



BOWLS SOUTH AFRICA

QUARTERLY
NEWSLETTER

June 2008

Message from the President Boodskap van die President



Piet Breitenbach

It is extremely gratifying to know that the Bowls South Africa office has worked away at the backlog that plagued us for some time. I would like to invite all our shareholders (administrators and bowlers) to test our efficiency at the office and to give us feedback on our performance. Only if you supply us with honest information will we know whether we are on the right track. A big thank you to John and his team of ladies.

The reaction we have received so far, on the proposed "new" format of the Nationals makes us feel positive regarding the future of the besieged Championships. We actually had thousands of bowlers visiting our website. The final draft will be prepared and sent to all parties concerned. The final format will however only be decided upon once discussed with Council during August 2008.

Met al die "soet" is daar altyd ook 'n bietjie "suur" teenwoordig. Die "suur" kom in die vorm van 'n persoon met die naam van Tys Pringle. Tys het besluit om homself nie weer verkiesbaar te stel as lid van ons uitvoerende bestuur nie. Hy het die afgelope sewe jaar werk van onskatbare waarde vir Rolbal Suid Afrika en rolbal in die algemene gedoen. Daar is nie genoeg byvoeglike naamwoorde om sy talente te besing nie. Ons almal besef egter dat dit baie moeilik gaan wees om hom te vervang. Ons wens hom en Marthie alles van die best toe en mag wonderlike jare hulle vorentoe beskore wees.

We are looking forward to a successful Under 25 and Development Tournament in Bloemfontein during the month of July 2008. Our National Selectors will have a tough task to select the Gold and Silver Squads during this period. These squads will be put through their paces in preparation for the Atlantic Championship which South Africa will host during May 2009. We will keep you posted on progress made as far as these arrangements are concerned.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the bowlers who supported all the Bowls South Africa Tournaments over the past year. You are making a difference and I want to share this "Afrikaans" thought with you all:

"Sukses word nie gemeet aan wat jy bereik het nie, maar aan of jy 'n verskil gemaak het. Dit is om te weet dat jy die lewens van ander geraak het, en die wêreld op 'n manier 'n klein bietjie beter, 'n klein bietjie vroliker gemaak het."

Rolbalgroete

Piet Breitenbach

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**Worry is like a rocking chair!
It gives you something to do, but gets you nowhere!**

EDITORIAL/ REDAKSIONEEL

All games and sporting activities have rules according to which one must participate. If I purchase a simple card or board game, there is always some form of directive telling you how the game should be played and what the rules are. If I go to the pub and have a game of darts, I play according to the laid down rules. If a group of people get together for a game of bridge or rummy or Uno everyone agrees to play according to the accepted rules. Whether it is a simple card game or an international recognized sport you either play according to the rules or you don't participate at all, or you are subjected to certain penalties. Many national and international contests are lost through non compliance with the accepted rules for that sport.

Why is it that the moment that the international laid down laws governing the sport of bowls are applied so many bowlers are up in arms and full of malicious criticism over the rules, the sport and those that know the rules and wish to play according to them. Rules are rules and if you choose to participate in any sport, you by implication accept those rules and undertake to play the sport according to the rules.

In any case, if everybody plays according to the rules, even in bowls, if every bowlers sticks to the rules, whether it is the Laws of the Sport of Bowls or the Etiquette of Bowls or even the constitution of the club, District or National body, everybody concerned, whether team mate or opponent, and even the spectators, will enjoy and respect the game.

What a wonderful sport bowls will be without conflict, without disciplinary hearings or appeals. One can still be highly competitive and apply every possible strategy to win, all within the ambit of the laid down and prescribed rules. Of course, to play according to the rules, you must know the rules! The Laws of the Sport of Bowls and Etiquette of Bowls are available to all bowlers. They need only insist that their clubs obtain the booklets from Bowls South Africa.

Die nuutste ledesyfers sal eersdaags bekend wees en dit sal interessant wees om te sien in hoe 'n mate die nuwe ledekaart stelsel die af-

waardse neiging teengewerk het. Terwyl Rolbal Suid-Afrika allerlei planne bedink om die sport en sy ledetal uit te brei, is dit onverstaanbaar dat daar in baie gevalle op klubvlak allerlei maatreëls toegepas word om dit vir mense moeilik te maak om as lid van die klub aan te sluit. In plaas daarvan dat daar agteroor geleun word om mense aan te moedig om aan te sluit en dit so maklik as moontlik maak om dit te doen, word allerlei voorwaardes neergelê wat dikwels mense laat besluit om eerder weg te skram van rolbal, 'n klub en die spel.

