

RAAKSKOOT TOUCHER



Kwartaalblad van Boland Rolbal
Quarterly Bulletin of Boland Bowls

Januarie/January 2018

KYK HIERNA!
CHECK THIS!

P.3 An All Boland Class
Classic Tournament

P.5 Die saamstel van
Interdistrikte kante

P.6 Hulle bou 'n skool!

P.19 You and the Green

OM 'N PROTEA TE WEES.

Anngke Snyman

Die meeste mense weet dat sodra jy besluit om toegewyd die kompeterende wêreld van rolbal te betree, dit 'n lewenswyse word.

Die geheim, of sal ek eerder sê algemene kennis, is dat gereelde oefening 'n baie groot uitwerking op jou spel het. Hoe meer kompetisies jy speel, hoe meer verbeter jou spelpeil. Niemand kan verwag om op standaard te presteer as daar nie ure se werk ingesit word nie.

Om 'n Protea te wees verg baie harde werk, op en af van die baan. Jy moet baie ure op die baan deurbring om konstant te probeer verbeter. Jy moet genoeg kompeterende wedstryde speel.

Indien die afrigters van mening is dat 'n aspek van jou spel aandag behoort te geniet sal daar by oefenkampe daaraan gewerk word

maar jy word ook aangemoedig om die afrigters self te nader vir hulp indien jy sou wou. Ons werk voor groot toernooie aan skills en drills wat ons self kan oefen om ons spel op te skerp.

Gedrag op en van die baan af is baie belangrik! Jy moet te alle tye 'n goeie ambassadeur vir rolbal wees. Swak sportmanskap is 'n definitiewe "NO-NO"! Hoe jy 'n verloor hanteer en hoe jy 'n wen hanteer, reflekteer direk op jou en die hele Proteagroep.

Daar moet 'n balans wees tussen dieet en fisiese fiksheid want hierdie twee faktore, dink ek, gaan hand aan hand. Jy moet voor enige toernooi seker wees dat jy die pas sal kan volhou en dat jy nie moeg gaan word nie. Jy moet egter ook "mentally" fiks wees. Die Proteas se wedstryde is almal 21 koppe lank en as jy nie vir twee tot drie wedstryde van 21 koppe elk op 'n slag jou konsentrasie en jou spel konstant kan hou nie, lê die probleem tien teen een of by jou peil van fiksheid of by jou dieet.

Proteas word aangemoedig om sover moontlik die sport Rolbal te bevorder, om 'n goeie voorbeeld te stel en om terug te ploeg in rolbal. Die leuse: "Bowls 1sport4life" moet aktief uitgeleef word.

(Blaai na p.2)

Vervolg van p.1

Om vir die Proteas te speel en my land te kan verteenwoordig is alles en nog meer as wat ek verwag het. Die plekke wat jy sien, die mense wat jy ontmoet, en die vlak van kompetisie teen jou mededingers verryk jou as persoon en bly jou by. Dit is iets heeltemal anders as enige interdistrikte of distrik-kompetisie. Daar word van jou verwag om in elke wedstryd, elke kop, elke bal 100% te gee, en jy is definitief nooit seker van 'n plek in die span nie. Dit verg harde werk, baie oefenkampe en baie wedstryde en dan is daar altyd nog die onsekerheid — 'n paar ander klop voortdurend aan die deur vir 'n plek in die span.

Rolbal is my passie en ek geniet elke oomblik daarvan. Ek geniet dit om mense geïnteresseerd te kry en ek geniet veral die tyd wat ek met die skoolkinders kan werk. Rolbal gaan nie vanself groei nie en ek glo dat elkeen sy deel moet doen om mense te werf.


Konsentrasie!

Vat so!

African States — Women Overall Gold
Skoot af?

ALL BOLAND CLASSIC TOURNAMENT

Stoffel Lambrechts

When Boland Bowls' application to be one of the districts presenting the well-known and popular All Cape Tournament was declined by Eden Bowls, Eastern Province and Border Bowls, it was decided that we as Boland Bowls are able successfully host an All Cape tournament.

In the Winelands region the Headquarters would be Worcester, whilst neighbouring clubs such as Ceres, Hexvallei, Robertson, Wellington and Paarl would be used. In the Overberg regional Hermanus would function as the sub-headquarters and Kleinmond, Caledon and Franskraal would be utilized.

