

# RAAKSKOOT TOUCHER



Kwartaalblad van Boland Rolbal  
Quarterly Bulletin of Boland Bowls

Mei / May 2017

## BOLAND SAKELIGA FINAAL

*Theuns Coetzee*

Die Sakeliga Toernooie van ons klubs wys ontseggelik dat ons hier op 'n wenpad is, en dat ons nou begin om die dividende daarvan te oes.

Dit is nou drie jaar waar ek persoonlik betrokke is by die Finaal op Worcester en ek onthou nog soos nou die dag hoe ons moes sukkel, bel en raap en skraap om 'n halwe perk vol te kry.

Vanjaar het die klubs behoorlik vinger getrek en volstoom die besigheidsligas by hulle onderskeie klubs aangebied. Dit was beslis 'n voorbeeld van hoe daar in 'n klub herinvesteer kan word vir daardie klubs wat nie Sakeligas aanbied nie as gevolg van die sogenaamde "werkslading". Ek praat hier van klubs wat vir vier dae na mekaar, vir agt weke lank die toernooi aangebied het om hulle 48 sakespanne te akkommodeer. Buiten dat die klubs die room van die ekonomie op hul bane kry, jaag hulle hul omset op met beter-as-verwagte drank verkope.

Die mite dat sakeliga spelers nie wil aansluit nie is ook die nek ingeslaan met verskeie klubs wat tot meer as twintig nuwe lede uit die liga bygekry het.

Die vernaamste faktor wat na vore gekom het uit die naweek se toernooi waar 18 spanne deelgeneem het, was dit dat dit nie soseer oor prysgeld of trofeeë gegaan het nie maar eerder oor die geleentheid om deel te neem in 'n ouderdomsgroep waar in hulle tuis voel.

Die volgende uitdaging vir ons klubs en streke is om hierdie mense verder in die jaar betrokke te kry in 'n formaat en tydgleuf wat hulle werk pas.

Dus klubs wat so kla - waar is julle ligte?

Die oorgrote meerderheid Sakeliga spelers is jonger as 45, en toe ek aan hulle noem dat hulle aan die Envar Buys 0/45 NEWBY toernooi in Augustus kan deelneem was hulle almal opgewonde om in te skryf. Dus pleit ek by die distrikspresidente om die rowwe diamante te gaan soek, want hulle wil almal speel! So maak ons hulle families gewoond daaraan dat hy of sy nou 'n nuwe sport het wat hulle geniet en waar daar rondom aangepas moet word. Ons moet onthou dat saam met elke jong speler is daar die kans dat hulle 'n vrou/man het met kinders en ons moet besluit hoe akkommodeer ons gevestigde spel hulle?

Die spel van die top spanne die afgelope naweek staan nie terug vir enige ope dag nie, dus het ons die getalle en die talent, hoe akkommodeer ons hulle binne ons klub verband. Kry ons dit reg het ons oornag 500 nuwe lede?

Die manier waarop Boland kon dankie sê die hele seisoen, was 'n bitter goeie baan, lekker musiek en eet, plus goeie weer om so dankie te sê vir dit wat hulle terugploeg in hul klubs. Al die deelnemers het gesê hulle wil verseker volgende jaar weer deelneem.

Baie geluk en dankie aan daardie klubs wat hulle dividende na die toernooi gestuur het. Aan die ander klubs: moet nie tou opgooi nie, gaan besoek daardie klubs wat reeds sukses behaal het. Ek doen dit elke jaar en elke jaar leer hulle my iets nuut.

*(Vervolg op p.2)*

(Vanaf p.1)

Klubs wat Sakeliga's aanbied is ongeveer 14 uit 'n totaal van 39 klubs. Hier 14 klubs het elk 'n gemiddeld van 30 spanne op die baan. 'n Eenvoudige som is dat 14 klubs x 30 spanne van vier gee ons 680 Sakeliga spelers. Vergelyk dit nou met ons hele Boland ledetal van 1350 lede beteken dit dat hierdie Sakeliga inderwaarheid die grootste kompetisie is in Boland is, en dit bygesê met net 35% deelname van ons klubs.

Almal in Boland, van bestuursvlak dwarsdeur tot op klubvlak, moet besef die tyd is nou reg om uit die boks te begin dink en modelle op die tafel te plaas om hierdie mense te akkommodeer – hetsy op 'n aandligabasis of iets beter. Ons kan nie meer wegkyk van die potensiaal wat op ons voorstoep lê en wag nie, ons moet begin proaktief optree!!





## LIKE THE PHOENIX—RISING FROM THE ASHES

### *The Rebirth of Barrydale Bowling Club*

*Cliff Franklin*

The idea of a bowling club in Barrydale was first discussed in 1980 by the Mayor at that time, Manfred van Heerden.

