



Warwick Wealth/BowlsSA Nationals a 'great success'

The Warwick Wealth/Bowls South Africa National Championships for men (Pretoria) and women (Durban) proved good news for players and administrators ... entries were up – the highest for six years - conditions were excellent, administration was smooth and the standard of play high.

The events ran simultaneously, with Wingate Park as HQ in Pretoria and Lahee Park as HQ in Durban. Pairs, fours, open singles and senior singles comprised events in both championships.



TOP LADY: International and former SA selector Jill Hackland (Umdlali CC) took the singles

In the women's event Port Natal as hosts enjoyed the largest entry, followed by Johannesburg Bowling Association (JBA).

Afterwards Allan Freeman, president of BowlsSA commented: "Commitment to transformation and development is reaping rewards. Natural attrition, economic gloom and security considerations have afflicted membership globally, but we are totally dedicated to ensuring bowls is en-

joyed from grass-roots to Protea levels; particularly as South Africa is rightly regarded internationally as a giant in the sport.

"I was delighted at the standard of administration and play; moreover, camaraderie was evident and the 'old-style' nationals' spirit seemed to have returned."

When the smoke had cleared, the men's events produced interesting and pleasing results.

In the blue-riband men's singles, the aura of the tall, as ever concentrating, figure of Protea Bobby Donnelly was paramount.

Not selected for the eight-nations tournament in Scotland later this year, the former Commonwealth Games bowls singles gold medallist from Wanderers gave all plenty to think about with his great victory over veteran provincial player Francois Koen,

But hats off to Koen, who, playing before a home crowd, was given the nod by the knowledgeable throng after fighting back from 20-7 down...

Koen, himself a former national champion, who has been in the top echelon of men players for two decades, showed he had lost little of his smooth style and gave the eventual champion plenty to think about.

But the mercurial Donnelly surely now has an eye on a place with the Proteas for next year's Commonwealth Games in Scotland ... given his record of winning gold at the Manchester Commonwealth Games in 2002 and his skill and spirit when asked to take over the ailing fours at World Bowls in Australia this year and earn silver. his



POTCH MEN TOPS: From left, president of Bowls SA, Allan Freeman, Warwick National Sports Network Manager Michael Feinberg, Smittie Smit, Jakkals Mouton, Pikkie Abbott, Pierre Breitenbach (Potchefstroom Town), fours champions

absence from Glasgow might require some explanation.

In the highly contested fours final, the young guard in the form of North West skip, experienced Protea Pierre Breitenbach (Pikkie Abbott, Jakkals Mouton, Smittie Smit), a son of a former SA Bowls president, guided his side to a tight 22-18 victory over a power-packed Belgravia, Johannesburg quartet skipped by SA No 1 Gerry Baker (Jason Evans, Kepler Wessels, Johnnie Pieterse).

Ironically, Breitenbach, who won bronze in the World Junior Championships in Australia last year, often leads for Baker in Protea sides.

Baker was full of praise for the younger man, but was satisfied with his side's standard throughout; Breitenbach, however, struck a huge blow for platterland bowls.

Of note in the pairs was that Robin Ashby and Thomas Minnie of Harlequins in Pretoria who won had been part of the winning fours side a year before ... a great effort.

The week began with a match at Colbyn-Oostelikes between Gerry Baker and Kepler Wessels (former SA cricket captain, now a top commentator), playing against Ron Burns and his son, Greg, 14, from Old Edwardians BC.



ON A ROLL: National women's fours winners Elma Davis, Maureen Muller, Theuna Grobler, Rozanne Rossouw; fresh from their repeat win in the All Cape, seen with Warwick Wealth's KwaZulu-Natal regional manager, Conrad Clifford

Gregory suffered a post-op complaint which, according to his father, literally started "eating his body away". After many painful surgical and medical procedures, his life was saved, but leaving him with chronic hypersensitivity and constant pain.

Greg played well, supported by his father an accomplished bowler. But, Gerry and Kepler won the contest 20-15.

Final results: Singles: Bobby Donnelly (Wanderers, Johannesburg BA) 21 Francois Koen (Wingate Park, Gauteng North) 18; Fours: Pierre Breitenbach (Potchefstroom Dorp, NW) 22 Gerry Baker (Belgravia) 18; Senior Singles: Eugene Brink (Wingate Park, Gauteng North) 21 James Clark J (Hillcrest, Port Natal); Pairs: Dylan Stafford/Shawn Neill (Wanderers, JBA) 20 Robin Ashby/Thomas Minnie (Harlequins, Gauteng North) 21.

In Durban veteran Springbok and Protea Jill Hackland of Umhlali rolled back the years to win her Open Singles with a bra-



HOLDERS TRIUMPH: Women's Pairs champions Tracy Meyeridricks and Charlotte Rossouw (Bryanston Sports) made it two years in a row

vura display before a packed bank of spectators at Lahee Park, here. She defeated another Durban player in Maria Dreyer (Northlands) 21-14 in 19 exciting ends.

