

Speech by Mayor Logan K Howlett JP Official Opening of the Internations Lawn Bowls Event Cockburn Bowling and Recreation Facility 4 May 2024

Kaya Wonju – Hello and Welcome

I am delighted to join you here this morning on the occasion of the official opening of the Internations Lawn Bowls Event on this somewhat crisp autumn morning.

I acknowledge the Whadjup people of the Nyungar nation the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet today and I pay respect to their Elders past and present and extend that respect to First Nations people who are here with us today.

I acknowledge:

- Mr Doug Kelly, Presidents Bowls WA;
- Mr Denis Bandy, Chairman Cockburn Bowling Club and other Board Members;
- Mr Ivan Perica, President Internations and other Members;
- Life Members and Members including the City of Cockburn Sports Hall of Fame Members;
- Participants in the Internations tournament;
- Ladies and gentlemen, one and all.

The Cockburn Bowling and Recreation Centre was officially opened on 1 September 2018 and supports a wide range of regional sporting events, functions, club activities, social activities, community activities, and commercial activities.

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the Cockburn Bowling Club with its facilities providing a 'home away from home' for its members and the wider community.

The City of Cockburn is incredibly proud to be one of the many sponsors for this year's Internations Lawn Bowls tournament, 'the event that stops the nation' bringing together eight countries in the spirit of friendly competition and rivalry.

- Internations is a testament to the power of community, offering us a place to gather, connect and enhance our sense of belonging.
- It's also a wonderful fundraiser having raised well over \$100,000 for children's charities since founded in 1978.
- The organisers have gone all out this year to secure great prizes from sponsors and devised some very clever ways for you to part with your cash over the coming weekend.
- I've been asked to remind you all to dig deep in the knowledge that it all goes a good cause, which this year, is the children's charity, Variety Club of WA.

To the competitors and teams representing New Zealand, Australia, Ireland, England, Italy, Croatia, Scotland and the 'Rest of the World' I wish the best of luck over the weekend. No matter the outcome you are all winners.

Without further ado, it is now my great pleasure to declare the 2024 Internations Lawn Bowls tournament officially open.

Let the competition begin.