



WARWICK
WEALTH



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Kepler's draw set to ignite BowlsSA drive

Kepler Wessels, South African sportsman extraordinaire, cricketer icon, sought-after commentator worldwide for his blunt, clear, honest and deep understanding of all aspects and disciplines of willow and leather, has at the "ripe old age" of 55 (he looks 35) set himself a fresh target in a new code - to wear green and gold as a Protea bowls player; shrewd gamblers might prefer not to bet against him reaching that pinnacle.

South African bowls, with 26 000 registered men and women, has embraced government guidelines and aspirations for transformation, put in place machinery to ensure formerly disadvantaged communities benefit and set up training and selection machinery at top level to ensure anyone playing has a chance to proceed through the ranks to the top.

Although the sport remains white-based, special attention has been given by the BowlsSA executive to ensure the majority of the population can take part on a level playing field.

Says BowlsSA president Allan Freeman:

"The national executive is striving to ensure the sport meets the requirements and aspirations of all members of our modern nation. Players such as Kepler are a Godsend to any sport since they reflect the calibre of excellence in demeanor and commitment vital for survival. Bowls is grateful he has selected our wonderful game and we will consider and embrace his thoughts wherever we can."

Wessels, who lives with doctor wife Sally in Port Elizabeth, remains as competitive as he was when he scored his first cricketing century when aged only nine, has set himself bowls goals of excellence.

"As an ordinary member of the bowls-playing public I sense an opportunity. When I hung up my cricket boots I realised I needed to find a non-contact, but competitive sport. Bowls provided that bal-



ance. I found it exciting in that it stretched my mental and physical reserves, but without punishing my body.

"The beauty of the game is that one can enjoy it at any level required. Clubs offer non-ultra pressure tabs-in games and then there are competitions through club, district and national level. I expect many in transition from sports such as

cricket, hockey, soccer and rugby would find bowls a great option; youngsters too, with reasons for preferring non-contact sport should seriously think about bowls. Schools have a terrific chance to widen their sporting curriculum' good news is Bowls SA will assist them with expertise and equipment.

"Moreover, one does not have to be a top

performer from another sport to excel at bowls. Anyone with moderate hand-eye co-ordination can excel; like so many things, what you put in you get out. Also the camaraderie at club level is terrific.

Wessels has his sights on higher aspirations.

"I am working hard and hope to make the Protea squad. I am delighted to have been selected for the Eastern Province inter-district side, at home in Port Elizabeth; then I play with Gerry Baker (Belgravia) at the SA national championships in Pretoria ... chances I must take."

But then when this gifted sportsman took up the game he was touted for greatness.

Former decades-long South Africa No 1 and world class player Neil Burkett, on a visit to South Africa with wife Sheila from their home in Australia, waxed lyrical about Wessels' gifts.

"Kepler played with me as an absolute beginner in a pairs event at Knysna and we finished second; the next year he went out with Gerry Baker (the five-time SA Masters champion from Johannesburg) and won.

"Yes, memories come to mind with mention of Kepler's name. I remember a phone call when living in Cape Town asking if I thought he could make South African bowls colours and I said I was certain. I am glad practice is a priority. Once I remember hearing him commentating from New-

"One does not have to be a top performer from another sport to excel at bowls. Anyone with moderate hand-eye co-ordination can excel"

lands in Cape Town at 5.45pm and then at 6.30pm seeing him at WPCC rolling bowls.

"I know his excellent commentating has limited his time, but this year I am feel he will use the districts and nationals as a stepping stone to achieving his goal."

But it's not just the playing side. Wessels, with a deep understanding of what makes any sport tick, has passionate desire to see bowls succeed as a 21st century sport.

"For more than 100 years bowls reflected the strata of SA society. Afrikaans-speakers preferred their own clubs, as did English speakers; the Coloured community set up clubs; even the famous Soweto club of the 70s and 80s was blacks only; now change is not only important, but vital

"Simply put, there are not enough players to sustain all the clubs, so it has to be mix and match; Desmond's (Tutu) Rainbow Nation is perfect for bowls.

"There might be a little cultural shock here and there, but it's the same worldwide. Soccer, rugby and cricket have succeeded in taking the assimilation route; bowls can do it as well."

He recognises, however, unlike cricket, soccer and rugby, which enjoy huge spon-

sorships and can, therefore, pay people to market themselves, no one in bowls administration is paid for their services' all give time willingly and voluntarily.

And, he added, other major codes enjoy a permanent fan base which again provides money through sales of memorabilia and entrance fees; bowls supporters are players themselves and spectators watch for free.

Wessels insists clubs and their experienced administrators must play ball.

