

NEWSLETTER MAY 2023

59-61 Weraroa Road Levin (06) 368-3176 www.sporty.co.nz/levinbowls

Farewell to the Cotula

Our great cotula green was one of two full sized cotula greens at the club between 1959 and 1999. The front green dated from 1908 and the back green was expanded to a full sized green in 1959. The front green became an artificial surface in 1999 which was replaced by the present Dales carpet in 2010. Over the last decade or so our cotula has had the reputation of being the best natural surface on this coast, largely as a result of the dedicated team of volunteers responsible for its care.

"A most grateful thanks to all who have helped on the cotula green since 2016 making it the best in the Kapiti Coast Centre, not only but including Graham Bocock, Murray Griffin, Bob Whitelaw, Les Judd and Omeka Feaunati, who have all gone to the big bowling green in the sky, Bill Clelland, Larry Auckram, Arnold Taiaroa, Stuart Fields, Ron Evans, Ken Hayward, Graeme Mathie, Wayne Judd, Trevor Turnbull, Phil Stirrat, Grahame Law and Martin Howse, and not forgetting our Greens Consultant Michael Hearsey. Apologies to any that I have not mentioned." Arne Jansson







Club Champions

Mixed Singles: **Duncan Mann**

Junior Women's Pairs: Erica Whittaker & Gay

Calderwood

Junior Men's Pairs: Tom Mu & Brett Connell

Your Elected Leaders for 2022-23

Patron Margaret Griffin
President Les Galloway
Vice President Stuart Fieldes
Secretary Grahame Law
Treasurer Dave Grigg
Executive Members Richard Cowles

Liz Galloway Kay Lahman

Match Committee

(Convenor) Margaret Wilson

Norman Annand Rob Cotter Wayne Judd Hazel Rose Heather Stempa Julie Stichbury Wendy Whitelaw

Club Captains

Women **Bronwyn McMahon**

Men **Brian Cooper**

Selectors

Women **Bronwyn McMahon**

Ralda Adams

Men **Ken Hayward**

Neville Turnbull

Coming Events

May

Wed 03 Four Formats Pairs gala

Sat 06 M & W WKWM 5 yrs & Under

Sat 13 Year 1 & 2 Singles Championship

Sun 14 M & W Junior Pairs Championship

Sat 20 Centre reserve day

Sun 21 Centre reserve day

Sun 28 Levin Bowls Closing Day &

Presentations

New members

Welcome to **David Bond** (from Raumati) and **Stan Bradbrook** (Central) as well as a number of Winter members.

The National Interclub Finals

Our centre was represented at the National Interclub finals by the Raumati women and Paekakariki men. Both teams acquitted themselves creditably finishing third in their sections of six teams and just missing out on post section play.

Raumati women, with six wins and six losses, played in a section won by Takapuna with N E Valley (Dunedin) 2nd going through to post section. Raumati were 3rd followed by Havelock, Paritutu and Thames Coast.

The post section results were:

Quarter-finals: Tauranga beat N E Valley Victoria beat St Heliers

Nelson beat Papakura Takapuna beat Queenstown

Semi-finals: Tauranga beat Victoria Nelson beat Takapuna

Final: Tauranga beat Nelson

This result was perhaps a bit of a surprise as Nelson had hardened internationals **Jo Edwards** and **Val Smith** in their team though Tauranga had leading players **Debbie White** and **Mary Campbell**.

Paekakariki men also had six wins and six losses to finish a close third in a section won by Gore with Stoke second. After Paekakariki 3rd came Browns Bay (4th), Cobden (5th) and Bowls Hastings (6th).

The men's post section results were:

Quarter-finals: Stoke beat Auckland Temuka beat Elmwood Park

West End beat Durie Hill Gore beat North End

Semi-finals: Stoke beat Temuka ` Gore beat West End

Final: Gore beat Stoke

The champion Gore team featured national singles champion **Sheldon Bagrie-Howley** while Stoke had **Shannon McIlroy** and **Pete Hodgson.** In the men's competition it was good to see West End (Taranaki), Durie Hill (Whanganui) and North End (Manawatu) from the western North Island featuring in the playoffs.

