

NZIB Newsletter - May 2020



President's Message – Take your time

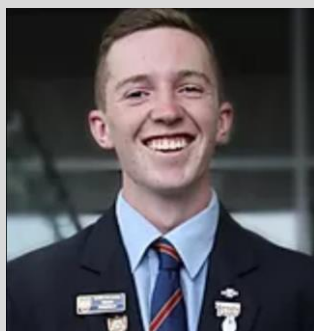
Hope everyone is safe and well. NZIB executive held our May meeting with the focus on the wellbeing of our members. As most would expect we felt the need to cancel some events that we believe will cause issues around the ability to show social distancing. In other areas we are looking at options, which include playing events late in the year or even holding finals early next year. The main thing is not to rush. We are aware that there are some members who want to be able to play now just like there are members saying they don't want to play this year at all, but it has to be made clear that everyone needs to take responsible care for themselves and those around them. We will have some guidelines out early next week that will help to give guidance to those that wish to open, so keep an eye on the website. What if we also take this chance to relook at the way we play and maybe look at what we play within our clubs and districts?

I would like to thank Kevin Wilson who has regrettably resigned from his position as EO. Kevin's been working with us for over a year now and in this brief time he has shown enthusiasm and support to help develop plans for the future of our game at all levels. Kevin has been able to come into our sport without any concept of who we are and has had many of us look at our game and ask why? On behalf of the Executive and all our bowling members I would like to wish Kevin all the best for the future.

– NZIB President, Michael Lawson

The World is Sam's Oyster

Sam Landers is a 17 year old junior who thoroughly enjoys playing his bowls out of the Otakeho Club in Taranaki. "The quality and experience of bowlers is amazing. It's great to have the chance to learn, socialise and have fun with a club of about 15 members."



He followed his older brother Josh into the sport and has since won two Taranaki Centre titles, as well as competed in school and junior events. "I absolutely love the social aspect, and being able to make friends throughout New Zealand."

Sam is in his final year of school at Hawera High as the Deputy Head Boy and has ambitions of becoming the Dux for 2020. With multiple academic awards to his name, I'd say he has a good shot! Sam's greatest achievement of all though, was being selected in the New Zealand Geography Olympiad team-of-four to travel to Istanbul, Turkey in August this year. Unfortunately, that has been cancelled as a result of the pandemic.

During the lockdown, Sam has kept busy with biking, running, snippets of carpet bowls and, of course, schoolwork. "I haven't become angry at my laptop for any reason yet, so online learning mustn't be going too bad!"

His message to us all – "Kia Kaha, stay safe and be kind. Together, we will come out the other side better people because of it!"

Upcoming Q&A Sessions

We are planning on interviewing well-known bowlers, commencing with the great Grant L'Ami. The recent quiz gave you a snippet of information but there is a lot more to learn! If you have any questions you'd like to ask, keep an eye out for a Q&A Facebook post or send them through to publicity@nzindoorbowls.co.nz

Who would you like to know better? If there are any bowlers you would like us to interview, send those names through as well.

Congratulations to Sandra Zittersteijn – winner of the Grant L'Ami quiz! The signed shirt is coming your way.

Inter-bubble Challenge

A virtual bowls challenge you can compete in from the safety of your bubble! Go head to head with other bowlers in a knockout skills challenge. All you need is access to a mat, bowls and the ability to livestream.

Register your interest with publicity@nzindoorbowls.co.nz.

Goodbye from Kevin Wilson

Over the past 17 months I have had the pleasure of working with Indoor Bowls on a number of projects which has allowed me to meet and work with many bowlers. I take this opportunity to thank you for sharing your stories, your challenges and your successes with me over this period.

One of my highlights was attending the Summerset Nationals in Rotorua last year - what an amazing event. That was my first 'Nationals' and I was made to feel very welcome - thank you. I remember coming away very excited about the future for the game. It truly is a game that is inclusive, family friendly, and for all ages.

This 'cradle to the grave' sport has huge potential to reinvent itself and grow. My challenge to you is for you to be the change. Good luck.

Take care, stay safe and THANK YOU FOR THE MEMORIES.

- Kevin Wilson



Summerset