

UPDATE ON THE BOWLING CLUB AMALGAMATION

As everyone is aware Catalina has now been managing the Batemans Bay Bowling Club for 3 months. Whilst we have encountered many issues and hurdles there are many positives that we have found and generally we are happy with how things are progressing.

Our management team and other staff have been working extremely hard to make things happen. A big thank you must be extended to them for their efforts over and above what they would normally have to do. Especially to our caterer we extend our thanks as Bernie and his staff have been working in less than ideal conditions but still making great meals as always. Whilst talking about Bernie he has some great plans for promotions coming up.

All of the administration of the Bowling Club has now been moved to Catalina and the former administration staff at the Bowling Club have either taken redundancy or been relocated within the club.

The members at the Bowling Club are now really supporting the Club and we are seeing an increase in the numbers of bowlers. There has been an increase in membership also. A volunteer group like our CATS has been formed called the BATS (bowling assistance teams) and they started work on 1 March cleaning up the outside of the club. They are a great happy band of workers.

Financial Position---Trading- wise the club had a reasonable January. The net loss for January-10 was - \$85293.00 compared to -\$42672 for January 09, however \$72808 was spent on one-off amalgamation costs. So the normal trading loss was -\$12485. Similarly the net loss for the YTD is -\$340990 compared to -\$206287 at the same time last year and would otherwise reduce to -\$185530 with the one off amalgamation costs of \$155500 to date. Bar sales growth was 26.9% and net gaming revenue growth of 2.2%. The returns to the club are steadily increasing through greater efficiencies and management systems.

Amalgamation Process---This process is progressing steadily and the application to the Casino, Liquor and Gaming Control Authority is about to be lodged seeking provisional approval and when granted this will allow for the transfer of all of the Bowling Club assets and liabilities to us. When the final approval is granted (3-4 months time) there will be a meeting of the Bowling Club members to liquidate the Bowling Club as a company. This will be only a procedural matter as at that time the company will not have any assets but liquidation will provide finality for the bowling club. A “no” vote on the liquidation would simply mean that the Bowling Club will be de-registered the next day. We suggest that at that time we should have a celebration of the merger and maybe formally launch the new name of the bowling club premises. There will be member input into the re-naming of the club. Any ideas?!!

It has been necessary for the Catalina Club to spend some of its cash reserves on Bowling Club necessities. This has tightened things up a little for us in the short term but it is expected we will be able to recoup that cash shortly as we re-finance some of the capital purchases.

It seems to us that many of the Bowling Club members who were against the amalgamation are “coming around” as the club certainly appears to be a lot happier place now.

I hope that this information clarifies a few matters for our CCC members but if you have any queries do not hesitate to ask me or Richard.

Barrie Ennis—President
Catalina Country Club