Champion of Champions

Men

Singles Shane Duncan (Paraparaumu Beach)

Pairs Rhys Hakkens / Brian Swindail (Waikanae Beach)

Triples G Corlett / D Taylor/ P Rybinski (Paekakariki)

Fours E Irving, B Woolston, N McCutcheon & M Carter

(Central)

Women

Singles Audrey Stevenson (Raumati)

Pairs Eileen Jones / Carol Rolton (Paraparaumu Beach)

Triples A Stevenson, R Stevenson / M Macdonald (Raumati)

Fours H Lawton / G Nicol / B Magill & H Guthrie (Waikanae)



Mixed Singles winner Duncan Mann and runner-up Grahame Law

A great effort from Arne Jansson and Graeme Mathie in the C of C Pairs final. Well behind early they made a late rally and only went down by two points 13 - 15 to Rhys Hakkens and Brian Swindail of Waikanae Beach. Well done guys.

The Kia Super Fours

The second Kia Super Fours was he last club event to be played on the cotula green on 18 - 19 April. Despite the rail tumbling down on the second morning making further play impossible eight one hour games were played - enough to establish the prize winners.

Bill and his team put on a great event for the club with generous sponsorship from Kia Motors and Bill's own creative time in his workshop. All this was backed up by a busy team on the scoring charts and in the kitchen with particular thanks to young Caitlin and James Hoy. Thank you very much to Bill and all those involved.

Every one of the 13 teams was awarded a prize with the minor placegetters all receiving one of Bill's handcrafted cutting boards.

For the record the winning teams were:

1st Lambs - Ken Hayward, Kay Hogan, Norm Annand and Garry Coley

2nd: The Sharks - Liz Galloway, Michael Heather, Pat Brown and Colleen Hall/Pam Kovesdi

3rd: The Bunnies - Arne Jansson, Keven Bray, Robert Hunt and Brett Connell

4th: The Parrots - Julie Stichbury, Valda Anderson, Brian Hoy and Sid Richardson



Pat, Caitlin, James and Muriel in the kitchen. Thanks also to Christine (not in this photo)



School holiday workers - Caitlin and James Hoy



One of Bill's handmade team prize packs





The winning team with the Kia **Motors Super Fours trophy**

May Puzzle (it's a bit harder this month)

- Q 1 Who is the tall guy with Trev?
- Q 2 Where was the photo taken?
- Q 3 What was the occasion?

Text your answer to the editor.

April's winner was Les Galloway

and the bowler was Nick Unkovich

winner of nine national titles.



Goodbye to the Cotula Green

Sadly, in the last week of April the work began to remove our great cotula green. It has served us very well for a very long time having been laid around 65 years ago. When the Bowls Kapiti Coast awards began in 2017 - 18 Arne Jansson (and his team) was judged to be the top greenkeeper in the centre, and the green has been considered to be the best natural playing surface by good judges ever since. Right up until the last it has been playing exceptionally well despite its appearance. In a way it will survive as plugs of cotula have already made their way to the Manakau green for use by the Otaki Railway club, but infested by the *pythium root rot* pest it was degrading rapidly. *Pythium* destroys the roots of the cotula plants and can cause the rapid brown to black rot of the entire primary root that you can all see on the green. The remainder of the green will soon be ripped up by our contractor Danny Ireland of Paul Ireland Digger Hire. The work of removing the old green and replacing the sub-structure will be supervised by *Tiger Turf* personnel before their men lay the new surface.

The old *Astrograss* surrounds of the green and the material from the ditches have all gone and there is a gaping hole in the north fence to allow access for the heavy machinery. Soon activity will ramp up and I will send out regular updates with photos of the various stages of the work for those who don't get down to the club regularly. With suitable weather and no long delays the new green could be in use by July.



Gone to Manakau



Goodbye brown patches





The digger in action 2 May

The Hole in the Wall gang must have been here