



Media Release

Josh Frydenberg MP
Federal Member for Kooyong

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Getting Lawn Bowls Back On The ABC

Josh Frydenberg is putting his strong support behind a local campaign to 'Get lawn bowls back on the ABC'.

The campaign which is being led by the Hon Bronwyn Bishop MP, Shadow Minister for Seniors, and Kelly O'Dwyer MP, federal member for Higgins and a director of Bowls Australia, was launched with a nationwide petition by Joe Aarons OAM, chairman of Bowls Australia.

"Lawn bowls is one of the largest participation sports in Australia with around 800,000 people taking part annually. The ABC has been very short sighted in terms of its decision to stop broadcasting lawn bowls after 30 years," Mr Frydenberg said.

"Bowling clubs are an important part of the local Kooyong community with six bowling clubs in the electorate including Hawthorn Bowling Club, North Balwyn Bowls Club, Camberwell Central Bowls Club, Melbourne Cricket Club Bowls Club Hawthorn, Kew Heights Lawn Bowls Club and Auburn Bowls Club.

Josh is a supporter of lawn bowls and attended the Auburn Bowls Club 125th Anniversary Celebration luncheon on 25 September. He joined club members for this momentous occasion. In its 125 year history, the Auburn Bowling Club has produced a number of state champions with players as young as 15 enjoying the social and competitive opportunities that community bowls clubs such as Auburn Bowls provide the local community.

"Participation in lawn bowls is an important way for Australians, particularly many senior Australians, to stay active and live healthier lives. Regardless of whether it is by bending the knee on the greens or by watching live broadcasts on the TV, lawn bowls provides entertainment to many people in our local community," Mr Frydenberg said.

The ABC's charter states that it should broadcast programs that contribute to a sense of national identity and inform and entertain, while reflecting the cultural diversity of the Australian community. The ABC is also required to provide a balance between wide appeal and specialised broadcasting programs and cutting bowls from its programming is seen by many people to be at odds with its charter.

Josh encouraged Kooyong constituents who are interested in to sign the 'Get lawn bowls back on the ABC' petition, which can be found [here](#).