

TBAV HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE – STEVE ARUNDEL

Steve Arundel has been involved with tenpin bowling for more than 40 years and has been a huge part in the Victorian bowling fabric.

Steve's love of bowling got him away from his regular 9-5 contact lens business and into the bowling business. Steve managed the great Ed Fleming Lanes in Mooroolbark with close to 2000 league bowlers and running many tournaments, including the Melbourne Tenpin Cup; prior to moving onto Mentone Tenpin Bowl.

Steve's involvement in bowling in Victoria since the 1980's, saw him assisting so many bowlers of all averages, but very much so to some of the best Victorian & Australian bowlers at the time – many of whom went on to win Medals for Australia and Rachuig titles. Despite sometimes not actually being at tournaments, Steve's impact shone through with his coaching and he played his part in helping Victoria or Victorian bowlers come home with success.

Steve's passion for our sport saw him involved at many levels:

*Steve coached numerous Rachuig Teams, with a record of one winning Rachuig Team and coming third on two occasions;

*Steve commenced a tournament circuit for lady bowlers – the Victorian Ladies Circuit (VLC). Steve only started it, but did the legwork to contact the various bowling centre proprietors to support the circuit (never an easy task). Bowlers came from across Victoria to play, some country centres even getting bus-loads of bowlers to come to Melbourne to play. This became a popular circuit that provided a platform that had been missing for women in our sport of all averages, but also included the top bowlers like the great Ruth Guerster and Cara Honeychurch;

*In 2000, Steve was instrumental in the birth of the Goldpin Emerson and Junior Goldpin Team tournaments, which still main staples on the Victorian Bowling calendar today - tournaments that bowlers from across Victoria want to play and represent each year;

*Steve was a member of the CTBAM (Chartered Tenpin Bowling Association of Melbourne) for one year and was the State Chairperson and was instrumental in getting all the various bowling entities together to work out a Victorian Tournament Calendar.;

*Steve established a Youth Challenge at Mentone Bowl (similar to the Emerson format);

*Family and friends recall Steve's home as a meeting place for many Victorian bowlers and where some important discussions were made that led to some infamous decisions in our sport that would go down in folklore. For example:

- along with others, saw the organisation and design of The Australian Bowling book - the very first bowling book made in Australia.

- saw early discussions about a Graded Rachuig event, which later became the Walter De Veer;

- developed the vision for a top circuit for women in Victoria (the Victorian ladies Circuit).

*To this day, Steve still maintains coaching contact with some top bowlers.

To this day, it would be fair to say that very few people have had the influence in our sport that Steve Arundel has had - for the development of Victorian bowlers (Rachuig & FIQ) whether individually or as a group; for the promotion of events & tournaments; for assisting bowling centres with extra lineage when these events were conducted; for providing guidance to the private bowling centre proprietors under the Goldpin banner; and for his overall involvement in the sport of tenpin bowling in Victoria.

It gives the TBAV Board great pleasure in inducting Steve Arundel to the TBAV Hall of Fame.

