



**WARWICK
WEALTH**

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John Bell and World Bowls embrace global development

The following is an extract from a World Bowls Development Strategy document dated May 2015. It comes in the immediate wake of the election of John Bell, a nationally honoured, celebrated England player, marketing expert and administrator, as president of the global body. *Bowls South Africa Media Officer, Alan Simmonds explains...*

Since its formation in 2014, the World Bowls board has gathered information to help determine the best, most viable way to move bowls forward. The first stage involved a global survey of strengths and weaknesses, supplemented by intelligence gained by regional directors. An austere economic climate, changing leisure habits, and lack of profile continue to impede progress. The current board is fully aware of the practical and economic limitations within which it must operate, but a successful global development strategy is seen as the first fundamental step in promoting and sustaining the sport

Areas identified as requiring attention:

- Coaching and officiating competence;
- administrative and operational procedures;
- availability and quality of bowls equipment and,
- image, marketing and communication.

"...The successful development of our sport worldwide largely depends on these elements being brought up to a competent standard. The eradication of deficiencies in coaching structures, instruction of officials and availability of equipment, will lead to weak national infrastructures being stabilised and strengthened. Better guidance on administration and marketing will also support this process. Improvements to performance – in both an administrative and playing sense - and the ability to attract new playing members will hopefully automatically follow..." the document insists.

But, the world body points out, "...Limited resources block any 'quick fix' for these deficiencies; detailed investigation, assessment and implementation will assist World Bowls from initiating a measured and realistic strategy to sustain and grow its global community..."

Nevertheless, assistance will be on offer for:

- Expert Coaching - tailored packages by world experts;

- training of technical officials by international TOs;
- guidance on effective infrastructures - establishment of effective management structures/constitutional requirements;
- World Bowls will stimulate the supply of essential equipment;
- Improving bowls' image and;
- Expert advice and examples of best practice in relation to the marketing and promotion through the World Bowls website.



World Bowls president John Bell

The document stresses:

"...While World Bowls has allocated resources to support delivery of its strategy, primarily as a facilitator, constructing assistance packages which will involve organising assistance to remedy/alleviate deficiencies hindering development. Delivery will be by meaningful contribution from nations requiring assistance, plus support from larger member nations, and key stakeholders. Packages will be tailored to recipient nations' individual needs and meet economic considerations..."

World Bowls notes the huge gap between the countries with accomplished and effective operational structures and those who are severely disadvantaged in infrastructure

Terms and acknowledges responsibility for preserving and growing global membership.

The survey has identified where many lie and noted which



World Bowls CEO Gary Smith

countries have required assistance. Research by the board's regional directors has also identified where bowls is establishing a foothold and what assistance is required to mount necessary momentum to become nationally and internationally recognised.

While the strategy reflects World Bowls plans in a rolling period of four years, with desired sustainable

progress dependent on support from key players, delivery to some Oceanic nations will be implemented this year as demonstration projects.

Support provided by Bowls Australia is much appreciated by World Bowls; preliminary investigations are also underway to investigate feasibility of a European coaching/officiating seminar.

Areas and nations falling into these categories are:

- Europe: France; Holland; Germany, Hungary; Isle of Man, Norway; Sweden; Switzerland; Turkey;
- Africa/Americas: Argentina; Botswana, Brazil; Kenya; Malawi; Zambia;
- Asia/Oceania: China; Cook Islands; Fiji; India; Japan; Macau; Nuie; Pakistan; Papua New Guinea; Samoa; Singapore; Sri Lanka; Thailand; UAE

The initiative is to be monitored and managed through the World Bowls Office by the CEO, Gary Smith and his assistant.

Key stages of the Delivery Plan will be:-

- (1) Launch of the development strategy and circulation.
- (2) Invitations to selected nations to seek assistance via standardised application forms containing conditions attached to the provision of assistance.
- (3) Regional directors will work with associations to assist in the drawing up of their bids, which must include a detailed inventory of current functionality and infrastructure provision. This will identify why and what assistance was required; benefits/costs.
- 4) Recommended delivery plans would be drawn up by regional directors in conjunction with nations. These would be 'SMART' plans, including clear, detailed description of support and a provision schedule.

Specific plans would necessarily include identification of the nature, and sources, of the resources required to implement delivery.

Measuring success World Bowls points out, meant clear identification on how success/outcomes' success would be noted – something essential.

Specific performance indicators would identified for each initiative, such as:

- By the end of year one, the aim may be to have utilised the services of a top quality bowls coach to instruct X coaches within a bowling nation;
- by the end of year two the aim may be to have Y coaches within the association delivering its own coaching programme and,
- by the end of year 3 the aim may be to have its own body including elite standard coaches.

