

Proposed amalgamation of Castle Hill Bowling Club Ltd with Castle Hill RSL Group

Questions and answers:

- 1. Do our Members get a say in this?** Yes, all Members of both Clubs have the opportunity to approve the amalgamation at an Extraordinary General Meeting scheduled for Sunday 11th September 2022 at 3pm. A majority (50% + 1) of members in attendance must approve the amalgamation, for it to proceed. Likewise, the meeting of CHRG members must do the same.
- 2. What benefits does CHBC achieve out of this amalgamation?** CHRG has committed significant capital investment through the building of a new clubhouse along the western side of the greens, replacing Green 1 with a synthetic green with a weather-proof cover and adding lights to Green 2. Along with the new clubhouse will be an upgrade of the carpark.
- 3. When will we see these benefits?** CHRG will apply for the necessary Development Approvals from Council within 12 months of Amalgamation Completion. They expect to commence construction of Green 1 with the new roof, within 2 years of amalgamation completion. Within 5 years of obtaining DA approval for the new clubhouse they expect it to be completed. At the discretion of CHRG, these benefits can be delivered earlier.
- 4. Is there a period that CHRG have to guarantee continued bowling at CHBC?** Yes, by law they must guarantee us for at least 3 years. But through our negotiations, CHRG have agreed to guarantee us for 7 years, plus after that for as long as CHBC has at least 120 bowling members. As at 30th June 2022, CHBC had 178 bowling members.
- 5. Will we still have a Board of Directors?** No, The Board will be the CHRG Board, however CHBC will have a Bowls Advisory Committee (BAC) which will have responsibility for all things bowls. A new CHBC Constitution is being prepared now and will be presented to Members at the AGM on 17th October, for approval.
- 6. What benefits are there for our Members?** Each year CHRG will provide a \$5,000 grant to CHBC to cover cost of entry of teams into Pennants and other tournaments. In addition, CHRG will pay \$100 for every registered bowler (capped at 200 bowlers). These funds will be used for things like trophies and food after pennants etc etc. The BAC will have total discretion as to how these funds are spent.
- 7. What will happen to membership fees?** Registered Bowlers (financial at the time of the EGM to approve the amalgamation) will not pay affiliation fees to Zone 10 or Mitchell District for at least 3 years or until the new clubhouse is built whichever is the latter. These costs are currently \$95 per annum. CHBC membership fees will be competitive with other clubs in Zone 10.
- 8. Will green fees remain the same?** CHRG has committed that green fees will be consistent and competitive to the other clubs in Zone 10. But they have also agreed to return to CHBC, 30% of greens fees collected on a daily basis to be used as prizemoney, as the discretion of the BAC. Further, they have agreed that there will be no green fees paid when representing the club in Zone/District Pennants.
- 9. What about a new club uniform?** In year one there will be a new uniform consisting of 2 collared shirts, pant/slacks/skirt and weather-proof jacket provided by CHRG at no cost. Three years later it will be provided at a 50% discount.
- 10. What funds will CHBC have access to?** At the time of Amalgamation Completion (when the liquor and gaming licence transfers to CHRG), all assets and liabilities of CHBC transfer to CHRG. This includes all funds belonging to CHBCL, which includes any funds held by CHWBC. However, CHBC will receive the annual grant and member payments from CHRG, plus CHBC will be able to raise its own funds through raffles and money boards, along with sponsorships. CHBC will not have any other use for funds except for the benefit of bowlers.

11. **Will CHBC still have all of the usual bowls committees?** The BAC will oversee everything bowls related. CHRГ has committed to employing a fulltime Bowls Coordinator who will work with the BAC to ensure CHBC is developed as a bowling centre of excellence. But there will still be the need for a Selection Committee, Match Committee, Umpires and coaches.
12. **Will having a synthetic green with a weather-proof roof mean we'll have night games?** This facility will enable CHBC to be far more flexible in delivering its annual program of bowls. There will obviously be more opportunity to increase the level of barefoot bowls, which will be managed by CHRГ staff, not the bowlers. CHRГ may also hold corporate and fundraising events at this facility, as well. Both greens will have lights.
13. **What happens to our staff?** CHRГ will offer our permanent non-management employees (i.e., Chris and Liz) ongoing employment, subject to a satisfactory 3-month probation period. Peter's role along with our casual employee's will cease as at Amalgamation Completion.
14. **What happens to our Contractors e.g., Peter Thompson and Shane Faust?** CHRГ have agreed to assign Peter's contract until 30th June 2023. Any decision on the catering contract will come about in discussions between Shane and CHRГ, following Amalgamation Completion.
15. **When is Amalgamation Completion likely to be?** CHRГ will apply to the Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority for a transfer of licence, following member approval. It normally takes 3 or 4 months for this to be approved. So, we're expecting towards the end of 2022 or early 2023.
16. **What happens to our Club history?** CHRГ has committed to maintaining our history in both the current and new clubhouse.
17. **Will our regular hall hirers be able to stay on?** Whilst the CHBC Board is still managing the club (until Amalgamation Completion), it is our intention that they remain. CHRГ has indicated they will be looking to hire the facility as much as they can, so we expect the hirers will be able to continue, but this will need to be negotiated between the hirers and CHRГ. Peter Garth has communicated about the amalgamation, directly with the Hirers.
18. **What will happen with our Sponsors?** With the approval of CHRГ, we can continue to have our own sponsorships and it is our hope that our current sponsors will want to continue to support us. With CHRГ's investment in a new clubhouse and new synthetic green with weather-proof roof, the opportunity for our sponsors will be even better than before.
19. **Can we get more information about the proposal?** Yes, the Board has scheduled a Members' Information Session for Sunday 28th August 2022 at 2pm.
20. **Who gets to vote on the amalgamation proposal?** Under the registered Clubs Act, it is a requirement that every financial member of CHBC is invited to the EGM and gets a vote.

Should there be any other questions, please direct them to one of the members of the Redevelopment Committee:

- Paul Bryan 0418 164391
- Jeff Everett 0413 315679
- Noel Benson 0408 560007

The Board of Directors is seeking member support for the amalgamation proposal to be approved.

Thankyou.

Noel Benson
Chairman