



Louise, Gippo defend Masters titles



Women's SA Masters champion Louise Roediger (Strand, WP) can demonstrate her last season's debut victory no fluke when she defends from a glittering array of talent at the Warwick Wealth/BowlsSA Masters Championships at The Wanderers from February 15-17. Says Allan Freeman, President of Bowls SA: "Every year the field becomes stronger and stronger. At the famous Wanderers, now with fabulous re-worked greens and amazing facilities, a feast of top class bowls will be on view for spectators."



Women's runner-up Santjie Steyn (Swellendam, Boland), plus the entire women's and men's Protea sides selected for World Bowls in

Adelaide, Australia, will seek the coveted crowns.

The men's event sees holder and Protea skip Gippo Vermeulen (Westville, Port Natal) and runner-up, Wayne Perry, now on home turf with plenty to prove after losing his Protea spot, again vying for golden glory; SA No 1 Gerry Baker (Belgravia, JBA) seeks a record sixth crown.

Bronze medallists Billy Radloff (George, Southern Cape) and Bobby Donnelly (Wanderers, JBA) and Bedfordview clubmates two-time women's champion Tracy-Lee Botha (JBA) and Colleen Piketh (JBA) will again be in the mix.

Chairman and CEO of sponsors Warwick, Ian Kilbride, was upbeat. "Our company, like the bowlers we have supported for more than a decade, seeks excellence; I look forward to exciting competition of the highest order."

Former Commonwealth Games and world champions two former Open Masters champions, Trish Steyn (WPCC, WP) and legend Kevin Campbell (Glen CC, WP), make debuts in their respective senior divisions, while exciting talent emerge in all divisions.



A peaceful and happy festive season and exciting New Year to all bowlers and their families from your president Allan Freeman, his executive and all administrative staff at Bowls SA

Draw:

Women Open Masters

Section A

Louise Roediger	WP
Susan Nel	Sables
Esmé Steyn	Johannesburg
Helen Grundlingh	Kingfisher
Esmé Kruger	Gauteng N
Dezi Rosenblatt	EP
Glenda Matthews	Port Natal
Tracy-Lee Botha	JBA

Section B

Santjie Steyn	Boland
Nici Neal	Sables
Lourenza van der Merwe	EP
Sylvia Burns	WP
Elma Davies	S Cape
Pam Cole-Cook	Kingfisher
Bronwyn Webber	Port Natal
Colleen Piketh	JBA

Men Open Masters

Section A

Gidon Vermeulen	PN
Francois Koen	Gauteng N
Conrad Potgieter	Border

Section B

Wayne Perry	JBA
Bernardus van der Spuy	Gauteng N
Gerry Baker	JBA

Clinton Roets	S Free State	Nic Rusling	Sables
Jason Evans	JBA	Bruce Makkink	PN
Shawn Janse van Vuuren	Mpumalanga	Pierre Breitenbach	NW
Dudley Daniels	N Cape	Hertzog Meiring	SFS
Bobby Donnelly	JBA	Billy Radloff	SC

Women Senior Masters

Section A

Ellen Cawker	Kingfisher
Colleen Grondein	P Natal
Marina Brink	WP
Rea Potgieter	Gauteng N
Sharon Glenn	JBA
Wilma McLachlan	EP

Section B

Ellie van Coller	Gauteng E
Loraine Victor	Gauteng N
Lyn Odendaal	Border
Trish Steyn	WP
Jenny Smith	JBA
Pat Stallwood	WP

Men Senior Masters

Section A

Mike Marnewick	Sables
Daniel Loubser	WP
Eddie Fann	KBA
Danie Oosthuizen	NW
Kenny Kyriacou	Gauteng N
Allan Gordon	JBA

Section B

Alan Lofthouse	WP
Lewis Klopper	JBA
Kevin Campbell	WP
John Ravenscroft	JBA
Nic Laage	Gauteng N
Tommie Jamie	Gauteng N

Women Junior Masters

Section A

Hazel Muller	NW
Meaghan Hobbs	Gauteng E
Ashleigh Parks	JBA
Rozanne Rossouw	S Cape
Anneke Snyman	Boland
Lauren Strachan	JBA

Section B

Janita du Toit	WP
Roxanne Tingle	BA
Jacqui Janse van Rensburg	BA
Natasha Jonker	NFS
Ezile Fourie	Boland
Michelle Scheepers	N Free State

