

NZ INDOOR BOWLS NEWS

PO Box 11-221, Wellington

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E: info@nzindoorbowls.co.nz W: www.nzindoorbowls.co.nz

NEW ZEALAND INDOOR BOWLS

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

The month of August is a very busy month. It started with the tour of the South Island by the North Island team. This tour covered all the districts in the South and finished with the North South game in Christchurch. The touring team only lost one game and that was to Otago. I thought that Mike Phipps did a very good Job as captain and that the whole team were good ambassadors for the sport. While in Ashburton they did promotional work at the local centre and at the Rakaia Hall the next day. Executive Member Martin Nordqvist and I had a talk with the team on the future of the Island tour. All the team members thought that the tour should remain in the present form and that if you wish to play for New Zealand you have to be available for your Island team first. Perhaps the days of players only being available for New Zealand and not their Island teams are now gone.

This weekend we had the Junior Singles which was followed by the Secondary Schools event. The junior event is always good to watch with some good bowls being played. We could always do with some more entries in the Secondary Schools event and I would suggest that all Districts get behind it as this is where our future bowlers will come from. These events are followed by the Welch trophy and the Henselite Champion of Champion event on the 12th of September. This is also a time when we have our greatest costs with getting players to and from events and this can cost over \$50,000.

This will be my last President's Report. At December's NZIB AGM a new president will be elected. It is my intention to stand for the executive for at least another two years . Time will tell if I am successful or not. I have enjoyed my time as your President and hope that the sport is in a better heart than when I came into the job. All sports have to look forward and perhaps this sport has spent too much time looking backward. I am happy with our financial situation but I am not happy with the continued decline in the numbers playing the sport. In this job I have spent a lot of time away from home. I would like to thank my wife and family for running things when I am not home. To do this job, you have to have support at home and I am lucky that I have had this. I would like to thank the members of the executive for their help and also Ngaire Drake. She tries to keep me under control. I hope you have enjoyed reading my ramblings. Please try to bring a new bowler into the sport so this great game which we all like so much continues into the future. Take care. David Edgar

.Our Game of Indoor Bowls - Not quite as we play it.

Well known Auckland Indoor Bowler Jim Wakefield was asked to umpire and record the results of the 10th Communicare Bi-annual Bowling Tournament. You could say the rules were not all out of "Laws of the Game" but did it matter? What was witnessed were 20 teams participating in the Kohi ASB Stadium involving people of all ethnicities and disabilities wearing headwork, scarves and sashes depicting their team. They delivered bowls to their best ability. One little blind lady standing in the square delivered her two bowls one after another followed by a man sitting on a chair on the mat delivering his two bowls and so on it went, each displaying their most comfortable stance to deliver their bowls. End one completed, time to change ends, but "oh no both our teams are set up in their wheelchairs walking frames or simply kitchen chairs, we don't change ends thanks Mr Umpire". And so the day progressed with a huge amount of laughs and fun for all. Last game, time running out, a quick measure and time to get the jack up for the last end, but once again "No Mr Umpire it's too close to lunch so we won't play anymore". Asked whether they would be willing to volunteer again in two years time both Jim Wakefield and Colin Adams stated - "God be willing, would love to be there".

THIS IS OUR FUTURE

Any one who attended the Junior Singles or Secondary Schools event would have been heartened by what they saw. Not only was the bowling absolutely top class but at all time there was excellent sportsmanship and it was quite evident the wonderful friendships that were being developed. All the bowlers also appreciated the opportunity to play in these events even though a lot of them paid their own way to get there. More experienced players could have learnt much from all the wonderful thank you speeches and gratitude that was shown.

FROM COACHING DIRECTOR

Recently I have worked with 4 Special Olympian bowlers who have had the desire to become coaches for their athletes in the Thames Valley Special Olympics team. This was organised through the Hauraki Lifestyle Trust. I have had an association with these athletes for some years, working with the SO indoors bowls teams in the Northern Region. Attitude TV filmed a programme in Thames on Wednesday, which included my input. The programme was about the coach's transition from athlete to coach and will go to air in 6-8 weeks. I will advise a date when I hear the scheduled screening. Attitude TV is a weekly programme on TV ONE on Sunday mornings 8.30am. Craig Whiteside

DOES YOUR CLUB WANT ADDITIONAL COACHING NEXT YEAR?

If so let your district secretary know. National Office is awaiting responses to the coaching survey so plans can be put in place for next year. Coaching is an important part of NZIB going forward as a successful sporting organising. There is no doubt that quality coaching leads to improved performances even at a social level. Playing better generally translates into more enjoyment! The survey needs to be received by 14 September so put in your requests now.

WHAT A YEAR FOR YOUNG BOWLER!

15 year old Teri Anderson from the Newlands Indoor Bowls Club, North Wellington won the national final of the 32nd New Zealand Indoor Bowls Junior Singles last weekend. This capped of an amazing year for the talented Anderson who won an Inter-Island medal in the women's fours in the annual North Island versus South Island test match recently. She also has a national pairs title to her credit which she won with Tim Veale last year. She said "That this was goal she had really wanted to achieve". She has been runner-up in this event and reached the semifinal in the past so it was third time lucky for Anderson. In the final she defeated Alex Reed from the Gate Pa Club, Tauranga 9-6. Two days later Teri partnered with new indoor bowler James Halpin from Newlands College won the pairs at the second NZ Secondary Schools Championships which followed the NZ Junior Singles and was also held at the North Wellington IB Hall. Halpin had only been playing indoor bowls for two weeks and was talked into entering by Anderson who under the rules needed a partner from her College. In the final they defeated Monte Pawa and Evelyn Oud from Kaitaia College. Pawa had won the Secondary Schools Singles on the Sunday by beating Jesse Wederell from Mountain View High School 11-5.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

2010 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Centrally located Taupo is a great place for a Nationals to be held with so many other attractions in the area. Mark the dates 12-19 June in your diary now! The Island Championships will be held in Christchurch 5-7 June.

GRANTS FOR YELLOW BOWLS

This seems to be the most preferred and arguably the easiest way to obtain funding from Gaming organizations. Sales of equipment, in particular yellow bowls, continue to be very high so contact National Office for a quote now. Half sets of yellow bowls (8 bowls) are \$500 and a full set of black/yellow bowls (remains at \$900.

UMPIRES MATTERS

Thank you to all umpires who have assisted throughout the season- the game cannot do without you. Your Executive feel as if much progress has been made this year with 20 new National umpires and seven more who received partial passes. It is hoped that those 7 will continue and we wish them well if they sit the exam again next year. Not only is it a requirement of Sparc to have a growth and development with officials but like coaching we continually need to monitor. An umpiring survey has been distributed to all Umpire and District Secretaries seeking feedback on any aspects of umpiring. Let your secretary know or advise National Office direct.