



## GRADE 1 STATE PENNANT FINALS

- P1



## STATE PENNANT FINALS

- p2



## NORM ROWLAND GOING STRONG FOR KIAMA

- P8

## Welcome

Welcome to the Pennants edition of Bowls Buzz Newsletter which highlights the amazing Pennants action we have had across the State.

The weekend of 26 to 28 of July saw Pennant action reach its pinnacle all around the State.

Cabramatta claimed the prestigious Grade one Pennant flag for the third year in a row at Forster BC Besting their opponents Taren Point.

Please see this special edition newsletter of a wrap up of the action for all seven grades.

Bowls NSW would like to thank all of the Pennant host clubs as well as the countless volunteers that made the 2019 pennant finals weekend a success.

More information on the Bowls NSW Pennants competition and the 2019 Pennant finals weekend can be found online at

[www.bowlsnsw.com.au](http://www.bowlsnsw.com.au)



## State Pennants 2019 Cabramatta Complete Hat-Trick



Grade 1 Winners - Cabramatta

The Cabramatta Bull Ants celebrated a hat-trick of NSW Grade 1 State Pennant Finals, claiming a strong win in the final at Forster Bowling Club. Cabramatta joined their opponents in the final, Taren Point, as the most successful modern era side. The Point claimed a hat-trick of titles from 2013 to 2015.

Two of the quarter-finals matches saw dominant rink performances seal the match. Taren Point were powered to victory over Raymond Terrace by Barrie Lester's 41-3 smashing of Matt Baus. Ray Pearse gave the Bull Ants bite over Wentley Leagues, belting Brett Wilkie 35-10.

Mt Lewis Lions claimed a Semi-Final berth, edging ahead of Belrose Bulls throughout their game and running out 63-42 victors.

Warilla and Engadine Cougars played out a thrilling finish to their quarter-final. Coming into the final end the Gorillas held a three shot lead. With the skips left to play, Engadine held two shots. David Ferguson drew into the head to add the third shot which would give a draw. Corey Wedlock reached the head with his first and rolled a Warilla bowl over to be second shot, only to see Ferguson play precise weight to turn the Warilla bowl over

and stay to lay the four required for victory. Wedlock then played reaching weight and connected, pushing two of the Engadine bowls through the head and reducing the count to 2 shots to give the Gorillas a 62-61 win.

Taren Point gained the early advantage in their semi-final with Warilla. The Gorillas fought back to have the deficit just a few shots before the Power once again pushed ahead to win 71-57.

Cabramatta also had the early running against Mt Lewis, with the Lions also clawing their way back into the game. The Bull Ants edged ahead again and finished 72-62 winners.

Taren Point started strongly in the final, however as the game progressed the Bull Ants exerted their authority stretching to a 24 shot lead before the players shook hands on a Bull Ants title.

## Grade 2 Mona Vale def Engadine

Great weather, excellent greens, hospitality and sportsmanship at St Georges Basin Country Club and Huskisson Sports Club generated a very high standard of bowls during the Grade 2 State Pennant Finals



Grade 1 Runner up - Taren Point

which resulted in Mona Vale and Engadine progressing to the Quarter Finals from section 1 with Wallacia and East Maitland progressing from section 2.

On Sunday morning at St. Georges Basin, East Maitland/Engadine fought a "cliff hanger" semi-final with Engadine prevailing. Mona Vale established a generous lead against Wallacia Wild Cats before a strong fight back over the final ends. Wallacia picked up multiples and kill ends while all the other rinks and spectators watched eagerly for the final result, Mona Vale prevailing.

The final between Mona Vale and Engadine was played on a green running 15 sec. and finished under lights. Mona Vale jumped out early

and maintained a comfortable lead throughout the match to claim the 2019 State Pennant with Engadine having to settle with the State Runner-Up Pennant which confirmed the Cougars strong current status in bowls, fielding 3 Grades (1,2 and 7) in the State Finals this year, and this Side winning Grade 3 last year.

Congratulations to Mona Vale, and to all the Grade 2 bowlers participating at both Venues over the weekend. Congratulations also to Huskisson Sports and St Georges Basin Country Clubs and to some 40 volunteers turning up at 7am daily to assist.



Grade 2 Winner - Mona Vale



Grade 2 Runner up - Engadine

## Grade 3 Armidale City def Yamba

In the Grade 3 final Armidale City and Yamba took to the green after having emerged from a field of very strong finals contenders. Armidale City jumped to an early lead before Yamba kicked into action, with some consistent draw bowls and shot play Yamba edged in front, extending their lead by 37-27 at end thirty three and holding the lead until end 52 where the momentum of the Armidale City fight back saw them take the lead 53-51.