Men Junior Masters

Section A

Eugene Ferreira	WP
Jason Smith	JBA
Charles Mathewson	N Cape
Tarquin Ormston	Border
Noah Mabula	JBA
Dylon Mitchell	Gauteng N

Section B

Juane Meyer	EP
Arthur Tingle	JBA
Stefan de Jager	Boland
Scott Elliot	N Cape
Mbulelo Soji	WP
Jason Key	SFS

From the President's Desk: World Bowls firmly on my mind

Hello fellow bowlers, the three months since my induction as your president have flown; now I am flying – to Adelaide, Australia to represent BowlsSA at World Bowls; I return in mid-December.

I shall attend a biennial World Bowls Council meeting and up-permost on a full agenda for discussion are a Commonwealth Games update, World Championships 2016–Bowls NZ, as well as reports back from directors on the development of the code, laws, domestic inquiries etc.

The results of the election for World Bowls president and his regional directors will also be ratified. They are president, Joe Aarons AOM (Australia), directors John McArdle South Africa, John Bell England, John Carter New Zealand - all experienced and dedicated administrators. John M (Albertyn) is, as you know, a former World Bowls president and a distinguished president of Bowls SA.

Turning to general matters, I see, regrettably drug abuse in sport has again reared its ugly head in the local cycling world.

Bowls is treated no differently from other codes, hence our World Bowls Proteas each has to complete an internationally required Therapeutic Use Exemption form signed by their doctors to take with them to Adelaide ... no form, no play. BowlsSA takes the drug issue most seriously and has a zero tolerance rule in place.

It is with great pleasure and sincerity I and your executive and all the administrative secretariat in Johannesburg wish all bowlers and their loved ones a peaceful and restful time over the festive season; good fortune and success in 2013 for health, bowls, family life and business.



Alan Freeman
President, Bowls SA
December 2012

Iconic Cape Town bowling club gutted in blaze

Armistice Day will never again be forgotten by the members of famous Atlantic Green Point Bowling Club (78 members, formerly Green Point BC) for a different reason after the clubhouse, built in 1930, was totally destroyed by fire. But, says club president John Taylor, "Miraculously not a single burning ember fell on the greens; we have the finest greens in South Africa (sic) and it will be business as usual in temporary canvas housing until we have re-built." Cause of the fire was understood to be an electrical fault. The mainly wooden building and the club's memorabilia were totally destroyed; there were no casualties. Taylor was, however, upbeat. "In a multi-million development, with the community in mind, we shall rise again and our members and the locals will enjoy a bigger, better clubhouse ... Atlantic Green Point will soon again be fully alive and well."



DISASTER: A blazing Green Point Stadium BC lights up the night sky; later only smoking ruins remained of the once proud landmark on the Green Point seaboard in Cape Town.

Pictures: JARED STEIN (Mowbray BC)

"Mother-in-Law returns lawn bowls to airwaves" - Taking Bowls to Radio down under

Over 17 years ago Patrick McErlean was broadcasting cricket through Brisbane radio's 4BC network when he was approached to return lawn bowls to the airwaves.

Patrick said that the request came following a call from the program manager's mother-in-law, following the axing of the ABC's Saturday morning lawn bowls radio show.

"During a break in transmission that day I was approached to see if it would be at all possible for me to roll out a bowls program on Sunday mornings.

"I immediately said yes not before asking how much of the stations' time he would be prepared to devote to lawn bowls.

"He thought about it for a couple of minutes and then replied two - two minute segments," Patrick said.

Read and hear more at www.lawnbowlsworld.com.au

Lightening clears Potch greens

Ninety-six teams played for a lot more than veg at the Warwick private Wealth Mielieland Fours at four clubs in the Potchefstroom area ... early booking for next year's event underscored the popularity of the event, write Fanny Meyeridricks. Potchefstroom Country Club, Potchefstroom Town Bowls Club, Witrand Hospital Bowls Club and Strathvaal Bowls Club, Stilfontein,

hosted the fiercely contested tournament, which saw the Friday afternoon game abandoned because of a severe thunderstorm. However the remaining five clashes were played under sunny skies. There was a hiccup when final scores were miscalculated, but in the end the spoils went to those who had won.