Played on superb greens in front of good crowds, the cream of South Africa's women produced exciting, skilful bowls, giving the SA women selectors also plenty to

think about before Scotland.

Natal photo-journalist Tommy Ballantyne wrote:

The gods of bowling certainly smiled down on the fours team of the George Club from the Southern Cape this week as they first of all survived unharmed from a nasty motor

accident on the first day of the tournament and went on to win the prestigious fours event at the Warwick Bowls South Africa 2013 Women's National Championships at the Durban Bowling Club yesterday.

Skipped by Elma Davis and with Maureen Muller, Theuna Grobler and Rozanne Rossouw making up the foursome, they were one of the youngest fours teams at the championships.

George had their opponents Western Suburbs from Port Elizabeth (Lolly Reed skip) on the back foot within the first five ends when they led

7-2 and steadily pulled away from them with 5 shots at the 16th end and another four at the 19th to win 25-10 at the 20th

Their coach, Trevor Davis, Elma's husband, said: "The girls had just won the All Cape tournament the week before for the second year in succession and so were on a high.

"They really enjoy playing and had a lot of fun."

The coveted Open Singles title was won by evergreen Jill Hackland of the Umhlali Bowls Club whose next best performance in this event was getting into the semi-finals over 30 years ago.

Hackland got off to a good start and led 11-2 at the 6th end but Maria Dreyer (Northlands BC, Durban) came back strongly taking the next four ends to close to 11-10.

But Hackland pulled steadily away and at the last end pushed up the jack, trailing it to her back bowl for 2 shots and game at 21-14.

A winner of the national pairs twice, the singles title has always eluded her until now.

Defending pairs champions, Bryanston Sports (Tracy Meyeridricks and Charlotte

Rossouw) had their noses in front of Vryheid (Nanette Roos and Hanna Gevers) from start to finish for a 22-10 victory.

It was Meyeridricks' third pairs title having won it in 2010 with Antoinette Jacobs and with Rossouw again in 2012.

"It was actually a big challenge for us, as Vryheid won the title in 2009," said Tracy.

The Senior Singles final between Colleen Williams (Maritzburg BC) and Liesje de Rosner (Alexander Memorial, Kingfisher) was on a knife-edge from start to finish. Williams led 17-15 at the 17th end only for De Rosner to score a four to lead 19-17 at the 18th; Williams peeled 19-19 on the 19th.

But it was De Rosner who got the victory with two shots at the next end to win 21-19.

"There is nobody as flabbergasted as myself," said De Rosner.

"I have been playing for only 10 years and this is only the second time I have played in the nationals having played last year in the seniors and been knocked out in the



SINGLES GURU: Former Commonwealth Games gold medallist Bobby Donnelly (Wanderers, JBA), lands another big one.

first round!"

*I am greatly indebted to Charles Levy and photo-journalist Tommy Ballantyne (Durban), Elbert Broere and Fanny Meyeridricks (Pretoria) plus all those volunteer officials who made results and information on the nationals possible" ... Editor.

By Alan Simmonds, Media Officer, BowlsSA

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Too many districts fail to heed plea for comment

Disappointing, but not unexpected, is the response from the districts regarding a call from your executive for comment on the format, or even continuance, of certain national tournaments. Sad to report that by due date we'd received a response from only nine districts.

Nevertheless, one good point was that of those that did reply, the majority favoured retaining format, but this will be an item for debate at the annual workshop in Johannesburg on August 24.

Turning to the nationals, entries this year showed improvement; hopefully a good sign for the future.

The men's fours was won by a team from Potchefstroom BC which included a back rank of two young men in Pierre Breitenbach and Pikkie Abbot, both graduates of BowlsSA's Under-25 programme - I feel that alone vindicates the value of an U-25 Silver Squad.

At the women's event a team of young women, fresh from victory in a bumper All Cape Tournament at George, Southern Cape, lifted the national fours trophy in sparkling style, while Tracy Meyeridricks and Charlotte Rossouw (Bryanston Sports), JBA re-

tained the pairs title ... excellent stuff.

This season more than 900 new members have so far been welcomed – 305 alone since April 1. This indicates development initiatives are bearing fruit; keep it up everyone.

Looking further afield, we have selected men's and women's teams, each of five, for a major "pre-Commonwealth tournament" against the world's best from August 26-September,1 in Glasgow, Scotland; I wish them good bowling, confident they will do us all proud. The greens at Kelvingrove on which they play will also host the Games.

The women's team sports a new cap in Rene Swanepoel of Western Province; best wishes to her and all our competitors and support staff.



Alan Freeman
President, Bowls SA
July 2013

Rhodes Park turn it on

Warwick Wealth Day at Rhodes Park saw their sponsorship spent on 25 new mats – bearing the sponsor's branding.

One mat was framed and mounted beneath a framed Warwick framed poster (see picture), reports Fonny Meyeridricks.