After receiving support from people in the village, a management team was set up with Philip Lategan as Chairman. The erf where the green is situated was bought from Piet and Jim Smit and with R1 000.00 in the bank and a lot of hope and willpower, the project began.

Boetie and Albert Fullard and Bertus Cooke were hugely influential in the early development of the club. The whole farming community helped with equipment, vehicles and workers and asked for nothing in return. A wonderful commitment by the entire community and in November 1984 the first bowl was rolled on the green of the Barrydale Bowling Club.

In the subsequent years up to 2008 the club flourished and was recognised within the Overberg and Boland bowling fraternity as a significant role-player.

Unfortunately, and due to many reasons the club closed during 2008/2009 and in the subsequent years the Barrydale Recreational Club, carried on in a purely social environment up to June 2015 when it was on the verge of closure.

***Ds. T. Putter, Rektor K. Jonas, N. Myburgh (Ex. Mayor) Swellendam, J. Makriga (Barrydale BC)***



***Winning team from Stilbaai Bowling Club :  
President's Day April 2017***

Happily, through the efforts of locals Dave Simpson and Lawrie Mabin and the committee of the time, closure was halted.

The way for a new beginning was paved by many people: Cliff and Harold Franklin, Chris Eccles, a Barrydaler via the UK, Faan and Alta Joubert, Johannes Makriga now a life member and Kosie Joubert a Barrydale icon. Embracing the same qualities as those of the founding members, they have steered the club through difficult circumstances until in 2016 Barrydale was welcomed back into the fold of Boland Bowls and Bowls South Africa.



Apart from being actively involved at all levels within the Overberg and Boland bowling communities a Youth Development Programme has been initiated. This programme embraces the younger generation of Barrydalers, namely the schools and "NET VIR PRET" and functions under the mentorship of Johannes Makriga and Luan Els, a teacher from Caledon who is now based in Barrydale.

A large number of businesses, to many to mention actively support the Club and they are fully aware of our appreciation.

# BOODSKAP VAN DIE PRESIDENT

In die "Raakskoot" van Februarie 2017 het ons gewonder of ons spanne goed voor berei het om hul staal te toon in die onderskeie Interdistrikte Toernooie. Spelers, spanbestuurders, keurders, gades en klublede het almal bygedra om die spanne met selfvertroue die toernooie te laat aandurf. Die uitstekende sukses wat ons spanne behaal het spreek boekdele vir almal se bydrae. Woorde kan nie beskryf hoe trots ons op Boland Rolbal kan wees nie.

Dit was 'n baie besige tyd die afgelope klompie weke, met heelwat Boland kompetisies wat gespeel is en Meesters vir Ope- en Seniorsgroepe wat afgehandel is. In die All Cape en SA Nasionale Kampioenskappe het verskeie spelers en spanne wat lede van Boland klubs is, goeie rekenskap van hulself gegee.

Al drie ons streke hou hierdie maand hul eerste Algemene Jaarvergaderings en terwyl daar nog



nie totale sekerheid bestaan oor presies watter rol die streekbestuur speel nie, is daar tog baie tekens dat die streke tot voordeel van Rolbal in die groter Boland gaan wees.

Boodskappe van groei in ledetal by enkele klubs is goeie nuus, maar daar is nog te veel klubs wat sukkel om nuwe lede te lok en dit is veral by daardie klubs waar ons almal moet help met raad en idees. Dit is nie lekker om te hoor van klubs wat sukkel om te oorleef en dreig om toe te maak nie.

Klubs word versoek om kontak te maak met die Staande komitees in hul streke en Boland, om versoeke te rig vir kursusse vir merkers, tegniese beamptes en afrigters, asook om raad met jul perke te vra. Gebruik die wintermaande wanneer minder rolbal gespeel word, om lede op hierdie terreine opgelei te kry.

Groete en sterkte aan alle klubs.

## VAN DIE REDAKTEUR

- ♦ Goeie nuus oor die kleiner sny van balle : p. 13
- ♦ Ceres Klub bied gereeld hulle geriewe aan vir opheffingswerk : p.14
- ♦ Lees gerus die storie van Barrydale - hulle verdien applous p.3
- ♦ 'n Fotobeeld van rolbalspelers wat presteer het : pp.7 & 8

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## BOLAND SAKELIGA FINAAL 2017

### DIE VIER MAIN MANNE VAN MAINTENANCE MAN (HERMANUS)







# V A T G R A S

Pieter Linde

## MEASURING FOR SHOT

**W**ho should measure for shot is a question often posed by many players. Some selectors even maintain that if a player cannot measure properly he cannot play third as the Law Book specifies that it is the duty of a third to measure!