"New bowlers of any age or from any community must be welcomed and helped to overcome any perceived negative energies. All club members must be encouraged to embrace and assist new players of any age. It is vital the new brigade have the game's etiquettes clearly explained to become on-going integrated members; experienced players must realise newcomers represent the future of their club and the game."

Iconic Wessels, as a vastly experienced sports leader is also aware the roller coaster of change must be measured against a background of 50% of SA's population living in abject poverty.

"Bowls' accelerated identification and development of talent in the short term to try to impact on demographic profiles at club, district and national level is marginally effective, but leads sometimes to a range of secondary problems, mostly cultural, financial and peer envy.

"While the new black middle class has the means and position to join established clubs, the less fortunate in other communities require a helping hand; here government can certainly play a role.

"Change must be multi-dimensional, but care must be taken to avoid adding to fears, resentment, unwelcome types of peer pressure and certainly racism in any form," insists a man, who knows all about it from playing cricket at the highest level for Australia and for South Africa after re-admission to world sport in 1992.

He has a recipe that might help attract players from the entire strata of South African society. But he knows implementation of any plan is tough and time-consuming.

"How about:

- Devising a way to speed the game, especially at club level. Shorten



matches to ensure more inter-action between members takes place, skins scoring would help;

- then, by doing that, ensure two-bowl pairs and trips games aplenty are offered at club and district level to increase entries and promote interest; twilight and barefoot bowls will attract players;
- Install low-maintenance artificial surfaces in under-privileged areas that require only brushing clean (similar to the old concrete/matting strip cricket pitches) and transport bowls, jacks, mats, helpers and coaches there, rather than trying to bus often reluctant would-be players to what are seen as elitist areas;
- Encourage government to help finance that infrastructure in such areas – bowls simply does not have the means to fully afford such expense – to give the formerly disadvantaged access to a cheap, all-year character-building sport;
- Ensure teams from such areas are sponsored into district league and open

tournaments and,

- Introduce novice grading systems so new players can truly feel they have goals to achieve and feel they are improving. Then as they do, reward them through coaching, selection and on-going encouragement from top players?"

Wessels would be happy to act as a roving ambassador for bowls – "but not in a

"I am working hard and hope to make the Protea squad."

structured way; I just do not have the time. Nevertheless, I would ne prepared to speak at clubs wherever I found myself, any word of mouth contact for any reason is a great way to spread the news about bowls" he explained.

The lean, tough-looking, but most approachable great has come a long way

from his roots in the dry, windswept reaches of Griqualand. He's gone through ups and downs, reaching the heady heights of a sportsman with few peers. Now, seriously middle-aged, he is making one more thrust for sporting glory – a sporting goal reachable by virtually anyone with some talent, but only through determination and a willingness to put in the work.

Wessels is an absolute example for anyone wanting to continue playing sport competitively until they are 90+ ... he certainly will be,

He proudly wore green and gold as a cricketer, do not be surprised if he shakes out the moths and re-designs his gear for just as spectacular a bowls career.

©Alan Simmonds, Media Officer, Bowls South Africa, January, 2013.

Mandla a role model for bowlers and the youth of South Africa



TOP CLASS: Mandla in his school uniform

In January two years ago, Minister of Sport & Recreation, Fikile Mbalula, identified national youth camps as vital platform for young people across the nation to develop themselves.

Camps, he said, had potential to unite and utilise the power of sport and recreation and to empower youth with soft-skills and knowledge to assist them to become responsible citizens and to assist in strengthening patriotism and national identity.

Spelling out intent, Ronald Gabriel, Western Cape Youth Camp Co-ordinator, says camps focus on social inclusion, leadership and national identity.

One such young man selected last year was Mandlenkosi Sizolo (better known as Mandla), 17, nominated by WPBA to attend the Sport and Recreation SA's National Youth 2-Day Camp in September at Tulbagh Steinthal. As a stand-out he was invited to a follow-up at a seven-day Youth Camp later that month held

near Witzenburg, Boland.

There he was again named a group leader.

A gifted singer and performer, Mandla showed his prowess at both youth camps, where the theme was Youth in Motion.

Camps are led by the Department of Cultural Affairs and Sport guided by Sport Recreation South Africa (SRSA) in partnership with particularly the National Youth Development Agency (NYDA), Community Safety, Social Development and other civil society organisations.

Venues, accommodation, meals, training and transport and some clothing are provided by the department. The camp is over three days for youth aged 14-25 who are housed in tents by age groups with separate gender facilities.

His feedback after the camps was instructive.

