



# BOWLS SOUTH AFRICA

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

July 2007

## Message from the President



**Piet Breitenbach**

It is indeed an honour and privilege to thank with sincerity all the bowlers that participated in our National Tournaments in Pretoria and Durban. The feedback from the men was overwhelmingly positive against a lukewarm response from the ladies. The men show a preparedness and vision to allow some necessary changes to happen to the benefit of bowls. The fact of the matter is that we are going to proceed with the new format with some "fine tuning" to ensure an even more positive response from all our bowlers. Let us remove the resistance to change; it will be for the betterment of bowls.

I promised some feedback on the progress we have made on our current business plan in our previous newsletter:

The database is almost complete – plus minus 2,000 members to be added; this also includes the issuing of membership cards

- The development program is back on track after some structural changes were made. Progress will be shared with you once we have the relevant results
- We have met with the Deputy Minister of Sport (as previously mentioned) and he is very supportive of our objectives. Our main objective however remains the declaration of bowls as a school sport
- As far as funding is concerned, some progress has been made. Lotto on the other hand still owes Bowls South Africa a substantial amount of money. We are regularly in touch with the authorities.

The media liaison is an ongoing process and as mentioned in the previous issue the results are absolutely brilliant.

So, fellow bowlers the future looks good but there is still a lot of hard work to be done.

Die Protea spanne vertrek vroeg in Julie maand na Ayr in Skotland waar hulle aan die "Atlantic Championship" toernooi sal deelneem. Die meerderheid lande wat hier deelneem sal ook by Wêreld Rolbal 2008 in Christchurch, New Zealand in aksie wees.

Septembermaand neem hulle deel aan die Afrika State Toernooi in Windhoek, Namibië.

Gedurende Oktobermaand word 'n besoek aan New Zealand op hulle uitnodiging gebring, wat oneindige waarde tot ons voorbereiding vir Wêreld Rolbal 2008 sal voeg. Ten minste drie toetse sal teen hulle gespeel word, asook verskeie wedstryde teen streekspanne word in die vooruitsig gestel.

Daarna word 'n Toetsreeks vroeg in Novembermaand teen Namibië in Kaapstad gespeel.

Januarie 2008 keer ons terug na Christchurch, New Zealand vir ons aanslag op die Wêreld titel!

Fellow Bowlers, we are approaching our AGM in August. We will once again give feedback to Council on all our activities during the workshop on the Saturday. We, as an Executive are committed to serve you and as our vision states: *to make "bowls" the best sport for all.*

Let us play and work hard, and success will come our way.

Kind regards  
Piet Breitenbach

### In this Issue

<i>Editorial</i>	2
<i>Circulars and Press Releases</i>	3
<i>Grass Clippings</i>	6
<i>To the Point</i>	7
<i>Coaches Forum</i>	8
<i>Jack up Bowls</i>	9
<i>Bowls SA Info</i>	10

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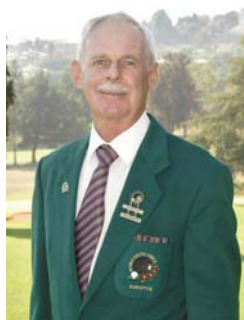
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## EDITORIAL/ REDAKSIONEEL



Many years ago I attended an O&M (Organisation & Methods) course and I can clearly remember the course kicking off with the question "Why did the dinosaur disappear?" Answer: "Because it was not adaptable to change!"

Reading through the reaction and answers to the questionnaires after the men's and women's Nationals, that O&M question involuntarily came back to mind. Although there were constructive and meaningful comments, there were also those that could only have been inspired by natural resistance to change. The men were overwhelmingly in favour of the new format. However, the resistance came mainly from the women bowlers, who were split more or less 50/50 about the new format. To suggest that a team should consist of 5 or even 6 members, would be defeating the object of curtailing costs as, whilst 4 people could comfortably travel from Durban to Johannesburg or even to Cape Town in one vehicle, it would be impossible for 5 or 6 people with their luggage to do so. To even suggest that it is "very distracting for trips to have singles playing alongside" is inconceivable, bearing in mind that no one has ever thought of complaining about 2 teams of an Inter-District side playing alongside each other. On the contrary, it has always been most inspiring having your mates playing on a neighbouring rink.