Achievable development programmes were essential and vitally capable of funding. Only by identifying targets, timescales, outcomes and funding sources and by discussions with regional directors who need to identify accessible sources of funding/resource can this work, Nevertheless, applicants have to find project core funding.

World Bowls will co-ordinate provision of assistance required through regional directors who must ensure assistance sought is provided effectively and economically.

To achieve objectives careful thought and control will ensure proposals do not seek to achieve too much too soon.

Realistic – This again places onus on regional directors and constituent national authorities to ensure all proposals is implemented. Careful governance is required, ensuring ambitions are realistic; proposals matched resources available and operate within realistic timescales.

Timed – To evaluate progress clear timelines are built-in and monitored with emphasis on specific dates for regional directors' progress reports submitted to the CEO..

(5) Following detailed assessments, regional directors' recommendations will be submitted to the Board following scrutiny by the CEO's office in consultation with the chairman; the board determines prioritization, the CEO's office monitors finance.

President Bell summed up:

"... This strategy provides a practical means of redressing needs and deficiencies experienced by the majority of bowling nations. 'Development' has been a topic of discussion for many years – but no more than that. The current Board however fully acknowledges responsibility for both sustaining and growing its global community; successful development of our sport worldwide is priority.

"Formulation and implementation of this global strategy is a fundamental step to achieving this. "Its implementation and effectiveness is greatly enhanced with support of key stakeholders – larger nations; manufacturers and other related bodies.

"The Board seeks establishing a constructive working relationship with them to deliver development assistance worldwide, thus enhancing and strengthening our sport..."

From the president's desk:

SpecSavers finals offer bowling bonanza

I am delighted at the success of the SpecSavers Pro 10 Lawn Bowls Tournament, now in its second year. This national event, run by Bowls South Africa, stages the 2015 finals at The Wanderers, Johannesburg September 12, 13. Entries this year exceeded those of 2014 and thanks to the sponsors for making the finals for 40 pairs such a momentous weekend; it is truly a magnificent affair.

As you know the format is unique at this level since the pairs event is open to teams of two from the same club, in any gender combination, Matches are played over 10 ends; each player has only two bowls. Scoring dictates the four bowls closest to the jack score points, from four (nearest) to one; giving 10 available points an end - 100 for each game.

Last year in Port Elizabeth two Cape Town women- Maggie van Zyl and Lydia Maritz of Durbanville BC saw off some serious competition to take the trophy and a handsome cash prize; this year's event remains as open as last season's.

I urge all bowlers and non-bowlers to go along to leafy Wanderers

(top of Corlett Drive) and savour a feast of bowling – entry is free, Enjoy refreshments, music and good company aplenty... you will not be disappointed.

The national camp, also at The Wanderers BC on August 14-16 is packed with established and emerging players. Bowls SA's selectors and coaches are ensuring there is sufficient depth of talent to meet the demands of a now packed international bowling calendar.

Finally, I must make my preparation for my last AGM – I shall be stepping down as president at the end of this month. It has been a three-year journey of hard work, discovery and much fulfillment. Thanks for your support; will look back in an article in September's newsletter.



Allan Freeman
President, Bowls SA
August 2015

The former publisher of a newsletter for Sables District, who moved to JBA, joined Linden then resigned and joined Roosevelt Park, now circulates his own newsletter. An unprovoked and inaccurate attack (he did not contact me, or any of the executive to check his facts) on the Bowls South Africa executive and the running of BSA, has promoted president, Allan Freeman to respond in a statement to all district presidents, reproduced here for your persual ... Alan Simmonds, Media Officer Bowls South Africa/Editor, BSA Newsletter:

President to presidents letter

Part of our everyday responsibility in running clubs, districts and national federations is that we are called on to make decisions in what we believe to be in the best interest of our constituents, that is, our members.

Normally our first point of reference is our constitution and by-laws and then any other constraints that may inhibit or promote our decision making. We recognise that not all our decisions will necessarily meet with unanimous approval from all stakeholders however, part of being in office is to accept this criticism particularly if it is constructive.

What also needs to be clear in criticism is that it is based on fact or not full of innuendos or statements based on rhetoric.

You have all recently been the recipients of a newsletter named Ditchweight, wherein the editor of that newsletter questions the ability of district presidents to effectively manage and represent their districts and has implored all district presidents to stand up and question Bowls South Africa at the next AGM on various matters raised.

