

Sorry, I have been in the bush, but better late than never with my report they say.

And so our wonderful season has now concluded with a great display of bowls on the weekend of the 27th March just passed.

Next season sees the following teams remain in this Division:

Fremantle
Manning
Kalamunda
Hilton Park
Thornlie
South Perth
Leeming

Cockburn have been promoted and we lose Spearwood and Rockingham to 2nd Division.

On Saturday morning at Cambridge there was a magnificent display of bowls put on by the Mariners and the Eagles, with the Freo Mariners victorious by some 8 shots. I didn't get to watch the game but one of my bowls mates gave me the rundown.

All rinks were extremely close affairs, with Krajancic winning by 3 over O'Brien, McCormack by 3 over Pryce, Coote by 2 over Carey. Wachmer drawing with Piggott.

In an absolute cliffhanger of a game it was the Mariners who turned the table on the Eagles, after two home and away defeats.

My mate tells me that quite a drama unfolded at Cambridge with the Coote/Carey clash dragging the chain big time. They were some forty minutes later than the previous rink, finishing well after the scheduled starting time of the afternoon game. Anyway like it or not, these bowlers had a huge crowd watching the final couple of ends, where the Mariners prevailed. This was mainly due to the experience and class of the veteran Jim Stewart, who played some impressive bowls to get the Coote rink and the Mariners over the line.

Other good players on the day were Wachmer, Wright and Krackerjack for the Mariners. While for the Eagles, Connell, Carey, O'Brien, Pryce did well.

Unfortunately in the afternoon game the Mariners must have been a bit flat, as they succumbed to Bassendean.

Meanwhile at Manning, the Leeming Lions prevailed with a close win over the brave Willetton team.

Vandersluys apparently playing a blinder to get his beloved Lions team over the line, courtesy of his huge 23 shot win. Sewell from Willetton also having a blinder thrashing Jimmy Newton by 17 big ones. the Lions get to survive for another year in 1st Division.

Meantime a big drama unfolded at Manning also, where the South Perth Millers survived a nail biting match against a valiant Forrestfield sixteen. The challengers apparently had the game won, until, wait for it, the rink skipped by Rhys Tillemans dropped an 8 at the death knock to hand the relieved Millers a lucky win. Werner from Forrestfield nearly won the game for the challengers with a gutsy 9 shot win over Santostefano. My informant at the game tells me that the Millers really had the win handed to them.

Anyway, the fact remains that the Millers also stay in 1st Blue next year.

On Sunday against Mt Lawley, the Cockburn Roosters with a number of players missing were soundly beaten by a much more enthusiastic sixteen. Not a lot to report on except to say that the Roosters were outclassed, but guys like Tepania, Topine, Gurr and Shroy tried their hardest.

To finish my reports this year, I would like to sincerely thank my various mates who have given me some valuable feedback this year.

My TEAM OF THE YEAR

KRAJANCIC	WACHMER	DODD	ZUSMAN
BRANDSMA (CAPTAIN)	O'BRIEN	VAUGHAN	HUGHES
SIMUNOVIC.	TEPANIA	UNKOVICH	GURR
YATES	VANDERSLUYS	CAREY	CONNELL

RESERVES: STEWART NEWTON(Daniel) COOPER TRIGWELL

YOU MIGHT SAY, WHY SO MANY BACK END PLAYERS, WELL BECAUSE THEY ARE ALL SKILLED DRAW BOWLERS.

HOW WAS THIS TEAM SELECTED?
BY MY OBSERVATIONS, AND BY INFORMATION PROVIDED TO ME BY FIVE OTHERS FROM DIFFERENT CLUBS.

IN MY HUMBLE OPINION THIS TEAM WOULD CHALLENGE ANY PREMIER LEAGUE SIXTEEN

GOOD BYE FOR THIS YEAR, STAY SAFE AND HAVE A WELL EARNED REST AFTER A “ TOO LONG “ SEASON.