It is indeed regrettable that not all of the members of a team can play the singles, but this should inspire those players that wish to play singles to make up their own teams, thus increasing the number of entries to record heights. Furthermore, judging from the number of entries in the singles in the past, the number of local entrants as against those from afar, as well as the number of entrants that simply do not pitch up at the venues at the start of the singles, it can safely be assumed that very few of the members of a team, that has traveled from afar and that have not reached the final play-offs, would have stayed on to play the singles.

Fact remains, the dwindling number of entries over the last decade and the reasons given therefore, compelled the Executive, and ultimately Council of Bowls South Africa, to change the format after comprehensive consultation with the Districts and their

players. The motivating factors being to curtail rising traveling and accommodation costs and to accommodate the increasing number of employed bowlers who need now only to take one week's leave as against the previous two weeks to participate in the Nationals.

Speaking of the Nationals, the number of spectators at, particularly the finals on the Saturday, have been extremely disappointing. Granted, the Women's finals were played on the Saturday when the Sharks were playing a semi-final against the Blues not far away. However the rugby only started mid afternoon, whereas very exciting bowls was being played from 08:30 that morning. Even when the men's final rounds were played at Wingate Park, where special additional seating was constructed to accommodate bowls spectators, very few spectators attended the final play-offs. Surely to watch great bowlers of the likes of Shaun Addinall, Gippo Vermeulen, Jannie de Beer and Leone du Rand drawing a shot, can be just as exciting as watching Brian Habana scoring a try.

The lack of enthusiasm must undoubtedly be noticed by our honoured and much appreciated and needed sponsors. This poses the question: Do bowlers deserve sponsorships? Understandably all sponsors expect returns from the communities that they sponsor. Any lack of support, even by way of non attendance of sponsored events, reflects poorly on the regard, support and gratitude which sponsors deserve. This applies to all levels of sport, including club events.

Het die tyd nie aangebreek nie dat die rolbalgemeenskap hand in eie boesem steek en homself afvra oor waarom borgskappe so moeilik is om te bekom? Waarom word so min rolbal op TV gesien? Waarom rolbal so 'n lae profiel onder die gemeenskap, in die media en in die wêreld daar buite geniet?

As rolbal die aandag, goedgesindheid en toegeneentheid van die besigheidswêreld will bekom, moet hy dit verdien, onder andere, deur meer lewe by die klubs te skep sodat die buite wêreld kan kennisneem dat daar iets by rolbal gebeur. Dit kan bereik word, onder andere, deur meer toeskouers by klubkompetisies en -bepalings te kry en deur meer entoesiasme onder lede te bewerkstellig.

Tys Pringle, Media Liaison Officer, Bowls South Africa (014) 717 3966 or 083 320 7793

## Press Releases and Circulars

### IMPORTANT CIRCULARS

*The following Circulars have been issued since the publication of the last Newsletter.*

23/2007	<i>Development Standing Committees (with attachment)</i>
24/2007	<i>Youth Development</i>
25/2007	<i>Academy Coaches</i>
26/2007	<i>National Teams</i>
27/2007	<i>Tournament Venues 2008</i>
29/2007	<i>Mrs. Minnie Morris passing</i>
30/2007	<i>Late Mrs. Minnie Morris</i>
31/2007	<i>Annual General Meeting</i>
32/2007	<i>Executive Nomination Form (with attachment)</i>
33/2007	<i>Development Tournament 2007</i>
34/2007	<i>Information regarding Greenkeepers Details</i>
35/2007	<i>Development Standing Committee</i>
36/2007	<i>Junior Elite Training Camp 2007</i>
37/2007	<i>Debra Ferguson - Contact Details / Database Procedures</i>
38/2007	<i>National and Regional Academies</i>
39/2007	<i>National Teams - change of player</i>
40/2007	<i>Development Tournament Bloemfontein</i>
41/2007	<i>Dr. Simon Botha</i>