Daar word 'n ernstige beroep klubbestuur en –spelers gedoen om dit so maklik as moontlik te maak vir mense van buite om aan te sluit en aan die sport rolbal deel te neem. Hoe dikwels die person by die klub gaan kom of aan sosiale spel gaan deelneem of van die dorp/stad afwesig sal wees, is faktore wat geen rol behoort te speel by die oorweging van 'n aansoek nie. Selfs die optrede van "ou" gevestigde spelers moet sodanig wees dat dit nie nuwe toetreders en apirant lede afskrik nie.

This will be the last Newsletter that I will be dealing with in my capacity as Member of the Executive of Bowls South Africa. I wish to thank all the Bowlers, clubs and Districts for the wonderful relationship that I have been privileged to experience in that capacity. Wherever I went, and whenever I met up with District Executives, I was made to feel like the most important person in the world.

Thank you! May the sport of bowls go from strength to strength in all respects!

Ek sluit af met die woorde van Charl Schurz:

“Ideale is soos die sterre: ons kan hulle nie bereik nie, maar soos seevaarders kan ons ons koers met hulle bepaal.”

Tys Pringle

Media Portfolio Exco Member

A NOTICE OUTSIDE A SECOND HAND SHOP.

We buy sell and exchange all bowling equipment and accessories,

Why not bring along your wife and get a wonderful bargain

Press Releases and Circulars

IMPORTANT CIRCULARS

The following Circulars have been distributed to District Secretaries since the last Newsletter. If any of these circulars concern you or your club, please ensure that you obtain them from your District Secretary.

- Circular 19/2008: Executive Invitations.*
- Circular 20/2008: White Bowls.*
- Circular 21/2008: Out-Dated Bowls.*
- Circular 22/2008: Bowls SA – Executive Vacancy.*
- Circular 23/2008: Bowls SA – Head Coach Appointment.*
- Circular 24/2008: Annual General Meeting.*
- Circular 26/2008: Press Release: Format of Nationals.*
- Circular 27/2008: Tournament Venues 2009.*
- Circular 29/2008: 2008 SA Pairs & 2008 SA Mixed Pairs.*
- Circular 30/2008: South African Masters Selection.*
- Circular 31/2008: AGM - Workshop*
- Circular 33/2008: Qualifying Technical Officials*
- Circular 35/2008: 2008 African States*
- Circular 36/2008: Talent Identification Programme*



FRIENDSHIP.

Old Bob was missing Joe, his bowling buddy of over 50 years. he had passed to green's anew just last year, and Bob couldn't help but wonder how he was getting along.

So later that day whilst talking with a friend it was suggested that he sought the help of a medium,

who agreed to try and make contact with Joe. So the next evening, after the usual formalities contact was made, and this is how it went !.

Hi Bob, said Joe.

Whats it like up there, asked Bob?

Great food, Nice people, Lovely weather, and we get to bowl as much as we like, replied Joe.

That's good news, said Bob!

No! said Joe, good news is you're skipping FRIDAYS TRIPLES !!!!!

PRESS RELEASES

SOUTH AFRICA TO HOST INTERNATIONAL BOWLS TOURNAMENT IN 2009.

The Executive of Bowls South Africa has announced the bowls program for 2009, giving details of dates and venues of all the national tournaments as well as the international events that will be played in South Africa.

It is of interest to note that the Men's and Women's National Championships (commonly known as "the Nationals") shall take place simultaneously at different venues; the Men's Nationals will be played in Eastern Gauteng and the Women's Nationals in Western Province, from 18 until 25 April 2009. This will be the first time that these events take place at the same time. This arrangement should be welcomed by particularly the women bowlers as, in the past, the Women's Nationals were played in May, a month after the Men's Nationals, when the winter is on hand and the weather conditions more often than not less pleasant than in April when their male counterparts play their Nationals.

The S A Masters, Open, Seniors and Juniors Single Championships will again be hosted by Bowls Gauteng North and played at Wingate Park CC from 12 to 15 February 2009.