Normally the player or team conceding shots will do the measuring. If it is agreed that Team A is holding one shot and there is a measure for second shot, then Team B will measure for the second shot. If a measure is necessary in order to confirm the shot bowl, any of the two teams may measure. The Law Book states that either team can secure (wedge) a leaning bowl. It is not only the team conceding shots that may secure or wedge a bowl.

**Who then is responsible to measure?** Normally it is the duty of the third in fours, the second in trips, the second in pairs and the marker in singles.

Note that it says “normally”. Law 40.2.1 states that the third can measure any and all disputed shots. However, the Law Book uses the word “can” and if we consult page 9 of the Law Book we see under the heading:

”CONVENTIONS”:

1. Reference to ‘must’ and ‘will’ within these laws mean that the action is compulsory.
2. Reference to ‘can’ within these laws means that the action is optional.

So, it is not a hard and fast rule that the THIRD in a fours game, the SECOND in a trips and pairs game and the opponents or marker in a single game MUST measure.

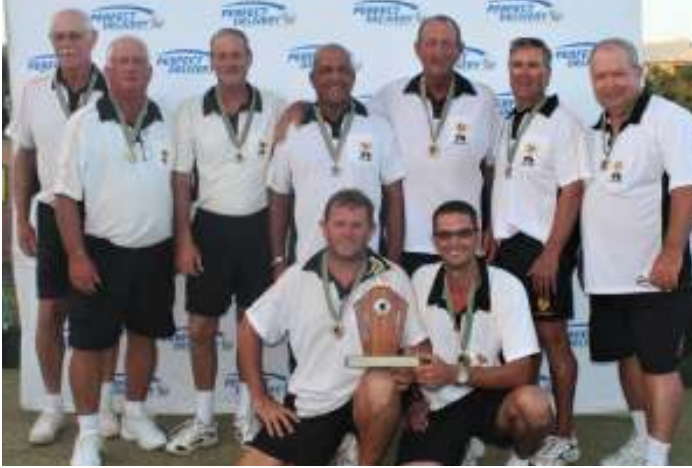
## OPWARMING

**I**n die vorige uitgawe van “Raakskoot” is die procedure ten opsigte van oefening van spanne / spelers tydens toernooie verduidelik.

Wat opwarming aanbetref geld die volgende: ‘n Span/speler mag opwarm voor ‘n wedstryd indien tyd dit toelaat en met die goedkeuring van die Beheerliggaam. Sodanige opwarming moet in die teenoorgestelde rigting van verwagte spel wees. Dit is ook nie doelbewuste spel nie en geen teikens soos bv. ‘n witte mag gebruik word nie maar balle mag afgelewer word ten einde die spelers in staat te stel om op te warm (Bladsy 154 Reëlboek).



## THEY DID US PROUD



**GOUD : MANS 'B' 2017 INTERDISTRIKTE**



**BOLAND U15 BRONZE MEDALLISTS**



**PLATE WINNERS 2017 ALL CAPE**



**U30 BOLAND ID BRONZE MEDALLISTS**



**CICELIA CHALLIS : BOLAND U20  
PERSONALITY**



**BRONS : OPE MANS 2017 INTERDISTRIKTE**

*Turn to page 8*





**SEMI-FINALISTS SA NATIONAL PAIRS**



**BRONS 2017 SA JUNIOR MEESTERS  
EN SA OPE MEESTERS**



**BRONZE LADIES OPEN INTER-DISTRICTS**

## **THE SA BOWLS 2017 MIXED PAIRS CHAMPIONSHIP**

Will take place from 21-24 June and will be hosted by Sables. Mark and Lesley Beviss-Challinor will represent Boland at this prestigious tournament and we wish them good luck and good bowling.



## **A SIGHT FOR SORE EYES!!**

The Boland  
Youngsters in  
Bloemfontein

We shall be  
hearing a lot  
about them  
in future  
so watch this  
space!!





# FROM THE HIP

*Martin van Zyl*

## The Cape Province and the country of Malaysia

This year's annual All Cape held in the Eden District was certainly something very different! Firstly, new and very keen enthusiasm amongst the many male and female participants from within the Cape (Border, Boland, Eastern, Northern and Western Cape), as well as from within some other districts, proved that by widening its 'borders'. The All Cape Committee was, in fact, at last, on its way to actually improving participation, competition and even promoting a far wider interest in the actual popularity of the sport! This was seen as something much needed and indeed praise-worthy.

Secondly, with greens of a high standard and volunteers at all clubs always willing to do far more than they had initially let themselves in for, nothing appeared out of reach or not possible for visiting bowlers to really enjoy and cherish during the 2017 All Cape!

Thirdly, and most unfortunately, without any prior warning to actual participating teams, let alone to their district administrations, along came the shock to many of having an international representative group of professional teams of both men and women bowlers. They were from the foreign country of Malaysia and were 'entered' to compete against the club teams comprised, as per 'regulation', of members of the very same clubs!

