

BOWLS SOUTH AFRICA

GET IT

ROLLING!

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2021

WARRENTON JUKSKEI BOWLS

Newsletter of the NSC:

Membership and Marketing

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Warrenton BC, in an effort to raise awareness of not only our sport but also other smaller sports partnered with the local Jukskei club. Jukskei is one of the local indigenous games and the club normally uses a soccer field located in Ikhutseng, where they create makeshift pits for practice.



Warrenton bowls club created 2 temporary pits next to their club house. The club were able to secure some river sand from one of their local sponsors which assisted in creating a good area for playing a challenge game between the members of the jukskei and those of the bowls club.

At the end of the day the bowls club won both bowls games and won one jukskei game taking the first time title. Many of the players from both clubs have indicated that they will be looking at playing similar events in the near future. The players agreed that the real winners were friendship and the sport of bowls and jukskei.

The event was planned as a friendship cup where the two sports will show the community and the other clubs how to play their respective sports. They then went on and created two teams of members from both sport codes challenging one another to a friendly but very competitive game.

The two temporary jukskei pits have now become a regular training ground for the jukskei club and it has been decided that together the two sports codes will look at making this area a permanent feature.

Please keep us posted Warrenton.

Photo's and article Jacques Swanepoel



The Jukskei pits starting to take shape from left to right, with old and young members trying to play.



sport, arts & culture

Department: Sport, Arts and Culture
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



GET IT ROLLING!

NEWSLETTER

NEW LOOK, FRESH FEEL

Winter 2021

This is the NEW LOOK, FRESH FEEL Newsletter presented to you by the National Standing Committee Membership and Marketing. Here the committee will continue sharing the marketing ideas, attracting new members to clubs, reporting on a variety of events, community involvement, growing the youth (see Convenors Corner) and awareness of the sport of bowls. We invite you as a bowler, a club member, the clubs and districts to share stories. Thank you Bowls South Africa (Executive), Sponsors and all involved in making this “happen” but especially for Tracy Meyeridricks for the design re-interpretation.



Let us Keep it Rolling for Lawn Bowls in South Africa!

WESTERN PROVINCE MASTERS



Armand with Gillian and Kabous



Anneke Snyman



ANNEKE

Anneke shared some bowls wisdom after the WP Masters.



Thank you Anneke for your input and the two photo's

At the recently held WP Masters, amended from a three tier event to only an Open event during 2021, it was a delight to see the young players showing off their skills amongst seasoned players.

It was great to see that the WP bowlers coming through the youth events i.e. the U25's (now U30's) did not leave the sport of bowls, as “newly married couple” Eugene and Megan Ferreira showcased.

The Stellenbosch students, Gillian Young (previous member of Eden U'20 team) and Kabous Olivier (previous member of the North West U'20 team) enjoyed the greens. WPC player, previously Boland diamond, Anneke Snyman were there and shared an interview.

It was also good to have son, Armand and mom, Nadine playing in the same year at the 2021 WP Masters.



Eugene and Megan Ferreira



Nadine and Armand Ascaray

Says Anneke that she finds bowls is relaxing and exciting at the same time, that she enjoys the competitiveness and seeing results after doing the hard work. Any person the same age as herself is encouraged to try the sport, as she says “if you do not try it now you will regret it later”.

The bowls Protea player, having one of her next goals to win a gold medal at the Commonwealth Games, says the game of bowls makes you mentally stronger and that in her opinion bowls is 90% mental toughness. Physically it keeps one moving and healthy to a certain extent but emotionally, Anneke feels she has grown over the last years... as an example not to show emotions like stress, etc.

As we see a growing number of family and friends enjoying this game it was important to ask her who inspired and supported her. Her parents are her greatest supporters together with Henry Fourie, the Boland U'25 (now U'30) manager who encouraged her to start playing. The Protea bowler, the late Elma Davis, will “always be an inspiration for me, we always had a dream to win a Commonwealth Games Gold medal together” and she says that plan has not changed. We wish Anneke all the best for the future.



GET IT ROLLING! NEWSLETTER

AWARENESS MONTHS

Winter 2021

Awareness? Why and how? With the months becoming more than a year since the first lock down in South Africa, bowls has seen some change due to the impact on our clubs.