Although the date clashed with the SA Nationals, greens were almost full for the fun-filled eve. Making the most of perfect weather, with ambiance from a relaxed atmosphere including great music, bar service and catering, players enjoyed three games of 12 ends.

Warwick's Philip Olivier attended.



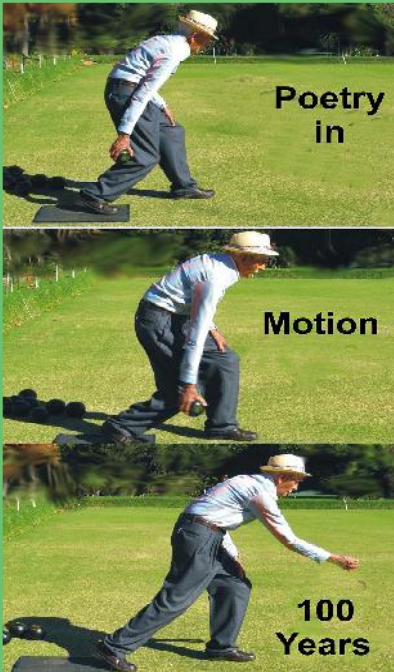
OH YES!: Jono Franks and his winning team with Rhodes Park president Jason Lott



NICE VIEW: Rhodes Park ready to welcome guests



Age: It just don't mean a thing!



Poetry
in

Motion

100
Years

Ninety years difference meant for little between two skips in an inter-club challenge organised by Bill Ross of the North Region of the Western Province BA's Promotion and Development Standing Committee.

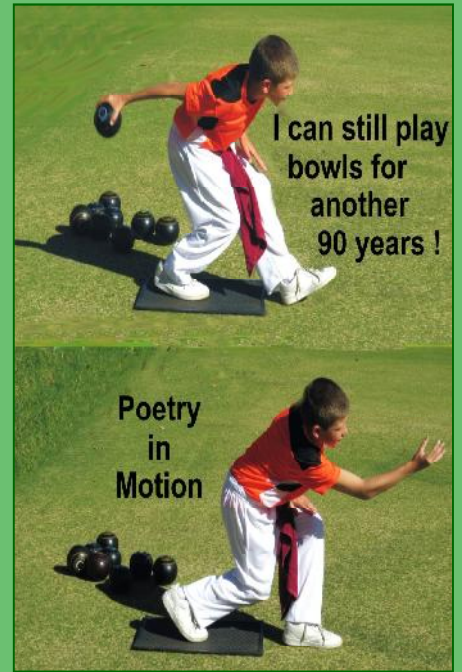
Held at Stellenbosch / Van Der Stel Bowling Club it attracted much interest from players and the public.

A pairs game between great local favourite Andy Barron, now 100 years young and his daughter Lyneth Milne against Kraaifontein BC skip Jaco Fourie aged 9 and father Koos, saw top class heads and exciting bowls.

Youth triumphed in a tight match watched by a full bank of vocal supporters.

DECADES APART: Andy Barron at 100 (Goodwood) and Jaco Fourie aged 9, seen in action

Pictures: Thom Walden







I can still play
bowls for
another
90 years !

Poetry
in
Motion

A BOWLS DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE
BY
NORTH REGION: WPBA StanCom: PROMOTION AND DEVELOPMENT
"THE SPIRIT OF BOWLS"
A WONDERFUL GAME FOR ALL AGE GROUPS

A CHALLENGE INTER-CLUB PAIRS GAME
BETWEEN
ANDY BARRON (SKIP: 100 YRS.) and daughter LYNETH MILNE
GOODWOOD, STELLENBOCH / VAN DER STEL BOWLING CLUBS
AND
JACO FOURIE (SKIP: 9 YRS.) and father KOOS FOURIE
KRAAIFONTEIN BOWLING CLUB

ANDY	LYNETH	KOOS	JACO
			

PHOTOGRAPHER: THOM WALDEN (Professional)
PRODUCER: BILL ROSS North Region
ON LOCATION: STELLENBOSCH / VAN DER STEL BOWLING CLUB
DATE: 4 MAY 2013



... and Theresa is almost there



GOING STRONG: Still putting her tab in (left) is Theresa Macpherson, 99, of Munster Bowls Club, Kingfisher and (right) with Munster club member Maureen Botha. Theresa plays with the set of bowls with which she began 61 years ago

Make it a memorable Bowls Awareness Day

Bowls SA asks clubs to set aside National Bowls Awareness Day over the weekend of October 26/27, or even use the entire time as an event. It is vital to the survival of bowls that each and every district, club and bowler support this initiative.

Purpose of the drive is to attract non-bowlers, address the Image of bowls and to market the sport.

The benefits, say the organisers include:

- Fundraising for club;
- recruit new members;
- support Disability Bowls and,
- Support s charity of own choice (optional).

