



From the President

Hello everybody. By now most of you will have got under way with early season games, some with local district championships and others with representative matches. The coaching sessions at Pukekohe and Palmerston North lead by Michael Lawson were well attended and those who participated will have gone away with some fresh ideas on how to approach coaching in their clubs or districts. I would encourage all those who attended these coaching workshops to put the ideas into

practise. It would also be great to receive feedback on how it went. Our coaching programme is in the early stages of development and we welcome suggestions for the future.

Have you got your teams organised for Taupo. The Nationals will be there from Saturday 10 to Saturday 17 June. Should be a great week, or for those in the South Island, the South Island championships at Nelson from Saturday 3 to Monday 5 June may be an option.

Good luck to you all as you get underway for another year and Good Bowling.

Barry Chapman - President

WELL DESERVED NZ LIFE MEMBERSHIP TO DAVID EDGAR

There is no higher honour than Life Membership of the National Organisation so it was very fitting at the last AGM David Edgar received this award. David has been associated with indoor bowls for the past 46 years starting off playing at the Tapunui Club, South Otago and then quickly gained Club and District Administration Roles. He became a member of the NZIB Executive in 2001 and since then has been heavily involved in all aspects of the game. He rose to NZIB President in 2007 for a three year term. Included in the long list of duties would be South Island Selector, NZ selector and Team Manager, Tournament Controller of the National Championships 8 times which includes writing out thousands of scorecards per event. What have we missed... oh yes Coach Driver for many Island Tours in his favoured Ritchies Coach. Well done David.

DO YOU WANT TO PLAY IN THE NATIONALS ACADEMY OR MASTERS EVENT?

As was mentioned in last month's newsletter this is one of the most popular social events at the Nationals so make sure your Selectors are aware if you are keen to be considered for these teams. Nomination forms have now gone to district with closing date of 5 May.

ISLAND CHAMPIONSHIPS AT NELSON 3-5 JUNE

If you can't make it up to Taupo this event could be the one for you. Your club should have an entry forms and a poster. Nelson is always a great place to visit and a good time will be assured.

NATIONAL UMPIRES EXAM

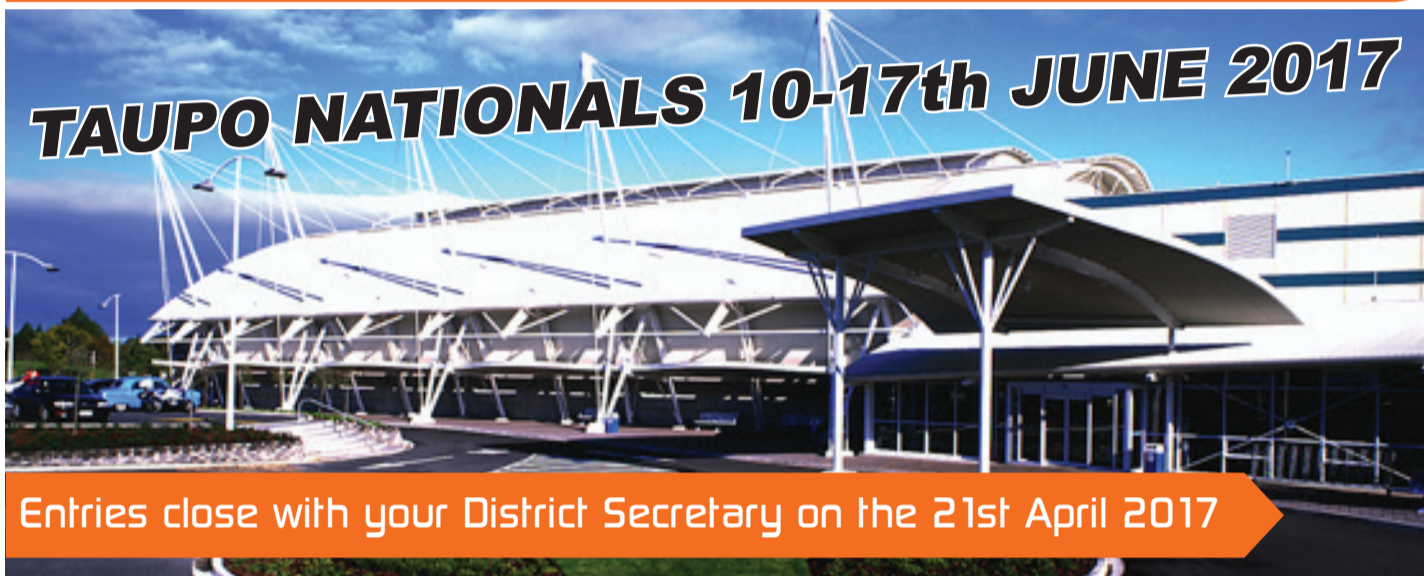
The National Examination will be held any time in the week leading up to 7 May and registrations close 12 April. Last year was a bumper year with 23 New National Umpires appointed. Hopefully some of these will assist at the National and Island Championships and other National events later in the year. Don't forget if you umpire 2 or more sessions at the Nationals you will get your entry fee refunded. Talking of refund of entry fees bowlers who advanced to the final 4 in all events in Tauranga will have the opportunity to get a refund of that event this year by filling in a reimbursement form at the event.

