

BOWLS NEW ZEALAND GREEN KEEPERS ASSOCIATION



September 2018

NEWSLETTER #6

To: All Greenkeepers Associations, Bowls New Zealand, NZ Sports Turf Institute, Primary ITO.

Message from President

Hi folks. What a fabulous year we are having so far. The work your executive is doing is instrumental in seeing that the greenkeeping fraternity is well informed and making great relationships with our Community including Bowls NZ. Mark Cameron CEO Bowls NZ, thank you for your support and striving very hard to build the relationships that will assist not only BNZGA but bowls in general. The new relationship we now have with Prebble Seeds is thanks to Mark and Bruce for the working together for the benefit of bowls in general.

I want to congratulate Thames Valley & Nelson Greenkeeping Associations for holding the North and South Island conferences respectively. It was so good to see the number of people that attended the North Island Conference. The reconnecting in the North Island with bowls only conference was so good to see and I want to congratulate Peter, Frank and the others associated with Thames Valley Greenkeepers Assn for resurrecting this type of Conference. I hope Wellington will get the same support next year. Also, congratulations to John and Don in Nelson for another very successful South Island Conference.

Congratulations to Don Carter and Norm Cowie who were awarded the "Services to Bowls Greenkeeping" awards. These are well deserved to two men that have spent huge number of years looking after greens in their areas and also parting their knowledge to greenkeepers nation-wide.

Congratulations to Maurice Symes who was awarded the Bowls NZ Greenkeeper of the Year Award at the recent awards evening in Auckland hosted by Bowls NZ.

Keep up the great work all of you of you are doing.

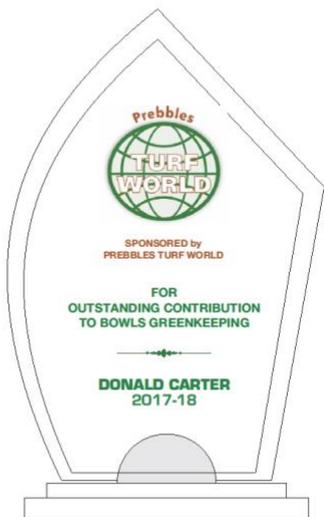
WELLINGTON NEWS

This autumn 6 Clubs have renovated greens by turf cutting and laser levelling prior to seeding with Maniatoto bulbils this winter. The persistent rain we have experienced this winter was frustrating and made it very difficult to maintain a seedbed before sowing our Bulbils. After one cancellation we finally had a break in the weather and 4 greens were sown by hand and the Contractor followed by applying the wood fibre mulch with additional seed in the tank mix.

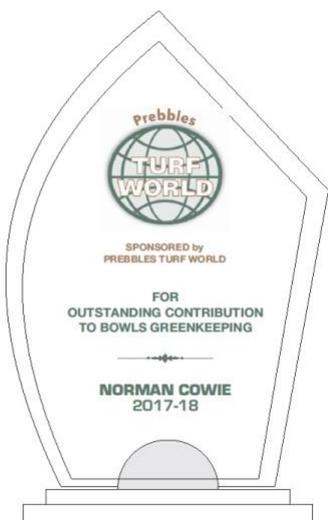
The Naenae complex continues to develop and hosted the BPL League at the end of last season. An active winter program has been in place this year.

BOWLS NEW ZEALAND GREENKEEPING ASSOCIATION **INCORPORATED AWARDS 2018**

TO SERVICES TO BOWLS GREENKEEPING



Donald Carter (Nelson)



Norman Cowie (Timaru)

LONG SERVICE AWARDS FOR 20 YEARS PLUS SERVICE

Neville Risbridge	Tokoroa	Waikato	01/07/2018
Maurice Symes	Blenheim	Marlborough	15/07/2018
Robert Galvin	Wakefield	Nelson	15/07/2018
Laurence McIntosh	Invercargill	Southland	15/07/2018
Dickson Andrews	Waipiata	Central Otago	15/07/2018
James Walker	Wyndham	Southland	15/07/2018

Bowls Marlborough & Nelson Field Day

The Marlborough/Nelson greenkeepers field day went well with visits to 9 of 10 clubs

The day commenced at Kaikoura visiting both clubs. The newly resurfaced green at Takahanga green looked to progressing well and should be ready for competitive play by November. They have already started cutting and have near full cover.

The day was enjoyed by some 22 greenkeepers with 8 greenkeepers attending from Nelson for the day. The Nelson greenkeepers thought the Marlborough greens are somewhat more advanced to those in Nelson at this time.

Chris Gribben from NZSTI attended along with Bruce Lowe (Pebbles Turf World) Jason Weller and Brendan from (PGG Wrightsons) adding there thoughts to greenkeepers attending

The established greens throughout Marlborough are in good order.



