



INTER-ZONE SIDES CHAMPIONSHIPS

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Welcome

Welcome to the May edition of the Bowls NSW Newsletter!

The Senior and Open Inter-Zone Championships were held at Club Maitland City and Lorn Park, with the finals coming down to the wire. The next event, the Champion of Champions State Finals, are already under way and we wish all competitors the best of luck.

The NSW Junior Blues Sides have been announced for the Tri-Series event against Queensland and Victoria from 3-5 July at Cabra Bowls, and we congratulate the incredible young players who have earned selection into these sides.

Three new members have been elected to the State Match Committee for 2023-24. Kane Coulls (Nelson Bay), Toni Oliver (Munmorah United) and Peter Schroeder (Forster) are a welcome addition to our already experienced Committee.

Zone 1 Defeat Zone 13 In A Thrilling End To The Inter-Zone Sides Championships



This year's Inter-Zone Sides Championship was a history-making event, with the final coming down to an extra-end shootout for the first time ever. In the shoot-out, it was Zone 1 who edged out Zone 13 to win their first-ever Inter-Zone Sides Championships title. Both sides exchanged leads throughout the early stages of the match, and with the match on the line, the live stream rink of Peter Taylor against Ray Pearse produced some of the

best bowls ever seen on live stream. You could sense the tension out on the greens, but it didn't seem to impact the players who produced some of their best shots in those moments.

After 63 ends, both sides were inseparable at 55-55. The tie meant that each of the three rinks had to go out and play an extra end each, with the overall winner of those three ends determining the winner of the match and the Championship. Picking up where they left off, Peter

Inter-Zone Sides Championships

Taylor and Ray Pearse's teams were peppering the jack, and it came down to Taylor's final bowl which was a pinpoint drive that peeled off two Zone 13 bowls to leave Zone 1 holding shot. An umpire had to be called to measure second shot and, given the circumstances, the official did incredibly well to determine that Zone 1 had picked up a count of two on the rink. Zone 1 skips Luke Jones and Jamie Eichorn each had one bowl left to play, but with Zone 1 holding one shot on one rink and down one shot on the other, they both declared their heads to claim a 58-57 victory in some of the most bizarre circumstances seen on a bowling green. The excitement of the extra-ends were a perfect way to finish what was an incredible final.

The win secured the first ever Inter-Zone Championships title for Zone 1, and no one could argue that they don't deserve it, having beaten Zone 2, Zone 12 and Zone 13 in the process. Incredibly, Zone 13

only lost one rink by a solitary shot across the whole Championship, highlighting just how solid the side has been throughout the event and how tough the competition has been.

In the earlier semi-finals, it was interesting to note that three of the four semi-finalists finished second in their section, again highlighting just how competitive the field has been this year. Zone 13 came up against fellow Section 3 qualifiers Zone 16 in the first semi-final. Zone 13 got the better of the Illawarra side in sectional play and it was a similar story in their second encounter, albeit a much tighter score line. Zone 13 scraped through 54-52, winning two of the three rinks by a single shot to secure their spot in the final. It was a very different story in the second semi-final as Zone 1 came up against Zone 12. Zone 1 surprised the competition when they got the better of a highly fancied Zone 2 side in the quarter finals

by 20 shots, and faced an equally difficult task coming up against the consistently strong Zone 12. Undeterred, the Far North Coast side picked up where they left off the previous day, jumping out of the blocks and playing brilliantly to beat South West Sydney 60-27. Each of the three rinks performed exceptionally to defeat the star-studded Zone 12 outfit.

Congratulations to Zone 1 on a brilliant win, and to all competitors on making this Inter-Zone event one of the best in recent memory. Bowls NSW would like to thank our host clubs Club Maitland City and Lorn Park for their hospitality over the last week.

To view the Inter-Zone Sides Championship results please go to www.bowlsnsw.com.au



Inter-Zone Sides Championships



Zone 15 Win Senior Inter-Zone Championship

Zone 15 have won the 2023 Senior Inter-Zone Sides Championship, beating Zone 2 in a nail-biting final at Club Maitland City. It was an interesting start to the match, with Zone 15 leading strongly on one rink, Zone 2 leading on another rink and the third rink practically even, meaning there was barely any difference between the two sides on the masterboard.