The target is to expose bowls to the



general public, especially the younger generation and:

- Under 45s;
- Bowlers' friends and families;
- Church members;
- government departments: forces, hospitals, municipalities, etc;
- business league players;
- corporates and business executives;
- schools and educational facilities;
- estate agents, the media, local businesses and municipalities.

For disabled bowlers, each club is requested to collect funds from a spider(s)

and to deposit monies directly with Bowls SA.

Participants should be encouraged to dress brightly and a low entry fee, say R5 charged; learners free. Small prizes might be found with local business people.

Ensure good local publicity and remember to invite VIPs from all walks of life as guests of honour

An A4 brochure will be available to advertise the event; clubs will be able to add their particulars before printing. Also available will be a brochure to attract new bowlers; once approved, copies will be available from www.bowlssa.co.za.

At registration it is advisable non-bowlers complete a particulars form; club application forms should be kept handy

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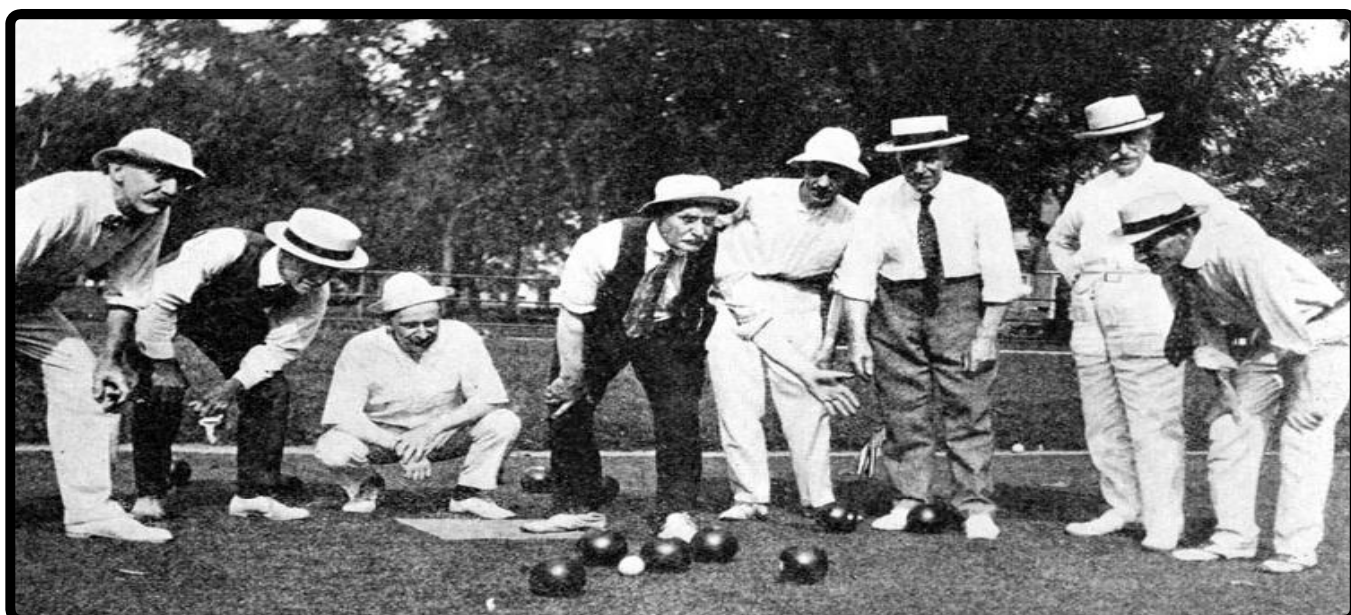
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A bygone era. Pic: www.thatsmags.com

WP/NSCPD examine bowls' future

Also present were Rob Martin, Warwick Sports Officer, four WP executives and Bowls SA NSCPD members, Aloma Smith, Chris Theron and Anina Black.

Speakers from the floor were passionate about this topic; there was positive interaction among delegates.

PowerPoint presentations were given on the topics Rescue Bowls and on National Awareness Day. Specimen copies of Awareness Day brochures and posters, once approved by BSA, will be available on Bowls SA's website; a handout on Awareness Day was given to delegates for their clubs.

Delegates were requested to complete a questionnaire and all districts will be visited by an NSCPD member to do similar presentations.



Level 0 (Indoor) Coaches Course

	Time	Topic	Resources	Notes
1	30	Set up	Set(s) of New Age / Indoor Bowls	Show the teacher(s) how to set up and score a game using New Age bowls
	60	Learners Play	Set(s) of New Age / Indoor Bowls	Teacher(s) show learners how to play and monitors their progress; Coach assists when necessary
2	90	Mini-Tournament	Set(s) of New Age / Indoor Bowls Score Sheets.	Coach assists Teacher(s) to run a short mini-tournament with the learners, showing them scoring in bowls. Coach provides formative feedback to Teacher (s) regarding competency during tournament.