In the same newsletter the editor has likewise questioned the credibility of the current executive and has told all who received this newsletter "...They must go..." While I firmly believe in the freedom of each district and indeed club to call for any explanations on the actions of our executive I also believe that statements designed to cast any individuals in a negative light are unfair if such statements are made without properly examining the facts.

To address these issues I list a few so-called contentious issues which the Executive has allegedly mismanaged.

1. The editor is at pains to point out the spend of the Executive is R400 000, what he does not tell you is that if we use 2009 as a base year (R379 761) executive costs have increased by less than

2% per annum cumulatively. Likewise his reference to staff costs of R800 000 for the year as excessive. Once again using 2009 as a base year (R673 525), these costs have risen by less than 6% per annum cumulatively. In terms of the constitution the executive are required to meet to transact business and that Bowls South Africa shall maintain an administrative office. It is not possible to fulfil these functions without cost. His reference to how much is spent on food and drink leaves one feeling that the executive are only there for these side benefits. This comment should be treated with the contempt it deserves as it is a disservice to every person who serves his club, district or national federation. If we were to factor the time and money spent by club, district and national officials in their service to the sport I doubt whether any club, district and national body would be able to bear such a cost. Incidentally this is the self-same person who cited "I cannot afford the cost of travelling and the rate of reimbursement as provided by BSA per km and that perhaps someone who can afford it should replace me". Testimony no doubts as to the fact that serving any sporting body comes at a financial cost to all.

2. He is at pains to point out our small outlay on marketing and development. While he rightly states the standing committee "...spent only R90 000 ...", this is not the only amount spent on marketing and development. There have been several initiatives introduced by Bowls SA to market our sport i.e. Varsity Promotion, the production of promotional trailers for the use of districts and an incentive scheme for new members whereby existing members who introduce these new members are granted free affiliation fees for the ensuing year. Our total spend on promotional and development activities over the past year amounted to R 1 170 581. Bowls SA took advantage of the Commonwealth Games success and it may be of interest to note the sport of bowls featured on four television chat shows, 16 national radio stations and in a host of print media following the Games. We also printed a poster which was made available to all districts for distribution to clubs for advertising purposes. Our Games' success was also extensively exposed on TV following our nomination by the Department of Sport & Recreation for the Team

of the Year award.

3. He writes bowls administration at national level should formulate a national promotion and development plan which should "...be driven down to all districts and further down to club level..." The question is quite simple. Who will pay to do this? The executive respect the autonomy of both Districts and Clubs is not positioned to force any policies on these bodies without taking responsibility for the costs related to this. There are some 550 clubs and 20 Districts in South Africa. This so-called plan comes at a cost. How does Bowls SA distribute this cost? Is it based on the size of the district or its number of clubs? This additional cost can be financed only through an increase in annual affiliation fees.

4. The editor's obsession with people wearing blazers and badges as being unworthy of this is a discredit to everyone who has given up their time – usually at their own cost - to loyally serve the sport we all enjoy. People who have badges on their blazers have earned the right to do so through hours of personal investment into the sport so that others may benefit there from.

To conclude, it is my feeling that the articles contained in that newsletter create a false and negative perception of the work our executive and staff and indeed all district presidents have done, not only in the past year, but in the many years before that.

It is a fact that the president of SASCO stated at their AGM that

Bowls SA was the best run sports federation in South Africa.

I have had the pleasure of working with the current executive during the years in my term of office and can quite freely state that they have always been committed to their work and have done what has been asked of them without thought of the cost to themselves.

I can also state that we have always been mindful of the need to exercise good governance in all areas and have been particularly dedicated in our control of funding.

We realise that the position of office is a duty to administer the sport on behalf of other people and we have always been honest and transparent in doing so.

Yours sincerely



**Allan
Freeman
President, Bowls SA**

Integrated coaching at all levels

Bowls South Africa, which fully subscribes to the national long term coach and players' development policies, is committed to ensuring development and accreditation requirements conform to policy and standards of the South African Sports Confederation and Olympic Committee [Sasco].

Coaching is set in terms of integrated activities designed to assist players develop skills, knowledge of the game, thus improving competitive performance at all levels. It is underpinned by:

1. HUMANITY

Coaches shall respect the right, dignity and worth of every human being and their ultimate right to self-determination. They shall treat everyone equitably and sensitively within the context of their activity and ability, regardless of gender, ethnic origin, cultural background, sexual orientation, religion or political affiliation.

2. RELATIONSHIP

A coach shall be entrusted with the well-being, safety protection and future growth of the individual, guiding and encouraging a player to accept responsibility for their own behaviour and performance in training and competition.

