



E: ngaire@nzindoorbowls.co.nz

W: www.nzindoorbowls.co.nz

NATIONALS IN ROTORUA

With entries about to close for the 2013 Nationals, the Bay of Plenty Centre, & especially the Rotorua Association are gearing up for a busy week. Rotorua has hosted the championships on seven previous occasions, the last being in 1999. On that occasion there were 1155 entries in the singles alone, & several halls were used, including the Sportsdrome. The impressive Energy Trust Events Centre means all games will be played under one roof. One difference this year is that section play for the fours and triples will take place in one session.

One of the highlights of the event is the Academy and Masters Fixture to be held on the Wednesday afternoon. If you are attending and want to be considered for one of the teams let your District Selectors know as nominations close 10 May.

President's Message - Martin Nordqvist



As I write this it is 22 degrees and winter seems far away. I hope clubs have been lucky enough to welcome new bowlers. As NZIB makes a concerted effort to grow our sport with Craig Whiteside in the Tauranga-Bay of Plenty area, and Michelle Watt in Taranaki promoting it in

schools, we hope this financial investment will provide new players in the near future. Why not try taking a mat and bowls to a shopping mall, a letter box drop, or bring-a-friend, as well as school sports programmes.



Welcome to Bay Audiology who are the naming right sponsors for all the events at the National Championships. We look forward to a mutually beneficial ongoing relationship with them.

New Zealand Team vs

With the International fixture against Australia coming up next month a training weekend has just been held in Wellington. It was an excellent opportunity not only to develop necessary skills to win back the Henselite Trophy but to also build a good team culture which is so important. One of the highlights was a motivational presentation made by Duanne Kale, Chef de Mission of the NZ Paralympic Team.



Umpires News

Best wishes for a speedy recovery are extended to Umpires Representative on the Executive Viv Hudson who has recently undergone serious surgery.

National Examination - good luck to all 11 that are sitting the Exam on 5 May. We need you! It is also good to hear of other umpire refresher courses happening around the country.

◆ SCORECARDS

These are readily available so contact National Office if you need some. The only cost involved will be distribution charges.

◆ NOMINATIONS FOR ISLAND TEAMS

This year it will be the South Island Team touring the North Island in August. Remember it will be easier to make an Island team with the NZ Team members being ineligible! Nomination forms have been sent to districts and close on 24 May.

◆ OWN COPY OF THE NEWSLETTER?

It is easy to get one- just go to www.nzindoorbowls.co.nz and download a copy now. If you do not have a computer I am sure you know someone who has - even one of your club mates might like to copy for all your club members!

Have your say?

Do you think there would be advantages for NZIB and Bowls NZ to commence talking about the benefits of amalgamating the two bodies. You can vote on the website poll.

AIMS Games for Intermediate Students

Indoor bowls was only included two years ago but last year the number of entries almost doubled to 180. Can they be doubled again with the huge interest that has been shown around the Tauranga, Bay of Plenty and surrounding areas? The event is being held at TECT Arena at Baypark, Mount Maunganui. Even though the event is not until 15-20 September entries close 22 May so if any Intermediate Schools in your area want to know more visit www.nzaimssport.co.nz

Rugby Influence....

National Coach Craig Whiteside was conducting a session for schoolchildren at Whakatane Intermediate School when he walked Gordon Tietjens and the New Zealand Rugby Sevens squad.

Wow, thought Craig, they've come to learn Indoor Bowls. Turned out they were there to train and put on a show for the students. Bowls tuition seemed a little boring afterwards!



◆ SEASON OPENING

Twenty-three teams lined up for Triples at the opening of the Otago Indoor Bowls Association season. President Kevin Brosnan welcomed dignitaries and bowlers. A presentation was made to Doreen Wintrup and Madge Gaudin for their contribution to a successful Otago performance at the last NZ Blind tournament in Hamilton.

◆ QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY

If you want to get a taste of Rotorua before the Nationals, the Rotorua Association is again holding its Queens Birthday Open Singles the week before. Several trophies and \$1,000 in cash is up for grabs.



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