### PRESS RELEASES

#### **PR 2007/10 - NEW FORMAT FOR NATIONAL BOWLS CHAMPIONSHIP A GREAT SUCCESS.**

The S A Eagle Men's National Bowls Championships, hosted by Northern Gauteng Bowls last week, which was played on a new format, was heralded by the majority of participants from all over South Africa as a huge success. The words of Northern Gauteng Bowls President, Gerald Dixon echoed the general opinion of the vast majority of the players, when he said: "At the conclusion of the first new Nationals it can without a doubt be said that Bowls South Africa has succeeded in its aim to bring a new dimension to our sport."

The new format has shortened the Nationals from 2 weeks to 1 week and teams consisting of 4 players play triples and singles simultaneously followed by fours. Individual winners of each of the 3 codes are recognized whilst an overall winning club is determined. Noticeable in this year's men's Nationals were the large number of younger players that participated. This can mainly be attributed to the shortening of the duration of the event, thus necessitating shorter periods of absence from work.

President of Bowls South Africa, Piet Breitenbach, expressed his relief and satisfaction with the success of the new format and paid tribute to the more than 850 players from all over the country who "had the guts to participate and prove that the new format was a step in the right direction to revitalize the nationals, both men and women." .....

***See the rest of this Press Release on our website***

**PR2007/18 - LOTTO CHAOS HAMPERS  
DEVELOPMENT OF SPORT.**

The chaos and indecisiveness of the authorities governing Lotto and the payouts of funds to those beneficiaries that had already been approved by the National Distribution Agency, is not only causing grave concern in some sporting ranks, but is having a serious hampering affect on the development of various sporting codes for which Lotto funds had already been allocated and approved by the authorities. Lawn Bowls, one of the sports codes that have gone out of their way to promote and operate a strong and successful development drive in all its facets, and to whom certain funds had been allocated, is seriously affected by the Lotto saga and the non payment of allocated funds.

One of the areas where it has been affected is the establishment of a National Bowls Academy and provincial regional bowls academies. In a Circular recently sent out to its 20 Districts, Bowls South Africa announced that “mainly as a result of the current debacle being experienced within the ‘hallowed halls’ of Lotto and the National Distribution Agency the Executive has had to re evaluate the situation regarding both the National Academy and the Regional Academies. The National Academy will for the foreseeable future concentrate its efforts on athlete development and the preparation of the team for international competitions. As for the Regional Bowls Academies, of which six have already been established, they will assume a position of a watching brief pending the possible release of already allocated funds from the national Distribution Agency, whilst no new academies will be created.”

*See the rest of this Press Release on our website*

**PR2007/20 - ROLBAL PROMINENT  
BY BESIGHEID IN SPORT  
UITSTALLING.**

Die sport ROLBAL is vandeeweek by die Markex Besigheid in Sport-tentoonstelling in die Sandton se Konferensiesentrum aangebied as ‘n belangrike hulpmiddel vir personeelontwikkeling- en spanbou projekte in die besigheids- en handelswêreld. Die uitstalling van Rolbal Suid-Afrika, met die tema BIASED FOR BUSINESS, (direk vertaal “bevooroordeel vir besigheid”) is vanaf 5 tot 7 Junie in die Sandtonse Konferensie Sentrum aangebied, waar ‘n aantal besighede en sake-ondernemings hulle ware en dienste bekendstel.

Rolbal is aangebied as ‘n sport en aktiwiteit wat met groot sukses deur bestuur in die handels- en besigheidswêreld aangewend kan word as opleidings-, spanbou- en skakelinghulpmiddel binne ‘n onderneming. Rolbal is ‘n sportaktiwiteit waaraan almal kan deelneem en dit kan geniet. Die leuse van rolbal is nie verniet DIE SPORT VIR ‘N LEEFTYD VIR ALMAL nie. Oud en jonk, man en vrou, groot en klein, vet en maer, selfs liggaamlik - en gesig gestremdes kan aan rolbal deelneem. Almal kan saam deelneem sonder om aan die genot van die spel afbreuk te doen. Juis dit maak van rolbal ‘n uitstaande hulpmiddel vir personeellede, werkgewers en werknemers om mekaar te leer ken en te verstaan.