POTCH KINGS: The men who triumphed at Potchefstroom: from left: Martin Snyman, George Lotter (Snr), Jannie Storm and George Lotter (Jnr) representing the Warwick B team



AT THE HEAD: Play at Potchefstroom under sunny skies



POTCH QUEENS: Ladies' winners at Potchefstroom, from left: Louise Longmore, Janet Blythe, Gaylyn Bedford-Owen and Yvonne Brenner (Discovery); Warwick's Fanny Meyeridricks is extreme left

Sunshine from Warwick at Howick

Eighteen teams contested the Warwick Mixed Fours at Umgeni Waterfall BC, producing high quality bowls on 14sec greens, reports Stuart Milligan. Skins format and 21-ends matches were enjoyed at a sunny, but later chilly, Howick. Conrad Clifford, Warwick KZN regional manager, was on hand to hand out the prizes



HOWICK HOORAH: Barbara Brookes, Jeanette Cain, Dave Truscott (club president), Conrad Clifford (Warwick)



WATERFALL WINNERS: From left: Brian Cowden, Colin Winterboer, Al Louw, Conrad Clifford (Warwick)

Time for milk and whisky at Lahee Park

The Warwick Private Wealth/Lahee Park "Easter" Tournament attracted 36 teams (any format) and played over two days; three games of 15 ends on skins scoring were played daily. The Durban weather co-operated and the bowls was of a high standard, reports Stuart Milligan. The winners were Paddy McDulings's, Maritzburg side, followed by Brad Lezar and his team and then Steve van Rooyen's quartet from a highly congested top half of the table. Drawn prizes were kindly donated by Distell with their Scottish Leader Whisky.



PADDY REIGNS: Paddy McDuling and his Maritzburg side won at Lahee Park



CHEERS: Lucky draw winners of Scottish Leader Whisky at Lahee Park

Top dog Baker no 'Blast from the Past'

SA No 1 Gerry Baker was interviewed by ace radio jock Graeme Joffe ... here is a transcript of the programme insert, with thanks to Joffers

GRAEME JOFFE: Not really a blast from the past because he is still playing at the highest level. Hello Gerry Baker.

GERRY BAKER: Hello Joffers, good to speak to you.

GRAEME JOFFE: Feels like you have been bowling for the last thirty years.

GERRY BAKER: I have, I got my colours in '95 and I have never been out the side since, so it has been a long time. I have had four Commonwealth Games and four World Championships, so I am a bit long in the tooth at the moment (laughter)

GRAEME JOFFE: What do you still want to achieve?

GERRY BAKER: Well, at the last Commonwealth, I achieved that and I ticked that gold medal off. That was a big relief for me, because I had done the silvers and bronzes before, and when it comes to World Championships, I am probably in the same sort of space. I have done the silver and bronzes but missed out on the elusive gold. So, if I do that, I think I would have achieved what I set out to do.

GRAEME JOFFE: I want to come back to that Commonwealth Games 2010 and they talk about "the bowls shot heard around the world." You needed to pick up six shots with your very last wood and the rest is history. They tell me 'B' is for Baker, bowls and BMT.

GERRY BAKER: Joffers, it was a wonder bowl and you know, put it this way, in the context of the whole games there, so it is like a full house. There wasn't a six in the whole tournament, in the knock out stages, in the preliminaries, there was never a six so to do that at the last end of a gold medal match is, is like a dream come true. So, it was a special ending but you know we played well all week. Shaun Addinall has retired from the game, he was my partner, and we were consistent all week. We went through about fifteen odd games; we only lost the one, so we went into the final confident. We won the first set against England, we let them come back in the second set, and they thought they had it wrapped up and we got the six to draw the second set to win the game, not to go into the tie breakers. So, for me it was great to have the monkey off my back and to have the gold medal.

GRAEME JOFFE: The World Champs in November, obviously looking very forward to that?

GERRY BAKER: I am indeed, you know, the World Champs are in Adelaide, very fast greens, uncomfortably fast for us, so you play with different bowls, different strategy and different shot selection. So, we are really out of our comfort zone, but we are getting there a week earlier and like I said, it is more about the shot selection that makes it difficult. What is a natural sort of call, or shot to play here in South Africa on our slower greens is impossible there, so we will settle down in the week. We are pretty experienced, we have been around the world, the bunch of us a lot of times, so we should be able to

handle it.