Explaining how his peers chose him as their leader, he led the singing during hikes and the poetry in action sessions; he recited Black Monday by Deelar Khar (for which he was awarded 97% at the Helderberg Eisteddfod).

He was also chosen as MC for the Mr and Miss Western Cape Youth Camp 2012 and said, "I believe that I left a mark in the Youth Camp 2012 because most participants wanted my contact details and I got plenty of invites on Face Book. I was also asked for contacts and details by facilitators of Indigenous Games after excelling in some events."

Mandla was described as one of the best leaders ever,

This year he plans his own event, where I he will address youth who were unable to attend the camps.

Mandla, who has successfully completed Grade 11 at Rusthof Secondary near Strand, and now set for matric, is also a keen bowler who last year represented WP as an Under-19 in Bloemfontein and is now in WP U19 trials.

His mentor and coach, the indefatigable Aloma Smith (Strand), a tireless worker for development at national and district level, enthuses about her charge.

"Mandla, a Xhosa, also enjoys acting/drama and loves singing. On occasions he enjoys being MC at the club. He has true leadership qualities and makes friends easily.

"He joined Strand Bowling Club as a development member in October 2010 and at last year's prize giving delivered an excellent speech, touching everyone's hearts.

"As a young child he was severely burnt and bears many scars, but has overcome all odds to triumph over that horrific setback."

SABC 2 TV interviewed him at Rusthof, further to his gaining a bursary for tertiary education.

During the broadcast numerous calls were received from bowlers watching the interview on TV; all were impressed with his charm and ability to communicate.

Truly a role model for all youngsters a vital asset for bowls, bowlers and the future of the sport in South Africa, BowlsSA wishes Mandla ... "amandla."

By Alan Simmonds, Media Officer, BowlsSA, with thanks to Aloma Smith for information.

Great array of talent for Warwick Masters

A re-worked set of greens awaits the cream of South African bowlers when the Warwick Wealth/BowlsSA Masters Championships run at The Wanderers from February 15-17.

Says Allan Freeman, President of Bowls SA: "After a performance at Adelaide, where South Africa's men produced their best overall result since the glory days of 1976 it will be interesting to watch the cream of players in action on top class greens. Spectators should be encouraged to make the event a must."

Men's champion Gippo Vermeulen (Port Natal) and women's medallist Louise Roediger (WP), who won on debut last year, will have their work cut out.

Runners-up Santjie Steyn (Boland), a medallist in the women's fours at World Bowls in Australia, later this and Wayne Perry (JBA) keen to show selectors they erred in leaving him out of the Down Under trip month, return, but the entire women's and men's Protea sides are arrayed against them.

World Bowls bronze medallist Gerry Baker (Belgravia, JBA) could nail a record sixth crown; but last year's Billy Radloff (George, Southern Cape) and Bobby Donnelly (Wanderers, JBA) and Bedfordview clubmates two-time women's champion Tracy-Lee Botha (JBA) and Oz medallist Colleen Piketh (JBA) who won Masters bronze last season pose a huge threat.

All the razzmatazz of the Masters will be on show and Warwick Wealth chairman and CEO Ian Kilbride, was keen his flagship event was a success. "We like to think we offer the best in investment opportunities and insurance facilities for our members; am sure the bowls will provide a similar standard; it augurs well. God luck to all players and officials."

The Senior Masters sees the debut of former world champions and Open Masters champions, Trish Steyn (WP) and legend Kevin Campbell (WP), adding lustre to an already talent-filled section.



OLD HANDS: Trish Steyn and Kevin Campbell – make Senior Masters debuts

Special care should be made to watch the juniors, from where future Proteas may emerge.

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 Davis	S Cape
Pam Cole-Cook	Kingfisher
Bronwyn Webber	Port Natal
Colleen Piketh	JBA

Men Open Masters

Section A

Gidion Vermeulen	PN
Francois Koen	Gauteng N
Conrad Potgieter	Border
Clinton Roets	S Free State
Jason Evans	JBA
Shawn Janse van Vuuren	Mpumalanga
Dudley Daniels	N Cape
Bobby Donnelly	JBA

Section B

Wayne Perry	JBA
Bernardus van der Spuy	Gauteng N
Gerry Baker	JBA
Nic Rusling	Sables
Bruce Makkink	PN
Pierre Breitenbach	NW
Hertzog Meiring	SFS
Billy Radloff	SC

Women Senior Masters

Section A

Ellen Cawker	Kingfisher
Colleen Grondein	P Natal

Section B

Ellie van Coller	Gauteng E
Lorraine Victor	Gauteng N

Marina Brink	WP	Lyn Odendaal	Border
Rea Potgieter	Gauteng N	Trish Steyn	WP
Sharon Glenn	JBA	Jenny Smith	JBA
Wilma McLachlan	EP	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	JBA
Jacqui Janse van Rensburg	JBA
Monique Payne	BOL
Ezile Fourie	Boland
Michelle Scheepers	N Free State

