



President's Message – Welcome back

It has been great to see and hear of so many events and people playing around the country. Once again a congratulations to the Tauranga District for hosting a successful North Island Secondary Schools event with numbers of players being as strong as before. We need to be aware of the extra work involved in running such events with keeping records for contract tracing being so important. It is a good reminder for all of us to keep records for all of our events in case we have further outbreaks of COVID-19.

We are coming up to a busy time of year and we congratulate all those that have already been successful in making it to their zone play offs - good luck to everyone involved. Our junior singles will take place at the end of August along with the NZ Secondary School Singles and Pairs, which I am looking forward to attending this year.

For now, good bowling everyone and stay safe.

- NZIB President, Michael Lawson

Canterbury Club Thriving!

This time last year St Pauls Indoor Bowling Club were seeing around 10 people each week. Feeling the need to increase these numbers, St Paul's promoted their club on noticeboards in supermarkets, fish and chip shops and the Ara Institute of Canterbury, plus they were included in a church newsletter. The publicity drive worked a treat and resulted in new members, however lockdown put a stop to all bowls. Fast forward to current times and, remarkably, St Paul's now boast 80 names in their books.

Some of these names come from other clubs who have closed down or have chosen not to re-open at this stage, while others are brand new thanks to the ads seen around the community or through word of mouth.

With growing numbers, the club have organised a dinner one Thursday night as an opportunity to meet socially and get to know each other better – enjoy!



St Paul's IBC Drawn Pairs hosted 23 teams on their club night which made for a fantastic turn out. Pictured left are the place getters:

- 1st – W. Quirke & J. Murray*
- 2nd – B. Calvert & J. Thompson*
- 3rd – B. Wolland & D. Murray*

North Island Secondary Schools a Success

It was fantastic to see a solid increase in entries from last year's event, having reached 52 in the singles and 24 in the pairs. Players travelled from all over the North Island including Auckland, Wellington, Gisborne and Palmerston North.

Many of the entrants had competed in the AIMS Games during their Intermediate years, so it was positive to see them back on the mats for the North Island Secondary School event.

The standard of bowls was described as "exceptional" which gives you an idea of how well the eventual champions must have been playing. Congratulations to Niall Vincer from Botany Downs College for his victory in the singles, and to the Gisborne Boys High combination of Nathan Trowell and Marc Simmons for taking out the pairs. This result, among others, earned Gisborne Boys High the School Points Trophy for the third consecutive year.

Tournaments do not run smoothly without a team of helpers; a massive thank you to everyone involved behind the scenes for your time and effort.

Key Dates to Remember

August 29th – NZ Junior Singles
North Wellington (Entries close August 12th)

August 30th / 31st – NZ Secondary School Singles and Pairs – North Wellington

September 5th – NZ 1-5 year Pairs
North Wellington

September 19th / 20th – NZ Henselite Singles and Mixed Pairs – Masterton

September 26th – Interisland Test Match
Christchurch (Nominations close August 22nd)

Get Creative

With the bowls season feeling different to usual, why not use this as an opportunity to try a new thing or two? Perhaps it's livening up the atmosphere, creating a tournament that is both social and competitive; perhaps it's adding a twist of some sort?

South Otago introduced a Post-Pandemic Pairs event using power-play ends, and Central Otago brought in a Friday night '5s' tournament over three weeks. Teams of 5 would split into a singles/fours round, and a pairs/triples round. The scoring system included 5 points for a win, 2 for a draw, as well as points for every end scored.

There are many ways you can play bowls. What are you going to try? Action your ideas!