GRAEME JOFFE: Bowls is big in Australia and they have these televised events, almost like 20/20 cricket. Isn't that something South African bowls needs?

GERRY BAKER: Absolutely. I think what happens with us, we have a televised event, for example, Commonwealth Games, we get great reviews for a period of ten odd days and then nothing happens again for two years. Australia have got the model right, every Saturday from 5-6pm on ABC or Channel Nine, there is a bowls event. The whole mindset, the whole organisation and structures are far more professional than ours and I think the television side is just one of those aspects.

GRAEME JOFFE: So often bowls has been labelled as "old men's marbles". Are there a lot more youngsters are playing the game?

GERRY BAKER: Absolutely, I mean there is still space for that, it is still the old man's game, if you go around to the clubs in Johannesburg on Sunday, you will see the old boys. I think that is the marvel of the game, you can play from 16 to 100 and I think competitively speaking, the Australian bowls side is younger than their cricket side. We recently had Malaysia out here and in their women's team, there is not a player over 20 and in their men's team, not a player over 30; we've got great young talent in the likes of Pierre Breitenbach, Clinton Roets and Tracy-Lee Botha.

GRAEME JOFFE: Talk about the old guys on a Saturday afternoon at club level in Joburg, I take it you are talking about Dave Atkinson at Belgravia. He must be 80 odd? (laughter)

GERRY BAKER: (laughter) He looks that but I think he just had a rough ride of late.

GRAEME JOFFE: And life after bowls for Gerry Baker?

GERRY BAKER: I think just a good break, Joffers. I don't think I am really an admin sort of guy, maybe I will get involved in the high performance side of things, at a later stage but I think stay on the golf course and try a make a bit of cash there. (laughter)

GRAEME JOFFE: I have seen your game; not likely. (laughter)

If you want to listen to this great slot, here are the details Thanks for the support Graeme; you are the best voice on sport radio in South Africa (Editor)



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Bowls SA asks conveners of District Technical Officials Standing Committees to ensure all are made aware of liaison persons and their contact details.

Blind benefit from fundraiser



Warmer weather greeted 120 stalwarts who contested the Warwick Fundraiser Fours at Pretoria High School Old Boys ... whisky and milk and coffee were in demand, reports Fonny Meyerdricks. Two games of 12 ends (three greens were used) and a spider (in aid of blind bowlers) held on two greens; raffles and 50/50 boards were well supported. The bowls was competitive and enjoyable; the winning team - Willy and Charmaine Kritzinger, Eddie Chellwell and Tess Wyeth of the host club, who achieved 19 points out of a possible 20.

Girls 'up to speed' at Umhlali

On a hot, humid day the ladies triumphed from a mixed field of 36 in the unique Warwick Speed Singles played at Umhlali CC, reports Stuart Milligan.

The event is played over 21 ends, or the first to reach 21 shots, whichever comes first. There are no markers and play is to the jack wherever it comes to rest. Players may not go to the head until all bowls are played; no advise man be obtained from those on adjoining rinks.

Women filled the first three places, laying down a challenge to their male counterparts for 2013.

Belinda Steffens played well to defeat Mienie Theron in the final after seeing off local former Protea star Jill Hackland in a semi-final. Kevin de Kok came fourth after being defeated in another

semi-final by Theron. He began well against Hackland for third and fourth, but Hackland's experience showed.

A big "Thank You" to Scottish Leader for the whisk donated as lucky draw prizes for the spectators that watched entertaining finals.



THIRD SPOT: Former SA international national selector Jill Hackland finished third in the Warwick Speed Singles at Umhlali CC; see above with Warwick's KZN regional manager Conrad Clifford

Top players show flag at Banner

Cream came to the top as Protea Stuart Milligan skipped locals to victory at an enjoyable Warwick Nominated Fours at Banners Rest BC on the Natal South Coast. Played in skins format over 21 ends, 12 sides took part. Good greens a light breeze and fine weather helped make the event memorable. Another Protea in Chris Forward also competed; former Gold Squad member Pam Cole-Cook participated. Scottish Leader Whisky and Warwick were warmly applauded for their terrific support.



STUART'S LADIES: Baba, Marge and Amy, winners Banner BC with Protea Stuart Milligan

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GRASS CLIPPINGS No 29

Summary: Life in South Africa is a roller-coaster between periods of more than average rainfall and of “drought.” While flood causes more damage than drought, there is little a greenkeeper can do to prevent flood damage, but there are measures which can be applied to “train” grass to survive when water is scarce. Grass Clippings No 29 describes various measures to be applied in anticipation of a drought and what might be done to ensure grass survives during total water restriction.