Boland will of course depend on their own clubs to enter at least 70 teams and we are confident that our neighbour, Western Province will enter 90 teams and Eden and Northern Cape together, a further 20 teams. The plan is to hold the tournament for Ladies from 01-05 August and for Men from 08-12 August 2018. With an estimated total of 180 teams, twelve (12) sections for men and six (6) sections for ladies are envisaged. The sections will be distributed equally between Winelands and Overberg clubs and teams entering will be able to indicate their region of preference. With 720 players, officials at clubs, green-keepers, technical officials and spectators at the matches, it is estimated that more than 1 000 people will be involved during the tournament.

Boland will be able to offer, with the support of sponsors and 180 teams participating, an amount of R84 000 as total prize money. The entry fee per team would be R600. Should less than 150 teams enter, the prize money will have to be adjusted. However, should less than 130 teams enter, Boland will not be able to stage the tournament.

Half of the profit gained will be shared by participating Boland clubs pro rata to the number of entries from each club. The remaining half of the profit will be kept in reserve for future Boland commitments.

Trusting us with the numbers doesn't
mean you get treated like one.



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SKIETGOED

Martin van Zyl

26 November 2017

Mr Stoffel Lambrechts
President: Boland Rolbal/Bowls
c/o Private Bag X05
HERMANUS

Dear Stoffel

SELECTION OF DISTRICT BOWLERS/REPRESENTATIVES

The contents of my earlier Open Letter to you as contained in the May 2017 edition of Raaskoot/Toucher, as well as my previous comments on the same subject matter over the past number of years in Raaskoot/Toucher, all refer.

Unfortunately, to date, I cannot recollect reading any written comment by the President of Boland Rolbal Bowls, or, for that matter, its Management Committee and/or any of its district Selectors on the issues raised in my various articles and, even more especially, the latest article referred to above!

In his well-written contribution to Raaskoot/Toucher, included in the February 2016 edition, Rob McDuling also raised several cardinal issues on the subject matter which also appear to have been 'overlooked'!

This past weekend, we, specifically the invited senior and open men bowlers, have once again experienced a protracted drawn-out series of 'trials/practices' which have not led to 'final' Boland teams/sides being selected, but only to the selection of 'teams/sides' to 'compete against Western Province on 09 December' after which the actual teams/ sides are scheduled to be announced!

To now learn that one of Boland's recent, most successful Men's Open A Side skips has been selected to play in the Men's Open B Side against WP on 09 December 2017, simply does not make sense in terms of Boland's Selection Policy (document initially compiled and unanimously accepted by Boland Rolbal Bowls at its Management Committee Meeting held on 20 October 2007)! Surely, the purpose of the particular competition between these two very keen and highly respected districts is for the two districts to afford their 'best' bowlers the opportunity to play each other at the highest possible level, i.e. the 'best' against the 'best'?

As someone who has been more than heavily involved in various bowling matters (administratively and playing), not only in the Boland, but throughout the country, over an extended period, I feel that it is essential that any misunderstanding that may have occurred during the past weekend be fully cleared up. I am also of the opinion that it is incumbent upon Boland to ensure that its members (fully paid-up affiliates), for once and all, be fully informed of the basis for and procedure that Boland adopts in implementing its official Selection Policy.

(Contd. Overleaf)

(from p.4)

I have taken it upon myself to address this letter in an open format directly to you with a copy for publication in *Raakskoot/Toucher*, so that the necessary attention can immediately be given to this highly important and, indeed, extremely sensitive matter.

Your co-operation and response in regard to my above request would be most appreciated.

Yours in bowls



Martin M van Zyl

REPLY FROM STOFFEL LAMRECHTS, PRESIDENT OF BOLAND BOWLS

In the past many questions have been posed regarding the selection of Boland representative teams, be that Open, B, Senior or Junior.

For quite a few years now the same selection process has been followed. Taking into account that our players regularly bring home medals, and looking at the positions they occupy in their respective sections, we cannot but think that we are doing something right. That said, it is also true that there will always be room for improvement.

At the conclusion of the Inter-districts we reflect on the tournament as a whole—the performance of the players together with the process that was followed. Alterations are proposed and it then becomes the duty of the Boland Executive to implement such proposals.