Men Junior Masters

Section A

Eugene Ferreira	WP
Jason Smith	JBA
Charles Mathewson	N Cape
Tarquin Ormstom	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

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Chance for graphic designers

World Bowls wants to reinvent its logo to represent the organisation in print, online and on merchandise; it must be suitable for high resolution reproduction. The contest is open to anyone from around the globe. The winning designer will receive

four sets of lawn bowls and bags. Design criteria demand the words World Bowls or the initials WB, and either a globe or map of the world or photo or symbol of lawn bowls. Submissions CEO Gary Smith at worldbowls@btconnect.com by February 8.

Rest in peace Derek Watson

Warwick Wealth had established itself in the Bowling Districts of the WP and Boland by 2006 approx. A total of 94 clubs had been visited.

The first move to Port Elizabeth had been made, and it was obvious that another bowling ambassador was needed in Cape Town.

Derek Watson was briefly "interviewed" on the stoep of Constantia Bowling Club following a club competition.

His appointment was an inspired choice and Derek settled into the role as a man born to the job.

Derek's experience as a skip and bowler at Bergvliet Bowling Club gave Warwick a better understanding of bowling club internal politics. This was particularly shown in his dealings with the Cape Town clubs and the Club Presidents who knew him.

He was taken around the Boland District and met the presidents and committees. His command of Afrikaans was a very important element in establishing trust and continuity in the outlying areas.

The Western Province and Boland bowling clubs have lost a very good friend and he will be sadly missed.

I have to tell you, that to the very end, amid all his suffering, he was STILL asking and insisting that we look after you all.

His quiet patient demeanour made him a very popular person in the Warwick head office. The ladies loved him, he was "Uncle Derek."

Derek often told me of his days as a boy in the area adjoining District Six. His father would send him on errands, mainly to get spices; he loved wandering around, taking in the vibrant sounds and music.

It came as a surprise to discover that he was a confirmed Anglophile. This was revealed when he told me he was having the day off to watch the Trooping of the Colour on the Queens birthday on Horse Guards' Parade. He knew which regiment was to be honoured that day; he played drummer in a Cape Town pipe band for many years.

He loved his sport and Monday morning would be summary time of the weekend results. He would ram home any Boks/ Protea

win over England. I fancy he was a closet Man United fan. Especially when they beat Everton!!

But obviously Bowling was his love and he played it well. I recall the brilliant run the the Bergvliet Team had in the men's National 4s; skipped by Derek.

My lasting memory will be of the courage he showed after being told he had a short time to live. No self pity, no blaming anything, no anger.

He gave me his bowling bag with the red bowls, saying, "I know they aren't blue, Billy Boy, but they just might stop you from bowling bloody short."

So, Derek Watson will be with me each time I stand on a green ...

Farewell good friend ...



Blog post: The Surprisingly Difficult Game of Lawn Bowling

When lawn bowling is mentioned, most people picture ten-pin bowling on grass. Bowls can take place on a number of different surfaces, such as grass and synthetic surfaces. Both variations are known as lawn bowls. Lawn Bowls belong to the boules sport family, which consist of any sports played with metal balls. Bowls are popular in Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and other Commonwealth nations. In New Zealand, the natural playing surface is cotula, which is a far-spreading, flowering plant.

Dated as far back as the 13th century in London, bowls have been represented in literature and pictures in a form similar to that which is played today. The oldest bowling green known is the Southampton Old Bowling Green, with records stating that it has been used since 1299. In the early forms of bowl, players would choose a target to bowl, and both would have one shot to try to get it as close to the target as possible, without touching it.

As the game's popularity grew, the king and parliament banned it. They feared that interest in other recreation would draw people away from archery, which was important in battle. Even after gunpowder and firearms were invented, the ban was not lifted until much later. Ludicrous laws were set to keep the middle and lower classes from playing, such as only being allowed to play on Christmas and can only play in their own garden orchard, with the purchase of a £100 license.

National Bowling Associations were set up in the late 1800s, with the Royal Victorian Bowling Association in 1880 and The Scottish Bowling

Association in 1892. 200 Scottish clubs attempted to start this organization in 1848, but were unsuccessful.

Today, over 40 countries play the sport with over 50 member national authorities. The home of the game continues to reside in Scotland, while Edinburgh hosts the World Bowls centre.