3. INTEGRITY

Coaches shall consistently display high personal standards of coaching and project a favourable image of the sport and not to adopt practices to accelerate performance improvements which will jeopardise the safety and total well-being of the player

4. SAFETY

Only qualified and registered coaches with the necessary credentials and experience to safely and

efficiently teach the skills and art of bowling shall be permitted to coach at all levels. Coaches shall conform to the highest levels of players' care and establish practice environments that minimise the potential of physical harm.

5. CHILD PROTECTION

Coaches in direct contact with minors (under 18) will be screened to establish suitability.

6. TRAINING OF COACHES

Coaches at all levels will receive training on developing their own and players' technical, psychological, tactical, physical/life skills, emphasising on communication, teaching and learning.

7. PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL

The periodical evaluation of competence will include appraisal of each of the areas covered by this policy. The appraisal includes personal development, communication ability, programme success and interaction with other constituents.

8. CODE OF CONDUCT

Coaches shall be required to sign a code of conduct; violation could result in sanction or termination of the right to coach.

9. NATIONAL STANDING COMMITTEE (NSCC)

Bowls South Africa's executive will appoint a NSC to assist and advise them on coaching matters. This committee is entrusted to implement policy, the supporting modus operandi for coaches and the coaches' Purpose Statement.

10. DISTRICT STANDING COMMITTEES (DSCCs)

District executives will appoint a DSC for coaching to assist and advise on district-related coaching matters. In addition, DSCCs are entrusted to implement national policies/procedures in support of

NSCC, with their own district modus operandi for coaches. Districts are encouraged to appoint a head coach[s] to develop elite players, raising standard of play at district level in conjunction with local selectors, identification and monitoring those able to represent district and country, plus maintaining communication with the national head coach.

11. COACHES AT CLUBS

Club executives shall ensure a qualified coach be available for all newcomers, to assist existing

club players to fulfil potential and to assist and advise on club-related coaching matters.

Warwick Wealth in Excellent Health

2-bowl trips thriller at Sasolburg

Sedibeng club sides took part, reports Warwick Lifestyle Network Manager Theo Scheepers. The weather throughout was superb and bowls was of a high standard and turned into a thriller. With winter arriving the speed of the greens confused a few, but generally most adjusted and coped. Winners were Johnny Peens, Kevin Joynson, Nick Wolmarans (see Picture) ; the Warwick tog bag draw winner was Ken Cutler (Iscor BC)



Rain fails to dampen Summerwood event



The Warwick Wealth/Summerwood Mixed Fours in Port Elizabeth, attended by Warwick's Ryan Hendry and Craig Holmes, had to endure torrential rain and high winds. Nevertheless, a brave face was put on affairs leaving (see picture) Walmer Bowling Club's John van der Berg, Monty Ware, Dot van der Berg, Anne Tschöp, Craig Holmes (Warwick Regional Manager) Ada Bleskie, Werner Arndt successful.

A Warwick Lucky Prize Winner (Umbrella) went to Jenny Hollis (Walmer).

Five-week event goes to Derrick's team



PLUM TITLE: Winners of the Plumstead five-week Warwick tournament from left , Brian Yarwood (Warwick), Derrick Atkinson (skip), Sue Atkinson (2nd) Anne Grap (lead), Ivan Langerveldt (3rd) who prevailed over 84 bowlers – a big well done to Ken Chadwick and his wife for making sure all went well.

PE Vibes



TOP FOUR: Leon Goosen, Jackie Watson, Jeanette Botha, Annette Kritzinger; winners of the Warwick Wealth/Western Suburbs Mixed Fours in Port Elizabeth.

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Bowls South Africa





COLD BUT HOT: Winners of the Warwick Wealth/Pinelands Tournament in Cape Town: from left, Clyde Rix, Mario Afonso, Mark Sevenoaks, the weather was bitterly cold, but competition was hot over a straight 18 ends. The Warwick team lost by one shot reports the sponsor's Brian Yarwood



MONTAGU MAGIC: There was great fun and camaraderie in the Boland at the Warwick Wealth/ Montagu BC in June. Winners, the left: Jean Doyle, Tony Scott, (Brian Yarwood) Lotta Lof. The Weather was great the food superb and the company fantastic, reports Warwick's Brian Yarwood

Riverside Fund Raising Event: Sedibeng District

This was a fund raising event and the format was 3 games of trips. Two of 10 ends and one of 15 ends.

1 point per end and 2 for overall game. Every one enjoyed the day and the bowls was played in a wonderful spirit with a good few laughs.

