

INDOOR BOWLS NEWS

PO Box 11-221 Wellington

Email: info@nzindoorbowls.co.nz

SEPTEMBER 2003

SOMETHING FOR US TO CONSIDER

While waiting for my flight at Wellington after the Welch Trophy I had some time to do some reading knowing I needed to put something together for this months newsletter. I came across some information that was put together by the then Hillary Commission regarding Club sport in New Zealand, the interesting point about the extract that follows is it was written in February 2000. "Community level sports clubs are the base of organised sport in New Zealand. The oldest clubs have now celebrated their centenaries, but for many the next ten years will be as challenging as any so far in their history. Many sports clubs are in good health, with all the members desire or need, good facilities and consistent support from volunteers. The short-term outlook for these clubs is bright. Many other clubs are struggling. They struggle for members and resources. They struggle to provide a good service to members, and they are not seen as very attractive groups to belong to. As a result they often struggle in competitions, and so the downward spiral continues. Demographic and lifestyle trends indicate that clubs which are struggling now can only expect a disappointing future - unless they make major changes and receive some assistance".

It concerns me that the above is so correct and is one of the reasons for our falling membership. So what are we going to do about this, is it easier to just let the trend continue or do we all take a look at what we are offering at Club, District and National level. I often hear on my travels around the country "What is the National Executive doing about our numbers" My standard response is that it is very difficult for the National executive team to gain members at any one club across the country given we have over 800, however have you asked your customer if they are happy with what you are providing at club or district level. Often the reaction or response to that is no, but they must be happy if they keep on turning up week in and week out. At a National level my team is focusing on several different areas to assist districts and clubs in reversing this trend;

- 1/ The poor public image of the sport
- 2/ Creating a marketable profile for the sport
- 3/ Coaching
- 4/ International play
- 5/ Attraction of juniors to the game.

We are also proactive and will get involved in issues that are affecting the sport in local areas. The time has long passed for everyone to take responsibility for declining numbers. With this in mind I give every indoor bowler in New Zealand a challenge.

Your mission is to bring one new person to the game in the next twelve months, not only bring them but keep them interested, do whatever you need to. The maths on this would mean our membership would double.

Go for it and make it happen.

Shane Cuthbert
President

E mail nzib-shanecuthbert@xtra.co.nz.

HOROWHENUA HAPPENINGS

Recently Ray Boffa received his bar to his Gold star

for 10 titles and so did Paul Rybinski. Paul and Ray have had a good season as has Viv Hudson who has won five titles from seven finals. Sherryn Meaclem, Horowhenua vice-president has been taking Waiopahu College for indoor bowls as part of the NCEA curriculum. She has had twelve keen students who are being very competitive and has got the message across that "not so old people" are involved with the game and win NZ titles! Well done Sherryn and like Bush-Ruahine, Horowhenua is trying new ways to attract bowlers. Contrary to some people in the District they are proud of their efforts.

DUNLOP TYRES NORTH ISLAND TOUR OF THE SOUTH ISLAND

Tour Manager Delwyn Hughes reported that the tour was extremely enjoyable and had positive outcomes in promoting our sport. The Island tour is very important to our players and to the districts. To have a visit from the tour team is the highlight of the district's year and helps to keep them in touch with the Federation. It certainly bought out the best in the opponents who took the games very seriously and lifted their standards. The results for the tour were mixed with the important Test match for the Henry Eddy Trophy resulting in a convincing win to the South Island by 35 points to 13. This was the first win to the South Island team since 1997.

ANOTHER TROPHY GOES SOUTH

The Otago team has won the Pub Charity Welch Trophy, the symbol of supremacy in New Zealand Indoor Bowls for the fifth time. Their previous wins were in 1970, 1990, 1999, 2001 and now 2003. The team members were Garry Flewitt, Ross Garner, Barry Cadogan, Mark Jacombs, Grant l'Ami, Trevor Gould, Carolyn Webster and Darryl Gallagher. They won with 91 points followed by Upper Hutt Valley 73, Manawatu 71, Auckland 69, Waikato 68, and Nelson 48.



Jonathan Sobey won the national final of the New Zealand Indoor bowls Junior Singles at Nelson recently.

This was his first appearance at the final and followed up on his good form at the Auckland Catholic Junior Singles where he finished runner-up. He also plays outdoor bowls for the Glenfield College. In the final he beat 16 year old Ashley Diamond from the Timaru Town and Country Club, South Canterbury 11-8.

MORE 50TH JUBILEES COMING UP

Matamata Indoor Bowls Sub Association is celebrating its 50th Jubilee with a luncheon on October 26, 2003. Any past and present members interested please write to T Miedema, 39 Rata Street, Matamata or phone 07-888 7207 for further details.

The Ashburton Indoor Bowls Assn is holding a 50th Anniversary Dinner on Saturday 11 October 2003. Past and present members are all invited to attend. For further information contact Noeline Brough, 10 High Place, Ashburton- phone 03-307 2687

The Otakeho Indoor Bowling Club will be celebrating their 50th Jubilee at Queen's Birth Weekend next year. Any past members wishing for more information please contact Peter and Christine Midgley, 2084 Skeet Rd, RD 28, Manaia 4851- phone 06-274 5823

NZ INDOOR BOWLS' WEBSITE

Webmaster Jock Jamieson continues to do a great job with the website www.nzindoorbowls.co.nz and there have been close to 13,000 hits so far. Progress results for all the National events are now updated as they happen and the feedback from bowlers has been fantastic. Well done Jock and to Publicity Officer Delwyn Hughes who provides him with the required information.

REGIONAL COACH STILL REQUIRED

Who at the top of the South Island wants to earn some dollars coaching indoor bowls?

The Federation is keen to appoint a Regional coach for this area so phone David Edgar on 03-204 8227 if you know of anyone who may be interested. Does your club want some free coaching sessions next year- if so contact your District Secretary and it can be arranged. Just remember the better you can play the more enjoyable the game is!



WEBSITE: www.nzindoorbowls.co.nz

**NZ
EVENT**
North
thirteen-



JUNIOR
Shore's
year-old

PLEASE PLACE ON YOUR CLUB NOTICEBOARD