

WELCH TROPHY SHAPING UP AS AN EXCELLENT COMPETITION

Waikato, Wanganui and Otago have won their Paterson Trophy play offs to go forward to the compete in the Welch Trophy Indoor Bowls Inter-District final at the Western Hall, Portage Road, New Lynn, Auckland on the weekend of October 7th and 8th.

Waikato beat Roskill and Districts at Hamilton 32-16 and Otago beat Canterbury at Dunedin 30-26. Wanganui caused a huge upset when it beat the defending Welch Trophy holders Upper Hutt Valley at Upper Hutt 30-26. They have never been to a Welch Trophy final before so it is good to see them doing so well. Waikato who dominated this prestigious event in the 1990's returns after a two year absence.

FROM THE UMPIRES DESK- DID YOU KNOW?

The most common fault by players is to call a "drawn end" a "dead end". These are completely different & have different consequences as in the Laws of the Game. The 2nd most common thing these days is when the last played end of a game is killed players are still tossing to see who goes first. The ruling is that "If requested by either skip or player of the non-offending team, the player or team can ask the opposition to go first or play first themselves. NOT TO TOSS TO DECIDE! Welcome to Brett Collings from North Wellington and Stan Renwick from Auckland who are now National Umpires having been successful in passing the Examination recently. Thanks go to Graham Gerrand the National Examiner for his work in making the process very clear and getting the results out quickly.

COST SAVING CONTINUES

Some bowlers will be aware that it was necessary, after the large deficit last season, for National Office to increase income and reduce expenditure this year. Your National Executive is keen to reduce its overall cost by reducing the number on the Executive from 9 to 6. The Executive Officer attends but does not vote on decisions and is not considered a member of the Executive. Most districts have supported this move but much more communication will be required before any changes are made. It will be necessary for Notice of Motions to be distributed on how this is to be done and there will be an opportunity for each of them to be fully discussed at the Annual General Meeting in December.

All districts are reminded that if they wish to lodge any Notice of Motions or remits they must be received by National Office by 3 October.

OBITUARY

All bowlers will have been saddened to hear of the death of Graham Pedersen who died in a car accident recently. Graham had 22 Waikato titles, 3 National and also over 20 Sub Centre titles as well as a Welch Trophy Gold Star and also a Chartered Club gold star.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS NORTH HARBOUR INDOOR BOWLS GOING WELL

North Harbour Special Olympics introduced the game of Indoor Bowls in May and it has brought in some first-time athletes, and several who do other Special Olympic sports. They are all enjoying the low impact sport and are fortunate to have two great coaches in well known and successful bowlers in the area Steve Mills and Len Jenner assisting in promoting the game. Indoor Bowls is arguably the most popular sport for this group of special people and thanks to the many districts and indoor bowlers who help to make it so enjoyable for them.



WOULD YOU LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE FUTURE OF INDOOR BOWLS?

Nominations to fill positions on the NZIB Executive are currently being called for. To effectively govern the sport, the Executive ideally requires in its membership a combination of sound knowledge of the game of indoor bowls, administration experience, professional expertise and business knowledge and experience. If you believe you have the skills required, or know someone available who does have, contact your district secretary for further information. The nomination must be received at National Office not later than 23 October 2006.

NZ JUNIOR SINGLES FINAL

17 year old Kristen Gould from Otago won the national final of the 29th New Zealand Indoor Bowls Junior Singles at the Canterbury Indoor Bowls Association Hall recently by defeating 15 year old Cory Harris from Tauranga 12-10.

Gould's experience carried him through a close game while Harris acquitted himself well considering he has only been playing indoor bowls for two years.

The semifinals saw Cory Harris play superb draw bowls to put Christopher Preddy (South Otago) right off his game. He won easily 21-2. The other semifinal was a much closer contest with Gould finally defeating Shane Broderson (Wanganui) 11-8.

"YELLOW BOWLS MADE SUCH A DIFFERENCE"!

This is just one of the comments received by happy viewers who watched the Junior Singles and Northern v Southern Zone matches on TV recently. This coverage will be repeated in full on Channel 90 on the weekend of October 21/22 at 5.30pm on the Saturday and Noon and 9pm on the Sunday. Coverage of the Lion Foundation National Championships are being repeated on the weekend of 7/8 October in the same timeslots. Look in the next copy of your Skywatch to see the viewing times for the Juniors highlight package to be shown on Sky Sport 1 and 2.

VIV HUDSON CAN PLAY BOWLS AS WELL AS UMPIRE!

North Island's Executive Umpires representative has had a lot of success playing the game lately. She was a member of the Horowhenua Mixed Fours team which attended the National Final in Hamilton recently and has also qualified to represent her district at the Henselite Champion of Champions to be played in North Wellington. Viv now has 18 Centre titles slightly short of friend, Bobbi Pescini who has 20 Centre titles.



WAS YOUR CLUB IN THE MONEY?

Over \$7,000 is to be returned to clubs who increased their membership during the season through the Membership Loyalty Programme. The cheques will be sent to district Secretaries who will distribute at some appropriate function. Congratulations to all those clubs who did make an effort- you will be rewarded accordingly! Hopefully next year even more clubs will be receiving pay outs and helping to reverse the current trend of declining membership.

2007 EVENTS TO BE PUT IN YOUR DIARIES NOW!

International v Australia at the Pukekoko Cosmopolitan Club 10-12 May.

South Island Indoor Bowls Champs to be held in Queenstown 2-4 June.

Additional information contact: Secretary Central Otago IBA, Ruth Grant, Ph 03-448 7680 or Email grant.alex@xtra.co.nz

Lion Foundation National Championships in New Plymouth 9-16 June- Book your accommodation now!

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

FREE COACHING FOR 2007?

Last month a form was sent out to all districts and clubs inviting interest in receiving free coaching next season. It is a fact that even for social bowlers the better you play the more you like it! So far we have received 40 requests and more can be accommodated. You still have time with the close off date being 20 September. If you can't find the form post your request to National Office PO Box 11221 Wellington or email- info@nzindoorbowls.co.nz