*See the rest of this Press Release on our website*

**2007 Men's Nationals Overall  
Team Gold Medal winners  
Shaun Addinall, Etienne Mal-  
herbe, Schalk Kotze & Jason  
Evans**

**First winners of the "New" Na-  
tionals Best Club Award »**



**Bowls South Africa  
"Biased for Business"  
Stand at Markex 2007  
at Sandton  
Convention Centre -  
June 2007**



## GRASSCLIPPINGS

In this issue we will continue where we left off in Grass Clippings 10 i.e. discussing fertilising and fertilisers. Fertilising, as such, has two components

promoting growth

replacement of the elements used up by the grass plant or leached past the root zone

This issue will be confined to identifying the elements in the soil which are essential for grass plant growth and how to apply them.

As mentioned in G.C.10 these elements (or nutrients) are the vitamins of the grass plant.

Currently 13 mineral elements within the soil are recognized as being essential for plant growth. Although amounts of these elements found within the grass plant may vary considerably they are all important to the plant. They are grouped into -

macro-nutrients

secondary nutrients

micro-nutrients

### 1 Macro - nutrients

1.1 Nitrogen (N) - Required in greatest quantities. It is an essential component of amino-acids, proteins, enzymes (refer Defence Mechanism G.C.10 ) and other plant substances It will stimulate leaf and root growth.

It is important that the GKP regulates his application of (N) in such a way that it is neither excessive or too little as both can have serious repercussions. (ref. G.C.10 - excessive application of (N) can cause so much growth and in the process use up so much energy that the Carbohydrate reserves are depleted with all the concomitant problems which accompany such depletion.)

Nitrogen (N) is available in two forms-

- Organic - This would include N derived from Animal deposits. Urea and sludge

- Inorganic -Salts like Ammonium Sulphate, Magnesium and Potassium Nitrate

The inorganic salts are favoured because of their availability and price

1.2 Phosphorous (P) - Provides the plant with a means to conserve or transfer energy to those parts needing the energy at that time. While P is very mobile in the grass plant it hardly moves in the soil.

Because it is relatively insoluble in water it is difficult to get it to the root zone unless the GKP applies it just after aeration and scarifying when the green is bare.

Potassium (K) - Potassium is second only to N in the amounts required to sustain turfgrass growth. It is a catalyst for many processes which occur in the grass plant

It improves turfgrass wear tolerance and supports the grass plant through periods of stress

Deficiencies will reduce resistance to stress, increase the incidence of diseases and general reduction in growth.

On the other hand excessive amounts of K will inhibit the absorption of Calcium, Magnesium, and other nutrients.

K is very soluble and leaching losses can be considerable in sandy soils.

Note Most of the soil potassium is fixed and unavailable to the grass plant. The plant is, therefore, almost wholly dependant on the K provided by the green keeper.

### 2 Secondary Nutrients

2.1 Calcium (Ca) - Very common in our soils. Assists with cell production in the grass plant and with the absorption of many nutrients. As a constituent of lime it can be used to increase the soil pH.

2.2 Magnesium (Mg) - Is an important constituent of Chlorophyll and, also, assists with the absorption of Ca.

2.3 Sulphur (S) It is a component of many proteins and amino-acids in the grass plant.

**[Read the rest of this informative newsletter on our website](#)**

# To the Point

## BOWLS SOUTH AFRICA TECHNICAL OFFICIALS

### THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

**“There are no short cuts to any place worth going”**

The new course material that appears to have caused much debate lately is not what it looks like. Nothing has changed. The course is simplified into smaller “bite” size sections to accommodate anyone attempting the course from any walk of life. The only difference is that any candidate may now do as many sections as he/she is capable of doing. Credit is then given for those sections the candidate is declared competent, and at any time continue with the rest of the modules. This appears to have been incorrectly interpreted in certain districts. The first module is the markers module, and so the modules progress into more detailed measuring and law applications. This would eventually qualify you as a level I Technical Official. At that point in time you will already have your Markers badge. With this I get back to my quote, “there is no short cut”, all courses will have to follow the sequence of the modules. I am sure Medical Doctors are not taught Surgery before basic Anatomy. The same principles apply when qualifying Technical Officials. Start at the basics and progress to the more difficult. Yet with that I would like to congratulate those TOSC who have progressed and qualified. Many TOs so far this year have completed the new modular system. **WELL DONE.**

### ORDER OF PLAY

The following happened a while ago during a multi-district fours championship tournament.