Can one imagine the confusion, utter misunderstanding and even frustration of many of the 'local' teams (as well as of their clubs/managements and even districts), when the above was actually 'discovered'. This was certainly not timeously announced before detailed documentation in regard to the 2017 All Cape was sent out and entries for the tournament were sought!

In any case, the serious lack of satisfactory communication appears to have been at the root of this year's 'debacle' and one can only but 'trust' that the various district management committees will have immediately commenced investigating the whole matter and ensuring that there is no repetition of the particular 'fiasco' in the future. Whether BSA has any role to play in determining what actually happened and the problems caused, is anyone's guess. It is, however, in the case of the 2017 Men's All Cape, most interesting to note that the President of BSA who lives in and plays his bowls in George, and who participated in the tournament (he and his team played their first match at the George club of Outeniqua), was himself not present and among the VIP's at the official opening ceremony at the George Bowling Club! The unfortunate 'disappearance' of the official music for the rendering of the national anthem at the opening, was, however, boldly saved by Lorna Davis who kindly and most appreciatively sung the words over the loudspeaker and thereby encouraged all those attending the ceremony to participate in the rendering of the anthem.

## Winelands Inter-Club 5's Mixed League

Thursday 18 May saw the birth of an inter-club league (pairs and trips) amongst five clubs from Winelands and one from Eden participating in a well-organised competition commencing at the Montagu BC. The event, which was the brainchild of Winelands Management in conjunction with a number of its affiliated clubs, has now 'set the green/s' for more regular, much-needed competition in, especially, its area of jurisdiction.

(from p.9)

### **Annual General Meetings of Boland Clubs : A suitable time to reflect and to evaluate!**

There is never anything better at this time when clubs are planning and already holding their AGM's, all before Boland's AGM, than to ensure that their own houses are fully effective and 100% in 'working order'!

Have the many good plans for the current season, as highlighted during clubs' AGM's last year, been properly and thoroughly commenced and satisfactorily implemented? Have clubs, with all the good intentions shown a year ago, managed to increase their membership numbers (nett gains) and are there, at last, now some younger bowlers not only playing the sport, but, more so, participating in club activities on a regular and successful basis? Have clubs again availed themselves of the opportunity to establish highly important Business Leagues and have they been able to enrol such participants?

Have Boland clubs managed to persuade their members to become even more involved in district championship events and have clubs ensured that regular media reports are forthcoming, thereby giving wide and positive publicity to and acknowledgement of the efforts and successes of their members?

Exactly what sort of communication is adopted by clubs to ensure that all members, and even the public, are at all times up to date with club activities and the development and promotion of the sport? Have newsletters/bulletins, web pages etc. been introduced and maintained and are all members proud of their clubs and do they share the successes not only amongst themselves, but even more importantly, with the 'outside world'?

### **Decreasing the size of old large-sized bowls?**

I posed the question about progress, or not, regarding the above and was advised that information re this matter has been supplied for inclusion in this issue of *Raakskoot/Toucher*. You will find this on p

### **Hermanus BC to welcome Glen BC for a special bowling weekend visit!**

It is most pleasing to note that these two very big, excellently run and well-established bowling clubs in the Boland and the Western Province are contemplating 'getting together' to enjoy each other's companionship and expertise on the fine greens at Hermanus. These are undoubtedly the best in the Boland and possibly even better than anything that the Western Province can offer at this present time!

Glen BC has over the years included in its annual programme visits to several clubs and both Robertson and L'Agulhas experienced the pleasure of hosting this famous club with its most friendly bowlers and their partners/friends over the past two years (2015 and 2016 respectively). What this sort of 'sharing of spoils' has meant to everyone concerned, cannot be measured easily in simple terms, but there is one certainty, and that is, that the camaraderie amongst the bowlers of the particular clubs has undoubtedly contributed much to the development and promotion of the sport in the areas served by the particular clubs. Glen has achieved much (excellent continued high membership and winners of many district and national events) over an extended period and to hear from the 'experts' and to share in their enthusiasm and bowling prowess, is something which certainly bodes well for the sport, on especially the tip of the African continent.

Perhaps several of the clubs in the Boland, which to date have not organised similar undertakings outside of the district to other clubs, might like to think very seriously about embarking upon such visits. In this regard, one of our smaller, but very keen clubs, Bonnievale, has had some most memorable visits and experiences and members there would be more than willing to share the pleasant times they had with fellow bowlers and club management officers.



# LADIES OPEN INTER-DISTRICTS

## CAPE TOWN MARCH 2017

*Gladys Bradley*

AS A FIRST-TIME MANAGER THIS WAS QUITE A DAUNTING ADVENTURE FOR ME. I HAD PLAYED PROVINCIALS FOR 15 YEARS AND HAD, HAD LOTS OF DIFFERENT MANAGERS SO I WAS HOPING TO SUCCEED.

