

RAUMATI BOWLING CLUB

RAUMATI BLUES NEWS

*Newsletter – October 2025
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HOME OF THE BLUES – OCTOBER 2025

Hi Blues members and welcome to the new season.

If 2025-26 is even half as successful and rewarding as the previous season, you can all anticipate an exciting and enjoyable few months.

Already two of the club's major events have been played. The Junior 2x4x2 and the Summerset Keith Elliott VC Cup. Full fields entered both tournaments and there were waiting lists. The feedback we received from the competitors, who came from as far south as Marlborough and as far north as Taranaki, was overwhelmingly positive.

Our club championship programme is in full swing. It started with the Handicap Mixed Singles, moves to the Mixed Fours and then the Men's and Women's Triples. Entering is easy, but if you're new to the club or unsure about how to become involved in the championships, just ask.

You'll be aware your President Michelle is overseas on holiday. Unfortunately, both she and Chris have been suffering ill health over the last few days so we wish them a speedy recovery and a fun-filled final few weeks.

LISA ROCKS: Lisa White's year has been one of outstanding success, drawing favourable comments from bowls people all over the country. Following on from her National Champion of Champions title and her victory in a star-studded invitational singles event in Tauranga, Lisa continued her unbeaten streak by capturing the Molecheck Women's Open Singles event in Auckland. Fantastic!

On the same weekend in Auckland, new Home of the Blues member Rhys Hakkens, played superbly to reach the quarter-finals of the Invitation Men's Singles where he was beaten by the eventual champion.



ELLIOTT GREEN: A visit from Ross Galloway of TigerTurf has been very informative. You'll be aware there has been a deterioration in some areas of the Elliott Green surface which is limiting its availability. Repair work will be undertaken before Christmas, but in the meantime players must be diligent in assuring there is no repeat of this damage.

More information will be issued soon, but one immediate action you can take is to, when having a roll up or practice, play to the rink markers rather than the rink numbers and alter your mat placement regularly.

WORKING BEE SUCCESS: Much was achieved in our working bee with a large amount of rubbish removed, including 20 broken chairs, and over half of the lockers sent to a metal recycler. Since then, the men's locker room has been painted and shelving installed. The office is being revamped with fresh paint and shelves. When agreement is reached among our women members as to what is required in their area, action will be taken.

Before then though, **urgent work** is needed to repaint the exterior bench seats. Some members have experienced paint stains on their pants after using the seats, especially those in front of the concrete wall. So, if you are willing to sand and/or paint you are urged to volunteer for some 'painting days.' A volunteer list will be placed in the clubhouse.

UNIFORMS: As you're now aware, Bowls NZ has tightened up its regulations regarding team uniforms for ***national and centre events***. If you are entering any team events at this level, you all must wear identical clothing. Most emphasis will be on tops- shirts, jackets etc.

All future Raumati shirt orders will be for the new design, and we are considering club hoodies to be included in our list of uniform items. Samples will be available next week.

NEW MEMBERS: It's always a delight to see some new faces on the green or in the clubhouse. Some who've recently joined include full playing members Jason Lissette, Catherine Williams (previously Mercury Bay BC, Whitianga), Rhys Hakkens (ex PBBC), Graham Smith, David Gray, Matt Campbell, Nick Waddington, Kevin Norman and Janice Stratford who has arrived from Greytown BC.

We're also thrilled to welcome Pauline Spiller, Mat Grant and Andrew Schaare as Associate Members from PBBC, and others who are enjoying the social or social playing activities within the club, including Niki Trotter, John Mulligan, Sue Fenton, Dean Leggott, Shaun Killalea, Peter Brain, Heather Johnson, Una Smith, Sharon Gray, Chris Hutchison, Cole Pearce and Glen Carter.

EXECUTIVE MINUTES: Any club member who wishes to peruse the minutes of our monthly meetings can find a copy of them in the office.

SPONSORS: Sponsorship is vital to the club's survival so please remember our sponsors. Just glance around the club walls, the TV screen and in the new Club Handbook to see who they are. We welcome ***Relish Café and Catering*** and ***Super Liquor Raumati*** to our club.

FRIDAY NIGHTS: As the warmer weather teases us, how about popping along to your club for a drink, natter and the chance to win the Club Member draw (free) and the Joker's Wild jackpot which is at an all-time high of \$1600! (\$2 a ticket)

Our Collective Responsibilities for Safe Provision and Consumption of Alcohol

A recent tragic incident highlights that we need to be aware of our responsibilities for safe provision of alcohol and to ensure that we have taken all measures to achieve this.

A Sports Club in the Wellington Region had their Liquor Licence revoked after it failed to recognise that a member drinking at the Club had become grossly intoxicated. That member then drove, caused a fatal accident and has been sentenced to a significant period of imprisonment.

In their decision to revoke the Club's Liquor Licence, the Licencing Authority noted that the Club did not have procedures in place to detect and prevent hazardous drinking and nor had their bar staff, apart from the Manager, had any formal training.

Since then, our Club has had an alcohol licencing inspection. While there are no immediate issues, we, along with other clubs, have been asked to accept an "additional discretionary condition" for operation of the bar. We have until the next inspection in 12 months to demonstrate our progress in adopting this condition, but we wish to fulfil this obligation much sooner than that.

The ideal is that a certificated Manager is present when the bar is open, but this is not always possible, and the Licensing Authorities accept this. However, in the absence of a certificated Manager they require that there must be a nominated "Responsible Person" on duty and their full name must be displayed. This person must have completed ServeWise training or equivalent and be able to show evidence of this when requested.

Failure to observe this condition means that we could be considered to be noncompliant and risk losing our licence. We do not consider that the condition is discretionary, as it falls under section 295 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol act, "Duty to Collaborate"

We are very grateful to our volunteer bar staff and have discussed with them how we can fulfil this condition of operation. This means that as many of them as possible should do ServeWise training. This takes 2-4 hours online and is free of charge.

We have had a great response, with seven people already having completed ServeWise and several more are in the process of doing so. Well done.

In addition to this, the Board considers that members should have some familiarity with our responsibilities around serving alcohol and suggests that all should read the following resource. For those who cannot access it online, there is a copy in the office.

https://resources.alcohol.org.nz/assets/Uploads/Publications/2.7-AL452_Host_responsibility_Guidelines_AUG-2022.pdf

The document makes clear the requirements that Clubs must observe, especially in recognising intoxication. It also details the potential penalties for various breaches, some of which are severe. All members should be aware of these responsibilities, and we should look out for each other. The hearing in the case of the Club that lost their licence revealed that other members had been buying drinks for the person who caused the accident when it already was obvious that the person was intoxicated. As well as being irresponsible, this was unfair to the bar staff as it did not allow them to easily recognise the amount the person had drunk, nor the level of intoxication.

Let us all be responsible together!

BEST WISHES: The club is extremely proud of those players who have been selected to represent the Kapiti Centre this weekend in the annual clash with Wanganui, and we wish you all the best.

Enjoy your bowls everyone and if you're not a bowler, enjoy your time at the club.

Club Captain John