

2017 Winter Pennant Summary

What a great end to the Winter Pennant season. Total wins for both the First and Third Sides with a respectable two out of four games win for the Seconds. And the weather was kind to us too.

At the beginning of the season, we had 35 members at all levels of experience who signed up to play Winter Pennant. Another 10 members stepped in to play at least one game during the season, meaning a total of 45 members participated in Winter Pennant this year. That's quite a lot of players. Despite the high numbers, there were only two rounds where members who wanted to play did not get a game and the Fourth Side gave a walkover in the last round.

Thanks to everyone who played. An extra thanks to all who helped to set up and put away bowling equipment and accoutrement, helped prepare snacks for players to enjoy at the end of the home games, and cleaned up after everyone else had left. An extra thanks to those eight people who were available at least six of the seven rounds; you know who you are. And an extra thanks to those who stepped in when needed to fill out teams, some more than once.

Now to the results for round 7 and the final standings.

APBC 1 - Div 1

Albert Park 18/83 defeated City of Melbourne 0/17

A fantastic win in all four games with each team winning their first game by more than 20 shots. How good is that? In my optimism about the Firsts having a shot at making it to the final four, I had not taken into account the fourth and fifth team meeting each other in round 7 to battle it out for fourth place. At the end, the Firsts ended up in fifth place on the ladder, only five points short of making it into fourth place.

APBC 2 - Div 3

Albert Park 4/32 lost to Malvern 14/50

Each AP team won one of their games against fourth place Malvern who were looking for a solid win to keep their spot in the final four. Unfortunately for Malvern, the AP wins knocked Malvern into fifth on the ladder. On paper, the Seconds did not fare very well ending up seventh on the ladder. But having played several games in the Seconds, I know first hand that the level of competition was very high and there were many close games.

APBC 3 - Div 4

Albert Park 18/68 defeated MCC 0/37

MCC game to AP looking for a win to push themselves into the final four and they left disappointed after a fantastic win by AP in all four games. The Thirds ended up the season sixth on the ladder, only six points short of fourth place.

APBC 4 - Div 5

Albert Park 0/- lost to Hawthorn 18/- (walkover)

The walkover catapulted Hawthorn from tied with Caulfield Park Alma for fourth into second place on the ladder and a home semi-final. The Fourths ended up the season tied for seventh on the ladder on points.