Boland Bestuur is verantwoordelik vir die aanwys van keurders vir die volgende seisoen. Rob McDulling het voorheen gesê: “Selection has always been, and will always be a contentious issue and unbiased integrity must come first. All personal interests should be taken out of the equation.” Juis daarom is dit belangrik dat die regte mense aangestel word as keurders en daarom moet Boland Bestuur toesien dat die keurders voldoen aan die riglyne van die keuringsbeleid. Een van Boland se bestuurslede word aangewys om deurlopend met die keurders te skakel en hulle op koers te hou, en tans is dit ekself, as President wat hiermee getaak is.

Daar was al baie vrae gestel oor ‘n “ranking system”. Toe ek die Wedstrydsekretaris was het ek deurlopend ‘n drie-jaar geweegde ranglys vir prestasies in enkels en pare bygehou en tans word dit nog deur Engela gedoen. Hierdie ranglys word aan die keurders deurgegee vir hul kennisname en gebruik, maar Boland Bestuur en die keurders het besluit dat die lys nie gepubliseer mag word nie.

Sub-distrikte hou oefeninge in hul streke gedurende Junie/Julie om streekspanne saam te stel vir die Inter-streek dag gedurende Augustus. Die 0’45 spanne vir die streke word deur die streke se keurders gekies en Boland keurders moet die Weskaap 0’45 toernooi bywoon. Kuipers oefengroepe kom gedurende September bymekaar om spanne te kies wat gedurende November teen Eden Loeries speel. Boland oefengroepe word saamgestel om by twee geleenthede gedurende Oktober en November bymekaar te kom. Spanne word gekies om teen WP te oefen in Desember en daarna word Interdistrikte spanne gekies. Die spanne kom bymekaar soos nodig en oefen weer teen WP gedurende Februarie met die Interdistrikte Toernooie in Maart. Daarna word die proses herhaal.

Vir die eerste keer in baie jare het Boland Bestuur vanjaar nie saamgestem met die finale span wat die ope mans keurders aangewys het nie en het die bestuurslede besluit om die gekose spanne te verander.

The members of the Boland Executive have a lot of respect for the sacrifices made by selectors every year when it comes to putting together Boland teams. They attend practices and matches in order to finally select the best players in their respective positions.

There will always be somebody who will be unlucky in not having been selected and there will always be people on the sidelines who would have picked a different team. As Executive and selectors we try at all times to adhere to the set guidelines in order to ensure setting and maintaining a high standard of bowls in Boland.

HULLE BOU 'N SKOOL!!

Bonnievale is 'n pragtige plattelandse dorp maar die ekonomie hier is nie baie baie sterk nie en baie van die inwoners is arm. Daar is veral ook 'n wesenlike behoefte aan meer skole.

En dit is net hier waar die gemeenskap bymekaar gekom het en die resultaat is 'n les wat ons almal ter harte kan neem. Philip Jonker en Wilhelm de Wet het die Weskaapse Onderwysdepartement genader met 'n voorstel om 'n tegniese skool te bou. En so het die *Jakes Gerwel Entrepreneurial School* die lig gesien. Die departement het 40% van die koste bygedra en die gemeenskap die ander 60%. Philip Jonker het 12 hektaar grond beskikbaar gestel en inwoners, soos onder andere Boland Rolbal se eie Theuns Coetzee, ingenieurs en konsultante het hulle dienste pro bono aangebied.

Moreson Grondwerke het hulle masjinerie beskikbaar gestel en met diesel wat boere geskenk het is die terrein gelyk gemaak vir die be-oogde skool met dertig klaskamers en drie sportvelde.

Nadat die departement in Augustus 2016 die groenlig vir die bou van die skool gegee het is die eerste sooi op 25 Junie 2017 gespit en op 18 Desember 2017 was die skool klaar en reg vir die eerste inname van leerders in Januarie 2018.

Dit is 'n "no fees" skool wat sonder twyfel die lewens van die kinders van Bonnievale ten goede sal verander.

Wat 'n wonderlike storie van 'n gemeenskap wat saamgestaan en saamgewerk het om 'n reuse verskil in die lewens van mense te maak.



AYALA MEN'S TOURNAMENT

A Bowls Tournament that was played for the 91st time on 11 and 12 January 2018, sounds almost like fiction. And although this annual event requires quite a bit of organising, one of the easier aspects of the Ayala is fielding 36 teams. Hermanus Bowling Club regularly receive queries about when invitations for the next Ayala can be expected — often times as far as three months in advance.

At the end of the first day of play, the 36 teams are divided into three sections according to their scores. This format was instituted at the request of players and ensures that there are three winning teams in each section, which means a total of 36 prizes are awarded.