As the match went on, the overall lead was exchanged multiple times, in no small part to the brilliance of the shots being played, particularly by some of the backend players. Mick Beesley (Zone 2) and John Roberts (Zone 15) were just one of the many notable match-ups, with both skips exchanging shots frequently. As the match came down to the final ends, it was Zone 15 with a narrow lead, edging ahead of Zone 2 by five shots with three ends to play. Zone 2 had chances to produce scores at the death and

were close to doing so, but in the end they weren't able to secure the required shots. The 59-54 scoreline in favour of Zone 15 was reflective of how close the match was, and particular credit must go to Paul Williams' team who recorded a 29-16 win for Zone 15 to help secure the title.

In the morning semi-finals, Zone 2 came up against Zone 9 and it was a tight affair for most of the match, with barely any shots separating the two sides on the masterboard. Entering into the final third of the match, Zone 2 picked up a gear and started to pick up multiple scores across their three rinks, jumping to a solid lead and running out 65-48 winners. While disappointed with the loss, it was a great campaign for Zone 9 who had topped a tough section featuring Zones 3, 10 and 12.

Zone 15 went head-to-head with Zone 16 in the other semi-final,

which was another cracking match. The live streamed match between Robbie Warren (Zone 16) and Paul Williams (Zone 15) made for brilliant viewing, with both sides exchanging blows and picking up shots in a high scoring affair that finished 26-20 in favour of Zone 16. Despite the rink win, it wasn't enough as Zone 15 secured a 65-55 win, with special mention going to Tony Shoebridge's team who recorded a solid 23-10 win over former South African international Eric Johannes' rink.

Congratulations to Zone 15, Zone 2 and all the sides who competed in another successful Senior Inter-Zone Sides Championship.

To view the Senior Inter-Zone Sides Championship results please go to www.bowlsnsw.com.au



Senior Inter-Zone Sides Championships



Junior Blues Side Selected For Tri-Series



Eight boys and eight girls have been selected to represent the New South Wales Junior Blues in the upcoming Tri-Series against Victoria and Queensland. The series will be held at the home of the New South Wales Junior Blues, Cabra Bowls from Monday 3rd – Wednesday 5th July.

Six rounds will be played across the three days, with all players competing in various disciplines and positions. A full schedule of these rounds and matches will be made available closer to the event date.

Congratulations to the following players on their selection:

Girls Side		Boys Side	
Name	Club	Name	Club
Katie Astley	Merrylands	Jacob Aitken	Corrimal
Ella Cameron	Gunnedah Services	Sam Bowman	Coonabarabran
Chanel Chakouch	Cabramatta	Flynn Cooper	Warilla
Taylor de Greenlaw	Cabramatta	Koby Kattau	Greta
Reese Finn-Young	Merimbula Imlay	Travis Moran	Warilla
Zoe Nicholls	Raymond Terrace	Tom Rich	Mudgee
Shelby Powell	Nyngan	Tim Thorning	Gunnedah Services
Jasmine Smith	St Johns Park	Billy Waite	Cabramatta





Live Streaming



Champion of Club Champions Singles
5 - 8 June 2023



Day	Time (approx)	Round	Streamed Matches
June 5	8:30am	Men's Singles Round 1	Kyle Goodwin (Walcha) vs Michael Devine (Glenbrook Panthers)
June 5	11:00am	Women's Singles Round 2	Carmen Anderson (Cabramatta) vs Samantha Ferguson (Engadine) or Dianne Chalklin (Bateau Bay)
June 5	2:00pm	Men's Singles Round 3	Todd Codey (RSL Sussex Inlet) vs Trevor Bryant (Ashfield) or John Andrews (Gloucester)
June 6	8:30am	Women's Singles Round of 32	TBC vs TBC
June 6	12:30pm	Men's Singles Round of 32	TBC vs TBC
June 7	8:30am	Women's Singles Quarter-Final	TBC vs TBC
June 7	12.30pm	Men's Singles Quarter-Final	TBC vs TBC
June 8	8:30am	Women's Singles Final	TBC vs TBC
June 8	12:30pm	Men's Singles Final	TBC vs TBC