Over the final ten ends Armidale City held the lead only to surrender shots and the lead to Yamba who on end 58 lead 57-55. Armidale then took a hold of the game leaving Yamba stranded on 57 shots. The game was not done yet and although Armidale City lead 64-57 with the last end in play Yamba were determined to win and killed the last end twice before Armidale City claimed a well-deserved victory.

## Grade 4 Junee def Leichhardt

Junee Bowling Club celebrated their grandest achievement with a 68-54 grand final win over a dogged Leichhardt.



Grade 3 Winners - Armidale City



Grade 3 Runner up - Yamba

"It's unbelievable, simply amazing," said Junee team manager Richard Thomas.

The +96-shot margin from one rink alone was a massive reason why the Zone 8-based Junee were an unstoppable force at the Finals.

Mark Latkowski praised the display of the Junee side and was rapt with his team's performance.

"We had a magnificent time and loved it from day one to the final," he said.

"We got some amazing support from rival teams and the friendships and goodwill was something I won't forget." Both Westport and Port City were fantastic hosts and for our club which doesn't pay its players and gets by on being united and caring for one another this has been an



Grade 4 Winners - Junee



Grade 4 Runner up - Leichhardt

experience we will always treasure.”  
 “We were over-run early on in the final but we fought hard all the way which is all you can ask for.”

## Grade 5 Gymea def Batlow

Halekulani and The Greens, The Entrance were the locations for the 2019 Grade 5 State Pennant finals. Near perfect weather and first class bowling greens greeted the participants at both venues.

At Halekulani the two semi-finals produced sensational matches of the nail biting variety with Gymea defeating Macksville 61-56 and Batlow the victor over Wiseman Park Wollongong City 49-48.

The spectators and players were on tender hooks on the latter game with the scores locked at 48 all on end 62. On crossing over Batlow held shot some 10 centimetres from the jack and Wiseman Park skipper Richard Paddon played two excellent pressure bowls but just failed to alter the one down.

The final between Gymea and Batlow was an evenly matched contest with the lead changing a number of times as the match progressed. The turning point came when the score was 49-48 in favour of Gymea. The



**Grade 5 Winner - Gymea**

rink skipped by Adam Peel of Batlow was holding at least 2 shots and Gymea skip Alan Prince with his last bowl played the perfect draw to get shot. From 51-48, Gymea went on to win 55-50 in what was a classic final.

Special mention must go to the organisation and efficiency of both The Greens The Entrance and Halekulani. These two clubs had abundant volunteers and staff rolling their sleeves up and assisting in the smooth running of all aspects.

Special mention to the MC duties professionally undertaken at Halekulani by Bowls Co-ordinator James Cook, the excellent 16/17 second green prepared by Mitch

McDonnell and his team for the final and the volunteers who provided regular score updates for input to the Bowls NSW website.

## Grade 6 Kempsey Macleay RSL def Mounties

The introduction of the quarter-finals and a lifeline for a sectional runner-up proved a godsend for Kempsey Macleay RSL who claimed an emotional triumph in the Grade 6 State Pennant titles at Warilla Bowls.

The Zone 14 side finished second in their section to Mounties and then won a quarter-final and semi-final before turning the tables on Mounties 64-46 in the final.



**Grade 5 Runner up - Batlow**



In an unusual feat, Mounties won all three sectional games by winning just the one rink but found their best form in the quarter-finals, beating Cardiff 65-40 and then easily accounting for East Cessnock 68-39 in the semi-finals.

Kempsey won two of the three rinks in the final with Kevin Kennedy's rink in brilliant form in a 31-11 win over Warren Hopley.

Kempsey Macleay RSL CEO Daniel Abela said winning the club's first state pennant flag since their Grade 4 team reached the summit in 1995 was a special feeling for all involved. "There's an incredible sense of pride that our club with just 69 members can win a state flag," Abela said. "This year's champion Grade 6 outfit featured a mix of youth and experience with Lachlan Cooper just 18 and Colin Young still playing very well at age 72.

Meanwhile, Mounties were formed out of Fairfield Bowling Club and have 41 members who featured in Grade 6 and Grade 7 pennants in 2019.

Mounties coach Peter Beech said the club was proud to have reached the final but wished they could have produced a performance to match their five previous wins.

"It just wasn't to be on the day," Beech said.



"Well done Kempsey they played better than us in the final, but we are also proud that of all the teams who began in Grade 6 pennants back in March we made it through to the last match."

And while Kempsey Macleay RSL and Mounties were the top two teams at the State Finals they were other terrific performances.

## Grade 7 Merimbula def Merrylands

On Sunday morning spectators were treated to spectacular weather and two memorable semi-finals. In Semi final 1 Merimbula took on Sporties Tuncurry in what turned out to be the match of the finals. After chasing most of the game Merimbula's rink of Lipai, Smith, McLean and Douglas required 6 shots on the final end to claim victory. In a tense finish, Merimbula claimed 5 shots to force the game into an extra end. Merimbula kept their nerve in the extra ends claiming a 58-56 victory over Sporties Tuncurry to advance to the final.