Times are tough and clubs need the finances and members more than ever. Districts and clubs must make constant changes to competition dates. For these reasons it is difficult to expect an awareness event to be organised. But...

Life goes on and the awareness months is there to help us ground ourselves and keep on reaching out to those around us, making life even better, giving us new leaders, people knowing we care

and of course our super heroes.

As per request and for continuation, the NSC: M&M on behalf of Bowls South Africa will keep clubs and districts informed about the different themes for the various Awareness months as set aside by the Government and in line with their theme.

As you all will be aware the NSC: M&M have been doing online activities over the past year and will continue to do so, thereby continuing the growing social networking for bowls but also a quick and accessible media. As such and where possible, awareness months were noted but not celebrated.

The month of July was dedicated to the Youth and we revisit some of the events and highlights here. We want to keep adding junior marketing and events. M&M are especially looking for news where juniors took part in districts of Sedibeng, Gauteng, Mpumalanga, KZN Country and Northern Cape.

August is Women's Month and the theme for the government is "Realising Women's Rights". In keeping with it the bowls theme is "**Promoting Equality in Lawn Bowls**". The NSC: M&M will be sharing your photo's and news.

#1SPORT4FAMILIES

During the coming months we also want to focus on the families who play bowls together – maybe mom, dad and the children and grandparents are all enjoying the game of bowls. Nowadays young people are pulling their parents into the game of bowls and not the other way around.

The opportunities to play in the U15's/U20's and then follow on to the U30's opened a world for not only attracting the young person to the sport but retaining these players once commitments of work, marriage and children starts.

- Did you play together as families in tournaments?
- When and where? How did you do?
- Who was in your group and what was their relationship to one another?
- Does your district and club engage in the marketing of #1sport4families for it's benefit and to give an opportunity for other families to join in playing bowls?
- Share your family stories and photo's and the enjoyment that you all have in playing with the rest of the bowls community.

Please send it with photo's to mandm@bowlssa.co.za



SUPER HEROES AT OUR CLUBS

Winter 2021

The government theme for Youth Month was Super Heroes and in keeping with this M&M asked clubs and districts who they have as their Super Heroes, the younger people that are putting their hands up to serve as administrators, be involved with umpiring or coaching but are involved with playing bowls at different levels.

What is your club doing to attract the next District player with the goal of becoming one of the Protea bowlers in the near distant future? A lot of the stories and accomplishments of the youth have already been shared on #1Sport4Life but M&M would like to keep the momentum going and share some further stories in the coming months.

Please send photographs with the consent of the player and the Super Hero story to mandm@bowlssa.co.za

BORDER BOWLS SUPPORT YOUTH MONTH

The month of June celebrated Youth Awareness Month and the main aim for the Border district was to promote and market the game of Bowls in the Eastern Cape. Awareness months have been set aside by Government and Bowls South Africa have requested the involvement of clubs and districts to use the awareness months to grow the love of the sport of bowls and indirectly the membership.

The Marketing and Membership Committee of Border did some brain storming identifying a variety of options for Youth Month. One of the initiatives suggested was to visit a radio station. This type of promotion should reach a broader audience to promote bowls. Initially this would have been a team visit but due to Covid19 the group of Josh Turner, Derek Morgan, Megan Thompson and the BSA Vice President Heather Boucher, leaving it in the hands of the Convenor of the Border Bowls M&M, Sive Ngoyi. The radio sta-



Sive Ngoyi



tion visit went much better than anticipated and although they kept it light with lots of bantering, this initiative led to another invitation to visit and talk more about the youth, transformation and other issues in the sport of bowls, which are indeed a work in progress.

Another initiative of the active M&M committee was to get involved and give back in the community. They were blessed to be part of a trip to Debe Nek, a town in the Amahlathi Municipality, in partnership with AROK. Arok is an East London based NPO with its mission being to improve communities' wellbeing and to strive towards the upliftment of their youth. The Khanya Educare Centre

was hit by a natural disaster back in December 2020. Funds were raised and some donations were received which enabled Border Bowls in conjunction with Arok to assist the Khanya Educare Centre. Those involved with this project were thanked as it brought smiles to the faces of 35 small children, their teachers, parents and community.

