

## CONGRATULATIONS MOOROOLBARK

On Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March I was a spectator at my club Mooroolbark Bowls Club watching Side 1 play the last game of the season.

At Christmas break the team was on the bottom of the ladder. Everyone feeling a bit disappointed, some angry, but not the coach.

Coach Henny had other plans. He gathered the team together and planted the seed that things can be turned around. A plan was drawn up, goals established, practice organized, and determination grew led by our Coach. After a couple of wins sixteen players started to have belief in themselves

I watched and cheered the next six games and saw winners, becoming grinners. Confidence grew and sixteen players became one team. There was no room for not being a team player.

Before the game started there was always the bonding and team plan discussed on the green, then the roar of "GO BARKERS or Who Let the Dogs Out!".

It was so good watching each rink encourage each other and standing on the green together, as each member played their shots.

Coach Henny watched each rink and called out good shot to the players. He was playing and encouraging the whole game.

So, after starting the last game in 5<sup>th</sup> position, Mooroolbark came home the winners and shot up to 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Unbelievable!

This spectator along with others was so happy, exhausted from playing armchair bowls; but ever so proud of this team of sixteen.

Coach Henny called all players back onto the green and invited other members to join in and listen to his words of praise; and what the club can achieve in the future. Thankyou Henny and the players and good luck in the finals next weekend.

There were many other Mooroolbark teams who entered the finals. They all deserve commendation and their success is due in no small part to the Coach's efforts and encouragement.

Lorraine Hampton