The sponsor of the Ayala, Personal Trust, were represented by Mark Gibbs and Greg Nasson, and this year Mark Gibbs' team from WPCC were top of Section B.

Long may the Ayala, its sponsor and participating teams live!

*Winners: Section A
Mark Beviss-
Challinor and his
team.*



*Mark Gibbs and his
team : Winners in
Section B.*



*Basie Louw and team
members. Winners of
Section C.*

REPORT ON THE PRACTICE MATCH BETWEEN WP AND BOLAND IN DECEMBER 2017

Lesley Beviss-Challinor

The annual practice match against WP took place on Saturday 9th December at Worcester Bowling Club. Other than a fairly strong wind that blew up in the afternoon, the conditions were perfect for bowls. The greens ran fast and relatively true, considering the drought and strict water restrictions that have impeded work on them.

After months of practice and several sets of trials, the teams chosen for this annual event are now tested, in play and compatibility, in the hope of proving themselves as the teams for the Inter-Districts in March 2018.

Unfortunately, our Boland teams did not fare well overall and the results were extremely disappointing. The final points in the ladies section were: WP – 62,5 BOLAND - 29,5. The Boland B ladies results were the best, with Boland only losing by 4 points, but the Open and Senior ladies lost by 9 and 20 points respectively.

The men did not fare much better losing overall by 61,5 (WP) to 30,5 (BOL). The Open men lost by only 2 points, but the B and Senior sides lost by 23 and 6 points respectively.

This can only be considered as a huge wake-up call, not only for the players, but also for the selectors. Perhaps, a lack of communication, discussion and encouragement contributed to the poor performance in some cases.

Hope can be sought in the fact that in the 2016 practice match against WP, Boland also lost overall (Ladies 28,5 – 23,5; Men 33 – 19), but at the 2017 Inter-districts, Boland outplayed WP in all sections except for the Ladies B and Men Senior (narrow loss) with Boland bringing home three of a possible six medals.

Boland has proved that it has the tenacity to come back. We must combat setbacks through hard practice, open discussions and positive criticism. We must put our team and Boland before any self gain.

We can bring back the medals!

SEMINAAR VIR PERKEMEESTERS

(Piet Meyer)

Op Donderdag, 31 Augustus stel Hermanus Rolbalklub sy klubhuis en perke beskikbaar vir die aanbied van 'n seminar gereël deur Lampies Lambrechts, die Sameroeper van Boland Rolbal se Perkemeesters. Hy word vergesel van Bill McCarthy en Terry Hepworth, verteenwoordigers van Rolbal SA.

Die bywoning deur Overberg klubs was teleurstellend en slegs drie lede van Hermanus, drie van Bredasdorp en een lid van Kleinmond daag op.

'n Baie insiggewende Powerpoint aanbieding bring lang vergete tegnieke asook nuwe idees weer onder ons aandag. Idees word uitgeruil en kontakte tussen ons klubs word gevestig.

TEAMS : 2018 INTER-DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIP

OPEN LADIES

SKIP	Anneke Snyman
THIRD	Ezile Fourie
SECOND	Anneke Thorpe
LEAD	Gail Lotz
SKIP	Engela Lambrechts
THIRD	Louise Roediger
SECOND	Dale Gentle
LEAD	Lesley Beviss-Challinor
MANAGER	Gladys Bradley

OPEN MEN

SKIP	Stephan de Jager
THIRD	Wynand Pool
SECOND	Bräsler van Schoor
LEAD	Willie de Kock
SKIP	Mark Beviss-Challinor
THIRD	Stoffel Lambrechts
SECOND	Jaco Whiteman
LEAD	Callie van der Merwe
MANAGER	Mark Beviss-Challinor

DAMES 'B'

SKIP	Charmaine Mostert
THIRD	Elma Louw
SECOND	Annalie Stevens
LEAD	Petula Fortuin
SKIP	Charmaine Grobler
THIRD	Nicolise Carosini
SECOND	Ilze Rabie
LEAD	Karen Streicher
MANAGER	Annette vd Sandt

MANS 'B'

SKIP	Gavie du Toit
THIRD	Enrie Carosini
SECOND	Jaco Koegelenberg
LEAD	Werner van Dewenter
SKIP	Attie Nel
THIRD	Hendre de Wet
SECOND	Ronald Botes
LEAD	Johan Pienaar
MANAGER	Leon Meyer