There is leaf life during drought

By Dr Charles Louw



WATER DAMAGE: The Sunshine Coast experienced the type of rain which occurs once in a century. Having already had 252mm in four days we were subjected to a downpour. The arrow point to the top of the bank after another 144mm in five hours; this shot of C green tells the story

Having been exposed to the vagaries of the weather over many years the fact that we have had our whole annual rainfall (622mm) in October tells me that at some time within the next few years there will be a period of below-average rainfall - a drought.

Water shortage is a perennial problem in the RSA and Municipalities are continually looking at more distant sources of water.

At some time or other there will not be any more “distant sources” of water and we will have to accept more restrictions. The initial step would be increases in the water tariffs with penalties for excess usage. Sporting bodies will no longer enjoy the luxury of “cheaper water”.

Scientists have prophesied that with our population growing at the rate it is water for agricultural purposes will soon be limited.

Greenkeepers should always be aware of a possibility a drought situation might be in the offing. By taking note of weather pattern a greenkeeper will be aware, well in advance, a drought is looming. The media will keep him informed about water available in storage facilities.

He/she knows that, unless there is relief, regulations limiting the use of water followed by complete prohibition will be imposed within a certain time.

Where a club relies on underground water for its needs, the possibility that the supply might suddenly dry up must always be borne in mind.

Let us, therefore, look more critically at how we use the water we have available and how we would cope in a drought.

1 The Root System

One of the basic requirements of pre-drought management is that the grass must be trained to do with less frequent irrigation and have the capacity to absorb as much as possible when irrigated – deep roots.

The root system is the most important component of a drought management programme and the greenkeeper must ensure roots are capable of utilising all the water and nutrients available in the “root zone.”

a) Root Depth

Grass roots will not survive without oxygen and not penetrate beyond that depth where oxygen is still available in the soil.

It is up to the greenkeeper to ensure:

- i) Oxygen is available at the greatest depth possible – usually by aeration with a hollow tine or verti-draining.
- ii) That the roots are trained to penetrate to that depth by delaying irrigation for as long as possible. This forces the grass to seek water at a deeper level by developing roots that reach the limit of the oxygen supplies

These roots are not only healthier, but will also help the plant survive drier times.

***NB:** It does not make sense to aerate a green to a depth of, say, 100mm and still apply irrigation water so frequently and in such small amounts that the roots obtain all the water and nutrients they require at a shallower level.*

b) Mycorrhiza Fungi

This fungus lives within the roots of the plant and extend fungal threads into the soil where they search for water and nutrients far beyond the host plant's rooting zone.

The ultimate result is that with the aid of the *mycorrhiza*, the host plant has gained access to water and nutrients which it would not normally have enjoyed. While *mycorrhiza* appears normally in soil some will be destroyed by systemic fungicides and it might be advisable to bolster the supply.

2 Planting drought-resistant grasses

This is not normally a problem as all grasses used on bowling greens in South Africa are known for their resistance to drought. Apart from a variety of *Sea Shore Paspalum* (developed in the USA) with special drought-resistant properties, it is impossible to improve on the *Cynodons* and *Paspalum* grasses.

3 Preparation for a drought

Pre-drought management starts immediately after renovation. To develop drought-tolerant greens that remains healthy and able to cope with a drought several actions should begin in the spring.

These include:

- a) Aeration: dealt with
- b) Correct mowing. Such techniques can make a big difference as to whether your green is healthy and able to survive the stress of infrequent rain and water restriction – the objective would be to reduce those operations which increase stress in the grass plant while exposed to drought conditions.

i) Sharp mower blades correctly adjusted to the bottom blade cut cleaner, exposing less grass blade surface to potential disease, pest and water loss

ii) Proper mowing height depends on the time of year and, according to D. Huang, more frequent mowing, along with an increased mowing height as summer temperatures rise, encourage deeper roots that are essential to a green's health and summer survival.

The higher cutting height used during the summer (when the photosynthetic processes in the leaf tissues are at their peak) should continue into autumn when the plants begin to store food reserves.

- c) Fertilising: Avoid excessive stimulation if the grass is already under stress.