Lawn bowls are played on a precisely leveled, smooth, manicured rectangular pitch of grass. The pitches that the games take place on are called rinks. In a normal game, a coin is tossed to decide who sets the jack, which is a smaller, white ball. The winner of the toss takes the mat and begins the round by placing the mat, and rolling the jack. The jack is then aligned to the center of the rink and players take turns bowling, attempting to bowl as close to the jack as possible. The bowl is usually 11.6 to 13.1 cm in diameter, in a variety of different colors. Fouls are given if the bowl

touches the jack or goes out of bounds, known as the "ditch." After all of the bowls have taken place, a point, or "shot," is awarded for each bowl closer than the opponents. For example, if one player had two bowls closer to the jack than the opponent's closest one, they receive two points. This round is known as an "end." A game of lawn bowl consists of 21 ends.

Though this might seem simple, it is actually much more difficult than it sounds. To understand this, the bowls must be taken into account. A bowl is designed to travel a curved path, with a weight bias on one side. If the player bowls straight, the bowl will go either left or right, based on the positioning of the weight, and at different angles, based on the speed of the bowl and amount of weight in the bowl. Once made of "lignum vitae," which is a dense wood, bowls are now usually made of hard plastic composite. The bowls have a number of different symbols. The side with a large symbol within a circle is the side away from the bias. The other side will have a smaller symbol within a small circle, indicating that the bowl will roll in the direction of the smaller symbol.

Now that lawn bowls are not a mystery, it is apparent that bowls are indeed difficult. The bowler has no idea about the weight bias until they hold it in their hand right before they must bowl it. Even the best of players sometimes misinterpret the weight bias and end up sending their carefully calculated bowl across other bowlers' rinks instead of heading towards the jack.

Source: Sam Willis (<http://blogs.bettor.com>)

1. THE RULES OF ETIQUETTE

The custodians of etiquette (sadly, not always practiced) on the green are the skips who are there for their qualities of leadership as well as for playing ability. Skips who conform to and apply the rules of etiquette will contribute much enjoyment and pleasure, not only to teammates, but also to opponents.

Skips should not allow themselves to become engrossed in conversation to the extent of neglecting their duties and the giving of their total attention to the game at hand.

After directing a player, the skip must retire to behind the jack as soon as the bowl has been delivered. When the bowl comes to rest, the skip must stand back behind the head and give possession of the rink to the opposing skip.

Once the bowl has come to rest, no further instructions may be given or remarks made.

The skip should address only his player at the mat end of the rink when in possession of the rink.

Skips are in charge of their team and their instructions should be followed without question. A good skip should be gracious enough to confer with his third and the team - respect is earned and does not necessarily come automatically with authority.

A lead and a second may offer timely comment on a situation at a head or point out a possible shot that that may require measuring. Leads and seconds have as much to do with the game as does any other team member; skips should be aware that the team consists of all members and that all are anxious to succeed.

It is poor etiquette to show annoyance or disappointment should a teammate not perform. A wise skip will encourage their team with complimentary remarks, a high five or a pat on the back.

If necessary, a skip should indicate the state of the head before a bowl is delivered and should acknowledge a good delivery from a team member and/or an opponent.

It is an appropriate gesture for a skip to pick up their opponent's bowl and hand it to them before they get on the mat.

After a skip has delivered the last bowl in an end and it has come to rest and no measurement from the mat is required, the opposing skip should pick up the mat and place it on the bank.

Skips delegate the measuring of shots to the third. A skip is at fault if they interfere with the duties of the third, unless requested to do so.

Cohesive teams are usually successful teams; bowlers should give their skips loyal support and comply with the skip's directions.

This article is per kind favour of Chris Theron of Sables.

2. SOARING TEMPERATURES! WHERE DO WE STAND?

The obvious answer is "In the shade" but this is rather difficult to achieve when we are playing bowls.

It is of note that this topic is not covered in the Laws of the Sport of Bowls. The laws cover the technicalities of the game. However, in South Africa we do have areas and time periods where high temperatures do influence our sporting activities. It is generally accepted that we as South Africans are all strong and that we are immune to heat.

The influence of high temperatures on persons while playing bowls is an aspect of one of the lectures handled in technical officials' training courses.

Everyone other than those acclimatised to the effects of the conditions conducive to heat stroke or heat exhaustion can, when exposed to abnormally hot climatic conditions, suffer the effects of heat exhaustion or heat stroke (sunstroke).

In both instances, the initial treatment is to move the person to a cool place.

Thereafter: For heat exhaustion, put the person at rest with the feet and legs slightly elevated and loosen tight clothing around the neck and waist. Rehydrate – give water. If vomiting occurs, stop rehydration and await medical assistance.