The players were at one stage entertained by a group of monkeys who appeared out of nowhere and were extremely funny with all their antics.

Sha Redfern won the Warwick lucky draw prize.



WINNERS: Hennie Bierman, Bill Slater Mike Hull President of Riverside and Lieb v d Walt

Aussies name stars for youth bowls team



With the 2015 Commonwealth Youth Games in Samoa looming, the Australian Commonwealth Games Association and Bowls Australia have announced the appointment of two NSW teenagers to the 2015 Australian Team. Jono Davis, 14 (Above left), and Ellen Ryan, 18 (Top right), are charged with the nation's hopes in lawn bowls' second ever attempt at the multi-sport competition.

Each is marked as a future senior Australian representative.

Davis has enjoyed a rapid rise through the sport's ranks, after first earning selection for NSW's under-18 team as a 12 year-old, he went on to claim the gold medal at the Australian Open under-18 singles in the same year, secured gold in the pairs at the Australian Under-18 Championships when he was 13, and was named the 2014 NSW Junior Bowler of the Year.



Ryan, who plays out of powerhouse bowls club Cabramatta, has also gone from strength to strength, continuing to impress selectors as she transitioned to the NSW open women's team at the time-honoured Australian Sides Championships in Perth earlier this year

She helped the Blue secure a record three-peat of the Marj Morris Trophy and Overall Champions Trophy and bolstered her credentials when she prevailed at the Australia's Open's blue-ribbon women's singles discipline against a field of 292 players to claim the \$16 000 (R150 000) prize. ... Aiden Davis, Bowls Australia.

- Aimee Schnetler (Kwazulu-Natal) and Rowan Watkins (Southern Free State) will be representing South Africa.

Bowlers; why not try pétanque and vice-versa

...asks Alan Simmonds, Media Officer, Bowls South Africa

A South African Transplant Association team of 46 athletes representing all the provinces, and communities, plus supporters (just as does lawn bowls)-, leaves on August 20 for Mar del Plata via Dubai and Buenos Aires, Argentina for the World Transplant Games.

The origins of pétanque, otherwise known as boules, are lost in the mists of time, but what is known is that two balls and a jack were found in the sarcophagus of an ancient Egyptian prince.



ALLEZ: Les Hurlbatt playing at the Club de Pétanque, Durban

This may account for the game regularly played by French Foreign Legion legionnaires based in the Sahara. It was the French who developed it into today's international sport

The rules were formalised in Marseilles in 1945 by the Federation Francaise de Petanque Jeu Provincial; a major step since each village had their own rules which led to heated arguments, even death when competing against rival villages.

Pétanque is played by two teams of one, two, three or four players on a hardened court, usually gravel, with a metal boule about the size of a cricket ball. A wooden jack known as a cochonnet is thrown between 6-10m on the court. The team winning the toss plays the first boule as near to the jack as possible. Unlike lawn bowls, the opposing team then has to play his or her boules consecutively until they in turn hold the shot and so on. The team to score 13 points is the winner of the first game.

More than 10 million Frenchmen play; games can often be seen in the Paris boulevards. Now it is globally spread and is played in more than 50 countries. In Britain there are 320 affiliated clubs with about 4000 members.

In South Africa the game is played regularly in the Cape in the wine region, in Johannesburg and at Club de Pétanque de Durban, around 15 years, hosting the pétanque World Transplant Games in 2013; leisure boules games are played all over the country; it is a growing sport.

Following the SA National Transplant Games held in Cape Town last year eight were selected to play at the world games in Argentina in August. They are SASCO sanctioned.

How about pétanque, and lawn bowls getting together to try out each others' great games?

[Thanks for information to Hermann Steyn, executive secretary SATSA; <http://www.transplantsports/org.za>]

Eden Bowls' resolutions okay for AGM

Bowls SA has advised resolutions from Eden Bowls were received by Bowls SA prior to the 90-day requirement as detailed in clause 13.1 of the Constitution (1 June 2015), but excluded from the agenda in error. In terms of the constitution resolutions should be circulated to Districts 45 days prior to the AGM (and were) and, therefore, the resolutions will be included on the Agenda as an addendum.

They are:

MOTION 1: That the morning tea break at Inter-District tournaments be removed.

Motivation: As requested by our players and player's association, it is felt that that the morning tea break is unnecessary, bearing in mind that there is no break during the afternoon session. The morning session could then commence at 09:30 (sic) and would give teams more time to get through the morning traffic.

MOTION 2: That the B Inter-Districts be replaced by regional tournaments.