The M&M Border Committee will continue their engagement with local communities when or where possible in order to change lives and be of inspiration to others to do the same. Being involved with the communities is also spreading the word of bowls.

Article assistance and photo's Sive Ngoyi





YOUNG BOWLERS DURING NATIONALS Winter 2021

It is great to see that the 2021 Nationals showcased a great number of entries. During these very difficult times it is pleasing to see that the bowling community is actively involved in the sport they love. It is even more delightful to see that the Nationals drew a number of entries of the younger bowlers whether as a group or as members of a team, a number of these players being under the age of 25.

WOMEN

Photo's Henry Peens

Seen on the greens....

One of the youngest players at the Womans Nationals played in must be the 15 year old Lezandri

Hildebrand from Potchefstroom Country Club. Lezandri skipped the pairs team in the Nationals 2021, playing with Laetitia Wolvaardt. They came 3rd in their section. Being first-time players in the Nationals competition was a great experience for both of them. There is a bright future ahead for the two of them.

Lezandri is the Potchefstroom Country Club Ladies Singles Champion runner-up. Lezandri is also one of the team members of the North West under 20 and under 30 teams for the last 2 years.

MEN

At the recently held Men's Nationals several young teams played together. At the start of the fours a photo moment shows the teams of Wingate Park and the host district local team, Mowbray.



Wingate Park BC



Mowbray



F. Balert (Richards Bay, KZN)

N. Erasmus (Roosevelt P, JBA)

A. Fick (Outeniqua, EDB)

L. van Aardt (Linden, JBA)

E. Murphy (Randburg, JBA)

...AND ON A LOVELY DAY

Johann van der Watt, seen here with his lovely wife, Karina, is a member of the National Standing Committee M&M. It was a delight to enjoy the mountainous beauty surrounding Constantia BC through your eyes. It was also great to see your reaction when you found out who you had played against once the singles game against Kevin Campbell drew to a finish.

Well done Johann on getting some of those signatures on your Protea cap.

GREENKEEPERS PLAY EACH OTHER

Two of the countries greenkeepers met up during the first game in their section. Ernest Stevens and John Molupi, Edenvale BC, both playing in more or less their 12th Nationals played against novice bowler Pierre Mouski and pairs partner Thembelani Mraji, Bellville BC, playing in their first National Tournament. John, a keen bowler, is the greenkeeper at Edenvale BC. Thembelani, known as Alfred is in his 8th year of bowls, is the greenkeeper at Bellville BC. See article further on.



Thembelani, Pierre with John and Ernest



BOLAND BOWLS JUNIOR EVENTS

Winter 2021

Boland not only has a **Junior Singles** competition but also a **Junior Pairs** competition.

JUNIOR PAIRS



Caledons' Hanru Pool and Luciano Foster
Photo Facebook

The 2021 champions, Hanru Pool (18) and Luciano Foster (15) first had to progress through the 3 sections played at Barrydale for the Overberg leg of the competition.

The pair then progressed to the junior play offs in Worcester where they competed in a round robin against the other top teams, these being from the Wine-lands, the West Coast and Overberg.

The young men went on to win after not losing a single match. Luciano who attends the Swartberg High School and Hanru who attends the Overberg High School both play for Caledon BC.

The Boland Junior Pairs started in 2019 with no competition taking place during



Barrydale's Giovanni with Renaldo Claassen (coach) and Matthew Janniker
Photo provided by Cliff Franklin

2020. The runners up of 2021 were the winners of the first trophies in 2019, Giovanni Hartnick and Matthew Janniker. Both Giovanni (16) and Matthew (17) attend Barrydale High School and play for Barrydale BC.

JUNIOR SINGLES

The Junior Singles is now a highlight on the Boland bowls calendar with great talent and a continuous number of

young people coming through from all corners of the district. The playoffs of the Boland Juniors 2021 took place in Worcester earlier this year with no less than 6 players representing the sub district of the Overberg.

Giovanni Hartnick, Barrydale BC, is the Boland Junior Singles Champion 2021 after playing in the finals against Xander Germishuys, Swellendam BC.