I FOUND OUT THIS IS JUST NOT ABOUT TAKING CARE OF THE LADIES BUT ALSO KEEPING RECORDS OF EVERY END OF BOTH TEAMS, TEAM MEETINGS AT NIGHT AS WELL AS BUDGETS. LUCKILY FOR ME SOMEONE ELSE DID THE BOOKING OF THE

IT WAS BECAUSE OF ALL THIS HELP THAT I DID SURVIVE AND MANY THANKS GO TO ALL FOR THE HELP.

WE WERE QUITE A BUNCH, IRISH, ENGLISH AND AFRIKAANS-SPEAKING RANGING FROM EARLY 20'S TO LATISH 60'S, BUT WE REALLY "GELLED" WHICH I THINK WAS A BIG STEP TOWARDS OUR SUCCESS. I FOUND THE LADIES TO BE VERY SUPPORTIVE AND THET ACCEPTED WHAT I HAD TO SAY WITH RESPECT.

TO SIT AND WATCH OTHERS PLAY IS A LOT MORE NERVE-RACKING, ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU KNOW THE SIDE NEEDS TO WIN THE LAST SET. IT WAS GREAT HAVING THE INPUT FROM THE PLAYERS AT OUR MEETINGS AT NIGHT INSTEAD OF ONLY MINE.

WE HAD A FUN "WIG" NIGHT ON THE THURSDAY NIGHT, LOTS OF PHOTOS AS PROOF AND WE WERE IN HIGH SPIRITS HAVING WON BOTH OUR GAMES.

FRIDAY PROVED WE HAD TO HOLD IT TOGETHER AND LO AND BEHOLD WE WON AND GOT THE POINTS TO SECURE THE BRONZE MEDAL. SOME OF US LADIES HAVE WAITED SINCE 2009 TO GET ANOTHER MEDAL.

IT IS NOT EASY TO DESCRIBE THE PRIDE I FELT WHEN RECEIVING OUR MEDALS AND THE BONUS WAS SEEING OUR MEN'S SIDE ALSO RECEIVING THE BRONZE MEDAL.

THIS WAS A VERY SPECIAL EVENT FOR ME.



*(from p.10)*

### **BSA Bowls Promotional Material**

The national body over especially the past year, went to a lot of trouble, and incurred high expense, in producing and then later ensuring that all districts and their clubs became aware of some very good promotional material that is nowadays available for use in making known and fostering the sport! Exactly what has Boland and its affiliated clubs actually done to obtain and to effectively utilise the particular material? Has this new project to develop and to publicise the sport been successful and can any increase in membership numbers in the Boland be directly related to the use of the particular material and its wide dissemination?

While the above are but a couple of questions that should be asked and properly answered, it is interesting to note that a few clubs visited have, unfortunately, not used the posters obtained from BSA for 'outside' attention, but have diligently seen to it that these posters are placed in strategic positions within their own clubs (possibly a question of confirming the already confirmed)!



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## CUTTING THEM DOWN TO SIZE!

**WHERE ARE THOSE LARGE-SIZED BOWLS THAT CLUBS SENT TO WORCESTER IN ORDER TO HAVE THEM RE-SIZED SO THEY COULD BE USED BY THE YOUNGSTERS WANTING TO PLAY BOWLS??**

Theuns Coetzee, who is responsible for this whole operation confirms that a 3/4 ton of bowls were delivered this month to Stuttafords Van Lines in Epping. The actual rezising is scheduled to commence on 08 June and will take approximately one month.

The good news, apart from the resizing is that DCAS will be paying 50% of the cost of resizing and clubs will therefore only be responsible for the other 50%, which will amount to R200 per set.

The photo below shows Jana Coetzee tagging all of 400 bowls.



## ACVV ROLBAL FAMILIEDAG

ACVV Ceres het op 28 April 2017 by Ceres Rolbalklub 'n familiedag aangebied vir die pleegfamilies in die omgewing. Meer as 40 spelers het deelgeneem en deur rolbal te speel is verhoudings versterk tussen mede pleegouers sowel as met hul pleegkinders. Die dag was 'n ideale manier om die ouers te bedank en ook 'n geleentheid om hulle uit hul daaglikse omgewing te neem en die dag saam ander families te geniet.

Die ouers en kinders het die dag baie geniet en van hulle het ook goeie potensiaal getoon. As dit nie was vir die baie warm dag nie, het die ouers en kinders sommer nog langer aangehou speel!

Die pleegouers en pleegkinders is in verskillende spanne opgedeel en so het almal lekker gekuier met mekaar - oud en jonk. Dit was veral lekker dat twee biologiese ouers ook die dag kon bywoon om tyd saam hul kinders en dié se pleegouers te spandeer.

