



**NEW ZEALAND
INDOOR BOWLS**

NZ INDOOR BOWLS NEWS

PO Box 11-221, Wellington

MARCH, 2009

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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

As I write this another year of Indoor Bowls is about to start. If we look at the A.G.M held last December we saw the Executive stay the same. Our annual report show that the sport remains in a good financial position. However things could change this year with the current economic climate and funding will be much more difficult to secure. We had a loss of around 700 members. This is not good for any sport and I sometimes wonder if this is a true reflection of the numbers who are playing the sport. I would encourage members to introduce new players to the game or ask players who do not affiliate why not? See if they would be interested in playing in a club that is affiliated to the national body. Last month we had our first executive meeting of the year and SPARC's client advisor Sarah Anderson came along and spoke to us. It was good for the Executive to meet with her and hear what SPARC's expectations are from our sport. Unbeknown to me, she recalled meeting me some time ago at a Coaching seminar. All the executive were impressed with her interest in our game. At our last meeting we gave out some money from our development fund and this is shown elsewhere in this newsletter. After the Executive Meeting Martin Nordqvist and I had a district visit to the West Coast with the subject being district amalgamation. 36 bowlers from the three districts attended a very worthwhile meeting and the result was a committee will be formed to look at forming one district on the West Coast and I have been asked to chair its first meeting later in the year. I found this meeting to be positive toward the future of the sport on the Coast and would like to thank all those who gave up their time to attend. The North Island Champs are taking place at the end of May and I urge Bowlers to support this event. The New Zealand team was announced at the A.G.M and well done to all those who were selected to play Australia. Congratulations to Dale Lang on making the finals of the women's pairs at the outdoor nationals and also Mandy Boyd on her achievements at the same event. Also well done to former President Ian Fraser and his wife Margaret on their golden wedding. Till next month, take care and try to bring a new bowler into the sport. **David Edgar**

WEBSITE NEWS

Jock Jamieson, our webmaster continues to do a great job for us with the following items recently being updated online at www.nzindoorbowls.co.nz:

* There is an all new set of questions in our Super 12 multi-choice quiz to test your knowledge of the Laws of the Game.

* The new 5 'n' 5 Quiz (5 questions in 5 minutes) is there to test your knowledge of all thing bowling. If you have been in bowls for a few years then give this one a go.

* The minutes of NZIB Executive Meetings are now available on the Executive page.

* Check out the NZIB Diary page for the dates of this year's events.

* The Rules of Play page now has the new NZ Umpires Newsletter available for download.

* On the Notices page there are already a couple of events advertised for March and April to help you plan your year.

* A full colour poster promoting this years 60th NZ Nationals in Timaru is available for download. Please pin a copy on your club notice board.

Database updates:

Club information is updated as it comes to hand so let me know if you see any errors on the website. Club secretary emails addresses are also now shown if made available.

UMPIRE'S NEWS

There is encouraging news coming out of districts with refresher courses already being held around the country. NZIB is having a big drive to gain more nationally qualified umpires and now that the Open Book examination has been introduced it should make it much easier to sit.

Obviously a standard needs to be set so a little bit of study is still required. Register your interest now with your District Umpires Secretary.



LION FOUNDATION NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

This 60th Nationals will be held in Timaru 6-13 June and your club should now have the entry form and poster available. Free phone 0800 484 6278 for accommodation details or email timaruinfo@southisland.org.nz

South Canterbury IBC have been planning this event for a long time now and it is sure to be a good one- get your team together and don't miss the closing date with your district Secretary of 14 April.

INTERISLANDER SPECIAL RATES FOR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Each reservation must be made direct with Interislander – Phone 0800 878-898.

To access these rates members must quote group reference "FA5317"

Fares valid from 16 May through to 30 June 2009.

NZ TEAM OFF TO BROKEN HILL

The biennial event will be held 14-16 May– more details next month

DEATH OF A GREAT STALWART OF OUR SPORT

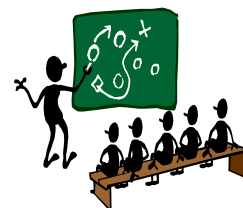
We are saddened to hear of the death of 95 yr old Fred Howard who was the DPO for North Otago for many years and did a wonderful job.

COACHING SEMINARS

These are open to any interested bowlers so register your interest now and be one of the first to see the new Coaching DVD!

The seminars are two and half hours long and will be held at the following locations:

- Friday 13th March - Ngongotaha @7:30pm
- Saturday 14th March - Hamilton @ 1pm
- Sunday 15th March - North Shore @ 9:30am
- Friday 20th March - Hawera @ 7:30pm
- Saturday 21st March - Palmerston North @1pm
- Sunday 22nd March - North Wellington @ 10am
- Friday 17th April - Blenheim @ 7:30pm
- Saturday 18th April - Ashburton @ 1:30pm
- Sunday 19th April - Balclutha @ 10.30am



Contact your district secretary for more information or National Office -
ph 04 -3896443 or ngaire@nzindoorbowls.co.nz

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT FUND GRANTS APPROVED

Canterbury IBA	\$3,250 to assist with the establishment of a social competition for non bowlers
Horowhenua IBC	\$200 to pay hall hire for a tournament with emphasis on promoting junior bowlers
North Harbour IBA	\$700 to assist with expenses related to "Have a Go" Day
Tauranga IBA	\$750 to pay for advertising for special promotion

Other districts are encouraged to also get involved with developing the sport in their area and taking advantage of the financial assistance being offered by NZIB.

MATS GOING CHEAP AND YELLOW BOWLS ARE A HIT

With the indoor season approaching we are offering a special deal on indoor mats. The normal cost of \$550 has been reduced to only \$490 until the end of June. It is not surprising that sales for the new yellow/black bowls are going well as it is so much easier to see which bowl is holding the shot. They cost only \$850 for a set without jack- or half sets of yellow at \$480. Word is that there will be an increase in cost for these before too long so get your order into National Office now.



PLEASE PLACE ON YOUR CLUB NOTICEBOARD