

## **Venue Managers Report – December 2025**

After 15 years of service at Solander Lake Bowls Club I am both honoured and thrilled to accept and take on my new role as Venue Manager of Solander Lake Bowls Club. I am looking forward to implementing some new procedures to help with productivity and efficiency, along with strategies to increase our membership base and ultimately more revenue for our venue.

Some of the following have already or are in the process of being implemented in the following key areas.

### **Gaming**

After monitoring the progress of our new machine installs from September, it has come to my attention that the performance of the new installs has been at levels that do not reflect the excitement or interest that new EGMs should. For that reason, I have negotiated with Aristocrat some new conversions to those machines (8,9& 10).

Mid-January when the Odyssey SJR team are back into the swing of things we will be installing three new game conversions to replace our most recent underperforming installs. We will be installing the new Fabulous Hold & Spin Jackpot link with a startup Jackpot of \$10,000. Fabulous Hold & Spin Jackpots have been showing excellent performance figures throughout other venues within our area and remain a prominent feature at the top of both Max Gaming and Odyssey's highest machine ranking reports.

I think the key to the success of these new machines which I feel shall work well on our gaming room floor, is the simplicity of the Hold and Spin feature that players understand but also a combination of familiar game elements that featured in many Aristocrat games that people know and love.

Thunder Empire remains at the top of our venues machine ranking report, Aristocrat have released new games for this link. To keep our gaming room fresh, new and on trend we will also be converting one of these as well.

The value of these four conversions is \$42,000 at a cost of \$0 to the club, and I feel will make a major difference to our overall turnover.

### **Bar**

We have been slowly making the necessary adjustments to the pricing of our products however, I have recently received correspondence regarding price increases to the cost of goods and services effective February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2026. Unfortunately, the increase costs are

quite substantial, and we will not be able to sustain our current price point therefore all products that are sold across the bar will incur a price increase from February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Mid-January 2026 will see a new summer drinks menu with the introduction of cocktails, new iced drinks including frappes, and the tik tok viral dirty sodas to appeal to the younger patrons. These drinks are super popular but also high in GP.

We are well ahead of our Lion pouring agreement and are currently sitting three months ahead of our 3-year contract.

### **Social Events and Entertainment**

I am currently finalising our social events calendar, but I can assure you that 2026 is jammed packed full of social events. Amongst some of our entertainment acts we see an old favourite of mine return in with Nick and the Captain Wow crew along with some never-before-seen tribute acts including a brand new Creedence Show, Ken and Dolly, Tom Jones & Tina Turner and the Delltones.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and I look forward to an exciting and profitable 2026.

Jaydene Hughes

Venue Manager

Solander Lake Bowls Club