ACVV Ceres is baie dank verskuldig aan Ceres Rolbalkklub vir die gebruik van hul fasiliteite wat verseker het dat 'n suksesvolle familiedag deur almal geniet kon word.

## ROL EN JOL SORG VIR GROOT PRET

Clanwilliam se Rolbalkklub het gedurende April drie weke van heerlike spel beleef. Die klub beskou dit as 'n goeie spanbou vir die verskillende besighede en vriendekringe wat saam met 35 spanne wat aan 'n **ROL EN JOL** Toernooi deelgeneem het. 'n Paar spelers het uitstekende spel gelewer terwyl ander net lekker gelag en gekuier het op die deelgeneem het. Baie van die deelnemers het besef dat Rolbal nie net vir ou mense in wit klere is nie.

Die weners vir die drie weeksaande was soos volg: Dinsdag - Tamatie (Rooibos Ltd); Woensdag - Simson en Delilah en Donderdag - FNB.

Die prys vir die bes geklede span het gegaan aan Hollandse Bosch en dié vir die beste houding/aflewering aan die Rooibosspan van Tamatie. FNB was die span met die beste gees terwyl Neels Maritz van RSAM as die persoon met die beste sportmansgees aangewys is. Dawid en die balgooiers was die span met die oorspronklikste naam.

Die borge het van die prysuitdeling iets besonders gemaak. Elke speler kon 'n toegedraaide boks kies en dit was behoorlik soos Kersfees to die geskenke oopgemaak is. Clanwilliam Rolbalkklub se lede verdien dank vir die goeie gees wat geheers het en ook vir die samesyn en ondersteuning van almal betrokke om hierdie geleentheid so 'n groot sukses te gemaak het.





NOORDHOEK MANOR - CLÉ DU CAP - BRIDGEWATER MANOR - HERITAGE MANOR - ONRUS MANOR



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# WAAROM ‘N BESTUURDER?

Die redakteur van "Raakskoot/Toucher" het gevra dat ek 'n beriggie skryf oor die wel en wee van 'n spanbestuurder van een die Boland kante wat deelneem aan 'n Interdistrikte Kampioenskap.

Die Interdistrikte is amper soos die Curriebeker in rugby, behalwe dat dit in een week afgehandel word. Daar is 20 rolbaldistrikte in die land. Dit sou beter klink om van provinsies te praat, maar dit sou almal net meer verwar want, byvoorbeeld, die Wes-Kaap provinsie bestaan uit drie distrikte, naamlik Westelike Provinsie, Boland en Eden. Elke distrik kies ses kante, naamlik 'n Ope Mans-, 'n Ope Dames-, 'n Ope B Mans-, 'n Ope B Dames-, 'n Senior Mans- en 'n Senior Dameskant. 'n Kant bestaan uit twee spanne van vier spelers elk. Daar is dus jaarliks ses Interdistrikte Kampioenskappe wat in Maart of April in drie verskillende distrikte gehou word.

Die 20 distrikte word in twee seksies verdeel en elke distrik speel teen elk van die ander nege distrikte in daardie seksie. Die weners van die twee seksies speel die Vrydagmiddag teen mekaar vir Goud en Silwer. Albei die distrikte wat in hul onderskeie seksies tweede gekom het, ontvang Brons.

Boland Rolbal stel deesdae sy spanbestuurders vroegtydig aan sodat hulle die keurders kan bystaan in die keuringsproses. Die spanbestuurder se take begin dus reeds maande voordat die spelers na die toernooi vertrek. Behalwe die bywoning van die proef- en oefenwedstryde, moet die bestuurder eerstens seker maak dat die vervoerreëlings in plek is en akkommodasie vir die kant bespreek. Wanneer daar gevlieg moet word, moet die spanbestuurder sorg vir die huur van motors om gedurende die week te gebruik. Dit en die bespreking van akkommodasie kan nogal moeilik wees want alle uitgawes moet streng volgens 'n vooraf opgestelde begroting bestee word.

Die spanbestuurder moet die spelers gereeld inlig oor oefenwedstydte, kleredrag, vervoer- en verblyfreëlings en sorg dat die spelers gemotiveer word om as 'n hegte groep saam te werk. Hy/sy moet sorg dat die lugdiens betyds voorsien word van die spelers se volle name en identiteitsnommers en moet ook sorg dat almal betyds aanmeld vir die vlug.

Gedurende die week van die Interdistrikte is die keurders uit die prentjie en moet die spanbestuurder sorg dat die kant suksesvol presteer. Soms is dit nodig om spelers om te ruil as van hulle nie na wense presteer nie en as reserwe moet die spanbestuurder selfs in die plek van 'n speler kan speel as dit nodig sou wees. Hy/sy moet die pad na elke klub waar daar gespeel word ken, en sorg dat die spelers elke dag betyds daar opdaag.