For heatstroke, move the person to a shaded place and cool them by sponging with cold water particularly the upper arm and neck areas. When the body cools, lay the person down and cover lightly. If the body temperature rises, repeat the cooling process until medical assistance arrives.

3. THE FUTURE OF OUR SPORT

From a technical official's and probably a general point of view, our sport appears to be lagging in comparison to other sports in our country with regard to staying abreast

with the advances that have been and are already being made to accommodate all members of society.

Some will see this as a difficult problem best handled by "others". Yet "other" people can and do envisage where we will be if we play the ostrich game and are already doing things to ensure the continuity of our sport. In this direction some clubs have already taken steps to start the ball rolling. Promoting business leagues is one such step; another is to bring youth on board - they are our future.

Such programmes run at our clubs are beneficial not only to bowls' future, but provide immediate financial benefit.



KIDS' DAYS: The enjoyment of children from St. Mary's Children's Home



FUTURE: That's the way



HOW TO DO IT: Best foot forward

4. WORLD CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS, CYPRUS; OCTOBER 2012

Congratulations to Jeanette Williams who was asked to officiate at the "World Champion of Champions" in Cyprus. She submitted this article to share her experience:

On October 19 we left for Paphos in Cyprus to officiate at the World Champion of Champions Tournament.

After a tedious (sic) trip - almost 24 hours with stopovers I arrived at Lancara to meet up with technical officials from Singapore and Botswana. We were greeted by a member of the local club who drove us to Paphos. The drive took about one and three quarter hours in hot conditions and we arrived at the hotel hot and tired to say the least.

In Cyprus olive trees grow wild and everywhere trees laden with olives line the streets; in the open veld - everywhere. Figs, pomegranates and avos also seem to grow everywhere; bougainvilleas splash colour all around.

The tournament was hosted by the Constantinos (sic) brothers who own four five star hotels on the beachfront and many other businesses, The setting is absolutely beautiful with many sparkling pools and deckchairs under palm trees with the beach just a walk down the path away from "entertainment areas" This is definitely the closest that I have ever been to paradise and a playground of the rich and famous. I do believe that it is the best venue in the world for playing bowls.

The greens were situated next to the Royal Athena Hotel, four greens, one with only four rinks, all with artificial surfaces. Under the two top greens is an indoor green with eight rinks. The view from the greens was magnificent and the weather superb, with temperatures reaching 36 Deg/C. The only improvement that could be made was to insufficient floodlighting; some rinks were decidedly dark.

Competitors were from most bowling countries in the world - normally their men's and women's national singles winner - on a round robin basis two sets of 9 ends.

Six sessions were played daily and great bowls was played. It was an honour to be there to officiate at that level. Our South African players, Bruce Makkink and Esmé Steyn played well and were top of the pops through to the second last day - they were wonderful ambassadors for South Africa.

Technical officials from Australia, Cyprus, England, Singapore and South Africa officiated and it was nice to meet up with some who had officiated in Delhi during the 2010 Commonwealth Games. There were 20 TOs on duty who generally worked a session and sat out the next. Once again I realised that officiating in South Africa is of a much higher

standard than elsewhere. I was amazed at some of the interpretations of the laws and methods of measuring that were used by some officials from other countries, each one believing that they are correct; some lively debates among us proved most interesting.

I was proud of our Simon Botha who has been in Malaysia for a year coaching their young bowlers, as his young man won the men's title. What a wonderful achievement for both.

The sea at Paphos is different from our seas, no waves, almost like a lake, full of seaweed and the sand is coarse, almost dark brown. This did not deter the holiday makers, mostly Brits, of all sizes and shapes. Most of the ladies were topless with bikini bottoms irrespective of their size. I must admit I did a couple of "double takes" when walking by as I could not believe what I was seeing.

After a lovely but costly (they deal in euros) week in Paphos it was time to say "Goodbye" to old acquaintances and new ones and return home. More long hours spent at Dubai and Oliver Tambo airports and the flight home seemed to take so much longer; it was so nice to get back home



THE FUZZ: TOs who worked at the event

5. WHEN CAN WE START THE BREAKING UP OF AN END?

"End" is defined as: The delivery of the jack, delivery of all the bowls required to be played by all the opponents in the same direction on a rink, and deciding the number of shots scored.

"Head" is defined as: The jack and any bowls which have come to rest within the boundaries of the rink of play and are not dead.

Law 30.1 describes a dead jack and Law 27.2 describes a dead bowl.

This implies that all the bowls that are live, even touchers in the ditch, no matter how far they may be from the head; they still form part of the head.