*Team A played the morning game with their four players. They then started the afternoon game with the four players playing in the same positions. After the sixth end the skip then informed the umpire and the opposing skip that she is going to switch her team around with the lead playing second and the second playing lead from that point on. The umpire then informed the skip that she will not be allowed to do that. She then told the umpire “but Bowls SA allows us to do that”*

Let us now look at the laws involved in this case:

Law 34.2:

- 3 The positions of players within a team should not be changed after the first end has been completed, unless the change is necessary because a substitute is introduced as described in law 51.
- 4 If players in a team game change positions when paragraph 3 above does not apply, the team will be disqualified and they will forfeit the game to their opponents.

BOWLS SA brought out a little booklet: Domestic Regulations and General Conditions of Play.

The subtitle of this booklet states: For Domestic play the following regulations have been amended as per World Bowls (Law 17.1) and as per minutes of Biennial Council Meeting held on 25 March.

In this booklet the following provisions have been made with reference to Laws 34.2.3 and 34.2.4 :

Law 34.2.3 and 34.2.4 : Order of play.

This proviso will be **at the discretion of the Controlling Body/ Conditions of Play.**

Teams may be rearranged within a game **if specified within the conditions of play.** The opposition skip and duty Umpire should be notified when such a change is made. Changes may only be made at the completion of an end. Such changes will **NOT** be in contravention of any laws as specified in The Laws of Sport of Bowls.

What happened in the scenario above is that team A was from District A. Their district has decided that it will allow rearrangement of teams in all competitions where it is the Controlling Body, and has stated that in the Conditions of Play. The above tournament was held in District B. This district has decided not to allow rearrangement of teams in all competitions where it is the Controlling Body. Even so the controlling body for the tournament could have decided to allow rearrangement of teams by explicitly stating it in the conditions of play for the tournament. The Tournament Committee did not specify this.

This means that the Laws 34.2.3 and 34.2.4 as stated in the Law Book were applicable for the tournament, the umpire was right and the Skip was not allowed to rearrange her team.

**The lesson from this is : Know the contents of your Law Book, know the contents of the Domestic Regulations and know the Conditions of Play of the Tournaments you are playing in.**

**[Read the rest of this informative news-letter on our website](#)**

**COACHES FORUM**  
**FOR THE EXCHANGE OF COACHING NEWS**  
**AND VIEWS**  
**(FROM THE NATIONAL STANDING COMMITTEE FOR**  
**COACHING)**

**THE FUTURE OF COACHING**

We start this Forum with some quotations from Charl Durand who is the editor of Your Sport, the official magazine of Sport and Recreation South Africa. In his editorial for the first quarter of 2007 he writes "Sport is becoming an increasing part of a wide range of careers, from retailing and finance to media, health, and, as we point out in more than one article, the public service. Some experts we spoke to are of the opinion that job opportunities in **core sport**

**areas** such as **coaching** and education are also set to expand. We believe that is true, since the introduction of sport back into schools is a major focus of SRSA". (This could also be said about bowls).

Further on in his editorial Charl goes on to say ".....there is a dearth of advanced skills and experience (within applications for jobs in sport), something that can only be addressed by a strategic approach to sport education and training".

The National Standing Committee for Coaching is often criticised for being too "official" in our approach and coaching courses but we sincerely believe that if you enter into the coaching arena you should be well qualified and seen as a "professional". Be a respected coach and continually updating your self on changes and advances within the coaching field.