Fertilising stimulates growth in the grass plant – something undesirable in a drought situation as growth or anything that uses up more CHO should be limited as much as possible.

The grass plant will survive for many months without fertilisers and for that reason fertilising should not be a high priority during drought.

Similarly, unless weeds and fungi have developed there would be no need to apply chemicals.

d) Correct watering techniques i.e.: methods that use significantly less water than most greenkeepers usually apply.

i) If the club has an automatic sprinkler system this should be set to operate early in the morning to ensure greater ground absorption. Avoid mid-day watering which results in up to 60% evaporation loss from heat and wind.

ii) If the club does not possess an automatic system then the sprinklers should be used as early as possible or late afternoon

iii) Adjust the sprinkler's irrigation rate to match the soil's absorption rate. Generally, sandy soils absorb 50 mm of water per hour, loamy soils 12mm, and clay soils 5mm – avoid water accumulating on a green while irrigating

iv) Perform regular irrigation system maintenance,

e) Compaction – This can be described as the physical obliteration or partial closure of many of the pore spaces between the particles.

Aerating your green, at least once a year, is one of the greatest water conservation and environmentally-friendly steps a GKP can take.

After a year of rain and being trampled on by players and machines soil under the grass becomes compacted.

Compacted soils in practice suffocate turf grass of oxygen needed for respiration. Clayey soils might require bi-annual aeration.

Un-aerated compacted greens require up to 50% more water, according to University of Georgia Turf Grass research scientist Bob Carrow, PhD, who also

points out "... Compacted turf is less vigorous and competitive overall, which can lead to an increased need for herbicides and fungicides to help fight its battles..."

4 Management during drought

Once water restrictions are in place a greenkeeper's objective should include using all available water to produce and store as much CHO as possible.

a) Increase the leaf area.

b) CHO reserves: Avoid conditions where CHO usage increases by obviating unnecessary stress in the grass plant so the limited amount of CHO are used correctly and not to restore damaged plants or fight exposure to infections

NB: If you only had a limited amount of petrol for you car a prudent driver would reduce his average speed to conserve as much fuel as possible.

c) Mowing: With the onset of watering restriction the greenkeeper should immediately warn club committee and members he will be obliged to increase mowing height by, at least 1mm.

The increased leaf area will produce more CHO and at the same time reduce the stress on the grass plant and its defence mechanism.

He should, also, think of other actions to enhance a grass plant's chances of surviving the drought successfully.

"Early morning mowing is a proven disease-fighting weapon," says Dr Doug Brede, associate editor of *Agronomy Journal*.

He adds the exception is when the turf is wet from rain or frost-covered.

d) Wilting: The first indication a plant is under stress is wilting. This occurs whenever evaporation plus transpiration exceeds the rate at which water is absorbed by the turf grass roots and there is a water deficiency in the plant itself.

This occurs when water is in short supply e.g. drought, or when the greenkeeper deliberately delays irrigation to improve the speed of the green.

With the development of internal moisture deficit grass plant cells lose their turgidity, and the leaves turn a shiny purplish.

***NB:** Wilting can, also, occur if there is interference with the absorption of water round the roots zone .e.g. shallow rooting, excess thatch, disease, or poor aeration from compaction*

e) A Brown Green: A grass plant has its own mechanism to deal with drought - it stops photosynthesis voluntarily and goes into dormancy; the leaves turn brown from lack of chlorophyll.

This does not mean that the plant is dead, but rather is in survival mode limiting its use of CHO. It is protecting itself and surviving on stored CHO in the roots and stems. The roots are the only part of the grass plant using any CHO.

Many greenkeepers have experienced how greens, "brown" for some time in a drought, recover and green up when water again becomes available

f) Vertical mowing: Any efforts to thin out the mat should be curtailed during a drought. If a limited amount of irrigation is allowed then the greenkeeper would be conserving leaf area; with complete restriction on irrigation then the grass will limit the leaf area on its own and there would be no need to "thin out" the mat

g) Water repellence (hydrophobia): A *greenkeeper* should, always, be aware of the possibility of *hydrophobic* patches developing on the green.

These patches originate because a range of *hydrophobic* organic materials form non-polar "coatings" on the sand particles. The coating changes the polarities of the particles in such a way that water molecules tend to avoid them, so remain dry.