Section 9 of the Laws of the Sport of Bowls deals with the "Result of an end" and therein Law 39.2 states "No bowl should be moved until the opponents have agreed whether it is a shot or not, except where a bowl has to be moved so that another bowl can be measured". Law 39.3 states "As the shot bowls are agreed, each shot bowl can be removed

from the head".

This implies that a head cannot be broken up until all shot bowls are agreed. Should players wish to save time, players should ask the thirds whether a bowl can be removed or not. This applies to all the bowls in the head. It is not acceptable for players to start kicking bowls away because they believe those bowls not to be in the count.

There are occurrences where players move bowls away that they believe not to be in the count, only to find out that the bowl was still to be measured. In such instances, it is common courtesy that the bowl is then accepted as being in and the defaulter pays the penalty by granting an additional shot to their opposition.

This article is per kind favour of Jac de Villiers of Bryanston Sports Club

6. A SPECIAL TECHNICAL OFFICIAL

We thank Fred Kruis who has dedicated many years to TO issues. He has convened the BSA Technical Officials Standing Committee, introducing the current Outcomes Based Training System. Congratulations on the appointment to the BSA Executive.

7. NATIONAL TECHNICAL OFFICIALS STANDING COMMITTEE



Comments may be E-mailed to any of the Committee Members.

Neville Savage savagenk@icon.co.za

Bob Radcliffe radcliffe@worldonline.co.za

Renee Venter reneeventer@mweb.co.za

Jeanette Williams brujenw@gmail.com
Doreen de Power 23dor@cybersmart.co.za

Stan Baragwanath sabra@absamail.co.za

A big welcome to Stan Baragwanath on his appointment to the NTOSC

Any bowler who would like to receive a copy of this newsletter will find it on the Bowls SA web site.

All District Secretaries will receive a copy.

BOWLS SOUTH AFRICA SECRETARIES CONTACT LIST 2012

BOLAND BOWLS	Una Conradie	P. O. Box 317, Gansbaai, 7220028 384 1822	028 384 1626	083 293 5667
unacon@mweb.co.za				
BORDER BOWLS	Connie Schroeder	P. O. Box 2197, Beacon Bay, 5205	043 748 1682	043 748 1682 072 454 9106
borderbowls@telkomsa.net				
BOWLS GAUTENG NORTH	David Hamer	P O Box 100690, Moreleta Plaza, 0167	012 315 0081	012 315 0373
079 508 3711 secbgn@gmail.com				
BOWLS SOUTHERN CAPE	Christine Lombard	P. O. Box 9779, George, 6530	044 851 0063	086 536 9650 084 525 1243
bowlssc@absamail.co.za				
EASTERN GAUTENG BOWLS	Margaret Hamilton	P. O. Box 16142, Dowerglen, 1612	011 452 0169	011 452 0735
083 455 2661 mwegbowls@mweb.co.za				
EASTERN PROVINCE BOWLS	Sonja Clements	P O Box 7613, Newton Park, 6055	041 365 6823	041 365 6823
083 225 0631 epbowls@telkomsa.net				
JOHANNESBURG BOWLS ASS	Storm Howard	P O Box 710, Melrose Arch, 2176	011 880 8000	011 880 8001
083 680 8257 info@jbabowls.co.za				
KINGFISHER BOWLING ASSOCIATION	Carol McMullin	P O Box 858, Uvongo, 4270	039 315 5827	086 624 3574
083 230 7071 kingfisherbowls@telkomsa.net				
KWAZULU NATAL COUNTRY BOWLS	Dorothy Crosbie	P O Box 25232, Newcastle, 2940	034 315 5194	034 326 4369
079 884 4741 dottie@newcastlemail.co.za				
LIMPOPO BOWLS	Phillip v Volenstee	P O Box 1654, Louis Trichardt, 0920	015 516 1154	086 521 2126 084 508 0679
bernina@netactive.co.za				
MPUMALANGA BOWLS ASSOCIATION	Annette v Ryneveld	P O Box 5141, Secunda, 2302017	638 1048	
086 634 4231 082 461 8761 annettevr@vodamail.co.za				
NATAL INLAND BOWLING ASS	Beryl Gandy	P. O. Box 100 394, Scottsville, 3209	033 345 7744	086 632 9736
083 708 9017 niba@telkomsa.net				
NORTH WEST BOWLS	Ronnie Palmer	110 Roselt Street, Baillie Park, Potchefstroom, 2530		018 297 6856
083 640 6458 nwbowls@vodamail.co.za				
NORTHERN CAPE BOWLS	Beryl Benn	P. O. Box 10145, Beaconsfield, 8315	053 842 0664	086 622 8591
083 250 9156 beryl@kimberley.co.za				
NORTHERN FREE STATE BOWLING ASS	Johan Lotter	Posbus 584, Frankfort, 9830	086 696 5575	083 256 1640
johanlotter50@gmail.com				
PORT NATAL BOWLS	Maureen Florens	P. O. Box 50251, Musgrave Rd, 4062	031 201 1189	031 202 3065 082 462 7837
portnatalbowls@telkomsa.net				
SABLES BOWLING ASS	Sandra Viljoen	P O Box 1495, Wilgeheuwel, 1736	011 679 1716	083 451 9312
sables1@telkomsa.net				
SEDIBENG BOWLS	Corrie Louw	P O Box 696, Meyerton, 1960016	362 4466	086 594 4875 082 539 0342
sedibengbowls@gmail.com				
SOUTHERN FREE STATE BOWLING ASS	Louis Pienaar	P O Box 17430, Bainsvlei, 9338	083 750 6005 (O)	083 333 4181
sfsbowls@gmail.com				
WESTERN PROVINCE BOWLING ASS	Celia Gouws	P. O. Box 587, Rondebosch, 7701	021 531 5872	021 531 5210
083 465 3633 celiawp@mweb.co.za				