Die kant waarvoor ek verantwoordelik was, die Senior Mans, het vanjaar in Pietermaritzburg gespeel. Danksy Dave Buckley se suster wat daar woon, het ons baie gerieflike en bekostigbare verblyf in 'n aftree-tehuis bekom. Ons moes nogal baie grappies hieroor verduur!

Die spelers was gemotiveer en het goed gevaar, maar die derde dag het Dave siek geword met 'n hoë koors en ek moes die laaste vyf of ses skofte van die oggend se wedstryd en die middag in sy plek speel. Die span kon darem albei wedstryde wen ten spyte van die verandering en Dave het sodanig herstel dat hy die res van die week kon speel.

Met nog net een wedstryd in die seksie oor, was ons met vier punte los voor die ander distrikte in die seksie. En toe tref voedselvergiftiging twee van ons spelers, Rob McDuling en Philip Finkelstein daardie selfde aand. Hulle was albei die Vrydagoggend baie siek. Rob het nog kans gesien om te speel, hoewel hy gedurende die spel 'n paar keer agter 'n bos in die tuin moes verdwyn, maar ek moes Philip se plek inneem. Ongelukkig het dit glad nie goed gegaan met enige van die twee spanne nie, met die gevolg dat Westelike Provinsie ons so ver klop dat hulle die middag in die finaal kon speel. Selfs Eden het ons verbygesteek vir die tweede plek in die seksie en vir Brons medaljes.

Net soos verlede jaar het een enkele skoot aan die einde van die Vrydagoggend se spel die verskil gemaak tussen glorie en 'n derde plek. Vanjaar sou ons vir Goud gespeel het as Martin met sy laaste bal kon slaag met 'n desperate dryfskoot wat hy met 'n millimeter gemis het! Ook maar goed, want met ons siek spelers sou ons beswaarlik die middag die mas kon opkom. Boonop het Keith ook reeds vroeg die middag simptome van voedselvergiftiging begin toon.

Maar ons sal hulle volgende jaar wys!

*Riaan Pienaar*

## MESSAGE FROM MARK BEVISS-CHALLINOR VICE-PRESIDENT

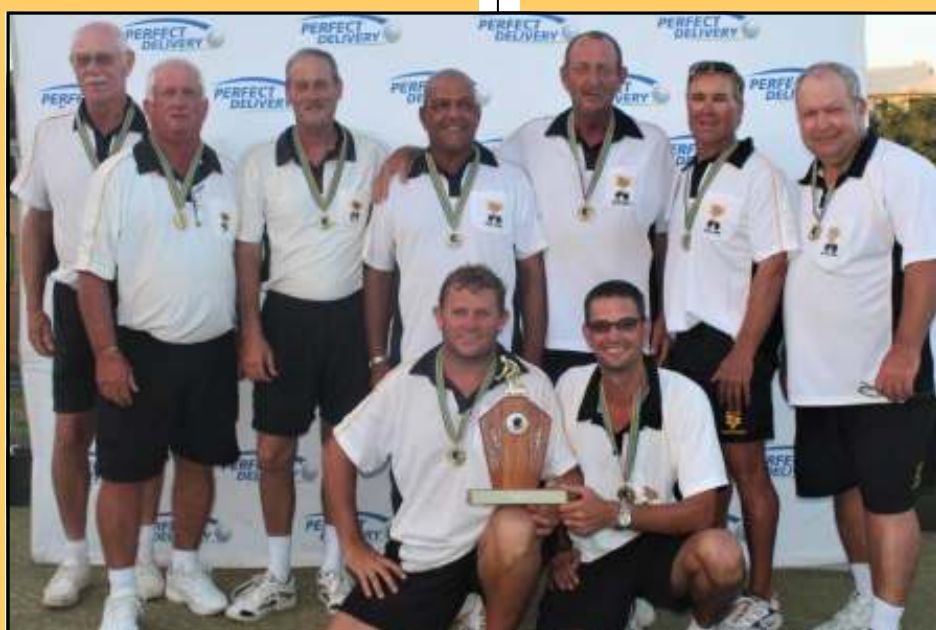
In the February edition of *Raakskoot/Toucher* Boland president, Stoffel Lambrechts, wrote: "Na twee oefengroepe en 'n oefenwedstryd teen WP, is die Ope, B en Seniorspanne vir die 2017 Interdistrikte Kampioenskap deur die keurders aangewys. Nou is dit die taak van die spanbestuurders en die gekose spelers om hulle voor te berei dat hulle met die aanbreek van die toernooi op 13 Maart hul beste spelpeil sal bereik." Well, the 2017 Interdistricts have come and gone and once again Boland achieved outstanding results! The Open Men B side rolled away with Gold (brilliant!), the Open Men AND Ladies received Bronze (well done!) and the Senior Men missed out of a bronze by only half a point!! Analysis (thank you Leon Meyer) of the results of all the teams competing in the 2017 Interdistricts puts Boland in 3<sup>rd</sup> position, 1 point behind "mighty" JBA, with Sables in clear 1<sup>st</sup> place. We are 16 points ahead of 4<sup>th</sup> placed Gauteng North and 40 points ahead of WP in 5<sup>th</sup> place!