Motivation: 1. Districts are finding it more and more difficult to fund district teams on 3 levels. A case in point is this year's withdrawal of the Natal Inland women's team from the Senior Inter-Districts. A bye in one of the sections was only avoided by allowing the home district to have two sides in the tournament. That in turn raised many questions and the feasibility of similar arrangements in future needs to be re-examined.

2. The B Inter-Districts has always been classed as the "feeder" to the Open sides, yet more and more senior players are included.

3. Having regional B tournaments at the same time as the other two Inter-Districts, will still give the next level of players the opportunity to participate at a higher level.

4. Regional "B" tournaments will be shorter and thus less costly.

5. Individual Districts will have the opportunity of hosting Regional B tournaments on a more regular basis (every few years), thus giving administrators and TO's regular experience of hosting such an event.

6. Having Regional B tournaments is also an opportunity to give the Provincial structures of bowls the status of their own tournament.

Lawn Bowls

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TO THE POINT

Issue 46

August 2015

1 TRAIN THE TRAINERS

Following introduction of the Third Edition of the "Laws of the Sport of Bowls" which took effect in South Africa from October 1 last year, the Bowls South Africa Technical Officials Standing Committee was requested by Bowls South Africa to update course material and then run an updated Train the Trainers (TT) course. Its objectives:

- To have one suitably qualified umpire from each district to attend a TT course and,
- To enable those who attend, to then assist district standing committees (DSC) train others further knowledge of the laws and become competent markers/umpires.

The TT course is run in a hands-on interactive manner with content including: An introduction to the laws, facilitation, leadership, planning the training venue, the self-fulfilling prophesy, motivation and communication, training techniques, how to use questions, supportive environment and credibility, trainers body language, guidelines for course learning aids and presentations, recruitment, practical measuring and course administration.

It is well understood and accepted people join a club to also enjoy all that goes with it. It is common knowledge in sports such as soccer, cricket, rugby, baseball, boxing and netball there is always a trained official at each game to ensure the contest is played in line with its laws. This is not, however, the case with bowls. In most, if not all other sports there is an appointed official actually on the field of play. An umpire is defined as: "An official who ensures that the people taking part in a game follow the rules."

It is accepted not all sports share the same degree of opinions on what an umpire sees to be correct and what is not.

This was clearly demonstrated when the writer attended a game between the New York Yankees and the Toronto Blue Jays. In this instance however, no matter how vociferous were players, coaches and spectators, decisions taken by the man standing behind the catcher were always accepted.

This is mentioned to stress that in any sport the umpire needs to know not only the laws of the game, but also possess the knowledge of how to correctly handle "difficult situations" arising when players/ spectators become upset.

2 TOURNAMENT OFFICIAL (TO)

It is clear when clubs appoint tournament officials it should be ensured the person appointed is at least a Level 1 TO. At most host clubs only a handful do any work.

Women prepared to officiate are also required to assist with catering and available men to help in the bar. And of course umpires also have to be found, with a result clubs choose any willing horse to do the TO's work.

No matter how keen that person may be and how grateful committees are to find someone it is unfair to the stand-in TO, the club concerned and its committee to use someone unfamiliar with bowling laws.

Often situations arise where decisions based on the laws must be made immediately, then, such willing "TOs" are left floundering, unsure of what to do and having to phone around for a member of a controlling body to obtain a ruling - thus holding up play; players do not appreciate such an avoidable dilemma.

When the 4-tier technical official system was introduced it was intended TOs should be included, provided they were Level 1 umpires and that the duties of a TO be included in the Level 1 umpires' course.

The idea that TOs have only to make announcements, hand out cards and recover them is far from the truth. Knowledge of the laws and how a draw works, scoring and computer literacy are also of utmost importance.

Umpires are often required to report certain instances to tournament officials who have been found not to know correct procedure from a lack of knowledge of the laws with a

net result is that nothing is done about an incident, leaving players frustrated. Perhaps a lecture on this topic could be introduced to the TT course to assist in directing TOs uniformly to ensure events be run without unnecessary delays.

3 KNOWING THE LAWS

The marking of touchers

How many times do we spot a skip or a third mark the bowl of an opponent as a toucher? Most will tell you it is good sportsmanship. Now, do you play bowls only to show your opponents how good a sport you are, or do you play to win?

Law 15.1 *“A toucher should be marked with chalk by a member of the team that delivered the bowl or the marker as soon as it comes to rest.”*

If your opponents are too lazy or ignorant to mark their own touchers, why do it for them?

If a toucher is not marked or nominated as a toucher as soon as it comes to rest, what happens?