NB: The area involved is usually much larger than the dry patch. Wetting agents would be required to restore the polarity and improve the flow of water.

5 Is the grass still alive?

As a greenkeeper looks at his brown green the question arises, "is the grass still

alive, or will I have to re-seed?" This question is answered by applying a small amount of water every 2-3 days to an area 300mm x 300mm. If the grass is alive new shoots will appear within five days.

6 Conclusions

It takes a drought to make a greenkeeper and his committee more aware of the importance of water for a bowling green.

Each drought leads to a more efficient use of water, but unfortunately, this is often forgotten after a long period of abundant water or if a new greenkeeper, without drought management experience, takes over.

As mentioned at the start, water shortage in South Africa will grow – something no greenkeeper can afford to ignore.

*Note: Under the heading **Preparation for a Drought** a number of procedures was enumerated which a greenkeeper should apply if a drought situation looms. All such measures should form part of a good management programme and not just used when the drought arrives.*

SA's World Bowls routes in Adelaide

The winner of pool 1 will progress to semi-final 1, the winner of pool 2 will progress to semi-final 2.

The second and third-placed teams from each pool will be randomly draw into two post-sectional play-off matches, game A and game B. The winner of game A will progress to semi final 1, the winner of game B will progress to semi- final 2. The winners of each semi-final will play off in the final for the gold and silver medals. The losers of both semi-finals will be awarded bronze medals.

2012 World Championships Sections -

Men en	Singles/1	Singles/2	Pairs/1	Pairs/2
1-2	Malaysia	Australia	New Zealand	Scotland
3-4	Canada	New Zealand	Malaysia	Australia
5-6	South Africa	Scotland	Canada	South Africa
7-8	Ireland	England	England	Fiji
9-10	Fiji	Zimbabwe	Hong Kong China	Namibia
11-12	Namibia	Hong Kong China	Zimbabwe	Ireland
13-14	Wales	Israel	Wales	Brazil
15-16	Brazil	Spain	Spain	Israel
17-18	Jersey	United States	Jersey	China
19-20	China	Japan	Philippines	Thailand
21-22	Brunei	Thailand	United States	Brunei
23-24	Philippines	Botswana	Japan	Botswana
Men	Triples/1	Triples/2	Fours/1	Fours/2
1-2	Scotland	Fiji	New Zealand	Australia
3-4	Malaysia	Canada	England	South Africa
5-6	Ireland	Australia	Ireland	Scotland
7-8	England	New Zealand	Malaysia	Canada
9-10	Hong Kong China	Zimbabwe	Namibia	Fiji
11-12	South Africa	Namibia	Zimbabwe	Hong Kong China
13-14	Wales	Brazil	Wales	Jersey
15-16	Israel	Jersey	Israel	Brazil
17-18	Spain	Philippines	Spain	Philippines
19-20	United States	Brunei	Thailand	Japan
21-22	Thailand	China	Brunei	United States
23-24	Japan	Botswana	China	Botswana
Women	Singles/1	Singles/2	Pairs/1	Pairs/2
1-2	New Zealand	England	New Zealand	England

	Singles/1	Singles/2	Pairs/1	Pairs/2
3-4	Australia	Malaysia	Australia	Ireland
5-6	Canada	Scotland	Canada	Malaysia
7-8	Philippines	South Africa	Scotland	Philippines
9-10	Wales	Ireland	South Africa	Wales
11-12	Jersey	Hong Kong China	Hong Kong China	Jersey
13-14	Israel	Netherlands	Israel	Cyprus
15-16	Spain	Cyprus	Netherlands	Spain ⁷
17-18	Thailand	Fiji	Norfolk Island	China
19-20	China	Brunei	Thailand	Japan
21-22	Norfolk Island	Japan	Fiji	Brunei
23-24	Botswana	United States	United States	Botswana
Women	Triples/1	Triples/2	Fours/1	Fours/2
1-2	South Africa	Australia	Australia	Wales
3-4	Wales	New Zealand	Malaysia	Ireland
5-6	Scotland	Malaysia	New Zealand	England
7-8	Jersey	Hong Kong China	Scotland	South Africa
9-10	Philippines	England	Philippines	Hong Kong China
11-12	Canada	Ireland	Canada	Jersey
13-14	Israel	Netherlands	Spain	Cyprus
15-16	Cyprus	Spain	Israel	Netherlands
17-18	Fiji	Thailand	Brunei	Fiji
19-20	China	Brunei	Japan	Norfolk Island
21-22	Japan	Norfolk Island	Thailand	China
23-24	Botswana	United States	Botswana	United States