A Level 0 (Primary) Coach is registered with Bowls SA and DSCC once s/he has competently run a session with learners. SA issues a numbered attendance certificate and log book. DSCC submits Level 0 hours annually for SASCOC.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Thank your great Newsletter; I look forward to it each month. I have been keenly following the discussions re: Inter-District B and now, U25 Inter-District. While the points made seem valid, I would like to express my concerns.

I participated in the 2013 Inter-District B and have no doubt that as an U60, I benefited directly from the new policies adopted.

Although I had worked really hard and was thrilled with my selection, there was no doubt in my mind that there were more experienced, and better bowlers who were passed

over as they were over 60.

I fully support grooming young bowlers to represent the Proteas, but in my concern is that limiting selection at interdistrict level based on age, will decrease the "selection pool" overall.

Representing one's district as a B player is indeed a great honour and I believe still not only relevant, but vital.

While only few will succeed at the highest level, it is important to keep the aspirations of the many alive.

The more bowlers trying to reach a reasonably achievable goal, so more will enter inter-club leagues and district championships and

continue with TIDs, thereby improving the standard of bowls in South Africa.

Let's get more people bowling - if we always select the best available players, irrespective of age, we can only succeed.

Please note the views expressed are solely my own and do not reflect those of my district or club.

Good bowling and safe return to all the Proteas and management going to Scotland.

Yours Faithfully,

Leoni Booth
(Port Edward BC, Kingfisher)



JACK UP BOWLS

U19 DEVELOPMENT INTER-DISTRICTS

The 2013 U19's Development Tournament has come and gone. Although there was the very tragic death of Southern Cape player Anver Buys which certainly put a damper on the Tournament, there is no doubts that the tournament was a great success. Accolades must go first of all to the players who so proudly represented their Districts, for the high standard of Bowls played and the good, be it competitive, spirit seen on the greens. Certainly credit must go to North West and Klerksdorp BC, to the organising Committee, all the managers and to sponsors for making this tournament possible. There can be absolutely no doubt that this tournament contributes greatly to promote Bowls to young people and should continue at it's future should never be in question. (See report on page2)

AN INCREDIBLE JOURNEY IN BOWLS



Gary Player famous quote: "The more I practice the luckier I get!" is well known. Most certainly practice still forms the greater part of success for most if not all successful sportsmen and women. However what motivates a player to practice and to keep going when the results are not immediately forthcoming?

Some will say it is the desire to achieve success that drives most sportsmen and women, however by far the greatest number never truly achieve meaningful success, yet they keep going, keep trying. There must be something else that drives certain individuals never to give up, this while so many fall by the wayside when they do not achieve.

The world is full of 'hero' stories that motivates others and even bring a tear in the eye. Stories that let us say: "Wow!" Stories that even make us feel bad or even guilty, when we see individuals that overcome incredible odds, or who keeps on going even when they do not have the abilities, opportunities that we have at our finger tips. Bowls also have their heroes that can impact not only on our approach to Bowls but can certainly impact on our personal lives. In our next issue of "Jack Up Bowls" we will bring you such a story and tell you more about a true Bowls hero! Don't miss it!



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Points of interest

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- Focus for 2013
- The value of Business Leagues

PLAYING SHORT IN YOUR COMMUNITY

AWARENESS DAY 2013

A very important if not vital Bowls Awareness Day is scheduled for the 26 & 27 October 2013. Clubs can individually decide whether they would like to use either or both of the days to create an 'Awareness' of Bowls.

This serves as an early reminder for Clubs to start planning early for this important initiative. The theme this year will be: ***"Bowls is a Fun Carnival for the whole family!"***

So put your thinking caps on and contact your BSA representative for Development (see back page) who will gladly assist you with ideas and draft advertising to promote this important day.

Many Clubs in our cities are surrounded by many potential bowlers living on their doorstep, but totally oblivious to what Bowls as a sport and the Clubs can offer. The promotion or marketing of Bowls is perhaps the most neglected tool in turning the declining Bowls membership around.

It is a reality that many Clubs and their Committees, and may we be allowed to say even our Districts, believe their responsibility to run their Clubs or Districts successfully, is limited to catering only for existing members. Bowls has slowly developed a public image of only being played by the 'older or pensioner' age group and driving past most Clubs when bowls are being played we cannot blame the observing 'younger' generation in giving Bowls a miss!

Nobody but current Bowlers and administrators can change this perception and we need to market and promote Bowls as a matter of urgency. How many Clubs, reading this newsletter, actually have an active promotion and marketing plan in place? Simple low cost pamphlets, an inexpensive advertisement in your local newspaper or 'home-adds' may be money well spent for the future.

Inviting new bowlers is one thing however! Are you ready to accommodate them, make them feel at home and comfortable and is your Club geared to coach them and educate them on the etiquette of Bowls? If the answer is 'no', then you are contributing to the factors threatening the future of Bowls. Do you have a development and promotion plan in place? Remember, potential Bowlers are not going to queue up at your Club, so reach out into your community with information and invites to 'fun & family' days organised by your Club!