Field trip



Lunch time

From Nick Bell in Auckland

Well after the success of the Whangamata, and Nelson conferences, I decided to email all clubs in the Counties, Nth harbour and Auckland areas, with the concern that they might not realize the changes that have been made to the Hazardous Substances Regulations, Auckland bowls came on board also with advertising, in the Friday Flash to help get the message thru, thanks Phil.

We received a great response, 31 replies that they would attend, the best in my area ever! Presidents, Secretary's, Green super/ keepers all turning up, the pleasing aspect of this was, sole artificial clubs, attending too.

Tara Mcleod from NZSTI spoke on the subject, plenty of banter and questions thrown at her, with the cost increases, but the outcome all being very positive, and I believe we have enough green keepers to hold a course here in Auckland.

Doug Prebble seeds spoke about the Sponsorship, which went down well, especially when we have already received \$10,000, hope fully more will buy of them now.

After lunch, Everett, NZSTI, spoke on the pros and cons of renovating greens, total replacement, planning etc. killing and re sowing with very little cost, dependent on thatch and levels of course, very interesting, a procedure I have done with great success at our club, thanks. Ron and Eric.

We had a brief discussion on getting all contact details together to give to NZ Bowls, at the moment the jury is out, main concern is they don't want to be spammed, I agree with this so we will see what happens there.

Cheers Nik.

STEVE BEEL, BOWLS NZ, REPORTS:

Greenkeepers Database

I have asked that Greenkeeping Associations send me information about each clubs Greenkeeper i.e. Name, email address and phone number. We are doing this, so we can contact each greenkeeper direct as either Bowls New Zealand or BNZGK Assn. We are aware that information does not always get to our Greenkeeping personnel. To date the information supply has been slow with only 20% of the just under 500 clubs recorded on my database. Please send to me – address details below.

Recently there was significant interest in topics covered at the South Island Greenkeeping conference by some our North Island greenkeepers. I was able to get hold of a copy of the conference material, get it scanned and then sent to the interested greenkeepers. An example of the use a national database can be used for.

Prebble Seeds partnership update

In the first quarter (1 April – 30 June 2018) there are 18 New Prebble Clients - Making the Prebble client base 54% of all Bowls clubs in NZ. Great work. The more clubs we get to be Prebble clients the more money will go direct to the BNZGK Assn

Reminder of the Prebble Seeds deal:

Mark Cameron, Bowls NZ CEO brokered this great deal and we all know of the benefits in doing so in term of the financial possibilities should more clubs come on board.

Remember what Maurice said: Bowls New Zealand Greenkeeping Assn is proud and thrilled that Bowls New Zealand and Prebble Turf World are to expand the longstanding relationship they have with bowling clubs and their greenkeepers throughout New Zealand with this exciting partnership.

With world class products, advice and their freight free policy, all clubs stand to benefit from the partnership with Bowls New Zealand.

Greenkeeping New Zealand wide, whether natural or artificial will receive the shot in the arm it needs to be able to provide support, training, research, field days, conference support including help from Bruce and his team

All we ask is that clubs and greenkeepers alike give full support to Prebble Turf World with their purchases now and in the future

Gaming Funding:

We all know that accessing gaming and being successful in obtaining funds is getting harder. Your regional Bowls New Zealand CDO's can assist in ensuring your club understands what a great application looks like, developing a great template for future application

- Contact your Regional CDO for assistance
- If you are not sure who to contact then get hold of me – Steve Beel Ph: 021 966017 or email: steve@bowlsnewzealand.co.nz

Health and Safety

How well is your club in this space??

Recently I attended a Centre Green Keeping meeting and asked how many greenkeepers and the greenkeeping shed (especially Chemical storage) been audited monthly by the clubs Health and Safety officer ????? sadly the answer was.....Not one of them!!!!.

Bowls Clubs and or Green Keepers that don't take Health and Safety seriously are an accident waiting to happen. Do not be the first to have an accident and then fail H & S or Grow Safe requirements. I am picking that whoever is first will be made an example of and as we know the penalties will be harsh.

Talk to your Clubs and if you need a hand in things Health and Safety contact your local Bowls NZ CDO. There are easy to follow templates, plans and actions already to easily adapt to fit your club.

Some photos from the Whangamata Conference.



Martin Christiansen made Life Member of Thames Valley Greenkeepers Assn and Kerry Clarke a Merit Award made by Bowls NZ Greenkeeping Assn for many years associated with our Association.

Photos from Nelson Conference.



Don Carter



Norm Cowie



Community Development Officers are:

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Howard Ivory

Editor