Some of the new sport legislation being put into place may have a minor impact on our sport but nonetheless we should make sure we are well placed to comply with both new legislation and also its impact on our sport in particular. Let's make sure we are all considered "**Professional Coaches**".

**UPGRADING COURSE 2007**

Having started this Forum with the comments from "Your Sport" and all that they imply let's look closer to home.

When we first invited applications for this years upgrade course we had a total of 34 applications. Following the withdrawal of some people at the outset (after receiving the material) we have subsequently received more withdrawals. We are tempted to comment that if people cannot find the time to complete Distance Learning Modules, that were originally introduced to make things easier, do they really have the time to coach at all ? Granted some people have requested an extension of time but others have not even been in contact.

Whilst being overly critical in some regards with our comments above perhaps we should also add some accolades. Some of the Portfolios returned for Assessment are excellent and show that people are, indeed, being professional in their approach to coaching, whilst others show a great deal of initiative. Overall it is obvious that we have some top rate coaches out there. Congratulations to all those coaches and keep up the good work.

In keeping with the official document "Coaching Structure and Qualification" that was given to all Districts at last years AGM, we are well along the path in preparing the Level 3 Upgrade Course. The final details, program, and procedures will be circulated as soon as they are finalised but it is hoped to run the pilot program before the end of 2007.

**[Read the rest of this informative newsletter on our website](#)**



## Jack up Bowls!

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

**Bowls SA Development Standing Committee**

**New Secretary**

A hearty welcome to Joey Wessels of Klerksdorp who was appointed as the new secretary on Bowls SA DSC.

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### FONNY MEYERIDRICKS

**Bowls SA Development Standing Committee**

#### FOREWORD

It is gratifying to see the image of bowls changing, particularly in the past few years. More and more young people - especially students and scholars – are enjoying the game and, gradually, we are seeing a broader population spectrum on South African greens. However, we need to accelerate the pace of change to ensure future growth and to finally dispose of the “old man’s marbles” image. We should celebrate the fact that our sport is unique in that people with a variety of ages, physical strength, physical challenges, culture and financial capability can join together in this activity. Your development steering committee is dedicated to promoting the concepts of transformation to a fully inclusive sport. It is now time for clubs, their members and the media to promote these positive aspects of our game. After all, our sport enjoys a higher level of actual participation than most other sports.

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### FOCUSING ON STUDENTS

**Eric Green – Convenor Western Province Development Standing Committee**

One of the projects initiated by the WPDSC in 2006 was that of improving the Image of Bowls. We approached the Varsity College in Cape Town for assistance and the response from the 2007 second year Marketing students was most encouraging. They did a presentation to the WP Executive Committee displaying many innovative ideas of how they see the future of bowls – and no student had even played bowls!

This shortcoming was soon addressed and a fun afternoon was arranged for the 8 students to be introduced to the game of bowls at Glen Country Club. Trish Steyn, a Protea bowler, volunteered to do the initial ‘coaching’. What a privilege to have a Protea bowler to introduce these students to bowls! All in all a most pleasant and rewarding afternoon and we look forward to their final product.

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## What is Bowls Development?

There are so many facets that fall under the umbrella of ‘Development’, e.g. marketing, fund raising, prospective players, business leagues, corporate days, recruiting new members, development programs for scholars and students, etc. Ultimately the most important aspect of all is the **growth of memberships!**

### Definition of Bowls Development:

Many of the activities of development are directly related to the creation of opportunities for people in our multi-cultural society to play bowls, therefore bowls development is essentially the creation of opportunities for people in bowls.

Development touches every aspect of the sport of bowls because if it did not, it would hinder the progress of the sport as a whole! Development is there to ensure that progress is facilitated in all directions, through specific projects such as recruitment of new bowlers; the establishment of a youth bowls programme in schools and under-40 age group; with the support of existing bowlers, etc.

Bowls development is part of the process of improving the **standard of play** and the **number of people playing bowls**. **It is about investing time and effort NOW for returns in the FUTURE whether short or long term.**

**[Read the rest of this informative and interesting newsletter on our website](#)**

## **Bowls SA Executive**

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Piet Breitenbach

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# **The Sport for All**