



**NEW ZEALAND
INDOOR BOWLS**

NZ INDOOR BOWLS NEWS

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PRESIDENTS REPORT

As I write this I have spent the last 5 weekends travelling around New Zealand presenting the NZIB Roadshow with only the Dunedin one to go. I have been heartened by the good attendance at most venues and with the exchange of views which have occurred. I have been particularly impressed by the number of programmes which are in place in schools throughout the country which NZIB weren't aware of. Recording these programmes and the numbers of children attending them will give us a good base to measure future growth. One of the essential elements of the Roadshows is to make Districts aware of the need to keep statistics so that we can demonstrate what we are achieving with our involvement in schools, developing coaching programmes, training umpires, and increasing participation. These statistics, which will be collected towards the end of the season, will form a baseline to enable future growth to be measured and give us a much clearer picture of the demographics of our sport.

Next month I will be in Balclutha as we host the Australian Team for the 19th International Match. South Otago have been working hard to make the event a memorable one for both teams. The New Zealand Team has been practicing hard (even those in Christchurch) and will be well prepared for the contest which I am confident will result in a New Zealand victory. Trevor Rayner, President, NZIB

2011 TRANS TASMAN INDOOR BOWLS INTERNATIONAL TEST MATCH



The Lion Foundation New Zealand Indoor Bowls team will be trying to win back the Henselite Trophy from Australia in the nineteenth Trans Tasman International test match at the Balclutha Memorial Hall, 12-14 May.



NZ is fielding a new look team with five new caps and three players

recalled. Only six of the players who lost to Australia in Broken Hill two years ago have survived. The five new caps are Lisa White, Upper Hutt Valley, Mike Phipps, Tauranga, Ashley Diamond, Canterbury, Fiona Wilson, Tauranga and Gina Owen, Bay of Plenty. The recalled players are Grant l'Ami, Taranaki, Blair Spicer, Canterbury and John Zittersteijn, North Taranaki.

Those to retain their places include the husband and wife Canterbury duo of Simon and Julie Thomas, Grant Rayner, North Wellington, Sandra Keith, Ashburton, Maureen Pruden, Waikato and Carol Wright, Auckland. Simon Thomas is the team captain.

By sporting standards indoor bowls may not grab the attention of the major sports but the Trans Tasman international test match between New Zealand and Australia will include all the intensity of a Bledisloe Cup encounter. For every player selected to represent their country this is the highest honour that can be achieved in the sport and for rivalry and intensity of competition it compares to any sporting encounter between the two countries.

Nothing is left to chance in preparation for the match. Players had to undergo trials in November and then practice in their home districts for weeks before the match and then they will have a three day training camp leading up to the test at Balclutha that involves intense practice. The reason for this is that the special conditions for the international mean that both teams are not used to it.

In the early years of the competition, it was decided that the playing conditions varied so much between countries and the home team held such an advantage that a level playing field would need to be created. For New Zealanders that meant a longer, thicker mat and using Australian sized bowls while for the Australians it is a shorter mat.

Eleven Australasian medals are up for grabs - men's and women's singles and pairs, mixed eight-bowl pairs and mixed six-bowl pairs, men's and women's triples, men's, women's and mixed fours.

UMPIRES FOR INTERNATIONAL

The following umpires have been appointed for the International fixture in Balclutha next month - Viv Hudson, Stephen Langley, David Horrell, Gordon Duthie, Kathryn Edgar and representing Australia Umpires Les Clarke.

NATIONAL UMPIRES EXAM

32 candidates from 10 districts have registered for the National Examination to be held on Sunday 1 May. Hopefully this will prove to be a timely boost to our National umpire numbers. It will be a busy time for National Examiner Graham Gerrand but he is well organised and will be doing a good job. Good luck to all candidates.



COACHING REPORT

National Coach Craig Whiteside has been preaching the advantages of introducing a 'Coaches Quarter' for each club night. Manawatu's District Coach Greg Veale has since implemented this concept and at the Masterton Roadshow held recently he spoke favourably of the response to his coaching efforts. It was an encouraging sign to hear that some clubs are getting and retaining 3 or 4 new members. If all clubs could lift their numbers by 3 the sport would have 1800 extra players. Remember if you do get new members give them a "New Bowlers" brochure which explains all levels of the game.

On the way to Wellington the other day Craig sat next to a gentleman in a pin striped suit who had won a champ/champ singles title in 1976. He was ready to come back into the game but the initial contact had not gone well. After Craig explained some of the strategies he was advocating, the interest had returned and he will be a welcome addition to the Centre he joins.



HENSELITE CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

Due to the Christchurch earthquake this event will now be held at the Horticulture Hall, Lower Hutt on 27 August. Historically this event is held two weeks later but had to be moved forward this year to avoid clashing with the Rugby World Cup travel demands.

MORE HELP FOR CHRISTCHURCH

Good to hear of other Clubs trying to help out Christchurch after all the earthquake damage. Pukekohe East Club donated \$1000.00 to the Red Cross at its AGM in early March and Upper Hutt Valley IBA is considering the same. Portage Indoor Bowling Club, New Lynn held an Open Pairs tournament with all the nett proceeds going to go to the Canterbury Earthquake Appeal.

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

DO YOU WANT YOUR 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!

NORTH AND SOUTH ISLAND REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS

This year the North Island Indoor Bowls team will be visiting the South Island with the Inter Island clash to be held in Dunedin on 13 August. Nomination forms have been sent to districts and they close on 20 May.



LAST CHANCE FOR NATIONAL ENTRIES

20TH April is the closing date with your District Secretary so get your entry in quickly. Nomination forms for the Academy and Masters fixture to be held at the event have gone out to districts so make sure your Selectors are aware if you are keen to be considered. The entries for the South Island Championships to be held in Ashburton also close 20 April.

SCORECARDS

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

PLEASE PLACE ON YOUR CLUB NOTICEBOARD