Finalists Xander (Swellendam) and Giovanni (Barrydale)
Photo provided by Cliff Franklin

Barrydale is a small club in the heart of the Overberg and currently has 13 enthusiastic young players steered by sport coordinator and the junior coach Renaldo Claassen, a high school teacher with the assistance from club president Cliff Franklin.

The link between kids and their schools is very important and shows what can be achieved through the involvement of the teachers.



Photo Facebook

Overberg juniors at the finals of the Boland Singles left to right back Giovanni (Barrydale), Xander (Swellendam), Matthew (Barrydale) and in front Daighton (Bredasdorp), Luciano (Caledon) and Hanru (Hermanus/Caledon).



Steyn and Steyn get a full house — Constant (left) and Warren (right)



The combination of Steyn and Steyn (no they are not related but could be) from Roosevelt BC scored a full house during their National Pairs. Although Warren and Constant had never played together, they went on to win section 15 to play off against local Somerset West Team, Des Gardner and Paul Ferns of Somerset West in section 24. The four of them kept all entertained with great bowls till after dark.

FULL HOUSE

To all the other players scoring a full house during the Nationals — well done and hope you received some well-earned rewards.



CONVENER'S CORNER

Winter 2021

Jacques Swanepoel NSC:M&M convener



Struggling with my LINE?

As we all know bowls is very simple game, you only need to get two things right to always win. Line and length...

Easier said than done if you have been playing this sport for a while. But when you get it right you can almost feel that the bowl will touch the jack as it leaves your hand. Great feeling...

With the pandemic hitting our clubs hard it is easy to feel that we are going offline and the growth in club is going down, our plans are not working as they used to. Or even just as we plan something a lock-down or level change comes around. Feels like someone is shouting right at the point of delivery - right? *As a coach I always tell my students that going through a rough period of play, where line and length just don't work - that one needs to go back to basics. Go back to your delivery routine and see what has changed? Changes can come from an injury, or setback in that tight game that could have you rushing. Stepping back and re-looking is the best way to find your form again.* This is also very true when it comes to growth and development within our clubs. Our clubs are facing a seemingly uphill battle to retain members or grow new members – plans are going a bit offline. This means that as a bowler we might need to step back and see what we are doing differently. Getting back to the basics, one key basic is communication with our members, our community and public. Are we sharing good positive news or negative news about our sport or club, are our members sharing positive or negative messages? I am a firm believer that our current membership remains the best tool we have to grow this wonderful sport.

I love the sport of bowls. Ask my wife - she

says I can get bit obsessive about bowls. So if you meet up with me in town you know I will tell you if I won or lost over the week-end.

Another key basic we need to go back to is the introduction of the sport to our youth. Youth is defined as anyone under the age of 35. **Why youth**, what benefit are they for clubs? Because if we can get them involved in our sport they will be members of clubs for another 60 years. Also the age group 20 to 35 is economically active, many are coming out of other sporting codes which they might no longer be able to play. It is really hard for a 35 year old rugby player to keep an up and coming 20 year old out of a team. A lot of younger people are changing their outlook on work and play so maybe looking to settle down bit more.

So - getting back to the basics of growing the sport: I always ask myself—Why do we need this age group? What are their needs? What can “my” club offer them? How are the members speaking to or treating them? Once you answer those questions *you will see the line you need for that shot to end next to the jack more clearly.*

One other thing I tell my students as a coach is once you have stepped back and found out why you changed something in your delivery you need to identify why it happened. Is it because of an injury? Then we may need to work around the injury, just like the pandemic could be seen as an injury. It could have exposed a weakness in our delivery routine. Once you identify this you can start working with what you have. Could it be that something like the pandemic has made a person in the age group rethink his sport? How can we use this? Yes the pandemic is still with us, but you could use it as a positive i.e. by saying our club is following these protocols and this is what this club can offer you to be active in this period. Bowls is allowed under restrictions, although clubs’ bars or other facilities at times not. Some sports players

might be looking for a new sport? Is the closing down of formal school sports not an ideal opportunity for us to introduce young players to the game? And now the next question I know will come from our bowling community...

