



Bowls Napier Newsletter

December 2011

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Bowls Napier

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Hello from your Chairperson

Well, the season is going along nicely with some wonderful championship results. There are plenty of new names on the championship leader board! Well done everyone.

Lots of praise from the Hawke's Bay Mens Single Players about C green. It's always good to get positive feedback instead of the moans and groans. Personally, I feel most of the complaints are really player inadequacies!!!

It seems Christmas has come early this year as it's not all that long since the last one.

As Frank Hosegood has resigned from the Committee we are on the hunt for a replacement. Is there a volunteer out there? Please let Billy or Robyn know if you are interested.

It's also good to see some social functions back at the club. There seems to have been a shortage of these over winter for some reason. Just remember if you know of anyone looking for a function room, Bowls Napier can help. We have wonderful kitchen facilities which would match and perhaps even exceed

those in other function rooms in Napier.

Finally, I hope everyone has a wonderful festive season with family and friends. Keep safe and continue to enjoy our wonderful club.

Robyn



***Christmas BBQ
7 pm Saturday
17 December***

Cost \$10 per person

Come along and join us for our Christmas celebration.

Dinner will include ham on the bone, perfectly cooked steaks, a variety of salads, christmas pudding and brandy sauce, plus of course our kiwi favourite, pavlova.

To assist with catering could you please write your name on the white board at the club by 14th December.

Finance



As you all know the success or otherwise of any club is heavily dependent on its financial health.

Over the past few years we have managed to maintain a strong balance sheet without any major increase in playing subscriptions. This has largely been due to the popularity of our bar and its increasing turnover, but this year, for various reasons, things have changed dramatically. Currently bar turnover is almost 40% below 2010 levels. This could have a major effect on the club's financial position.

Fortunately however, we have received excellent support from Infinity Foundation with funding to assist us to pay our green keeper's salary, our largest single expense. These points should illustrate how vital it is that club income be maintained.

Your support is needed to keep Bowls Napier a vibrant club. Don't take your club for granted!

Jim

Update from the President

The bowling season is now underway and despite the indifferent weather most competitions have been concluded.

Putting on my Green Supervisor's hat I would like to pass on these thoughts. Mark Brownlie is going through a big learning curve as green keeper and has the assistance of Doug Beveridge and Tony Rich to thank for the excellent state of our greens. However, I would ask that all you other green keepers keep your critical comments to yourselves if you want our unpaid volunteers to continue to help.

Do not expect championship greens when you decide to practice; the greens need a rest from time to time to recover from regular use. We will have at least one green prepared to allow practice prior to weekend events.

In conclusion I would like to thank Doug and Tony for their dedication in the upkeep of our greens.

Christmas is with us and to illustrate how soon, our ham raffles are being filled with 4 already drawn.

Allison and I are going to Auckland for Christmas with Kathryn on the 21st December and I will leave the bar in the tender loving care of Kenny Smith who will do his usual

good job. Before that we have the club Xmas do on 17th which should be a good night with the lovely planned meal in the capable hands of Jan Larrington. As the Dilmah tea man says "Do try it".

Merry Christmas to you all and trust that 2012 brings everything you wish for.

Billy E.

Welcome to our new members

Since our last newsletter in August the following people have joined or have changed their membership status:

Social:

Noela Cross, Stephen Ryan, Margaret Robinson, Brant Robinson, Nick Robinson, Wayne Weston.

Restricted:

Andrew Neilson

Full playing:

Judy Ryan, Kevin Ford, Glenys Lockwood, Barry Hanlen.

John Toa has changed his membership to associate member now that his grand-daughter Tiana, has joined the young school age players at Taradale.

Due to family commitments, Karl Sandbrook has changed his membership from a full playing member to a social membership.

Introducing Mark

By now most of you will have met or seen Mark Brownlie our new Greenkeeper.

If you haven't seen him, then it's probably because you are not down at the club early enough in the day.

Mark has been busy coming to grips with the variety of work that is involved at the club.

He has completed his "Approved Handlers Certificate" and the "Grow Safe Certificate" all now required to ensure safety when handling and using a variety of chemicals.

When not working on the greens, Mark is busy working as a professional Ceramic Tiler and in his spare time he is busy being a "typical kiwi bloke".

As a member of the Hawke's Bay Mini Car club he can often be found tinkering with mini cars.

He said that he spends a lot of time cycling around the local bike tracks or trying his hand at fishing.

Of course on Tuesday evenings he is with his Business House team mates trying out the greens from a bowler's point of view.

