

Competitions Review

You can expect to see considerable changes to the centre programme for the 2021-22 season. The centre's Tournament Committee has undertaken an exhaustive review of the events that it controls and with a lot of thoughtful feedback provided from the clubs it now has a mandate to make some fairly far-reaching changes to both its weekend and weekday competitions. (See Page 3 for further details.)

Development work continues around our club. The new carpet in the high traffic areas around the match committee room and kitchen are a big improvement. We should feel a lot of benefit from the newly installed heat pumps in the coming winter and a cooler clubroom next summer.

Winter Bowls

The full programme for Winter Bowls is now available on the notice boards. Check to see closing dates for events.

Coming Events

May

Sat 01	M & W WKWM 5 yrs & Under
Sun 02	M & W Handicap Singles qualifying
Wed 05	Four Formats Pairs Gala
Sat 08	M & W Handicap Singles post section
Sat 15	C of C's Fours: Waikanae
Sun 16	C of C's Fours: Waikanae
Sat 22	C of C's Triples: Otaki
Sun 23	C of C's Triples: Otaki
Sun 30	C of C's Junior Singles: Levin Women's
Sun 30	Closing Day & Presentations

June

Wed 02	Four Formats Pairs Gala
Sat 05	Queens Birthday Mixed Pairs
Sun 06	Queens Birthday Mixed Pairs
Wed 09	Triples Gala
Sat 12	Mixed Triples championship qualifying
Sun 13	Mixed Triples championship post section
Wed 16	Triples Gala
Sun 20	2 x 4 x 2 Pairs Gala
Wed 23	Triples Gala
Sun 27	Open 5 yrs & Under 2 x 4 x 2 Pairs
Wed 30	Triples Gala

Champion-of-Champions

Pairs A very good result from **Rob Cotter** and **Phil Stirrat** to reach the final of the C-of-C Pairs. In the quarter-finals they beat **Warwick Allen** and **Alan Doherty** of Waikanae Beach 20 - 11; and the strong pairing of **Trevor Rayner** and **Gary Hedgman** of Paraparaumu Beach 19 - 12 in the semi-final. In the final they played the very experienced Central pair of **Ian Mahoney** and our former member **Eddie Irving** who proved too strong for Rob and Phil running out the winners by 18 - 8.

Our women's champions **Irene Poletti** and **Ralda Adams** went down to Central's Babs Hirini and Marei Bevan in their quarter-final.

Singles **Bronwyn McMahon** went down to the beaten finalist **Jane Bradbury** from Raumati in her quarter final but our men's champion **Wayne Judd** enjoyed a good day. He beat **Colin Gardner** from Waitarere Beach in the first round and **Craig Howell** of Otaki Railway before going down to the eventual winner and BKC rep singles player **Geoff Bovey** from Paekakariki in the semi-final.

The Junior C-of-C Singles have been postponed until 30 May.

Club Champions

Women's Fours

Winners: **Dianne Short (s), Hazel Rose, Carol Turnbull and Mary Judd.**

Runners Up: **Irene Poletti (s), Ralda Adams, Chloe Eastham and Bella Law**

Men's Fours

Winners: **Brian Cooper (s), Bill Clelland, Rex Spicer and Graham Williams**

Runners Up: **Bob Whitelaw (s), Stuart Fieldes, Chris Edhouse and Phil Stirrat**

Women's Handicap Singles

Winner: **Gloria Michael**
Runner Up: **Bronwyn McMahon**

Men's Handicap Singles:

Winner: **Paul Gardner**
Runner Up: **Ken Hayward**

Obituaries

It was rather a shock recently to learn of the sudden passing of our much respected former clubmate **Joe Wnek**. Joe and Lodzia made a major contribution to the life of our club over the many years that they were active members of the club. Both Joe and Lodzia were members of the match committee a number of times after they joined our club from Foxton Beach. Late last year they moved to Upper Hutt to be closer to family and it is sad to learn that Joe was not able to enjoy his new home for long. Our sincere condolences to Lodzia and family.

It was also a shock to learn of the death of one of the clubs great characters over recent years - 93 year old '**John Boy**' **Walton**. It was only a few weeks ago that John Boy let us know that he was moving to *Reevedon* home and would not be bowling any more. Our members often went out of their way to ensure John Boy could enjoy his roll up and he was forever a cheery, keen and competent bowler.



Winners of Women's Div II Pennants for 2020-21 (L to R:) Dianne, Kaye, Hazel, Bronwyn, Mary, Liz, Bella and Margaret.



Melva Ritson Trophy Winners - Liz, Bronwyn, Mary and Linda.

BKC Centre Officers for 2021-22 Year

The Centre needs to appoint Officers for the 2021-22 season at or before the AGM in July this year.

Applications and nominations for positions must close on 30 May 2021.

As both clubs and individual members of the Centre please start consideration and discussions among your groups, clubs and friends for suitable candidates for the following positions:

Elected Officers - President

- Vice President

- Convenor of the
Tournament Committee
(a new selection process
this year)

Appointed Officers

- **Board Members** - 3 positions
(available on rotation)

- **Convenor of Selectors** - Men's
rep teams

This is an important opportunity to make direct contributions to the Centre and its functions, an opportunity to do more than just talk and be frustrated by current efforts.

Rep Results

The National Intercentre

Our centre's rep teams found the competition tough at the National Intercentre held in Wellington.

