

NZ Sports Turf Institute Service Contract for Bowls



Summary of Activities

1 April 2023 – 30 June 2023

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Introduction

This report details NZSTI activities under the contract with Bowls New Zealand covering the period 1 April to 30 June 2023.

Activities include:

- Field Days Update
- North Island Bowls seminar
- NZ Turf Management Journal articles

A summary of activities over the past 12 months is also part of this activities report.

Field Days Meetings

A total of 4 field days were delivered in this quarter, completing the delivery of the 20 field days of the 2022-2023 programme.

The respective field days are described below.

Waikato

The Waikato field day took place on the 8th May and was held at the Raglan Bowling Club. There was an excellent attendance on the day.

Attendance: 24 NZSTI: David Ormsby, Maurice Symes (NZBGKA), Steve Beel (NZB).

Topics discussed: David Ormsby covered the topics of renovation, climate change new rules regarding Nema-cur nematocide, use of Acelepryn, sowing maniototo, cotula weevil and synthetics.

Maurice Symes gave a presentation on the training programme and an update on the greens in Gisborne following the devastating floods from Cyclone Gabriel.

Bay of Plenty

The Bay of Plenty field day this year was held on the 26th April at the Te Puke Bowling Club.

Another good attendance was seen at the day.

Attendance: 20 NZSTI: David Ormsby

Topics discussed: Disease, sowing maniototo, nematodes new rules on Acelepryn.

Gisborne/East Coast /Hawkes Bay

This combined field day this year was held in the Gisborne/East Coast region at the Kahutia Bowling Club on the 4th May.

Attendance: 10 NZSTI: David Ormsby

Topics discussed: Synthetic green, resowing and growing in new greens after planeing, general issues.

Whanganui Bowls

The Whanganui field day took place on the 30th May and visited the Durie Hills, Wanganui East, Gonville, St Johns, Laird Park and Aramoho Bowling Clubs.

Attendance: 7 NZSTI: Andrew Mitchell

Topics discussed: As many of the greens had been renovated, the discussion focussed on what was done at each club. Nematodes and the installation of synthetic greens were also discussed.



Greenkeepers at Gonville BC

North Island Bowls Seminar

The North Island Bowls seminar was held on the 26th & 27th June at the Bowls Napier Bowling club. Approximately 60 greenkeepers and tradespeople attended the 2 days.

A range of topics were presented by David Ormsby and Brendan Hannan (NZSTI) and greenkeepers Rob Gibson, Jamey Ferris, Maurice Symes and Ron Sabin. The seminar also had a series of workshops as well as several panel discussions.

Some of the topics presented included:

- Greenkeeping the South Island way - Jamey Ferris & Ron Sabin,
- Seaweed Programme / Nematodes - Maurice Symes,
- My Greenkeeper portal - Rod Gibson & Jamey Ferris,
- 4 revolving workshops - fertiliser identification; weed identification; boom sprayer calibration and mower settings.

Brendan Hannan & David Ormsby, NZSTI, presented the following topics:

- Nematodes and how to manage them,
- Renovation and importance of time,
- Weed control,
- “Greenkeeping issues” that covered a range of issues.



Revolving workshops at the seminar allowed for excellent discussions



Revolving workshops

Seminar group

Photos: courtesy of S. Beel

Publications

The Winter 2023 edition of the *NZ Turf Management Journal* had the following article related to bowling green management:

- Nematodes in bowling greens - where are we at?
- Poor risk management can have disastrous consequences.

Summary of 2022-2023 Activities

Below is a summary of the NZSTI delivery of the Bowls NZ contract for the past year.

Field days

BNZ allocated field days 2022-2023 Centre	Number of field days	Greenkeepers in attendance
North Island		
Northland	1	24
Far North	1	25
Auckland/North Harbour /Counties	1 Held in Auckland	14
Waikato	1	24
Thames Valley	1	12
Bay of Plenty	1	20
Taranaki	1	14
Wanganui	1	7
Manawatu	1	7
Gisborne/East coast /Hawkes Bay	1 Held in Gisborne	10
Wellington/Kapiti coast	1	14
Wairarapa	1	10
South Island		
Nelson	1	15
Marlborough	1	14
West coast /Buller	1	8
Canterbury	1 Nth Canterbury area	16
South Canterbury/North Otago	1	13
Central Otago	1	20
Dunedin /South Otago	1 Held in Dunedin	24
Southland	1	20
Grand Total	20 delivered	311

A selection of photos from some of the field days around the country over the past year are below:





North Island Seminar

The North Island seminar was held this time in Napier on the 26-27th June. Approx 60 people attended including greenkeepers and tradespeople.

A good range of topics was presented (see seminar section earlier in this report) as well as several panel discussions involving both greenkeepers and NZSTI Agronomists.

The South Island seminar is to be held on the 14th & 15th August in Dunedin.

Turf Management Journal Articles

8 articles over the last year published in the Turf Management Journal were either directly related to bowling green management or had some relevance for greenkeepers.

The articles are below:

Spring 2022:

- History of Cotula
- The marvel of soil biodiversity
- Into the archives-managing diseases

Summer 2022

- Monitoring surface levels does matter,
- Into the archives-improving soils by physical treatment.

Autumn 2023

- Cover is king

Winter 2023

- Nematodes in bowling greens -where are we at?
- Poor risk management can have disastrous consequences.



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New Zealand Sports Turf Institute



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Document Title: **NZSTI Service Contract – Summary of Activities 1 Apr 2023-30 June 2023**

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