Law 15.3 *If, before the next bowl comes to rest or, in the case of the last bowl of an end, before a period of 30 seconds that applies under law 23.1, a bowl is not marked or nominated it is no longer a toucher.”*

Why do you want to give your opponents an advantage of having a toucher on the rink if they are unfamiliar with the laws?

If that unmarked toucher ends up in the ditch during play it is a dead bowl and must be removed. Your opponent cannot claim it was a toucher as it should have been marked before the next delivery came to rest.

To conclude, not marking an opponent's toucher is not bad sportsmanship, but gaining an advantage because you knew the law.

The advantages of knowing the laws

During the last Level 3 course one of the group exercises was that each group worked through the laws and compiled a

list of all the advantages a team has over a team ignorant of the laws.

Each group provided a long list.

1. How can a person take part in a sport if they do not know the rules?

If you are a qualified TO it is worthwhile to update your knowledge. If you are not a qualified TO you should consider attending the next course presented in your district.

It is cause for concern how many district players do not even possess a law book and even if they have usually it is outdated.

NATIONAL STANDING COMMITTEE - TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

Comments may be E-mailed to any of the Technical official Committee Members.
Fred Kruis - fredkruis@wam.co.za
Neville Savage - savagenk@icon.co.za
Bob Radcliffe - radcliffe@worldonline.co.za
Renee Venter - reneeventer@mweb.co.za
Jeanette Williams - bruijnw@gmail.com
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Bowls SA Roundup

Sets scoring for 2016 SA interdistricts championships

Following a player's representative meeting held at the Open interdistricts in Durban this year, Bowls South Africa's executive have freshened up the three interdistrict championships by adopting a sets scoring system. It will come into effect in 2016, writes **Alan Simmonds, Media Officer, Bowls South Africa.**

Each of the three districts events will be played in two sections on a league basis with all teams in a section playing one another over 21 ends, split into three sets of seven ends.

The winner of the toss decides who takes the mat, but at the start of the second and third set, the winner of the previous set must take the mat. If a set is drawn, the winner of the last scoring end in that set must take the mat. At the start of any other end, the winner of the previous end must take the mat.

One point is for a set won, two for a winning team per game and three bonus points to the overall winners - net aggregate shots of the combined two teams to count. If a set, game or match be drawn, points are shared; total points available a match -13.

If play is abandoned scoring is: Sets: One point for the winner of each completed set; points shared for incomplete sets; games: After two sets (14 ends) are completed, a team with most shots (based on completed ends), wins. If fewer than two sets are completed, points are shared; overall: Bonus points go to the side with the most shots, based on completed ends, irrespective of how many are completed

Section winners and runners-up are decided by, in order: Points, highest net score, highest shot percentage, then the winner of the game between the two in sectional play; if still a tie, a sudden death (one-end) tie-breaker.

Sectional winners meet for gold or silver medals; if the final is tied, sudden death extra ends decide the result; sectional runners-up each automatically receive bronze medals.

Spec-Savers 2015 finals details

District winners and runners-up for the 2015 Spec-Savers: Bowls SA Pro 10 Pairs will meet in the finals at The Wanderers from September 12-13. Closing date for entries is on or before July 31 and districts are requested to provide names, indicate which pair were winners and which runners-up to Celia Niederhoffer at the JBA office: 0118808000/e-mail: accounts@jbabowls.co.za Accommodation for all contestants has been booked at the Wanderers Protea Hotel from the evening of Friday September 11-13; a rooming list will be prepared. Players are expected to share; districts should indicate married couples and organise pairs' travelling arrangements -costs invoiced to Bowls SA for a direct refund. Those travelling by road will be refunded at R1,90/km; also to be refunded directly

to district to compensate accordingly. A bus will be made available from O Tambo airport to the hotel departing at 13opm on Friday September 11 returning at 4pm on the Sunday.