SENIOR MEN

SKIP	Martin van Zyl
THIRD	Les Bradley
SECOND	Peter Quinn
LEAD	Philip Finkelstein
SKIP	Keith Kruth
THIRD	Paul Naylor
SECOND	Basie Louw
LEAD	Tommie van Niekerk
MANAGER	Riaan Pienaar

SENIOR LADIES

SKIP	Tish Bryce
THIRD	Francina Cumpsty
SECOND	Stephany Pereira
LEAD	Sonja Kruger
SKIP	Rosa Cloete
THIRD	Ena Linde
SECOND	Aleta Saayman
LEAD	Jean Greyling
MANAGER	Lorna Viljoen



VATGRAS

Pieter Linde

KNOWING THE LAWS

The sport of Bowls, like all other types of sport, is not only governed by a set of Laws, but also has Rules of etiquette which all bowlers MUST adhere to. Laws of the Sport of Bowls (Yellow Book) as well as the booklet, Etiquette of Bowls are available from the Secretary of each club. **PLEASE REMEMBER** that the words “**must**” and “**will**” within the laws mean the action is **compulsory**.

‘N PAAR ETIKET REËLS / A FEW ETIQUETTE LAWS

- ▶ Skippers behoort nie so in ‘n geselsery betrokke te raak nie dat hulle, hul vernaamste plig, naamlik om volle aandag aan die spel te skenk versuim nie.
- ▶ Normaalweg delegeer skippers die plig om te meet, aan hulle derdes. Dit is dus verkeerd as die skipper dan inmeng wanneer die derde meet.
- ▶ Dit is swak etiket om nadat ‘n bal afgelewer is en terwyl dit in beweging is op pad na die witte, kommentaar te lewer oor die kwaliteit al dan nie, van die bal. Dit is ook erg irriterend vir die ander spanmaats en die teenstanders.



DELIVERING THE JACK

The Lead MUST, inter alia, deliver the jack and make sure that it is centred before delivering the first bowl of an end. **THUS, ONLY A LEAD** is allowed to deliver the jack. Law 40.2.2.1

OVER-ENTHUSIASTIC THIRDS!

During a tournament in 2017 the thirds in a game had begun removing the shot bowls. The skip of Team A shouted: “I have another bowl to play!” The players did not know what to do.

Law 29.4.1 clearly states that if the result of an end has been agreed, or the process of deciding the number of shots has started (as described in Law 23.1) a player who has failed to play a bowl will lose the right to play the bowl.

ENVAR BUYS 2017

The President of Western Cape Bowls, Theuns Coetzee, praised Beaufort West for hosting a successful Envar Buys Tournament. This was the first time that the Envar Buys Tournament, now in its fifth year, visited Beaufort West since its inauguration. The greens were filled with a bevy of young U15 and U20 players. A tournament of this size cannot be a success unless there are willing club members, committees, parents to support coaches and other interested parties who get involved for the love and growth of the sport of bowls.

The combination of the lovely greens, the infrastructure to make this event cost effective, especially the sleeping facilities, and a municipality that goes the extra mile, make for a successful tournament. Everyone hopes that such a youthful event will bring new growth in the sport of bowls to all the communities in this region. Although all the teams, even the new players to this sport, played at a high level, it was the U15 Open team of the hosting district that not only won but showed lots of character and promise. Eden Bowls took the largest number of medals home and once again showed the ability and promise of our youth in the sport. Theuns Coetzee wished all the teams, but especially the Central Karoo team, all the best for the future and expressed the hope that they will be used as role models to market the sport in the district.



**SILVER MEDAL WINNERS:
WINELANDS**



BRONZE MEDAL WINNERS: OVERBERG



Baie geluk aan Stephan de Jager, Anneke Snyman en Ezile Fourie wat genooi is om aan die 2018 S.A. Meesters Enkelspel deel te neem in Pretoria.

Stephan en Anneke sal in die Ope-afdeling deelneem en Ezile in die Junior-afdeling.

Anneke Snyman is ook ingesluit in die span wat Suid-Afrika sal verteenwoordig by die Statebondspele wat in April in Australië gespeel sal word.

Voorwaar 'n prestasie en ons wens hulle alles van die beste toe!