Why all the focus on youth? Well because June was youth month, plain and simple. But growth in membership at clubs should never be about just one group, but the total inclusion of the whole community. The same way of going back to basics can be used for any age group, male or female, social or competitive members you are looking to get to your club. Focusing on just one group is like having just the length right while playing, you could still win a game or two but overall you will lose more than you win.

So what are the basics?

1. Communication and sharing of information both internally and externally, getting positive news out to our community, ensuring club members are proud of their club,
2. Planning ahead. Where can we find new members in our community? What are the needs? How can we get them to experience bowls? What can the club offer them?
3. Take reflection. Did the plan work? Where can we improve? Should we change our focus to another group? What is the next goal?
4. Start the process again with changes and an improved plan, set new goals.

This is a never ending cycle. *Just like when you are on the green, wanting to play your next end. Even after a bad loss you always get back on the green.* Over the next few newsletters I will look at getting back to our delivery routine in terms of clubs looking to grow membership. As with bowlers there are many ways to deliver the perfect bowl and as such growing the membership of the clubs and the love for the sport of bowls.



GREENKEEPER, SON & PLAYING PARTNER

Winter 2021

21-20, 29 ENDS



Pierre

Siyabulela



Alfred

We spoke to Alfred and Pierre during the Men’s Nationals as it was great to see Alfred, greenkeeper of Bellville BC, on the green participating in the pairs with novice Pierre Mouski.

Alfred Mraji (51) has been playing bowls for 8 years. Alfred, with a club partner already had three wins in the Club Drawn Pairs. Asking him how it all started he said “I tried it once and really enjoyed it. Being the greenkeeper it’s hard not to play bowls”. He prefers to play singles, as reflected in his achievements at the club, which are the Novice Championship and twice being the Men’s Open Singles Champion. In WP he reached the quarter finals in both trips and in pairs. Alfred’s first goal is to win the WP singles and the pairs. Alfred took part in the Men’s Nationals saying he enjoyed it a lot, competing in all the formats. They won 3 games of the pairs during sectional play and only lost in the quarter finals of the fours.

Alfred is not the only one in the family playing bowls, yet father and son have not played together in a competition. Siyabulela Nondo (20) is a keen bowler playing the sport for almost six years with it at first being a hobby, then falling in love with the game and now wanting to play as often as possible. Siyabulela has won the Novice Singles Championship with his

bowls supported by his family, friends and members of Bellville BC. For now he is looking to broaden his world, either to study further or to find a job in a direction where he can grow.

During the 2021 Men’s Nationals Alfred skipped the pairs with novice bowler, Pierre Mouski. Pierre (32) has only been playing bowls for two years and got interested in the sport due to his parents playing bowls at Bellville BC for the past 10 years. He says “I enjoy playing a different and challenging sport”. He does not play in events with his parents - he says it is “safer that way and keeps family peace”. Pierre was the 2021 Novice Club Champion and reached the quarter finals of the WP Novice Singles. His goal is to be selected to play for WP. Pierre enjoyed playing in the Nationals where he could measure his skills against other players and although it was limited due to Covid19, could enjoy socialising with players from different districts.



Father and son

Note: Photo’s and assistance with article Pierre Mouski

sights on winning the WP Open Men’s Singles and being selected for the WP U’30’s. His love for the sport is seen in the enjoyment he gets from a game of

At the preliminary rounds of the Singles during the 2021 Nationals, Francois from Paarl BC and Gerrit from Correctional Services arrived, only to find that the third player in their section had withdrawn. With no spectators another marker was not available and their game started with the Technical Official assisting during the trial ends and further. Due to the TO having to complete umpiring duties on adjoining rinks the players had to keep a sharp eye on the scoreboard themselves as players, etc were asked to help on their rink (and no mistakes were made by all five these markers). The markers was not the only obstacle for the two players as they only had one chance to go through in their section. Francois and Gerrit had to keep their concentration and still managed to play a remarkable game of 29 ends, the result being 21-20.



Francois (blue bowl) and Gerrit

Both were true sportsman and it is a real pity that the loss of the third player cost them one more round of play. On the day they were both winners in very trying conditions. I salute you both.