Can we improve on these performances? Of course we can, but how? John Carrol's proposal of a league in Feb. played over 4 Saturdays, 1<sup>st</sup> at zone level and then an interzone final, certainly deserves consideration and I, for one, fully support it.

As John puts it: "Dit is miskien net die "finishing touches" resepe wat julle spanne nodig het om meer goud in die hande te kry, nadat so baie van ons spanne so goed geplaas was aan die einde van die voorlaaste dag."

The junior Interdistricts in April in Bloemfontein was another feather in the cap for Boland where we had the most entries in all 3 age groups ( U15, U20 and U30) of all districts. Well done Theuns Coetzee (Boland Development Officer) and all your support team for this amazing achievement!

Finally, I would like to congratulate both Napier and Barrydale clubs on their recent re-opening. It is only due to the very hard work of dedicated individuals that these clubs have been rescued from almost certain permanent closure. Also, well done Clanwilliam Bowling Club on your recent "Rol en Jol" with 5 participating teams and Bredasdorp with your recent huge Business League (56 teams!!) and the recruitment of 24 new members. Just shows what can be done with a little bit of effort - or more likely a lot!!



**GOLD FOR BOLAND OPEN MEN 'B'**



# OPEN LETTER TO PRESIDENT BOLAND ROLBAL BOWLS : RANKING SYSTEM FOR BOWLERS IN THE BOLAND

Dear Stoffel

Despite the fact that I no longer am directly involved at district level in the administration of bowls, I nevertheless continue to take a very keen interest in various bowling matters and activities.

Amongst these, is, inter alia, the basis for selection of club and district players/representatives. The numerous e-mails and telephone calls that I regularly receive have now motivated me to write this Open Letter to you via our district's outstanding quarterly news bulletin.

Besides the Selection Policy document which was approved and adopted by Boland's Management Committee several years ago, has Boland now initiated a reliable Ranking System whereby not only its Selectors, but also its competitive players, are kept fully informed of their respective district rankings, measured against those of their equally competitive fellow players?

We are all naturally aware of the fact that, in selecting district teams/sides to represent Boland over several days' play, not only the excellence (achievements) of bowlers has to be determined, but their respective abilities and capabilities to perform in team/side capacity, and to 'get along with each other', are of the utmost importance.

In his thought-provoking, excellent book, 'The Unfinished End' (printed and published in 2015), Allan Gordon had, inter alia, the following to say about the need for the introduction of a Ranking System:

***"Ever since I started playing bowls in 1978, the topic of a Ranking System has never been far from bowlers' conversations. There have been many attempts at a National Ranking System, but these have either lost momentum, or haven't had the backing of the players or the officials running the game. It has been a mystery to me as to how Selectors select teams without any meaningful, objective way of measuring players objectively against one another. It is no wonder why selection of teams, whether they are club, district or national, comes in for so much criticism."***

Boland teams/sides have undoubtedly over the years, with severe disadvantages, managed to achieve high recognition at national Inter District tournaments. The need for it players to be even more aware of their individual standings at both district and national levels, cannot therefore be sufficiently accentuated.

Recently, it was brought to my attention that some of our men have been included amongst the top-ranked bowlers in the country! Would it not be highly beneficial if all of our district's representative bowlers could learn of their respective rankings in our own district, as a start, before they aspire to being measured against bowlers from other districts? Fortunately for our sport, Allan Gordon continues to keep his fine and meaningful Ranking System updated, which one would by now have expected our national body (BSA) to have undertaken and not merely 'passed the buck' onto the shoulders of a sponsor!. The effective and reliable methodology adopted by Allan (notwithstanding the fact that apparently not all districts are co-operative in sharing the outcomes/results of their championship events), has been welcomed by many competitive bowlers in our country. Perhaps you, as our President, would like to share with our bowlers and the readers of Raakskoot/Toucher exactly how Boland currently determines and sets about giving as wide recognition as possible to its more successful bowlers?

I look forward to being able read in the next edition of Raakskoot/Toucher and to learn about the specific procedure adopted by Boland in implementing its own 'Ranking System'.

Yours in bowls

Martin M van Zyl  
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