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SNOWBALL COMPETITION

Ann Walton

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

The August 2017 edition of Raakskoot/Toucher carried an article on how clubs could add variety to the normal tabs-in format of play, whilst generating much needed income. "Snowball" is immensely popular with players and it was thought that a more concise setting-out of the basic conditions of play could assist clubs in incorporating this format of play to its advantage.

Basic Conditions of Play

1. **Background to Competition:** The whole idea of a Snowball Bowling Competition is to afford as many bowlers as possible an equal opportunity to win notwithstanding whether their team beats its opposition and/or whether some of the players in a team are inexperienced or champions.
2. **Fixed entry fee per team:** R 30.00 for a trips team which can of course be adapted should a club rather field teams of four. Half of the entry fees, goes to the club while the other half goes towards the PRIZE for the team with the winning Snowball score.
3. **Entering a team :** Players can form their own team and should anyone wanting to play not have, or be part of a team, he/she can then enter his/her name on a list prepared and timeously displayed by the Club Competition Secretary on the club notice board.
4. **Selection of teams to play against each other :** This is the task of the Competition Secretary and must take place beforehand once the number of teams have entered/been determined. Wherever possible, the Competition Secretary should endeavour to ensure that teams, more or less of equal strength, play against each other, that they do not play the same team each week and that rinks on which teams play, are varied. This is naturally not all that easy, but the *bona fides* of the Competition Secretary and whoever assists him/her must, by and large, be fully accepted by participants. **It is imperative that 'bounce games' are not allowed as this could easily form 'cliques' which are strongly discouraged and not in the interest of a Snowball Bowling Competition.**
5. **Length of each game:** 18 ends if a trips game is played.
6. **Burnt ends:** Not to be replayed and jack to be 'spotted' in the middle of the rink on the 2 m mark.
7. **Trial ends :** None.
8. **Scorecards & Snowball Scores:** One *Scorecard* to be allocated to each rink prior to commencement of play and to be filled in after each and every end. Five unknown sealed ends are prepared before each game and only opened when all the teams are off the greens. These five ends are then marked on the score-card and their totals amount to each team's "winning score".
9. **Ping pong balls :** There are ping pong balls marked from 0-30. We keep these on an egg tray in numerical order. When the highest score has been arrived at, the Competition Secretary puts balls from nought up to the announced highest score **plus the extra balls** (see Clause 10) into a bag and a player is asked to pick a ball out of the bag. The team with this number then wins the pool. If two teams have the winning number, they share the pool. If more than two teams have the winning number, the money is rolled over to the next time of play. It is not wise to have too many winning teams sharing the pool and winning a paltry amount.

(Contd. on p.14)

(from p.13)

10. **Extra Ping Pong Balls:** The extra balls are added on the following basis:
 - ♦ For the **first Snowball**, eight numbers above the winning number will be added.
 - ♦ For the **second Snowball**, seven numbers above the winning number will be added.
 - ♦ And so on. The extra balls will be reduced until an eight-week cycle has been completed.
 - ♦ For the **ninth week, no additional ball will be added.** This now converts the Snowball to a **MUST BE WON EVENT.**
11. **Must be won event:** For the **ninth week, no additional ball will be added.** This now converts the Snowball to a **MUST BE WON EVENT.**
 - ♦ If the number drawn matches the score of **one team only**, such team wins the total accumulated pool in the Snowball.
 - ♦ If, on the first draw no winning number is drawn, then a second draw will be made, etc.
 - ♦ If there are two or more teams with the same score that matches the number drawn, then they **all share** the Snowball pool.
12. **Inclement weather:** Should inclement weather prevent the completion of the full 18 ends by **ALL** teams, the Snowball will be carried over until the following week. Curtailment of play in the event of inclement weather will be determined by the Competition Secretary in consultation with the Greenkeeper if so felt necessary by him/her. Players may not abandon play of their own free will.
13. **Suspension of a Snowball Event/Day:** Any decision in this regard may only be taken by the Competition Secretary. This may occur on such occasions when players are selected by the club, district/province to officially represent the club on such date and time that the Snowball competition is scheduled to be played.
14. **Disputes:** Should any dispute arise the Laws of the Sport of Bowls Crystal Mark 3rd edition will apply.
15. **Scorecard:** Turn to p.15 for an example of a completed scorecard for Snowball competitions. The five sealed ends opened and announced at the end of the day's play are in brackets and bold at the bottom of the scorecard. The score of the team on the left hand side, namely 7, is the winning score as drawn from the bag, whereas the score of the team on the right hand side, namely 2, is not the winning score drawn.



