holiday is Goa India.

HJ: What's your best example of a pyrrhic victory?

AJ: I played Bobby in the singles last year, he bowled magnificently, but I kept raking them and won. Even my shittiest bowls ended up shot that day. I felt really bad afterwards. He was robbed.

HJ: What advice would you give to new members?

AJ: Challenge yourself. Don't be intimidated when bowling against an experienced bowler. At the end of the day they're under more pressure than you.

HJ: What activity from your childhood has been completely ruined for kids today?

AJ: Going outside and playing in the open

HJ: Thanks AJ, that was informative. Oh yeah, you owe Bobby a beer.

## ***Jungle Preservation and Improvement***

Let me spell this out again. A member gets one locker and one locker ONLY. And, well, we're getting closer to 'culling' some of the men's lockers. Might even 'cull' some of the men. Please, do the right thing and clean out any additional lockers you may be using. If you do this, it will spare us from embarrassing arguments.

The entrance foyer to the men's locker is being cleaned out and that will allow for the much needed space for 'everything bowls' - notice-boards, training boards/material, umpire equip, pennant, paper work and anything else bowlsie. A new partition-door will be constructed creating a new Bowls Op's room in front of the men's locker room.

Greg Harrison and his team have done a brilliant job so far. But wait, there will be more. We are only in the transition. We plan to open up the clubhouse to the west. It's all just part of our major renovation plan.

Our vision will be made available soon with the architect's presentation. So get excited, very excited.

That's all for now!

## ***The Almoners Report***

### **RUBC Philosophy**

There are only two things to worry about, either you are well or you are sick.

**If you are well**, there is nothing to worry about.

**If you are sick**, there are only two things to worry about. Either you will get well or you will die.

**If you get well**, there is nothing to worry about.

**If you die**, there are only two things to worry about. Either you will go to heaven or hell

**If you go to heaven**, there is nothing to worry about

**But if you go to hell**, you'll be so busy catching up with all your mates you won't have time to worry

## ***The Grapevine (social news)***

Firstly, Sunday 28 October is our open day. Bring your partner, bring your wife, bring your girlfriend (better still bring both), bring your boyfriend, bring your husband, bring someone else's husband, bring someone you like, bring someone you don't like, bring the kids, bring the grandkids, bring anybody and everybody. Everyone is welcome.

We have a great day planned. We'll have a jumping castle, face painting, free stuff and costly stuff (at member's prices of course). The day kicks off at 10.00 a.m.



Then just to top that off don't forget our birthday celebrations. What's that you ask? Well RUBC has been going since 1868. Meaning, this year, we will celebrate our sesquicentennial (150<sup>th</sup>) anniversary. And, we want to do this in spectacular fashion.

So, on Monday 5 November (Melbourne Cup Eve) we are having our Sesquicentennial Gala. And check out this for a good deal. \$30.00, you get a drink upon arrival, gourmet canapes, live entertainment and a truckload of fun. Be there or be square.



## The Tale End

Having little kids or grandkids provides an opportunity to experience the wonders of Winnie the Pooh all over again.

Doing so you soon come to realise that there is something truly awesome about Winnie and his gang.

Even though Eeyore is basically clinically depressed, his mates still invite him to participate in all their adventures and shenanigans.

They never expect him to pretend to feel happy they just love him anyway and they never leave him behind or ask him to change.

Inclusive, not exclusive that's the Richmond Union way!

Remember, we are a club, we play as a club.

Because, it's the way the club plays as a whole that determines its success. The greatest bunch of individual stars in the world aren't worth a pinch of cocky poop if they don't play together as a team. Respect your club by respecting your team mates.



Note: there is an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) located at behind the bar. It's simple to use. Should someone collapse on the green, remember DRSABCD. Grab the AED and it will tell you what to do.

Good one Wee-Man

At the end of the Trivia Night scores were level, so we faced the all-important tiebreak question. 'Which of the following birds does not make a nest? 1. A sparrow, 2. A cockatoo, 3. A hawk, or 4. A cuckoo'. As we struggled with the answer, Benny Blaich announced it's a cuckoo. Are you sure? 100% came the reply. As we were claiming our prize, I asked wee-man, 'how'd you know that'? 'It's bloody obvious, it lives in a fricken clock'!

As the Editor I was instructed to be politically correct when compiling this little rag.

Politically correct? WTF? What does that mean?

I sought guidance from someone with far greater intelligence than myself. A student.

*'Political correctness is a doctrine, fostered by a delusional, illogical minority, that is promoted by the mainstream media, which holds forth the proposition that it entirely possible to pick up a piece of dog shit by the clean end'.*

With that in mind I offer the following: Viagra won't make you James Bond. But it may make you Roger Moore.

Time for a drink.