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Bowls SA Roundup

Small is now big

Bendigo, Victoria. – Jett Simmons doesn't weigh much more than the bowls he sends down, but the four-year-old is larger than life in lawn bowling, as Angus Thompson reports for the Herald Sun.

The pee-wee bowler is the surprise star of a top-level lawn bowls tournament in Bendigo this week, drawing unexpected crowds with his playtime performances.



TOT POWER: Size 4 for a four-year-old – Jett Simmons in action with brother Dylan Fisher and father Todd Simmons.
Picture: Tony Gough

"He's probably had 100 people watching and clapping as he mucks around with his older brother," mother Holly Simmons said. "He's a bit of a show pony. He really gets the crowd going."

Lawn bowls is in Jett's lineage. The Frankston South youngster's father, Todd, and 18-year-old brother, Dylan, are battling South Australia in the interstate test in Bendigo.

Jett uses a size 4 bowl, an adult size and weight.

Mrs Simmons said while Jett was too young to compete, his skill level was years beyond his age.

"But he still needs to learn to wait his turn," she said.

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Source: Bowls Australia (Herald Sun)

All Cape entries

Entry forms for the 2013 All Cape Entries are now available on the Southern Cape Website at www.bowlssc.co.za. No entries will be accepted directly from individual teams or clubs, only from district secretaries. Queries: Christine Lombaar, tournament secretary, christine@etime.co.za

2013 venue confirmed

BowlsSA confirms the following venues as confirmed for 2013: Bowls SA Open Inter-District Championship: Walmer, H/Q; Park Drive, Port Elizabeth, Westview; Bowls SA Senior Inter-District Championship: Durbanville, H/Q, Constantia, Glen, WPCC

Good-bye Elsie

Elsie McDonald who won Springbok colours in 1967 and who represented South Africa with distinction has died peacefully in Kimberley two months before her 93rd birthday. Her contribution to our sport is much appreciated and BowlsSA extend condolences to her family and friends.

World Bowls seek directors

World Bowls is seeking three director positions, two of which will be female. The elected members of the new-look board,

headed by Australia's Joe Aarons, is searching for applicants with specific skills in the areas of sponsorship, marketing, media, communication and business development. Applicants are not necessarily required to be a bowler. Refer to World Bowls' Articles of Association (articles 20-22). Appointment will be until the biennial council meeting of World Bowls in August next year.

Venues confirmed

Venues for the Warwick Wealth/Bowls SA Women's National Championship are confirmed as: HQ: Durban Bowling Club; sub-HQ: Lahee Park Bowling Club

Bowlers must sign up

BowlsSA policy is that bowlers cannot enjoy club bowls facilities unless they are affiliated to a district and in turn to the umbrella body.

BowlsSA and its district authorities, as independent bodies stand apart from all constituencies, commercial and otherwise of the sport and adopt policies in the best interests of the sport and for enjoyment of participants. Individuals benefit from the infrastructure and the laws of the sport developed and amended over many years and access to instructional material on all aspects of the sport without which the sport would not exist.

Affiliation is not something that is linked to competitiveness and every bowler has a moral duty to support the required infrastructure - club, district and national authority. Bowlers may NOT play on affiliated clubs' greens in South Africa unless they pay affiliation fees.

Bowls SA Mixed Pairs 2013.

After inspection by BowlsSA, Gonubie is confirmed as venue for the final.

NB: Districts should ask clubs to display BowlsSA Circular 03/13 on notice boards.

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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