INTERNATIONAL UMPIRES APPOINTED

Congratulations to Jan Low and Kathrine Edgar who have been appointed to officiate at the Test match in Sydney.

NOMINATIONS FOR ISLAND TEAMS

This year it will be the South Island's Team touring the North Island in August. Nomination forms have been sent to districts and close on 19 May. All indoor bowls supporters are welcome to go on this tour and it does cover most of the Island. The land cost will be approximately \$1,100 for the ten days covering travel, accommodation, dinners and the odd lunch including Test Day. Contact National Office is you require any more details.



Behind the scenes the Taupo 2017 Nationals Committee is working hard 'ticking the boxes' for you and your team. Putting in place all the things we know you will enjoy...then it's up to you and your friends to make a great week of it.....we just know how much you will enjoy yourselves in Taupo.

Come on now, join the 1,000 +, people travelling from all over NZ..... get your team organised and entered with your club Secretary, whether it be in the Open Event, all disciplines, or the Masters Over 60's Event, all disciplines. Book your accommodation, there are loads of food outlets that you will enjoy, and Taupo's scenery & awesome hospitality.

Entries close with your District Secretary on the 21st April, just after Easter.

We will see you all there.....from 'The Team' - Waikato Centre & Taupo Club Nationals Committee.

The May test match against Australia is fast approaching and the NZ team members have been practising hard on the International mats which have been distributed around the country. They will all be bought together for a very important training camp in Wellington 8-9 April. Former NZ Captain and Team Manager Pat Hoult will be involved to pass on his vast experience of the event.



The team is also very fortunate in that they will be addressed by former coach of the World Champion Black Sox Softball team, now high performance role with the New Zealand Rugby Union. Don Tricker is the highly successful and recognized former coach and has also been a senior advisor of High Performance Coaching for Sport New Zealand. He has recognised strengths in understanding and getting the best out of people. Come on the Mat Blacks!



By a quirk of fate two cousins Daniel French, Otago and Kyle French, Queensland have been selected and will play against each other in the men's fours and the men's triples.

Both cousins started their indoor bowls careers in Otago. Daniel has come through the junior ranks and has represented the South Island eight times. Kyle won one Otago title and two Canterbury titles before moving to Australia about ten years ago. He has won back to back Australian Triples titles in 2015 and 2016.

Daniel is the lead in the NZ men's four and triple while Kyle will skip the Australian men's triple and play two in the men's four.

Kyle French is the second New Zealander to have represented Australia. The first was Larry Pointon formerly of Rotorua who played the men's singles in 1985.

OTAGO INDOOR BOWLS ASSOCIATION

The OIBA has decided to open up four events to wider participation.

Open Singles: 28th evening-29 April

Open Triples: Sunday 30 April

Open Pairs: 28th evening-29 July

Fours: 30 July

Entry is open to teams of players from the SAME

CLUB affiliated to NZIB.

For further information contact:

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