Bowls SA Roundup

Tracy and Gippo for world indoors

Johannesburg. - Tracy-Lee Botha, 24, of Johannesburg, fourth in the Junior Women's World Indoor Championships and Durban's "Gippo" Vermeulen, the men's SA Masters champion, have been selected to represent South Africa at the women's and men's 2013 World Cup (indoor singles) respectively. The event takes place at Warilla Bowls and Recreation Club, near Sydney, Australia from April 7-18 next year.

Warwick BowlsSA Men's National Championship website news

A Warwick/BowlsSA men's nationals' website has been set up www.nationals.bowlsgn.co.za

The following information, also available on www.bowlsa.co.za includes:

- a. Entry Forms (official entry form, extended official entry form, and club notice-board entry form).
 - b. Conditions of Play.
 - c. Declaration Forms (pairs & fours), which will be used at the clubs presenting the tournament.
 - d. Tournament committee members' contact details.
2. Information pertaining to inter-alia accommodation, etc will also be on the website

Closing dates

Closing date for entries into the following events is Monday, January 28, 2013. Districts are requested to ensure entries are dispatched timeously on the appropriate forms to the e-mail addresses as indicated:

- Perfect Delivery: Bowls SA Open Inter-District Championship – epbowls@telkomsa.net Attention: Sonja Clements.
- Bowls SA "B" Inter-District Championship – info@jbabowls.co.za Attention: Storm Howard.
- Perfect Delivery : Bowls SA Senior Inter-District Championship – celiawp@mweb.co.za Attention: Celia Gouws



YOUNG TALENT: Aspiring young bowlers from Merrylands HS, Sydney, Australia, pose after a training session. There more than 80 000 Under-23 bowlers of both genders throughout Australia who take part in organised training, leagues and national events

New look website

Take a peep at Bowls South Africa's re-designed website ... it's bright and cheerful and packed with info.

Did you know Bowls SA has many publications on offer; check them out on the website under the "Publications" banner.

Hot for green-keepers is Basic Green-keeping; then do not miss Dr Charles Louw's coming more comprehensive Advanced Green-keeping.

Dates, personnel, contact numbers, dates ... it's all loud and clear on www.BowlsSA.co.za

Events' dates changed

The 2013 dates of the following are now:

- Warwick: Bowls SA Masters: February 15-17
- Bowls SA Workshop: August 24
- Bowls SA AGM: August 25

The Warwick: Bowls SA Masters clashes with the African Nations Cup (soccer). Accommodation is at a premium and considerable cost is saved if the event is moved by one week. The annual work-

shop and AGM must take place over the last week-end of August each year in terms of the constitution.

Make use of the trailer ...

BowlsSA's development trailer, launched at the Bowls SA AGM workshop in August, represents a substantial investment. The required return is creating widespread bowls awareness at schools, retirement facilities, church fetes, agricultural shows and so on.

Every district should, without delay, supply details of suitable events for use of the trailer and a budget.

The National Standing Committee: Promotion & Development will then be able to prepare an itinerary and budget for 2012/13 events.

Although a training manual accompanies the trailer districts must assign two experienced bowlers to assist.

Districts should respond to Fanny Meyeridricks at fanny@warwickwealth.com

Under-19 development tourney 2013

BowlsSA will assist districts sending teams to the Under-19 development tournament in 2013.

- Each district confirming entry will receive R5 000 - ir respective of the number of teams entered.
- There is an additional R1 000 for every team entered where at least 50% of the team includes players from previously disadvantaged communities.

Warwick/BowlsSA Singles qualifying change

The pre-qualifying singles event held at the nationals has been abolished.

From 2013, the Warwick/Bowls national tournament committee requires districts to confirm singles qualifiers on or before April 29, 2013.

The number of qualifiers for each district is determined through membership volume and local singles events must be completed before April 28.

Should qualified individuals not be available districts are permitted to fill such vacancies at their discretion.

Should not all berths be filled for any reason, would-be contestants may sign a register. Should that be over-subscribed a draw will determine who plays.

Closed for the holidays

The Bowls SA office will be closed between December 17- January 7.

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