For more information go online to



bowlsnsw.com.au



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2023-24 State Match Committee Announced

Bowls NSW is pleased to announce the members of the Bowls NSW State Match Committee for 2023-24. Three new members have been elected to the State Match Committee, Peter Schroeder (Forster), Toni Oliver (Munmorah United) and Kane Coulls (Nelson Bay), with current State Match Committee member Warren Shipley (Soldiers Point) appointed as Chair of the Committee. Our three new State Match Committee members bring a wealth of knowledge to an already experienced Committee.

Peter Schroeder (Forster)

Peter joins the State Match Committee after previously serving as a Director and Chair of the Bowls NSW Corporate Governance Committee. At a Zone level, Peter has amassed considerable experience as

a member of the Match Committee, Selection Committee and as Vice President for both Zone 7 and Zone 11, and has also served as President of Zone 11. Peter has been a Presenter & Assessor with Bowls NSW for 15 years, and his knowledge of sporting administration and development extends beyond bowls, having received accreditation as a Level 2 Coach through Baseball Australia and coaching various junior baseball sides.

Toni Oliver (Munmorah United)

Toni is the current Chair of the Central Coast Women's District Match Committee and has previously served as a Director, Treasurer and Vice President at club level. Toni has a genuine passion for lawn bowls, and is excited to work with the State Match Committee in administering

the sport and ensuring the success of events for current and future generations.

Kane Coulls (Nelson Bay)

Kane has been an active bowler at club level for over 40 years and has had playing experience at a State level where he represented South Australia. Beyond playing, Kane has been a member of selection and match committees over the last 20 years and is currently the Bowls Manager at his home club of Nelson Bay. Kane has also been an accredited National Umpire for over 30 years and an accredited Club Coach since 2007, highlighting the breadth of knowledge and experience he has within the sport of bowls. In his role, Kane would like to give back to the sport that has provided him so much over the years.

Several experienced applicants submitted Expressions of Interest to join the Committee, and I would like to thank everyone who took the time to submit an EOI and offer their services to administering our great sport.

Bowls NSW would also like to personally thank Brian Gibson for his services to the State Match Committee. Since joining the Committee in 2015, Brian has selflessly devoted his time to administering the sport and was crucial in overseeing one of the most significant changes in our history with the formation of the current Bowls NSW Ltd organisation in 2021. Thank you, Brian, for your service, and Bowls NSW wishes you all the best in your future endeavours.

Name	Club	Name	Club
Warren Shipley (Chair)	Soldiers Point	Kane Coulls	Nelson Bay
Toni Oliver	Munmorah United	John Roberts	Ettalong Memorial
Jennifer Palmer	Neutral Bay	Helen Schwencke	St Johns Park
Peter Schroeder	Forster	Robyn Lewis	Nelson Bay
Jan Wiltshire	Belmont Golf & Bowls		



BCiB Grade 1 Open State Pennant Finals Draws Released

Draws for the BCiB Grade 1 Open State Pennant Finals have been published to BowlsLink! Sixteen of the best sides in New South Wales have qualified for the finals to be played at Forster Bowling Club from 30 June – 2 July.

Draws for the BCiB Grade 2 – 7 State Pennant Finals have also been released and are available to view online. These draws currently show the sectional draw for Zone qualifiers, with club names to be added to the draws in due course.

Hunter/Newcastle Conference	Metro Conference	Illawarra Conference	Central Coast Conference
Beresfield	Cabramatta	Corrimal	Bateau Bay
East Maitland	Engadine	Figtree Sports	Ettalong
Kurri Kurri	St Johns Park	Warilla	
Nelson Bay	Taren Point		
Raymond Terrace	Wenty Leagues		
Soldiers Point			



[Click here to view the full draw](#)



Leichhardt Bowlo's 100th Birthday Bash



It's already home to the biggest beer garden in Sydney's Inner West, now Leichhardt Bowling Club has earned another badge of honour after keeping the doors of the beloved community institution open for 100 years.

