

Neil Dalrymple <ndalrymple@bowls.com.au> 8:26 AM (1 hour ago)

to **Brett, Danielle, Kate**, me, Bronwyn

Hi Tony,

Thank you for your response to our letter.

Some comments and clarification in response to yours:

*1. **Medical Certificates for Arm Bowlers** – we wanted them brought back and asked why they were removed.*

No, the BA Board has made this decision and it will not be retracted. The national committee for the Bowlers Arms Championship have also voted to adopt this policy for their next National Championship.

*2. **Confusion as to who is running Arm Bowls** – You have sort of answered that, but we still seek clarification as to the National Event as to whether or not it is a BA event as stated by NSW Woomearas and inferred by MABA.*

The National Championship is supported by BA though the provision of a trophy. This was done at the inception of the Championship and was provided as a means of support for the event. It is not a BA organised event but we recognise it on the national calendar.

*3. **Register of Arm Bowlers** – We would like to see a register of Arm Bowlers put back in place, which was run by BQ as I still have my original card.*

Within our new national IT system, BowlsLink, it is possible to list certifications for various pieces of information e.g. Coaching or Officiating accreditations. We may add Bowlers Arm at some stage in the future so we can accurately track the numbers of users.

*4. **Arm Bowls Development Officers in each State** – Why can this not be achieved if you are truly trying to assist people in getting involved in Arm Bowls*

This is already being achieved through the employment of fifteen Regional Bowls Managers Australia wide. BA and the STAs are about attracting and retaining as many new members and participants into the sport. We want to embrace and facilitate all forms of participation and we will encourage people to use an Arm if that means they can stay or come and play Bowls.

Finally, I, the BA Board and all STAs fully understand the popularity of the Bowlers Arm in Australia. There is no need for BA or the STAs to take control of this group of people. We will continue to treat all Bowlers Arm users as we treat any other member in the Bowls community – fairly and with respect.

A Bowlers Arm is a fabulous mechanism for individuals to say involved and BA and the STAs will continue to promote the Arm has a great inclusion program and opportunity for Bowls.

The purpose of the Arm is about inclusion not segregation.....Bowls in Australia does not need special interest groups working against each other. Collaboration and working for the better interests of the sport should be our focus.

Regards,

Neil

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