(From p.14)

SCORE	TOTAL	END	SCORE	TOTAL
1	1	1	0	0
0	1	2	2	2
0	1	3	1	3
3 *	4	(4)	0 *	3
1	5	5	0	3
0 *	5	(6)	2 *	5
0	5	7	1	6
0	5	8	3	9
2 *	7	(9)	0 *	9
0	7	10	3	12
3	10	11	0	12
2	12	12	0	12
0	12	13	4	16
0	12	14	1	17
1 *	13	(15)	0 *	17
0	13	16	2	19
1 *	14	(17)	0 *	19
0	14	18	1	20
TOTAL	14		TOTAL	20
Snowball Score (all * together)	7		Snowball Score (all * together)	2





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PROMOTION & DEVELOPMENT OF BOWLS A BRIEF APPRAISAL OF THE CURRENT SITUATION

Martin van Zyl

And so the wheel continues to turn, still fixed to the same axle! Has the bowling situation in our country remained pretty static or is real development, in all spheres, actually taking place? You, the reader, must decide for yourself and determine whether you individually are making a meaningful personal, positive contribution in this regard! Perhaps the writer of the article below, more than eleven years ago, was right in posing a few questions, and it would be most interesting to determine whether essential 'improvement' has actually taken place!

Background

Bowls has been played on an organised basis in South Africa for over 101 years. In 1976 the South African Bowling Association was privileged to host the Third World Bowls Tournament at the Zoo Lake, Johannesburg (18 February – 6 March). At that particular stage, the then Prime Minister, Mr B J Vorster, stated in his message as Head of State, “Since the first Bowls Club was founded in Port Elizabeth in 1882, Bowls has developed to such an extent that it has become one of the most popular sports in South Africa with, at present, nearly 70 000 registered bowlers.” In his concluding remarks, Mr Vorster had the following to say, “I am convinced that at this World Bowls Tournament the formidable competition will give rise to great achievements, and that we will see bowls of an exceptional standard. But above all, it is my sincere wish that these championships will be played in a spirit of goodwill and true sportsmanship, which attributes are synonymous with the game of bowls.”

These were indeed prophetic words as we all know how exceptionally well South Africa did in taking honours in everything in which its squad competed and eventually running out worthy World Champions.

In the message from the then Minister of Sport and Recreation, Dr P. Koornhof concluded, “It is my sincere wish that the Championships Tournament will receive the support it deserves. Every success and good luck! May this event always be remembered as one of the sporting highlights of 1976.”

Not only were the stands filled to capacity throughout the event but bowls undoubtedly enjoyed the best possible publicity that it could ever have wished for and the South African public were exceptionally supportive and showed tremendous interest in the game at all levels. In fact, those who have been playing and have been involved in the administration of the game over a considerable period, will have no hesitation whatsoever in stating that 1976 was undoubtedly the ‘pinnacle year’ of bowls in this country.

In his article on Bowls in South Africa in the official 3rd World Bowls Championships South Africa 1976, Arthur Jones wrote, “..... Before the 1939 war there were about 300 clubs and it had taken 60 years to build up to that strength. After the war the game quickly spread and now there are well over 800 clubs with more than 40 000 registered male bowlers.” In referring to national tournaments, Jones continued, “...These events are meticulously organised and grandstand accommodation for the national singles and fours is in excess of 5 000 seats.”

Contd. overlead

(from p.17)

Subsequent Development

The fiasco of the Ninth World Bowls Championships held at Marks Park Johannesburg, from 31 March to 15 April 2000 need not be dealt with at any length save to state that the achievements of the South African squad were considerably down on those of their predecessors when the previous World Championships were held in South Africa. The overall organisation, players' facilities and publicity in promoting the game were unsatisfactory and the support and interest of the general public could in no way be compared with the successful event held 24 years earlier.

In highlighting the two world events held in South Africa and the impression created of the game being popular and well-supported especially at the first of the two world events, it is interesting to have a slightly closer look at some relevant figures in regard to the steadily diminishing number of registered bowlers in the country and the obvious serious apathy that has crept into the game over especially the past 30 years.

