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14 October 2026

CIRCULAR 38: MATCH PLANNER APP

To All Club Presidents

You may or may not by now be aware of a software programme called Match Planner that has been trialled in various District and Club events during the past couple of months. The idea behind these trials was to offer EP Bowls exposure to this software without any initial cost and thereby give participants and organisers in those events access to the program. Access to the program and its outcomes is driven by an App which can be downloaded as per normal through the various platforms.

There are multiple benefits to the program including direct result capture immediately at the conclusion of the match. Rink allocation on such a basis that avoids duplicate rink usage. Progressive result update and users are able, via their cell phone, to view this as well as the allocation for their next match both as to rink and opponent. Continuous record keeping of individual performance will provide club and district selectors with records when considering team selection.

We have been in discussion with the developers of this software with regard to costing. They are prepared to give has access on the basis of paying R10 per event entry. So, for example, if we have 180 entries for the EP Fours the cost would be R1800. The suggested recovery of this would be in the form of an increase of R10 in green fees / competition fees. The benefit of doing it in this manner is that recovery is only taken from participants, the very people that stand to benefit the most from the use thereof.

The use of the App is not restricted to participants and any person interested in viewing the results will simply have to download the App, register and then log-in.

The current tournament programme we use comes as courtesy from Bowls Gauteng North and there is no certainty as to how long such access will continue. This programme is web based and not available on an App.

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Midlands: Mr J Smith; Eastern Areas: Mr S Minnaar

Clubs can also use this programme to run their own domestic open days or club competitions and those clubs that have used it will attest to the flexibility of the programme which can be designed to suit any type of configuration you would like to use to determine results. The designers of the programme are prepared to offer this to clubs at the cost of R20 per individual entry.

The purpose of this mail to enable you to have discussion with those players at your clubs as to whether they would like EP Bowls to migrate to this software as a basis for tournament management or to leave the status quo bearing in mind that as a paying customer, we would set delivery requirements whereas with the free software we have no guarantee of continued access.

This matter will be discussed at the November council meeting where we will take guidance from Council on the way forward.

Kind Regards

Rob Forbes
EP Bowls
President



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