

# RAUMATI BOWLING CLUB



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### President's Message:

As another calendar year rapidly draws to a close, we can be proud of our achievements as a club during the year, including our new green and the achievements of our members on that green as well as other greens within the Centre.

### From the Greens

The end of the year has produced a flurry of championship bowls, interclub and pennants.

At the weekend, Michelle, Rochelle and Audrey won the Champion of Champions Triples for the second successive year. An awesome result which earns Michelle her Gold Star, while for Rochelle it's 14<sup>th</sup> titles and now 63 for the remarkable Audrey!



Other highlights include Lisa and Graeme winning the Centre Mixed 2 x 4 x 2 title in an event which became something of a Raumati benefit. The runners-up were Michelle and Chris Macdonald while Sue McFarlane and Mike Harvey were semi-finalists.

The club was represented in the semi-finals of the Centre Open Men's and Women's Pairs and Triples too.

There have been some outstanding results in Interclub rounds too. The Premier 1 Women are leading, the Premier 1 Men are into the playoffs and both Premier 2 men's teams are leading their divisions.



In club championships, during November and so far in December, we have found our winners in both the Men's and Women's Fours and the Women's Pairs. Congratulations go out to:

- Lisa, Pat, Michelle and Sue - Women's Fours;
- Graeme, Neal, Reg and Laurie - Men's Fours; and
- Lisa and Trish - Women's Pairs



## **Member Responsibility**

While we have allocated some tasks to individual members and groups, members are reminded that we all have a responsibility to keep the facilities tidy. If you notice the wastepaper baskets in the toilets need emptying, please empty them. Similarly, please take a moment to wipe a table or pick up objects from the floor or pull out a weed. Every little bit helps to make sure your club looks at its best.

## **Bottles Only**

The decision has been made to dispense with tap beer in 2025. The discussion was prompted by the need to replace a costly piece of equipment required for keeping the kegs chilled. It also reflects a trend towards bottled beer. The move is also likely to speed up the service at events such as Galas where the waiting time can be frustrating. No doubt there will be some annoyance at this, especially from those who pushed hard to get draught beer installed a few years ago. Let's give it time.

## **Facility Hire**

With the cost of our insurance soaring (our premium for the 2024-25 year being a whopping \$27,267) and the prospect of some serious maintenance ahead, one of the club's major fundraisers is the hire of our facilities. We owe Sue McFarlane a massive vote of thanks for the effort and time she puts into this aspect of the club. Hardly a day goes by when her white car is not parked outside and she's meeting with hirers or working at private events. Sue in turn will quickly thank those of you who answer her calls to help at these events. It's not just a financial reward for the club, but great publicity which potentially results in new members. Remember to check the event calendar on our website to see if the facilities are booked.

## **Bar Hours over Xmas**

The bar will be open on the Fridays during Christmas and New Year and the Joker's Wild and Member Draw will continue too.

## **Coaching**

We are fortunate to have the services of the Bowls NZ Coach of the Year, Vince Roper, here on Monday and Tuesday the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of December. Vince has coached World Champion Tayla Bruce since she was a youngster, so he knows what he's talking about. As his coaching focuses on individuals or small groups, some of our newer players have been invited to attend. Vince will provide information which can be passed onto others later.

## **Russ Wilkins**

Finally, don't forget to be at the clubrooms on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> of December for a brief farewell to Life Member and general good bloke, Russ Wilkins. It will commence at about 4.45pm.

Enjoy your bowls everyone and as your President has said, have a relaxing and happy festive season.

Your Board