" WINNING IS NOT EVERYTHING.....IT IS THE ONLY THING—Vince Lombardi!"

In a humdinger U19 Development Tournament, hosted by North West at Klerksdorp BC, WP came out on top in a great fight back final, beating last years winners BGN and taking the Gold.

This win brought WP's tally since 2006 on to 5 Gold, 1 Silver, 1 Bronze as well as a Special Gold Plate award in 2007.

Looking at WP's performance in the Open and Senior's Inter-Districts it is obvious that WP is doing something right and other Provinces have nothing to lose to consult with WP and find out what their secret might be. Twenty eight teams participated, divided into a Red and Blue sections. Match formats were 15 Ends with 5 End skins, each Skin worth 2 points and a Four points match win, making each match worth 10 points.

Last years winner had to settle for the Silver this year while Northern Free State took the Bronze beating JBA in a closely contested match.

What many people do not realise is that these young players, due to the age qualification, move on and need to be replaced with new and young Bowlers coming into the sport.

WP CONTINUES PROUD RECORD



Champions 2013 U19's Western Province 's Daniel Griebennau, Andre Robbertse, Chad Cummings and Marx Fourie with their Manager/Coach on the right and BSA's Fred Kruis on the left. Paul Cohen

THE GREAT POTENTIAL OF BUSINESS 'LEAGUES'

We so often hear about 'Business Leagues' and many a success story has been told about the method of getting more and particularly younger people taking up Bowls. Within Bowls we need to organise 'tasting' events similar to this very successful promotion method used in the food and wine industry. We simply need to get people to get a 'taste' of Bowls in a friendly, fun and hospitable environment and the rest might just be history. Many Bowlers tell stories today of how they got bitten by the Bowls bug.

Business Leagues, where people who still work full-time and many of them already active in sport, are given the opportunity to enter a team from their company of business, to test their Bowling skills against other businesses in the immediate community at times that are convenient for them and not making inroads into other family or sport commitments. It is a fact that people interested in sport are simply halfway hooked already once they get a taste of the competitive challenge Bowls offer. When they can fit it into convenient times so much the better and here after normal working hours, most Clubs can accommodate this during weekdays, especially in the summer when there are more daylight hours available. Clubs with lights have a distinct advantage but this is not critical as most of the younger age groups do not want midweek late nights or get home to their families too late.

So games need to be much shorter and perhaps the modern concept of two sets of say 5 or 7 ends with a sudden death of 1 or 3 ends may be ideal. A light snack being made available by Clubs afterwards while they have a drink before going home can further make this type of marketing bowls to business people so much more enjoyable. Clubs provide the Bowls and equipment with some Club Coaches, Development officers or members available to assist with the organisation and helping the players to get the hang of it.

Depending on the number of entries, the teams play on a 'Round Robin' basis against each other, either one or perhaps two evenings per week for a few weeks. Needless to say during this time all participants should be given an insight as to what the Club and Bowls offers and follow-up 'fun days' must be planned where the Business League players are invited back, this time to bring their families along for a morning or day of fun Bowls. It is absolutely vital for Club Committees to build up a data base of names of people that may become Bowlers so as to regularly invite them to fun events at the Clubs. Many a Club has missed out because they do run these events but only once a year and no follow-up events.

RUIMSIG BC GETS THE BOWLS ROLLING

The promotion of Bowls as a fun activity to be enjoyed by all ages and specifically bringing the whole family together for fun and quality time, was most effectively exploited on 1 April 2013 by Ruimsig BC in Sables on the West Rand.

Inviting members to bring along friends and family of all ages and making barefoot as compulsory, the weather played along as members joined non-bowlers in some very competitive though light-hearted Bowls. After the Bowls all stayed and fraternized with a 'bring & braai' get together although the Club also made salads, rolls and braai pack available. Most importantly all had fun, enjoyed themselves and many a prospective new bowler left with a new and fresh idea of what Bowls can offer. What was very encouraging was to see how the 'older' bowlers made the 'younger' bowlers feel welcome and at home. A young golfer who at the start called it 'old man's marbles' later had to admit that Bowls was not as easy as he thought.

All Clubs in SA are encouraged to use every available opportunity, especially Public Holidays, to stage similar initiatives. All Bowlers have a responsibility to support these events and play their part in making non-bowlers wanting to join.



BOWLS IN CRISIS !

Any serious Bowler and Administrators with their feet on the ground will agree that Bowls as a sport faces the most serious crisis ever in its history!

Membership is on the decline for a number of years with fears that the rate may even be escalating. Looking at loss of membership over the past two years, if not turned around, will make half of the 20 Districts dysfunctional in less than 10 years.

Much can be said as to why this situation was allowed to develop. It should be analyzed, not for blame or criticism but as a learning exercise how to turn things around and not continue making the same mistakes.

