



Presidents Message

The 2017 Indoor Bowls year is about to get under way. We need to improve the communication between all levels of the game, from club and district to NZIB and back down again. Secretaries at all levels are generally the ones that make or break this communication flow. Our preference to communicate with clubs is electronically. To enable this to happen we need an email address from someone in the club. It does not need to be the secretary but someone who can receive notices and pass them on to the secretary and club members. When feedback is asked for it would

also be appreciated if responses were forthcoming from everyone. We would also appreciate items of interest for inclusion in our newsletter.

This year is again a busy one for NZIB with the National team heading to Australia in May to defend the Henselite Trophy, the Nationals in Taupo in June and all the national events later in the year. We have also programmed four Coaching workshops for Club coaches, two in the North Island in March and two in the South Island later in the year. If you are interested check with your club or district secretary for details.

Looking forward to catching up with you all again.

Regards

Barry Chapman - President

EXECUTIVE TEAM UNCHANGED

The National Executive is here to work for all Indoor Bowlers. If you have a problem let an Executive Member know and they will do their best to sort it out.

The Executive team with contact details are:

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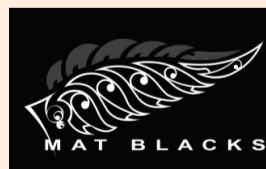
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WELCOME BACK TO DELWYN HUGHES

After nine years of being a very able and respected Patron, Ivon Pash did not seek re-election this year. The Executive thought it was timely to nominate Delwyn Hughes who became the first woman Patron. Previously Delwyn had the honour of being the first and only woman to act as President holding that position 1995 to 1997. As many will be aware Delwyn is very well known as being the leading advocate of the games publicity. She was National Publicity Officer 1987-2012 and we also welcome her back to this role which she knows so well. Chris Bullen has very competently held the NPO role over the past 4 years and we congratulate him on a job very well done.



One of the highlights this year will see the Mat Blacks defend the Trans-Tasman Henselite Trophy in Sydney, 18-20 May. It was such a close contest when last held at Mount Maunganui in 2015 and the same can be expected at the Mounties Club which is the venue for the event. Two new caps have been included in the NZ Team- Suzanne Mackie from Southland and Otago's Daniel French. Ex NZ Captain Simon Thomas made himself available for selection and was recalled to the team. In preparation the NZ team will gather in Wellington 8-9 April for a training camp. Why not consider going to Sydney and see the team in action?



NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS IN TAUPO

This event is the flagship of our game so please encourage all club members to attend. Once they experience the fun and friendship they are sure to be converted and return. It is an open event for all bowlers especially now with the Masters and open grades. An added incentive this year will be the introduction of the Feature Game- every session the winners of a nominated game will have their entry fee refunded thanks to well-known bowler Kevin Boothby. All clubs should be receiving a poster and entry form from your District Secretary shortly or otherwise you can download from the website. The closing date for entries is 21 April so get a group together and make your arrangements now. Remember the Masters grade gives you the choice of which competition you wish to play in. They do have different entry forms so make sure you fill it in correctly.

MASTERS AND ACADEMY TEAM SELECTION

If you are going to Taupo please get your nomination form off your district secretary so you can be considered for selection to take part in this prestigious and enjoyable event. It is extremely difficult for the selectors to make their choices if not enough put their names forward! This year will be extra special with the prize giving being held at the dinner venue at the Taupo Golf Club.

CLUB MAIL OUTS

Last year all clubs were sent a pack of resources to assist with their activities and suggestions on how to make changes and revitalise their club nights. Did you all see what was sent or did it stay in your club secretary's bag? It is very disappointing to have received no feedback and hearing many different club members when asked knowing nothing of it.

FREE COACHING WORKSHOPS

For all those interested in coaching Michael Lawson is currently coordinating sessions around the country which you can attend. Close to 40 bowlers have registered for the first workshop to be hosted by Counties IBA. The next ones will be held in Palmerston North 25 March, Balclutha 1 April and then Ashburton. For more details contact your district secretary or National office.

INDOOR BOWLERS MAKE GREAT OUTDOOR BOWLERS AS WELL

The trend of current and former prominent Indoor Bowlers performing well at the Outdoor Game has continued this season starting at the World Championships with Titles being won by Ali Forsyth and Blake Signal (Fours), and Shannon McIlroy (Singles). Medals were won also by Angela Boyd (Silver in Pairs and Bronze in Fours), Ali Forsyth and Blake Signal (Bronze - Triples), Shannon McIlroy (Bronze Pairs).

The trend continued at the National Championships with the following successes:-

Dale Rayner - winner Women's Pairs, Last 8 Women's Singles and Women's Fours, winner Women's consistency award
Blake Signal - winner Men's Fours, Runner-up Men's Singles, Winner Men's consistency award.; Gary Lawson - winner Men's Pairs (his 11th National Title), last 8 Men's Fours; Ali Forsyth - runner-up Men's Pairs, Semi-final Men's Fours; Neville Forsyth - runner-up Men's Pairs; Lisa White - runner-up Women's Fours; Seamus Curtin - semi-final Men's Fours

WELL DESERVED HONOUR TO FIONA KEEGAN (NEE WILSON) - TAURANGA LIFE MEMBERSHIP

After moving to Tauranga for employment in 1992, her record of service for the Association is outstanding. She was a member of the match committee from 1995 to 2001 and was Convenor for at least three of those years. She held the office of Secretary from 1999 to 2003. She was Senior Vice President in 2009 and became President in 2010. Fiona's success on the mat locally, nationally and internationally is inspirational.

She gained her first Tauranga title in 1996, her gold star in 2009 and her gold bar in 2012. She currently holds 14 Tauranga Centre titles. During all this time she has been a Tauranga representative player and was selected for the North Island team for 2001 through to 2014. She has won 9 inter-island medals.

She was selected as reserve for the New Zealand team in 2009, and gained full selection in 2011, 2013, 2015 and 2017. She won the Pairs each year and the Singles in 2013. She was appointed Vice Captain in 2015 and still holds that position

Perhaps her biggest contribution to local and New Zealand bowls has been her massive input to the AIMS Games in which year 7 and 8 children compete. Entries to this annual event reached 250 this year. Her keen interest here must surely play an important part in the survival of our sport.

What an excellent all round contribution to our sport Fiona has made and we congratulate her on this well-deserved award.

Fiona middle pictured with other Tauranga Life Members L to R - Iris & Noel Stevens, Jim Pratt and Iris Ross



PLEASE PRINT OFF THIS EMAIL AND TAKE COPIES FOR YOUR OTHER CLUB MEMBERS - NO LONGER WILL THE A3 COPY BE ARRIVING IN THE POST.

www.nzindoorbowls.co.nz