

## JUNE IS BRING A FRIEND MONTH

What is your district and club doing to get new members? Hopefully you would have made use of the A4 poster and A5 flyers which were distributed and have targeted family, friends, work-mates neighbours etc to have a go at this great sport. Remember that for every new member to the game, your club will benefit under the Membership Loyalty programme paid out from National Office.

Capturing new members means greeting them in a positive and welcoming manner and delegating a buddy to look after them for the night. Give them heaps of encouragement and make sure they have fun. This sport is a game for life- it caters for those social bowlers and also for the more competitive right up to representing their country. Membership of most national sports is on the decline including ours. To survive we need every bowler to get involved and help us grow the membership.

### LION FOUNDATION NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

1000 hopeful indoor bowlers all roll into Blenheim from Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> to Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> June for the 57<sup>th</sup> annual Lion Foundation Indoor Bowls National Championships.

Richard Griffiths from Canterbury is one of a large number of top bowlers aiming for a national title at the week long event and this is the first time they have been held in Blenheim.

He will be defending the singles title and will have strong competition from club mate Simon Thomas, and NZ Bowls representative Ali Forsyth.

Past winners in the singles field besides Griffiths and Thomas are Lloyd Bellis (Canterbury-1964), Kevin Boothby (Waikato-1972), Brian Stewart (Canterbury-1975), Rod Fleming (Hawke's Bay - 1977 and 1980), Ian Wheeler (Auckland-1988), Murray James (Waikato-1991), Patrick Hoult (Upper Hutt Valley-1994), Kevin Coombe (Wanganui - 1981, 1984 and 1999) and John Frelan (Waikato-2001).

Six players who have four national titles to their credit will be trying to emulate the feats of the late Sen Smith (Auckland- 1989) and Grant l'Ami (Otago-2002) who have won gold stars.



### ISLAND TEAMS

This year the Island Test match will be played at the Birkenhead Primary School, North Shore 12 August and the teams will be announced at the Lion Foundation National Championships in Blenheim on 15 June. 31 men were nominated for the North Island team and 23 for the South. For the ladies teams 17 nominations came from the South and 37 from the North. It is great to see the competition being created for selection in the North Island Teams. It is a big year for top bowlers with selection in the New Zealand team being the goal for many. Good luck to you all.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

Linwood Avenue Indoor Bowls Club requests all former members to register their interest in attending their 50<sup>th</sup> celebrations. These will be held on 3-5 March 2007.

Please make contact by Email: [labc50@paradise.net.nz](mailto:labc50@paradise.net.nz). Fax 03-942 4500 or phone Janette Lennon 03- 389 2314. Secretary Joy Murray can be contacted at 76A Fleete St, Christchurch.

The Tapanui Indoor Bowling Club (SO) is celebrating 50 years of bowling 1<sup>st</sup> of July. They are trying to contact as many past members as possible- can you help with names- contact Kathryn Edgar 03-2038227

Also the South Otago Indoor Bowls Association is celebrating 50 years with a formal dinner to be held in conjunction with the SO IBA end of year function 26 Augusts. Contact Kathryn Edgar as above or Mark Preddy on 03-412 8849



### INDOOR BOWLS IN SCHOOLS

One of the areas that needs to improve if Indoor Bowls wants to receive Sparc funding is providing events for Secondary school students. North Wellington will be hosting the first event for the year covering all the schools in the Wellington Region. Last year it was extremely successful and this year there will be both a Championship and novice event for the singles as well as pairs. The scheduled date for this event is 29 June.

North Taranaki was one of the first districts to run a successful schools tournament and they will continue this year with the event on 30 August. We are very keen to see the Central Zone event continue with teams from Taranaki, Hawkes Bay, Wanganui and Manawatu. Wanganui have offered to host the event & a date will be advised shortly to the other regions. All districts are urged to run a Schools event & please let Ngaire know at National Office if you have already an event scheduled or need help in setting one

### UMPIRES NEWS

All available umpires are needed at the National Championships- please complete the page in the National programme and attend the meeting to be held 9 June at the Blenheim Bowling Clubrooms, Weld St at 8pm.

Thanks to Graham Gerrard for his work with the Examinations papers- all districts should have the new Measurer's Test and are urged to put it in use. Tips- carry a spare battery with you as you never know when your one will run out! Be happy in your job and smile as it helps the players to relax!

### TOP TEAM

Congratulations to the Upper Hutt Valley Paterson team who won their zone by a narrow margin and then went on to win the Welch Trophy held in Napier last year. It was the districts first win in this competition since 1986 so it was a great achievement for the team. Due to this success, the team was nominated for the Upper Hutt SPORTS TEAM of the YEAR which they won. They were up against the Ladies outdoor bowls team, Upper Hutt rugby team, Upper Hutt dragon boat team and In-line hockey team. The members of this team were Pat Hoult, Chris McAdam, Lisa White, Mark O'Sullivan, Trevor Gould, Simon Edhouse, Blake Signal, Dave Pollard, and Sheree Holmes (reserve). Arthur Hopwood was Selector/Manager.



### OBITUARIES

NZ Maori Team member Richard Thompson passed away on 26 May after a brief illness.

Isla Murray Heer was a Life Member of North Otago Indoor Bowls and NO Umpires Association and had been involved with the game for 40 years. Both will be missed by all, both as bowlers and friends.

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

#### NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS ON-LINE

If you are unable to be at the Nationals but want to keep up to date with progress then log in to our website for the latest results from Blenheim. Updates with pictures will be posted throughout the week, 10-17 June. Check "News & Results" page [www.nzindoorbowls.co.nz](http://www.nzindoorbowls.co.nz)

#### COLOURED BOWLS HAVE FINALLY ARRIVED

These are sure to be popular as it will make it make easier to determine who has the shot! Henselite will be providing coloured bowls for the semi finals and finals in Blenheim and it will enhance the planned television coverage greatly. Get your orders in now- a half set of 8 bowls cost \$450 and a new black and yellow set \$850.

#### LOST!

Has anyone seen the two wooden boxes each containing 4 scoreboards. They were last used at the Welch Trophy held in Napier back in September. Please contact National Office urgently if you have any ideas or their whereabouts.