



President's Message – Merry Christmas

To conclude a year that has taken us by surprise and challenged us all, I would like to thank the executive for their continued work and sacrifice of their personal time. The support of bowlers and districts throughout the year has also been much appreciated, and has allowed NZIB to safely hold a number of National events. Of course this would not be possible without the support of our funding partners as well, so my sincerest thank you to Sport New Zealand and Summerset Retirement Village.

NZIB are prepared for the upcoming challenges of the next season and are ready to take them on. Indoor bowls - as a whole - will need to take a look at what we can do to rebuild. Without change our sport will continue to struggle at all levels, so think outside the box and keep an open mind. Be prepared for it to work out, or not. Giving new ideas a chance is what is most important.

On behalf of NZIB, I would like to wish all bowlers a happy, festive, and safe Christmas and New Year. I hope to see everyone back on the mats next year, especially for the Nationals in Blenheim.

– Michael Lawson, NZIB President



Volunteer of the Year

Manawatu's Wayne Richards has been described as an "absolute legend" of indoor bowls. He is actively involved behind the scenes and is often the first to an event and the last to leave – a result of Wayne's commitment to set up, run, and pack away at tournaments.

He is also an avid supporter of the Manawatu representative team, and will get behind players, regardless of the result.

Congratulations Wayne, a worthy recipient of the award.



"Volunteers like Wayne are rare and priceless"

Marlborough to host Nationals

Blenheim is the place to be in June 2021, so if you haven't already, start planning! Nationals is the highlight of the year for many bowlers, and having missed out this year, it would be great to come back bigger and better than ever. The South Island is known for their excellent hospitality and I am sure Marlborough will be no different.

If the bowls is going well, you could be spending your time in the impressive venue of Stadium 2000. If not, check out these [activities](#) in Marlborough! Looks like a win-win to me.



Bringing you up to date with the AGM

NZIB hosted the Annual General Meeting on December 5th in Wellington, and here are the key points.

- Auckland's remit passed – there will be no changes to the current Paterson/Welch format
- The 2020 Henselite Singles format will remain for 2021
- Roadshows will be going ahead in 2021. All districts will be contacted by February/March. NZIB will be asking what each district requires i.e., development areas, umpires, coaching, funding, etc.
- A 1-5 Year Singles event will be introduced in 2021.
- The National Championships will be hosted by Marlborough in 2021, North Wellington in 2022, and North Taranaki in 2023.
- The Island Championships will be hosted by Rotorua in 2021, Southland in 2022, and South Canterbury in 2023.

Club of the Year

Congratulations to St Paul's Club of Canterbury for earning the title "Club of the Year."

Their proactiveness throughout 2020, in the face of COVID-19, has been something to aspire to. St Paul's encouraged many social bowlers along to their club nights, have *increased* their membership, and held a successful fundraiser triples event. Fantastic!

2021 Executive:

Thank you to our executive members who are stepping back into their roles, and a special welcome to Wayne Tough who will be joining them.

Patron – Delwyn Hughes
President – Michael Lawson
Vice President – Graham Low
Executive – David Edgar
Barry Chapman
Neil Anderson
Sharon Hook
Wayne Tough