Friday, 14 April saw the Club's centenary celebrations kick off in the late afternoon with a bowls tournament, a member photo to recreate the founding members' first snap, some glowing words from Leichhardt Mayor Darcy Byrne, and speeches from a few of the venue's much-loved managers, employees and board members — including 31-year-old Chairman Alistair Scott, who is the second-youngest bowling club Chairman in NSW.

The party continued well into the evening, with live music performed

by local blues band The Foreday Riders.

Despite the on-and-off drizzly weather, more than 500 people turned up to enjoy a few beers and a free sausage sandwich, and to share their favourite memories of the bowlo. Tickets quickly sold out for the regular Friday night meat raffle and the Club's famous Golden Bowl draw, which saw one lucky local lady snap up a record \$10,000 when her raffle ticket was plucked from the barrel and she successfully guessed the bowl behind which the golden bowl was hidden.

Saturday and Sunday saw more bowls competitions, live music and family friendly fun — including a jumping castle and free facepainting for the little ones.

What made the 100th birthday

celebrations all the more special was that just a short time ago the Club was in a precarious financial situation, with COVID seeing the venue's audited financials on 30 June 2021 listing cash and cash equivalents well and truly in the red.

"Miraculously, we opened from the first lockdown sooner than expected, and by borrowing some cash from the affiliated bowling clubs we had just enough cash to order stock and float our tills," says Leichhardt Bowling Club Secretary Manager Baz Compton.

"We prayed our members and guests would come back — and they did in droves!"

Baz says in hindsight COVID was a blessing in disguise for the Club.

"It allowed us to put everything on

Leichhardt Bowlo 100 Years

pause and really take stock of what was working and what wasn't. Our directors and a handful of dedicated volunteers used the COVID lockdowns to give the clubhouse a shoestring facelift — which started with a lick of paint and ended up with us converting a bowling green into the biggest beer garden in the Inner West.

The expansive outdoor area has become enormously popular with younger patrons and families, and is booked out most Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. The vibrant community hub now also boasts a pop-up gin bar, which sees local couple Jen and Shan — the brains behind Lily Fields Distilling Co — serve up classic G&Ts and other creative cocktails every weekend.

At the Club's main bar, patrons can enjoy a selection of regularly rotated craft beers and seltzers, while at the restaurant, 88 on Piper, they can order everything from a classic chicken parmigiana to a special Bangladeshi style roasted baby snapper.

"Converting a bowling green into the beer garden has been the key to our revitalisation but obviously it was a big sacrifice for our sport, however, what's been a really nice surprise is now that we're a more desirable venue to visit we're actually picking up more bowlers than we did with the extra bowling green," says Baz.

"While it's still too early to definitively call it, for the first time in a long time we feel quietly confident that we're not going to just survive but thrive and continue to serve our sport and our community for generations to come".



Story and photos by Baz Compton

Keno's Second Chance Draw Popularity Grows

Keno's Second Chance Draw remains a popular drawcard for Keno players, offering more chances to win and boosting customer engagement with the product.

Second Chance Draw continues to give customers another chance to win, with five customers winning a \$1,000 cash prize each month.

This ongoing promotion is growing in popularity and remains a strong drawcard for Keno customers.

In March, almost 75,000 entries

were received, with more than 6,700 unique entries.

By comparison, during the first quarter of FY23, it received between 17,000 and over 25,000 entries each month. There were 50,944 entries from 1 July to 30 September 2022.

Eighteen customers have won the \$1,000 through entering via the Keno App since August 2022, evidencing the benefits of the app's ability to automatically enter players into the draw.

Your club can enhance its ticket sales by actively telling customers about the promotion and displaying the Point of Sale marketing tools available on Keno Connect.

Visit Keno Connect today to download your digital POS
kenoconnect.com.au