National standing committees

The executive convenes later this year to among other items, deliberate on national standing committee

structures. To assist them with the process it would be appreciated if districts could nominate suitable names to serve on Bowls SA national standing committees as indicated below. It would be appreciated if a short one-page CV accompanies each nomination. Existing members of national standing committees will automatically be reconsidered and they are, therefore, not required to submit an up-dated CV. Should an existing member wish to retire they should inform the Bowls SA office on or before the closing date as indicated below. When putting forward nominations the Bowls SA executive is sole arbitrator. Nominations should reach Bowls SA on or before July 31. Academy; selectors (men & women); coaches; disability; greenkeepers; promotion & development; technical officials

A National Camp

Participants in a Bowls South Africa national camp from August 14-16: Victor Siphali (JBA), Louise Larkin (P Natal), Wayne Rittmuller (P Natal), Rika Lynn (Sables), Conrad Potgieter (Border), René Swanepoel (WP), George Lotter (Sedibeng), Tracy Meyerdricks (JBA), Shawn J v Vuuren (Mpumalanga), Geraldine Moodaley (NC), Stephan de Jager (Boland), Annalie Mathewson (NC), Bradley Robinson (Natal Inland), Esmé Kruger (Gauteng N), Tarquin Ormston (Border), Charlotte Rossouw (JBA), Cecil Bornman (Gauteng N), Maggie v Zyl (WP), Paul Spriggs (EP), Ashleigh Parks (JBA), Martin Lewis (JBA), Peta Smith (JBA), Shane Nienaber (Kingfisher), Jacqui J v Rensburg (JBA).



DOUBLE CHAMPION: Arthur Langley (Graaff Reinet BC) a former SA Open Singles champion, annexed the EP Singles and Pairs this season

Job opportunity: Warwick Wealth lifestyle manager

Warwick Wealth seeks a Lifestyle Network Manager (LNM) to join their Johannesburg Private Clients Team. The role is a relationship management and brand ambassador position, whereby the LNM will interact with existing and prospective clients of Warwick Wealth in various sporting codes and social settings. The LNM is responsible for organising and setting up of events and interacting with existing and prospective clients within the bowls, golf, croquet, bridge and other like-minded communities. Through these interactions the LNM will be able to put these community members in touch with their quali-

fied and experienced Wealth Specialists, who will be able to advise and guide them in terms of investments and estates planning. The role requires an individual who has strong social and interactional skills and is able to give presentations at clubs or sponsored events. A business background is preferred, with sales and/or financial services experience being advantageous. Travel is required in this role and as such any applicants for the role need to have a valid driver's license and be able to work after normal office hours. The role has a basic salary and monthly based performance bonus component. Individuals wanting to apply for the position and/or whom require further information can contact Ryan Magee (head of human resources) on 0800 505050.

World Bowls executive quits

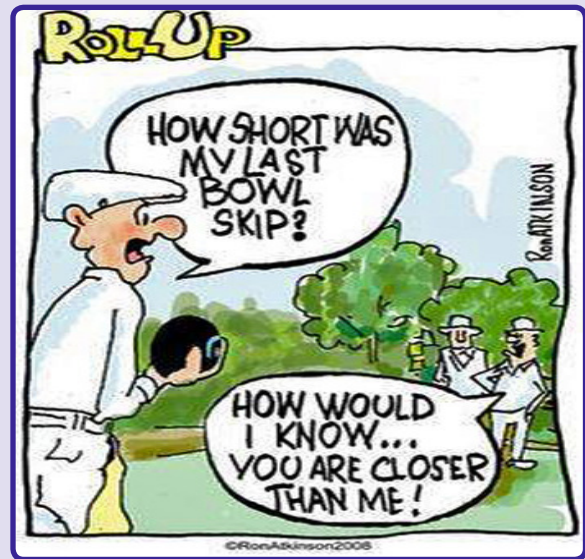
Heather Welch has resigned from her position as an Appointed Director of World Bowls. CEO Gary Smith says her work schedule since her move with her family to Dubai has been hectic and is likely to become busier. World Bowls thanked Heather for her commitment and hard work and wished her success.

Venues for 2016

Venues confirmed for 2016 national events: Warwick: Bowls SA Masters: Wanderers; Perfect Delivery/BowlsSA Open Interdistricts: Edenvale (HQ), Modderfontein, Avion Park Benoni CC; Perfect Delivery/BowlsSA Senior Interdistricts: Belgravia, Italian, Jeppe Old Boys; Bowls SA B": Port Elizabeth BC, Western Suburbs, Park Drive, Westview; Warwick/Bowls SA U-25 Interdistricts: Bloemfontein Municipals; BowlsSA U-19 Development: Orangia.

Blog the day away

South Africa's most experienced bowls writer has blogs to which you can address all your thoughts, ideas and gripes ... this time someone WILL notice them. Alan Simmonds' blog: got to WWW.warwickbowls.com and see thebowlsblog.com and please leave a comment.



Affiliation fees – 2015

From: July: R90; August: R75; September: R60; October: R45; November: R30; December: R15.

Articles, information and pictures (jpegs of 250psi or better) for this newsletter may be sent to john@bowlssa.co.za or to me at twickers@gmail.com
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