From some 70 000 bowlers in the late seventies, today there are only a mere 32 790 registered bowlers representing an alarming decrease of 53.17% over the past 30 years not to mention the decrease in the number of clubs and resultant diminishing bowling facilities throughout the country. The decrease in the number of registered bowlers has been pretty constant with a steady decrease of 28.1 % since 1999. Last year for instance, on a competitive basis, there were only 280 teams of fours participating in the men's national event in Durban as compared with 450 in the same event in 1991. Similar decreases in the number of participants in the national men's pairs and singles have also occurred during the periods referred to above. The fact that the All Cape drew 361 men's teams in 2005 (81 teams more than the national event the same year) is possibly quite significant and could be fruitfully analysed especially from the point of view that fewer and fewer players over the years have been prepared for a variety of reasons to participate in national events be they fours, pairs or even singles championships.

The work being undertaken by Bowls South Africa and its affiliated districts to address bowling apathy and to promote and encourage the game more especially amongst school-goers and the youth, is praiseworthy and appreciated. However, when endeavouring to analyse the demise of bowls in South Africa, the very important fact should surely also be taken into consideration is that bowls is a sport by far unquestionably played and enjoyed by the older age groups (currently and certainly over the many years that bowls has been played in this country, over 80% of all bowlers are above the age of 50 not to mention the age of the administrators and those who play such an important role at all levels – club, district and national, in keeping the game alive). If we are serious about promoting the game and ensuring that it continues to flourish long after we have passed on, then surely a far more concerted effort should be made to identify and to promote the game amongst those who are the most suitably placed to play the game, namely, those people who have the means, the time, limited employment and family commitments and the interest at heart and obviously the ability to become 'involved' in the sport of bowls!

Is this not perhaps where we have gone wrong in the past and presently by continuing to omit and address this specific age group effectively, efficiently and in a more encouraging, supportive and friendly manner? Have we ever gone out of our way to really analyse and address the "Business of Bowls" in South Africa (who plays, where, when, why and is a meaningful number of senior bowlers genuinely finding it more and more difficult financially to meet their club and district and national levy commitments)? Can we honestly say that the average bowler in this country is being well catered for and is the high cost of administering bowls, especially at a national level, acceptable and in the interest of the sport as a whole? Should we not seriously seek to become involved in the establishment of a proper scientific in-depth analysis of the present state of the game? We cannot simply carry on as we have been doing for so many years without being realistic and effectively addressing this most unsatisfactory deteriorating situation of the game in South Africa! How do our friends the Aussies manage to constantly improve participation in the sport in their country and how do they manage to boast a membership of over 260 000 while we are going backwards at an ever increasing rate? In the latest Report of the BSA Executive Committee of 31 March 2006, the following is stated under the heading Registered Membership:

(from p.18)

This year again shows a decline in membership of 3% and whilst having mentioned in the previous years report that this decrease is somewhat insignificant in comparison to most other sports it is your Executives firm belief that development plans in the process of in the process of implementation will very shortly turn this negative figure into a positive.”

Surely, the figures already quoted in regard to the ever-decreasing number of registered bowlers over so many years cannot be swept aside with a comment as frivolous as the one mentioned above? How long has Bowls South Africa been compiling and implementing ‘development plans’ and at what cost and what precisely has been the outcome to date? Have the numerous ‘bosberade’ held each year shortly after the BSA annual general meetings successfully addressed the problem of the serious decline in registered members and are we as concerned bowlers prepared to allow the situation to continue and when exactly does our national Executive Committee envisage that the ‘negative figure’ will be converted into a ‘positive’?

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YOU AND THE GREEN

The green is the most important asset of your club. The greenkeeper spends many hours endeavouring to give you a good playing surface. You can assist by:

- ♦ Using the steps when stepping on or off the green. Not stepping up and down from the bank.
- ♦ Carefully placing your bowls on the playing surface, and not dropping them onto the green.
- ♦ Varying the position of the mat, ensuring an even wear over a large area of the green.
- ♦ Not stepping into the ditch. If you do, you will transfer sand onto the green, which will damage the mower and the grass.
- ♦ Wearing heelless footwear which has either a smooth or ribbed sole. The maximum depth of the ribbed section allowed is 2mm.
- ♦ Not sitting on the bank as this causes damage to the edge.
- ♦ Placing your bowls bag and any other utensils behind the rink number or scoreboard.
- ♦ Placing a bowls lifter device safely aside on the green so that it will not become a dangerous obstacle to your fellow bowlers.

DON'T BLAME THE GREEN, MASTER IT. IT IS THE SAME FOR ALL PLAYERS.