The situation is so serious that it justifies a national initiative, spearheaded by the BowlsSA Executive and supported by all District Presidents and their Executives, all District Standing Committee on Promotion & Development and by every single Club Committee. Any person or Committee not supporting such an initiative with meaningful action and not 'hot air' verbal concern, simply cannot have a concern for the future of Bowls. BSA approved R120,000 recently to support the NSCPD's development plans through the Districts.

To leave such a critical effort to rescue Bowls in the hands of just a sub Standing Committee is simply not going to be good enough, worsened if we all continue to simply repeat one 'dying' year one after the other. To simply just focus on current members and satisfying their needs, important responsibility as this may be, will mean the decline in membership will continue. Considering that 80% of current Bowlers are in the 60+ age group, we are faced with the reality that the bulk of current members will not have Bowling needs in 20 years time! What then?

The BSA AGM is not far off and it is hoped that this crisis facing Bowls will be placed on the AGM Agenda as the most important item to be discussed. Plans need to be formulated NOW, suggestions and solutions need to be carefully thought through by all District Presidents so that all delegates attending this year's AGM can formulate a national strategy to be implemented uniformly throughout SA. Even available sponsorship and other financial resources should be considered to save Bowls. Is there a greater need in Bowls today?

All Bowlers in whatever position but most certainly those in administrative positions should think on: ***"It is not only what we do, but also what we do NOT do, for which we are accountable!"***

NSCPD

The National Standing Committee Promotion and Development is committed to guide, motivate and assist all of the 20 Bowling Districts throughout SA with the development and promotion of the Sport of Bowls. The prime objective is to create a greater awareness of Bowls as an exciting and challenging sport for all ages and particularly as an inexpensive sport for the whole family, supported by availability of coaching by qualified coaches at all Clubs. The development of Club administration and transformation is also supported in all communities.

'TOUCHERS' FROM THE EDITOR

Bowls in SA is in trouble. Only a 'head in the sand' approach or an unwillingness to do something about it, would deny this reality. Membership data analyzed from May 2011 through to January 2013 reflects declining membership from between 1% and 24%! Projecting this trend into the future it simply means that some Districts will be unable to be viable due to too few members within a few years unless something is done without delay!

Calling for all who care about the future of Bowls to accept change and to cater for the needs and expectations of 'younger' bowlers, those brave individuals who are willing and able to do something are walking themselves into a wall, both physical as well as mental, of the 'older' generation who simply sends out a message that they care for nothing more than to attend to the needs and whims of present membership of which 80% is 60+! It is sincerely hoped that those in a position to bring about change and not simply try and satisfy the needs of current membership will have the courage, not only to go into action and become pro-active to aggressively promote and market Bowls before it is too late, but to motivate their current Club members to understand and support the need to embrace Development!



There is enough space in the weekly time table to accommodate social, competitive, younger as well as new Bowlers, with weekends being used to offer all these categories combined enjoyment by all. What greater challenge faces Bowls today? - **Chris Theron (Editor)**

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Philip Olivier— 0726244008
KZN CB King Fisher Port Natal
Natal Inland

Chris Theron—0829588155
Limpopo Mpumalanga Sables
Northern Cape



Carmen Jacobs, playing out of Leases Bowling Club in Sables was voted 'Personality of Tournament' during the recent U19 Development Tournament in Klerksdorp. Coming from the Jacobs 'Bowling Family' of Dad Schalk, Mom Sonja and Sister Jezaan (who also played in the tournament, Carmen did her Club and Sables proud, making a statement that to be a popular bowlers takes more than just skill!



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Bowls SA Roundup

Stand and deliver ... please

Your executive convenes on September 21 to amongst other items, deliberate on standing committee structures. To assist, districts should nominate names for consideration to serve on Bowls SA national standing committees - a short one page CV should accompany each nomination.

Existing members of NSCs will automatically be reconsidered, without an up-dated CV, but should inform the Bowls SA office on or before the closing date – August 30 – if they wish to retire.

The Bowls SA executives are sole arbitrators regarding appointees. NSCs are: Academy (including selectors, Men/women), coaches, disability, greenkeepers, promotion/development, technical officials.

Commonwealth format announced

World Bowls, the world governing body, has announced format of play for the Commonwealth Games to be held in Kelvingrove, Glasgow, from July 23 to August 2 next year. Singles come first, to 21 shots; pairs will be three bowls each and 15 ends; trips are two bowls and 15 ends; fours will be two bowls and 15 ends.

A time limit of 2hrs 15 (not including trials) is on sectional (group stage) matches; there is no time limit for the knock-out stages but usual rules for slow play apply.

For greenkeepers

Bowls SA has released a publication Level 1 Greenkeeping. It deals with basic greenkeeping and daily tasks required to ensure good management. Written by Dr Charles Louw, it is available from Bowls SA at R50; orders may be placed through respective district offices. An updated price list of all Bowls SA publications is available on the www.bowlssa.co.za website.