The Inter Districts will be played from 10 to 14 March. The Open Inter Districts will take place in Pretoria, the B Inter Districts in Kimberley and the Seniors in East London. The hosting clubs will be announced at a later stage after inspection of the greens.

The Under 25 and Development Inter Districts will take place during the winter school holidays from 6 until 11 July and will be played at George in the Southern Cape.

The Mixed Pairs Championships will take place from 1 to 5 September and will be played at Port Elizabeth. The Men and Women Pairs Champion of Champions will be played at Margate from 29 October until 1 November.

South Africa will also be hosting the bi-annual Atlantic Championships for men and women in 2009 from 4 until 16 May. Altogether 13 countries participated in the 2007 Atlantic Championships which were played in Ayr, Scotland. South Africa ended with the Protea Men's Team in overall first place, with the Women's team in the overall second place after Scotland. South Africa's Colleen Webb won the Gold Medal in the Singles while the South African Fours team with Lorna Trigwell, Cheryl Cox, Loraine Victor & Sylvia Burns won the silver medal.

There are also several other international events in 2009 abroad where South Africa should be participating. The exact dates and venues are not yet known and will only be announced by the hosting countries at a later stage. Amongst these are the test series between South Africa and Namibia and the African States Tournament.

MEDIA RELEASES/ MEDIA VRYSTELLINGS

April - June 2008

**Zurich Rolbal Suid-Afrika Nasionale Mans Kampioenskappe.
Zurich Bowls South Africa Men's National Championships.**

**Shaun Addinall and his Durbanville Team does it again.
Shaun Addinall en sy Span van Durbanville doen dit weer.**

**Nasionale Vroue Rolbalkampioenskappe begin in Pretoria.
Women's National Bowls Championships start in Pretoria.**

**Suid-Afrika bied Internasionale Rolbal toernooi aan in 2009.
South Africa to stage International Bowls Tournament in 2009**



2008 Overall Team Winners

Above: Durbanville, Western Province

Below: Rustenburg, Sables



GRASS CLIPPINGS 15

COMMITTEE INTERFERENCE

Browsing through the latest magazine of the New South Wales Bowling Association I came across an article with the heading –

“A CAMEL IS A HORSE

DESIGNED BY A COMMITTEE”

I was obviously intrigued and read the rest of the article. It was actually a repeat of what had come up before in “Turfgrass Management “ – a magazine which is more golf-orientated.

This article starts by quoting a recent article which had appeared in the “New Zealand Sports Turf Review’

The New Zealanders were expressing their concern over the fact that many Green keepers (GKP's were leaving the profession because of ‘Committee Interference “ in what they regarded as their own domain as professionals.

It implies that Greens Committees should ask themselves “what is our function”

In discussions with Turf Managers of various sporting bodies (even racecourses) one of the most frequent cited problems is the “well meaning” interference of Committee members on how they (the GKP's) should do their jobs.

On the whole very few of these Committee members have had any experience in managing sports turf - yet they have the power to instruct GKP's to undertake tasks which may be contrary to sound management practices.

When one examines their lack of experience and the fact that the composition of the committee might change every year it is no wonder that these professionals get frustrated.

The Aussies went so far as to suggest that a Committee of Experts from outside the club should lay down guidelines which would be operative for two or more years and not be subject to the whims of the Club Committee.

In bowls the suggestion was that an outside agency of experts would decide on what should be the optimum speed for a green bearing in mind the capabilities of the green i.e. the texture of the soil, the variety of grass .and the expertise of the GKP. The club members would not be allowed to coerce the GKP into looking for speeds beyond that figure

This interference also covered the financial aspects of greens management .

Who has not sat in on a Committee where a member says “why do we want this new stuff – what we have is quite good enough”

One must not forget that, in the case of New Zealand and Australia we are talking about Professionals who had qualified for their positions by passing an exam after four years of study and practical tuition with a recognised senior Green keeper.

Although they are technically the employees of the club and paid a salary commensurate with their qualification they are experts in their field and should not be called upon to submit to Committee members who are given – or take upon themselves – the authority to pontificate on technical matters and club policy regarding the management of their greens.

