

# NZ INDOOR BOWLS NEWS

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## NEW ZEALAND INDOOR BOWLS

#### FROM THE PRESIDENTS DESK

Last month we had "Bring a friend". It is too early to know if we will see an increase in numbers or not. Let's hope we do. By the time you are reading this, the International between Australia and New Zealand will be taking place. There is a change in the manager of our team with Shane Cuthbert resigning and I was asked to take his place. Our team is focused and ready to give it their best to beat the Aussies. Some of you who are lucky to live close to Pukekohe will have been able to see the bowls first hand. One of the things this sport relies on is money from grants. We had a knock back from one of the funders that we received \$70000 from last year. This year they gave the sport \$30000. As a result we will struggle to break even this year. Your Executive is going to have a serious look at how we run this sport. All events that we organize will be looked at to see if we can fine-tune them to help reduce costs. If we had double the membership we would not have to rely on grant money to keep the sport going. National entries are now in and they are up on last year. That's good, and to those going to New Plymouth I wish you safe travel, and look forward to seeing you. On the 2nd, 3rd, 4th of June we have the South Island Champs in Queenstown. I do not know if it is as important as the N.Z Golf Open, but it is a very good venue and Central Otago make a good job of running the event. If you are not going, you do not know what you are missing.

That's all for this month. Enjoy your bowls and remember that your executive is here to work for all bowlers. David Edgar, President



## "CRACKERJACK BOWLS"

With the name derived from the movie, crackerjack bowls has been successfully adopted by Bowls NZ to introduce new play-

ers to the game.

FORMAT: Using a singles match format, a new bowler is paired up with an experienced bowler or coach. Played as a singles match with the coach bowler in the role of a skip, the new bowler gets to play four bowls, directed by the skip, in a match against another new or lesser experienced bowler. Bowlers stay at the same end and at the completion of the end, the skips plays the next end. The new bowler gets to study the format, or building of the head by the experienced bowler.

At the moment the written instructions for clubs to coach new bowlers is to show the basics of grip, position, green, bowl delivery - theory and practical. Usually this club coaching will last for a game or two in an evenings bowls, followed by an inclusion into a team in the last game. The new bowler is played in the "two" position and gets to play two bowls every five minutes.

Coaching the basics at first instance is still necessary. The benefits of the crackerjack format will give the new bowler more bowls to play.

This will build confidence quicker, can eliminate bad habits faster and gets the new player playing a game of singles first up. At the moment the new player will tend to shy away from any singles event as they have not played a game of singles. This format can also be applied to a rep practice with other skills introduced.

#### **EVERY CLUB DOES NEED A CLUB COACH!**

People often comment why people who live by the beach tend to visit other beaches just a few kilometres from the one they look at every day. If you have managed to read these few lines you will be wondering what on earth this has to do with Indoor Bowls. During our brief summer and whilst I was at Omaha for the day I spied a book that was effectively being used as a door stop. The story was about in the eyes of the author one of New Zealand's greatest lawn bowlers - Phil Skoglund. Whilst I would describe the book as an average read it wasn't until I got to the last few chapters that I could make some connections to our game and the relevance of something that was published in 1983. The second to last chapter was titled "Giving the right lead" - this is where the relevance comes in. Phil mentions at the very start of this chapter "The movement towards

improved coaching won't make real progress until every club is prepared to give as much consideration and emphasis to the appointment of the coach as is given to that of the president, secretary or any other major administrator. This has simply not been the case in the past, when often nominations have tended to be taken very casually from the floor of the meeting for a position which might as well have been an honorary one in view of the largely inactive role of its incumbent". Shane Cuthbert., Deputy President

## **UMPIRES-WE NEED YOU!**

With the sizable entries received for the National Championships we will need as many of you as possible in New Plymouth. There will again be a page in the programme requesting that you fill in the form with your preference for umpires and measuring and hand into the Umpires Table on the first day of the Championships. There will also be a meeting of local and visiting umpires on the Friday night 8 June- venue will be in the programme.

The National exam was held early in May so best wishes to the seven candidates that sat the exam- we hop you were successful.

## UMPIRE'S MESSAGE FOR THE MONTH

Umpires, "Be aware of those around you who are looking to measure and may need assistance. It is best to wander around when umpiring, not sit down. This makes the game a lot faster if you are on hand to help. Umpires are trained people who need to help those playing the sport."

## NAPIER EASTER FOUR DAY TOURNAMENT

Richard Caddy (Waikato) captured his second Pak 'N' Save, Tamatea Easter singles, defeating Craig Whiteside (Tauranga) in the final by 12 points to 7. The Fours was a Gold Star effort for Grant Harvey who gained his fifth Easter title whom together with Robbie Lochrie, Jonathon Warrington (all Manawatu) and Lisa White (Upper Hutt), defeated Jim Nickel, Norm Beams, Kath Whyte & Carol Beams by 11 points to 4. The Pairs was won by the father & son combination, Paul & Cameron McKay (Bush Ruahine) who defeated local pair Mark Appleby & Glenis Cohen by 8 points to 5. The Triples was a success for last year's winners, Grant Harvey, Jonathon Warrington & Robbie Lochrie who defeated in the final Rod & Sue Fleming and Andrew Tollison (Hawkes Bay) by 11 points to 8. The win earned Robbie Lochrie a Gold Star for five Easter tournament wins, and Jonathon Warrington was player of the tournament.

## NORTH AND SOUTH ISLAND REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS

With the 2007 New Zealand team members not being eligible to represent their Island this year opportunities will be for more bowlers to gain selection at this higher level. Nominations close on 25 May.

#### ACADEMY TEAMS

Nominations are now closed and the teams to play the inaugural event at the National Championships 13 June will be announced later this month.

#### DO YOU WANT TO PLAY IN THE NATIONALS?

There are still limited spaces available in all events. Contact Ngaire Drake at National Office if you are interested- Telephone 04- 389 6443 or ngaire @nzindoorbowls.co.nz

## NORTH ISLAND SECONDARY SCHOOLS EVENT

This inaugural event has been sanctioned by the NZ Secondary Schools Council and deserves support from all districts. It is being held the first week on the July school holidays in Tauranga. Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> July the singles will be played, Tuesday the pairs and Wednesday 4 July the fours. Official teams are made up of students of the same sex and school who are eligible to compete in the pairs and fours. Composite teams will be made up from those students wishing to compete who are not able to be placed in a school team.

If you want to know more or obtain an entry form contact Ngaire Drake at National Office- PH04-389-6443 or email ngaire@nzindoorbowls.co.nz PLEASE MAKE SURE ALL YOUR JUNIOR MEMBERS KNOW ABOUT THIS EVENT AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO PARTICIPATE.