Boost for Under-25s

Bowls SA president Allan Freeman has a mandate for the Zone VI confederation AGM to propose South Africa be granted permission to include an Under-25 team in future African States (AST) tournaments. He was also mandated to vote in favour of the AST being held every two years alternating with the Peter Richard International Pairs Tournament.

TDI goes to town

The Talent Identification Programme [TID] was introduced to open doors for bowlers around the country and to ensure the selection process for national honours was transparent. Seven exercises were introduced with the top performers advancing to national levels via area, zone and

gold squad camps.

But because of a non-availability of funds the process of area and zone camps were temporarily postponed.

However, new research worldwide suggests that TID is not the magic bullet, but that talent development and the rate of improvement over an 18-month cycle are the best predictors of talent.

Bowls South Africa continuously seeks new talent in pursuit of its objective of being a world beater and the executive, therefore, approved the following TD system:

- Players wishing to participate in this programme must commit to a 18-month cycle and have represented their district in any BSA interdistrict side;
- only exercise No 1 [20x20 draw] and No 3 [draw to two jacks] of the resent TID programme will form part of this project; assessment results to be submitted every six weeks and,
- for this project to be professionally administered a data capturing programme has been developed; districts to appoint a co-ordinator for effective implementation.

The functions of this co-ordinator who must be computer literate are:

- To ensure players adhere to the schedule;
- results are true and correct and,
- directly enter assessment results into the system.

Districts should nominate their co-ordinator immediately and submit to Mike Cann at mikecann@bowlssa.co.za with name and BSA number of co-ordinator, capacity and e-mail address. Details on the programme will be made available; inquiries to BSA vice-president Kallie Haupt.

Port Natal win Mixed Pairs

Results of the four-day 2013 Bowls South Africa Mixed Pairs Bowls Championships finals played at Gonubie Bowling Club, East London: Gold medal: Port Natal (Clinton/Sarie Bisset) 24, silver, Sedibeng (Martie/Lieb van der Walt) 23; bronze, WP (Mark Epstein/Sylvia Burns) 25, S Free State (Natasha/Zane Roets) 15.



MIXED GLORY: Clinton and Sarie Bisset (Port Natal) winners of the Bowls SA Mixed Pairs at Gonubie, East London

Lotto 'victory'

Disability Bowls has received R290 000 and Blind Bowls R500 000 from Lotto; Bowls SA's appeal, submitted last year, for R1.3-million is being considered.

'Full house' payments

Bowls SA advises members with short term insurance policies with, Warwick Wealth or Perfect Delivery Brokers should take note: Members will be paid for a "full house" under the following circumstances: 1. A full House is defined as a team scoring eight shots in a single head during a fours/pairs game or nine shots in a single head during a trips game. 2. Such payments will be met for official competitive games only, NOT for social

Games such as tabs-in and bounce games.

Workshop and AGM

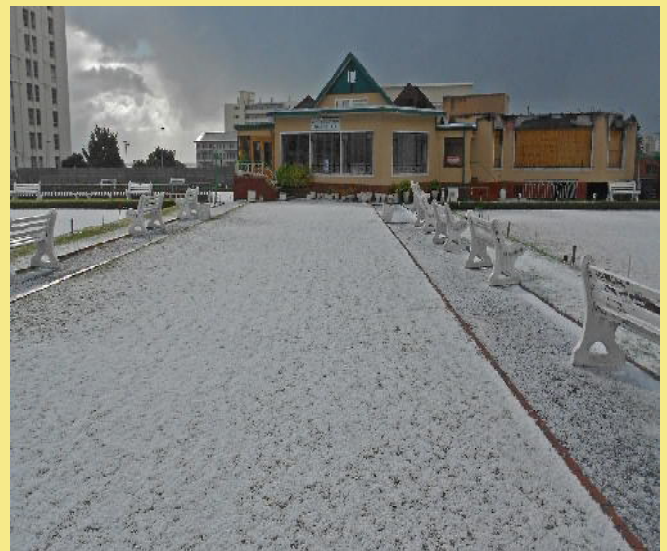
Districts are advised that the workshop and AGM are at Bowls SA HQ in Dunkeld West (formally Rosebank BC) on Saturday, August 24 at midday and Sunday, each at 10.30am respectively.

Skort is okay

Bowls South Africa has approved the skort as acceptable apparel for female bowlers. This approval is subject to it being a branded garment; homemade and tennis skorts remain unacceptable.

Show respect plea

Districts are asked by Bowls SA to ensure teams, especially in Interdistricts and SA Mixed Pairs attend closing and prize-giving ceremonies. It is insulting to sponsors and winners if players leave early.



ICE BOWLS: Early June meant huge storms battering Cape Town. Here Atlantic Green Point BC, after having its club house burn down last year (not yet re-built), saw an amazing temperature change with hail blanketing their greens ... the thermometer plummeted to 4Deg C.

Pictures: Barry Washkansky

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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