One can only hope that common sense will prevail and that while the GKP expects to be recognised as a professional he, in turn, will behave like a professional on and off the green.

In the RSA our position is somewhat different because our green keeper (GKP's are not paid a living wage and only receive a small stipend which, often , does not cover out of pocket expenses.

This does not mean we do not have Committee Interference – we do – and on a large scale but the outcome only means that the GKP just resigns and does not have the financial loss which our brethren overseas have to consider before they move on out of the system – as they are apparently doing.

In the RSA we have a different position – our GKP's are not trained and cannot always answer queries with authority. They are easily swayed by Committee members on how to manage the greens green - especially when it comes to the speed of the green.

The rest of this Newsletter is available for download on our website or from your District Secretary

BOWLS SOUTH AFRICA TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

TO THE POINT

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

**Learn from the mistakes of others. You can't live long enough to make them all yourself.
(Unknown)**

MISIE EN VISIE VAN DIE TEGNIESE BEAMPTES STAANDE KOMITEE

Die Tegniese Beamptes Staande Komitee onderskryf ten volle die Visie en Misie Verklaring van die Uitvoerende Komitee van Rolbal Suid Afrika.

In die ondersteuning van die ideale en doelwitte van Rolbal Suid Afrika stem hierdie komitee saam met die volgende visie en misie verklarings:

VISIE

Ons strewe is om te verseker dat alle pligte wat betrekking het op Tegniese Beamptes soos skeidsreg, merker die interpretasie van die Reëls ,professioneel, effektief en toepaslik uitgevoer word deur goed opgeleide, toegewyde en vaardige tegniese beamptes op alle vlakke.

Om respek vir en aanvaarding van, tegniese beamptes te verseker in die rolbal gemeenskap en in besonder deur beheerliggame, amptenare, spelers en toeskouers.

MISIE

Om hierdie Visie daar te stel moet hierdie Komitee himself

op hoogte hou van internasionale ontwikkelings van die reëls;

toepaslike leiding gee aan alle betrokkenes, insluitende die Uitvoerende Komitee van Rolbal Suid Afrika, beheerliggame, Distrik - en Klub uitvoerende komitees en spelers;

verseker dat 'n doeltreffende opleidings program volgehou word sodat daar genoeg goed opgeleide beamptes op alle vlakke landswyd beskikbaar is;

om korrekte kennis sonder vooroordeel aangaande die interpretasie van die Reëls aan alle betrokkenes te voorsien;

verseker dat opgedateerde dokumentasie ten alle tye beskikbaar is en dat Distrikte, Klubs, spelers en beamptes daarvoor ingelig word;

verseker dat Distrik Staande Komitees in werking is en om te dien as 'n satellite en medewerker van hierdie Komitee in alle opsigte;

om 'n aangename verhouding tussen tegniese beamptes en bestuur op alle vlakke te verseker en om sodoende die geleentheid te skep vir tegniese beamptes om erkenning te kry vir hul spesiale vaardighede en om ook deel te word van die besluitnemingsproses op alle bestuursvlakke.

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COACHES FORUM

FOR THE EXCHANGE OF COACHING NEWS AND VIEWS

**(FROM THE NATIONAL STANDING COMMITTEE FOR
COACHING)**

CLUB COACH COURSES

Many Districts are holding Club Coach Courses and for convenience we list them below with contact details.

Southern Cape (will probably be complete before publication of this Newsletter) from June 9th to 12th, the contact person is Kallie Haupt on 044 874 0649.

Eastern Gauteng the weekends of July 12th/13th and 19th/20th, contact is John Gairns on 011 609 8096.

Western Province from July 15th to 18th contact person is Dr. Doug Coghlan on 021 556 3727.

Central Gauteng the weekends of August 9th/10th and 16th/17th, contact person is Sue Upton on 011 7910473.

Kingfisher from August 18th to 21st, contact is Ray Ferris on 039 314 4981.

Districts with courses planned include Sables, Northern Free State and Northern Cape. We advise all coaches to keep in contact with their District Standing Committees to keep up to date with the latest techniques and also to assist wherever possible. The value of coaching at all levels is fast becoming the accepted way of improving your bowls and therefore results. We urge all bowlers to make use of both their Club Coaches and also others within their District.

