



Two New Events on the NZ Indoor Bowls National Calendar

Firstly, the **'New Zealand 1-5 year pairs'** event which is open to any affiliated players that have played the game for less than 6 years. Each Zone (based on the mixed fours zones) is expected to run an open tournament to find the winner. All players who are eligible should be encouraged to play. There are no restrictions on pairs combinations to be from the same member district, i.e. players may combine with another player from any other district within their zone. The winning pair will then go on to a National Final against the other zone winners, on 24 August. For the first two years of this competition, it has been decided by NZIB, that if a member has played indoor bowls at a club for a couple of years but never affiliated, then they shall be classified as a first year player, provided they do affiliate in the year they play this event. The reason for this 'transition period' is to aid in attracting some of those unaffiliated players out there.

The second new event is the **'National Masters Fours'** event, created after the very successful Masters events held at the Nationals, and is open to all affiliated bowlers over the age of 60 years. This competition will run under the same conditions that exist for the current mixed fours and mixed pairs events, in that there will be a member district winner and the four/ five teams will play in a round robin zone final. The zone final play-offs will be the same weekend as the mixed fours and mixed pairs - yes, could be a very busy weekend but could also attract more support, with three events being played at once (if possible). Each member district must find a winner at least one week before the zone play-offs so that the host district for the zone finals can plan the schedule for each of the three events. There are no restrictions on the member district team combinations, provided they are classified as a 'Master' under the NZIB guidelines (same as for the Nationals). The 2019 zone winners will be flown to Auckland on 31 August, where they are expected to play in an Open Masters Fours event on the Saturday, accommodated for the night, where necessary, and then contest the National Masters Fours Final on the Sunday. This event will be played on a round robin basis (two pools each of four teams, with the two pool winners playing off in the final), and then all teams travelling back home at the conclusion of play on the Sunday.