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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK - Martin Nordqvist

When elected President at the last A.G.M. I deemed it an honour and a privilege to be asked to lead our National Indoor Bowls executive, and the more than 10,000 affiliated bowlers that continue to enjoy our great sport. It could have not been a better start to the season, with that magnificent 55-11 New Zealand win over Australia in Morayfield in Queensland. It was great to be a part of it. Since then the journey has been a positive and interesting experience. Invercargill, Rotorua, Ashhurst, Hutt Valley, Lincoln, and then of course the South Island team tour, Porirua, Hutt Valley, Wanganui, Fielding, Pahiatua, Napier, Gisborne, Whakatane, Rotorua. The season finished in the same manner that it had started. Aply hosted by the Auckland centre, the Henselite Champion of Champions singles produced the usual predictable results and those inevitable surprises. Ashburton bowler Grant Wilson had a close, but superb win over the ever consistent Gavin Eccles, representing the host district. The 38 year history of this event had not recorded an Ashburton winner so to be able to present the winning New Zealand medal and trophy to a fellow bowler from my own district, made me very proud. The hospitality extended to Jenny and I at every opportunity, proves without doubt, what a wonderful sport we enjoy. Can I make a special request that every centre or district please make a special effort to attend the A.G.M. in Wellington on Saturday 7th December.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE TREVOR GOULD

This year Trevor was the outstanding player at the National Championships and it is very sad that the Indoor Bowling fraternity has lost one of their most loyal players. This year he won the Pairs & the Bob Malcolm Memorial Tray with his wife Lisa, was runner-up in the fours & was named the Player of the Tournament & won the Robertson Cup. He had previously won the fours in 2002 & the South Island fours in 2001. He also won the New Zealand Champion of Champion Singles in 1992. He represented the South Island nine times 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 2001, 2002, 2003 & 2004 & was captain in 2003 & 2004. The South won in 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993 & 2003. He represented the North Island in 2006 & 2008 & the North won both of these encounters. He won Inter-Island medals in the men's fours in 2003 & 2004 (South Island) & 2008 (North Island). He represented New Zealand three times in 2005, 2007 & 2009 & won three Australasian Medals Men's Fours 2005, 2007 & Men's Triples 2007. He won five Welch Trophy Medals in 1990, 1999, 2001, 2003 for Otago & 2005 for Upper Hutt Valley & his Gold Star in 2005. Our thoughts are with his family at this sad time.



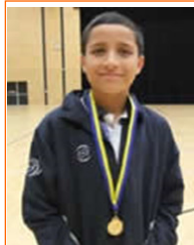
GRANT I'AMI CREATES HISTORY AGAIN

North Taranaki has retained the Welch Trophy for the second year in a row & for the third time in its history at Lincoln, Christchurch. They also won in 1980. The team consisted of Grant I'Ami, Paul Midgley, Alister Wilson & Sean Ridley. John Zittersteijn, Mark Ridley, Grant Harvey & Lindsay Willis. The reserve was Les Coxhead & the manager Bryan Whittaker. North Taranaki won with 115.5 pts, followed by Auckland 105 pts, Tauranga 100.5 pts, Hutt Valley 84 pts, Ashburton 72 pts, and Otago 63 pts. Grant I'Ami made history & cemented his place as one of New Zealand's finest Indoor Bowlers when he became the first player to hold both a New Zealand Championship Gold Star & a Welch Trophy Gold Star. His previous Welch Trophy medals were with Otago in 1999, 2001 and 2005 & last year with North Taranaki. He has had an amazing year having won the National Championship singles (his eighth NZ title) and the only player to have won in all four disciplines and also captained the successful Mat Blacks. Harvey, the captain of the side won his fourth Welch Trophy medal his second for North Taranaki, Zittersteijn and Wilson earned their third and the remainder their second medals.

CLEAN THOSE CUPS

It's time for those of you who've won cups or other trophies at club or higher level to get them out & give them a good polish up. We are heading into the end-of-year presentations and club captains always appreciate having the trophies back in sparkling condition ready to hand out again. It is unbelievable how many National Trophies get returned dirty and not engraved! Congratulations, by the way, to all those who've won trophies during the year and commiserations to those who just made up the numbers.... .. Your club needs your support.

AIMS GAMES



The 2013 AIMS games held in Tauranga attracted an amazing 183 intermediate School students in the Singles event and 178 students in the pairs event. Ilminster Intermediate School in Gisborne, an Intermediate School that has now joined as a Club to the Poverty Bay East Coast District and NZIB reigned supreme with Dawson Peachey (pictured above) winning the singles event Gold medal, before teaming up with club mate Teeke Mackey and won the pairs Gold medal. Ilminster also took out the overall team event with 12 Bowlers entering the event, followed by Tauranga, then Otumoetai Intermediates 2nd and 3rd respectively. "It was a honour to be asked to present the medals in the Pairs event" said NZIB Executive member David Lynn. "These players are our future and we need to do as much as we can to keep them playing our game".

◆ ATHLETES WITH A DISABILITY INDOOR BOWLS DAY

Well done to the Indoor Bowls team at Upper Hutt Cossie Club who hosted 26 pairs in an event organised by College Sport Wellington. Some excellent bowls were played and the most important thing the students loved it!

◆ MATS & BOWLS AVAILABLE OCTOBER

The long awaited new bowling mats are almost here at a cost of \$1100 and there is a colour choice for bowls- either both black and yellow or blue and orange. Order now and avoid any possible price increase.

◆ IT CAN BE DONE

Congratulations to Waikato's Centre Secretary and Sport Development person Jenny Chapman and her great team of helpers. Over a 6-8 week period they coached 600 students and ran an awesome Inter School Competition with 48 teams of pairs. It has all been made possible by working with Sport Waikato's Kiwisport Bowls co-ordinator, Barry Rajendram who has extended his role to include the indoor game. Jenny said taking it to kids and knowing they love the game is better than any leaflet drop or 'have a go day' and being told "its NOT an old person sport", is priceless!