Men

Our Kapiti Coast team played in Section 2 against Hawkes Bay, Wairarapa, Nelson, North Otago and Dunedin. They finished fifth in the section (ahead of only North Otago) which was won by Dunedin with Wairarapa second. **Southland beat Auckland** in the final.

Women

Our women's team played against North Harbour, Bay of Plenty, Wairarapa, Central Otago and Southland. They also finished fifth with Bay of Plenty first and North Harbour second. **Nelson beat Dunedin** in the final.

Competitions Review

The centre's Tournament Committee recently put out a very wide ranging questionnaire to the clubs. Our club appointed a sub-committee of our selectors plus Grahame Law and Ken Hayward to consider and write our responses to the 30+ questions. On 12 April the clubs met at Otaki to work through the findings. President Jim Bagnall and Ken represented our club. The review was at least partly a response to our club's initiative to seek reform of the Interclub competition which last season was marred by the problem of 'byes'. All of the clubs responded fully to the questionnaire and were represented at a very positive meeting (which lasted 3 ½ hours) and there was considerable consensus on the main issues. There was a perceived need for major changes. Most of the details will be revealed later but some of the main points are:

- Qualifying in centre open events will still be 2 out of 3 to qualify, not in sections of four as we had advocated to avoid the need for post section play on Mondays. Instead there will be a Finals days for the Centre Open events at the end of the season. There will be C - of - C days spread over the season - like in the 2019-20 programmes, which most clubs preferred.
- There will be one spare day scheduled before Xmas and one later in the season.
- The question of byes was discussed in a lot of detail and the TC asked to avoid byes in open events at all costs e.g. fill fields to even numbers by any appropriate measure.
- Penalties for not fulfilling entry commitments – it was agreed that a penalty of \$ 150 be applied for failure to turn up on a day of Interclub or Pennants. (This will need to be ratified by the AGM.) And, all competitions will be played to a conclusion - no early finishes on the last day.
- Clubs wanted a system to assess and grade greens – the TC to investigate further.

Interclub It is fair to say that our club's ideas for reform of the Interclub competition (in particular) were pretty well received, and in a lot of cases should be implemented for the new season.

It was agreed that Premier I continue as at present as the format of singles, pairs, fours was set by the national competition, but it was also agreed that clubs could enter a second team in that competition with the TC able to set a limit of 10 teams in that division. If there are an uneven number of teams the team that finished in a lower position the previous season would be relegated / not accepted. Premier II would probably also continue in the same format.

Three games would still be played in a day (we lost that one) but there would be a time limit of 2 ¼ per game. Draws would be scattered.

Our LBC proposal that Division III could be an 'any gender' competition was agreed to - with 5 players, a pair and a triple, to enable the smaller clubs to compete. This should lead to more entries and perhaps even another division.

Pennants To encourage greater participation clubs could enter teams of 'four', rather than two fours as at present, in any division with a maximum of 16 teams per division. A single team result would determine the winner. Bonus points and a scattered draw to be retained. The number of ends played to be reviewed.

Bowls3Five Our LBC proposal that each club who wished to enter would run their own internal competition with their winning team to go on to a centre final – like C of C' s – was accepted.

Mid Week Events

Clubs want fewer mid week events. As a result events like the Leila Secker, Melva Ritson, Seddon Shield and Horowhenua Cup will not be played. Events for players Under 10 yrs will be retained. This will enable clubs to focus on their own events and help boost participation in weekend events.

A draft programme has now been released and clubs have responded to it. More next issue.

Centre Awards

This season's BKC Centre Awards presentations will be held at the Central club on Saturday 19 June at 1 pm.

The End of Play at Levin Women's

Sadly the Levin Women's club is closing at the end of the season bringing to an end 79 years of competition on their Bath Street green. The club held its final gala sponsored by I C Mark on 8 April.

The club was formed in February 1942 and the members initially played on a small green in Salisbury Street but a year later the Council made the land on Bath Street available for a nominal annual fee. Although the club was first known as Levin Women's it was changed to Horowhenua Ladies in 1946 because it was known locally as the '*Ladies Green*'. To avoid confusion the name reverted to Levin Women's when the Levin Bowling Club opened a Women's Section in the 1970's.

The first clubroom was Thompson House's stone gardener's cottage built in 1905 which remained unlined and with no toilets, ceiling or kitchen until 1963. A western part of the clubrooms and powder room was added in 1975 - not without controversy as it involved removing the Thompson House swimming pool. A further extension was built in 1984.

In the early period the green was only a '*grass green*' mowed with an ordinary gardens mower. In the late 1990's the club was threatened with closure because of the expense of maintenance. Eventually it was agreed for the Council to lease the land to the club who undertook to maintain it themselves.

Over recent years falling and ageing membership and the inability to attract new players has made the club less viable. Approaches were made to amalgamate with the Levin RSA club but this did not eventuate. In addition issues with green keeping coupled with reliance on the town water supply and earlier and more stringent water restrictions had become major problems.

In April the club's lease needed to be renewed but the members did not feel they could stay viable for a further three years so the decision was made to close. Long time club President **Carrell Knight** reports that the club is solvent and that they are in negotiations with the Council in relation to their buildings. She stated in a recent letter to clubs that some of their members may go on to join other clubs, though unlike in the case of the Raumati South club, they would not be able to take any financial benefits to their new clubs.



Play in the Early Days at Levin Women's



The 75th Celebration in 2017