This years Level 2 Course is being undertaken by seventeen coaches and it is also hoped that some of the candidates who did not complete last years course will submit their Portfolios for assessment.

NEW INITIATIVE

Members of the National Academy, in conjunction with the National Standing Committee for Coaching are now busy with a countrywide Talent Identification and Assessment Program. Every District is involved and the top nominated players at all levels, are being invited to be part of the day-long exercise. All bowlers should keep in touch with their respective coaching committee to find out when and where these events are taking place. After the initial visit, the program will be run by the District Coaches using the laid down procedures, with regular reports to Bowls South Africa Coaches. Now is your chance to show the rest of your colleagues just how good you are !

LEVEL 3 UPGRADE COURSE

Following the successful completion of this years course, planning is well underway for running the 2009 course early in the year, with much of the work being of a Distance Learning nature similar to the current Level 2 Course.

This course will be the most intensive ever undertaken by the NSCC and it is hoped will be of tremendous benefit to bowlers at all levels.

REMEMBER

LETS WEAR OUR BADGE AND PLAY THE GAME WITH PRIDE

**The rest of this Newsletter is available for
download on our website or from your Dis-
trict Secretary**

BOWLS SOUTH AFRICA DEVELOPMENT

Jack up Bowls!

We're on a roll'.....



Lombardy East Bowling Club's Indoor Rink

The indoor rink at Lombardy East Club (near Johannesburg) was officially opened on 8 March 2008 by the President of Bowls SA, Mr. Piet Breitenbach.

Construction of the rink was completed late last year and has been used extensively by local bowlers. The rink runs at about 17 seconds and is very accurate. Prior to leaving for World Bowls, the South African team held regular practices at the facility.

A pairs challenge ladder is to start shortly. Teams can be entered from any district and make their own arrangements to challenge people above them. A special arrangement has been made for very economical accommodation at a local 3 star hotel (from R130 per person per night sharing). Visitors from other districts will be given preference over weekends.

It would seem that plans are under way for a **second indoor** facility at **Durban Wanderers**. Further news of this is eagerly awaited.

Under 19s and 25s

Inter-District Tournament will again be hosted by

SFS in Bloemfontein from 7-11 July 2008

To date 14 districts have entered the tournament. This will be the third year that this special group of youngsters will participate and each year the standard of play has increased. Therefore we can expect tough competition this year!

The teams are bracing themselves for the cold weather expected that time of the year in Bloem.

Many thanks to Bowls SA who sponsors one under 19 team per district!

**The rest of this Newsletter is available for
download on our website or from your
District Secretary**

BSADSC - WEBSITE

Topics on the new Development Website

<http://www.bowlsdevelopmentsa.co.za/>

- 1 **Contact Information on Development Committees**
 - 1.1 Contact information document on all District DC
- 2 **Development News Letter - March 2008 issue**
- 3 **Responsibilities of Development Committees**
 - 3.1 Responsibilities of Bowls SA Standing Dev Com
 - 3.2 The Responsibility of a District Dev Committee
 - 3.3 Why is Bowls Development Needed
 - 3.4 Changing Attitudes
 - 3.5 The Sport and Recreation Amendment Bill
- 4 **Marketing Plans for Districts and Clubs**
 - 4.1 Marketing Your Club
 - 4.2 Club Marketing Strategies
 - 4.3 Operational Plan for Club Development
 - 4.4 Guidelines to Recruit and Retain Members
 - 4.5 Checklist Successful Clubs
- 5 **Development Projects**
 - 5.1 Youth Program
 - 5.2 Short Mats
 - 5.3 Bowls Development Guideline Booklet
 - 5.4 Biased for Business (Corporate Business)
 - 5.5 Athletes Exiting Other Sports
 - 5.6 Corporate Leagues
 - 5.7 Bowlers with Disabilities
6. **How and Where to get Funds for Bowls**
 - 6.1 Fund Raising
 - 6.2 Five Tips How to Find a Sponsor
 - 6.3 Thanks Lottery!
- 7 **U/19 Development Tournament 2008**
 - 7.1 Circulars and information on the tournament

Reports and Newsletters

We need feedback from you so that we can share the news of districts with each other via this newsletter. Keep on sending your news and bowls jokes!!

Development news of **districts** should be submitted to the editor **Jack up Bowls**

alomasmith@telkomsa.net

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