**Grade 6 Winners - Kempsey Macleay RSL**



**Grade 6 Runner up -Mounties**



Semi final 2 was less dramatic between Merrylands and Mingara. In a tight contest Merrylands always had Mingara's measure and eventually ran out winners 51-46.

The scene was set for the State No.7 Pennant Final with Merimbula looking to capitalise on their 'great escape' in the semi's up against Merrylands who have consistently improved throughout the finals since their first round loss to Engadine. Merimbula started the final with plenty of momentum and established an early lead.

Merrylands continued to chip away at the lead and were able to get within reach of Merimbula on several occasions throughout the match. On the back of Lapai's 28-11 rink win, Merimbula was able to prevent any chance of a Merrylands comeback late in the game going on to claim victory and the State No.7 Pennant with a 62-51 victory.

The victory was icing on the cake for Merimbula who progressed through the entire pennant season undefeated to claim the Club's 4th State Pennant in 4 years.



**Grade 7 Winners - Merimbula**

Congratulations to Merimbula and their supporters for their outstanding performance and victory and well done to Merrylands on their efforts over the finals. Congratulations must also go to Nelson Bay Bowling Club for their professional management and warm hospitality as hosts of the finals.

Finally, Port Stephens Council need to be acknowledged for their generous support of the event in partnership with Nelson Bay Bowling Club.



**Grade 7 Runner up -Merrylands**





## Photos from the 2019 Pennants



**make it cheaper**  
The Savings Experts

**For a FREE energy comparison speak to the energy savings experts.**

**CALL (02) 8880 5510**

Mon - Fri 9am-5.30pm

**Have your bill handy for a speedy service.**

**or go online  
bowl-nsw.mic.energy**

We find \$\$\$ savings for over  
**80%**\*  
of our customers.



**We'll tell you what savings you could make**



**We manage the switch for you saving you time & money**

\*Make it Cheaper compared actual customer's usage, rates and applicable discounts against what they would have paid under the recommended current offers from its panel of multiple energy retailer partners between January to June 2019 and found that we could find savings for 80% of the customers surveyed. Make it Cheaper has commercial relationships with select retailers. Availability of retailers and plans can vary state by state and at times commercial relationships may impact what retailers or plans are made available.

# Norm Rowland Going Strong for Kiama



**Grade 7 Kiama Skipper Norm Rowland center wearing the blue hat and Kiama team**

Kiama skipper Norm Rowland competing in the Grade 7 Pennant finals just six months shy of his 100th birthday. Without the assistance of a bowling arm or any other aids, Norm skipped his rink without missing a step. Norm's story is probably one of the more inspiring bowls stories told, showing that age is no barrier in our sport.



**STATE**

**OVER 40S**

**New  
Competition**

**PAIRS**

**WHEN**

14 & 15 September 2019  
State Final - 2 & 3 November 2019

**WHERE**

Qualifying Venues  
Will be determined throughout Zones  
based on number of entries received

**ENTRIES CLOSE**

24 August 2019  
See entry form at your club  
or on the Bowls NSW website.

Enter online at:  
[www.bowlsnsw.com.au](http://www.bowlsnsw.com.au)

3 Bowl Pairs  
18 Ends  
Sectional play (minimum 3 matches)

Players must be from  
Same declared club for 2019  
(see separate COP for more details  
available on Bowls NSW website)

**\$12,000**  
**Prize money**  
Entry fee - \$40 per team



For more information go to  
[www.bowlsnsw.com.au](http://www.bowlsnsw.com.au)



## LIST YOUR CLUB'S SPACES ON VENNU TODAY

### THREE EASY STEPS



**CREATE AN  
ACCOUNT**



**COMPLETE  
YOUR LISTING**



**GO LIVE!**

*"VENNU was a breeze to set up! I had put it on the 'to do list' assuming it would be a hard process. Nothing could be further from the truth. We are always looking at different avenues to promote our services and VENNU was a perfect fit. If you haven't set your profile up DO IT!"*

— Nicole Blue, Functions And Marketing Manager, Nelson Bay Bowling & Recreation Club

**VENNU**  
VENNU.COM.AU





To advertise your club tournaments or if you have story or article you would like to submit for consideration to be included in the Bowls Box Newsletter please send full information to [Bowlsnsw@bowlsnsw.com.au](mailto:Bowlsnsw@bowlsnsw.com.au)

For more upcoming events go to [www.bowlsnsw.com.au/events](http://www.bowlsnsw.com.au/events)



@bowlsnsw



@bowlsnsw



@bowlsnsw



**BOWLS**  
NEW SOUTH WALES