



Presidents Message

Well done to both the South Otago Assn for a very successful South Island Championships and to the Tauranga Assn for a great National Championships. I am sure that all those bowlers who participated will have enjoyed themselves. Congratulations to all the winners.

We now move into a busy time in our programme with many national events being held during the next two months including the tour of the South Island by the North team.

Our funding from Sport NZ requires us to focus some of our efforts in specific areas. These are Coach & Umpire development, Development of Officials and Volunteers and Delivery of successful Competitions. We will be inviting local administrators to become involved with running national events in their districts so they can gain experience in administering national events. We look forward to your involvement when national events are held in your district.

Your input will be required if we are to meet the targets set for us by Sport NZ. I look forward to your support.

Barry Chapman - President

The Nationals ...some highlights

Tauranga's Mike Phipps picked up his 10th title at the nationals, and his second gold star when he teamed with Grant l'Ami from North Taranaki to take out the pairs. It was l'Ami's 12th national title, and both players received specially-made gold stars to mark their 10 titles.

Not unusual to see Grant l'Ami take the winners microphone at the Nationals.

Ashley Diamond from Upper Hutt Valley picked up his second singles title, giving him four titles altogether. He is seen here being congratulated by NZIB's Life Member Reg Motion with his wife Rose who was a member of the first ever NZ Indoor bowls team back in 1975. That NZ team was the first and last to win every Australasian medal!

Paul Smith, Geoff Coughy and Keith Setter from Tauranga won the triples with Paul being runner up in the Pairs with his son Nash.



Mike Phipps from Tauranga was named Player of the Tournament.

NATIONAL MASTERS WILL SURELY GROW

"Back to the good old days" was a frequently heard remark amongst the more senior bowlers competing. Without doubt the bowlers loved this more competitive competition not coming up against some of the more "stacked" teams in the Open. Definitely not saying it was not competitive and the reaction of the winners clearly demonstrated how sought after these titles are!

Good to see NZIB's past president Martin Nordqvist coming runner up in the Master Singles and ex National Publicity Officer and still contributing so well to our sport Delwyn Hughes enjoying her time and playing so well on the mat.



The fours went to veteran Lloyd Bellis of Nelson, (with Kath Arvidson, Rhonda Bellis and Debbie Warren) who even in his 60s spurned playing in the Masters to take on the Open fields. Lloyd won the singles back in 1964, the fours in 1988 and repeated that 28 years later in Tauranga.

The Masters singles went to Andrew Brunton of North Taranaki, the triples to his team-mates Brian Hardgrave, Bari Oliver and Maureen Dravitzki, the pairs to Roger and Maureen Bartosh from Tauranga, and the fours to Andrew Brunton and co.

COMING UP IN JULY

2-3 July Mixed Pairs and Mixed Fours Zone finals will be played at Pukekohe, Whakatane, Stratford, Pahiatua, Hutt Valley, Motueka, Ashburton and Alexandra.

Winners from these events will then play in the respective National Finals hosted by Hutt Valley IBA on 23-24 July.

15-17 July Paterson Zone Finals will be played at Western Hall, Auckland, Mt Maunganui, Stratford, Upper Hutt, Christchurch and Dunedin. These winners will then compete for the prestigious Welch Trophy in Christchurch 2-4 September.

Get along and see some great bowls being played.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

I am sure you would have heard those words mentioned lately with the introduction of the new legislation. All indoor bowls clubs and districts need to have a simple plan in place for all their events. Remember it is just common sense required to keep the game safe for all to play it. At the Nationals many handbags and drink bottles were seen surrounding the mats making it easy for bowlers to trip over. Imagine what damage could be done as many of those bags had callipers sticking out of them! NZIB is currently updating all of its H & S policies and others should be doing like wise.

2017 TEST AGAINST AUSTRALIA

This keenly contested event will take place at the Mounties Club in Sydney 18- 20 May. The process of selecting the NZ team has commenced with nomination forms now available with all Districts. The team will be announced at the Annual General Meeting in Wellington on 3 December.

POSSIBLE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS IN 2018

Executive Members Trevor Rayner and Nigel Warnes with other team members Linda Rayner and Avon Compton spoke enthusiastically about their recent experience of attending the UK Festival of Bowls. NZ has now received an invitation to return in 2018 for this event as well as an International event against other European countries. Different options will be explored in the hope that a NZ team will be able to attend.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW NATIONAL UMPIRES

Good to see six umpires were successful in the recent exam and it is likely they will be joined by another two from North Harbour soon. Those that have now fully qualified are Yvonne Adam and Tim Pettengell (Otago), Colin Cooper (South Canty) and Garjeet Rai, Bev Meads and Alex Jones (Waikato). Hopefully they will be given a chance to gain experience at some of the National events coming up. For those interested umpires who missed the May Exam you do have another opportunity to sit the inaugural multi choice exam during the first week of August.

THE FEATURE GAME

NZIB continues to explore ways to improve and attract more bowlers to our flag ship event the National Championships. Therefore they were delighted to accept a proposal from well-known bowler Kevin Boothby who will next year be attending his 50th Nationals. Kevin has generously agreed to sponsor a feature game which will be played in all rounds of section play. The winner of this drawn game will receive a cash prize of \$20 per head per event. NZIB looks forward to introducing this initiative and welcoming all bowlers to Taupo 10-18 June 2017.