Thanks Doug and Tony



A special thank you to Doug Beveridge and Tony Rich, they both give many hours of voluntary work to the club.

On most days of the week and sometimes twice a day, Doug and Tony are down on the greens assisting with the mowing, rolling, spraying, watering and generally maintaining our three greens.

Without all the voluntary hours that they and other members give, our greens would not be as great as they are.

Coaching

We have been coaching every Wednesday since September from 4.30pm – 6pm. Four new members who have been regular attendees are Glenys Lockwood, Jenny Dillner, Eddie Liefting, and Kevin Pike. They are all enjoying their new chosen sport of Lawn Bowls.

All club members are more than welcome to come along to coaching. Sue's coaching is not in the style of "teacher – pupil" but coach and pupil being equal,

working together so the player is a confident bowler ready to accept any challenge.

To achieve this you will practice skills and drills to evaluate yourselves in all facets of playing in a game. Hence you become confident in all game situations that may arise.

Then there is the area of rules and etiquette. To some people this might not seem important, but if you don't become aware of these points in the game of bowls, you will more than likely at some time be put in a situation to make a ruling under pressure. Hence if you are well versed in the rules and etiquette, nothing is a problem and you will enjoy our wonderful game of bowls.

Sue and Tony

Mates in Bowls

**Starts again at 6pm ,
Wednesday 18th January
2012.**

Mates in Bowls or "MIB" is a national promotion to encourage younger people to try their hand at after work sessions of casual bowls.

What makes MIB different from other casual bowls programmes is that MIB is intended for new participants to the sport.

The rules are relaxed and the emphasis is on having fun.

Cost is \$5 per person per night.

If you know of any friends or work mates that would like to

have a go please contact
Robyn Pritchard at the club.

Kitchen Corner

Thanks to the many members who have continued to assist me with catering for Club and Centre Tournaments.

Special thanks to the Sue, Irene and Robyn who made some wonderful scones at recent club championship events. Those "hot" scones made some of us play really well!

Due to the rising cost of grocery items we have had to increase the cost of cups of tea/coffee to \$1.

There is an honesty tin by the tea/coffee supplies. This usually works well.

Jan

Business House Bowls

On Tuesday evenings our greens and the club house are alive with laughter as 32 teams from local businesses enjoy their evening of social bowls.

Most of the players come direct from work, so the smell of sausages cooking on the BBQ is a hard temptation to resist. Later in the evening we tempt them further with the smell and taste of hot chips.

It is a fun filled evening for all the social bowlers supported by many club members and the Executive team.

Jane leads the bar team, Colin controls the BBQ, Asi is our chief chip fryer and Robyn is our MC on the microphone.

The programme runs for 6 weeks and will finish on December 13th with a fun filled evening including prize giving.

The Cooperative Bank, formerly the PSIS, is our sponsor and active supporter of Business House Bowls.

Shelters on C - Green

The new shelters on C Green are finally completed and look great. They are well appreciated by both bowlers and spectators on hot sunny days or on the occasional wet day that we have experienced.

Thanks to Frank Hosegood for organising the shelters and to Hemingway Construction for building and installing the shelters.

A special thanks to The Eastern and Central Community Trust for their donation of \$8,000 towards the cost of the shelters.

It is hoped that more shelters can be erected as our finances permit.

Mahjong and Cards Group

Our Monday afternoon mahjong group continues to thrive with several new "first time" players joining us during the last few months. Our experienced members are coaching and mentoring the new players.

Our 500 card group would be happy to have new players join them as their number have dropped a bit this year. It is a fun social group, but still competitive and new members are always welcome.

If you would like more information about the group please contact Dot Thomas on phone 843 7602.

It's that time of year again!

'Tis the season of holly, holidays and oh hell - tummy bugs!

If you bring your lunch from home don't keep it in your bowling bag, keep it safe by placing it in a cool place in the club house. It's also a good idea during the hot summer months to pack a small frozen chilly pad or a frozen drink bottle in with your lunch. It helps to keep it cool.

Remember that all the kitchen dishes including coffee and tea cups must be washed in hot soapy water, even if they are going through the sanitiser. Frequent and thorough hand washing is essential to keeping food safe. Hands should be washed in soapy water before starting any food preparation, after going to the toilet, after handling raw meat or chicken, blowing noses or "scratching those itchy bits".

When you leave the greens always wash your hands before eating and drinking. A variety of chemicals may have been

applied to the greens during the season to keep them at their best, and you don't want to be the one who has a reaction to the chemical.