

55+ TENPIN BOWLING ASSOCIATION OF NEW ZEALAND

July 2016 Newsletter

Editorial

The New Plymouth Tournament was another successful tournament held at a new venue for most Association members. Apart from the standard Association social function on the Saturday night at the New Plymouth Club, about 50% of those members participating in the Tournament also went out to dinner on the Friday night to Marbles Buffet in the Devon Hotel to celebrate the 80th birthday of Eileen Ankers. Although Eileen had withdrawn from the tournament to be back home in Palmerston North to celebrate her 80th birthday with her family the fact that so many members came to the dinner in New Plymouth demonstrates the camaraderie that exists between members of the Association that help make Association Tournaments happy events.

It was also pleasing to see an increase in membership from New Plymouth participating in the tournament. Back about 10 years ago, members from New Plymouth regularly attended Association tournaments, but then gradually the membership declined to zero. With the refurbishment of the New Plymouth centre a few years ago with new lanes and bowling machinery there is a fresh incentive for New Plymouth bowlers to achieve and enjoy bowling. May this trend continue?

President's Corner

I have just returned from a great Tournament in New Plymouth. It was pleasing to be able to visit another Centre and spread the 55+ word further. We had good entries from Wanganui /New Plymouth area, with many new bowlers. I am sure they will have all enjoyed their first tournament and we look forward to seeing them all again in Porirua.

A special thanks to Shirley and her team of helpers. A fantastic effort with the raffles. We really needed that \$1000, otherwise the tournament would have run at a substantial loss.

The Saturday night function was enjoyed by everyone I spoke to. Having music adds to the night. It was good to see so many joining in the theme for the night and there were some great costumes. I hope everyone is working on their one for Porirua.... I know Hasting is!!

At the delegates meeting we reluctantly voted to increase Subs, Entry fees and Tournament Fees. This small increase was necessary to keep the Association Financially viable. The full details of the changes appear on the website.

Porirua is not far away and I look forward to seeing you all again then.

Preston Epplett

From Hastings

What a pleasure it was to visit New Plymouth bowling centre, for all bar one, it was our first time. The staff was friendly and seemed to love their job and were very pleasant. It was great to see so many new members enjoying the bowling, also how surprised they were to get such a warm welcome but then that is the ilk of the members of 55+. A big thank you to Shirley for her hard work and of course thanks to all her helpers also. We all enjoyed the Saturday evening meal and the entertainment very much, music being our era. A former 55+ member from Waitakere, Ken Lyons has joined our fold, I thought we may well be too much for him to bear but he fitted in just fine with our fun loving and noisy lot. Waitakere challenged Hastings in a game of fluorescent putt-putt. Great fun and I am pleased to report that Hastings came out with the trophy, good fun guys. What will the next challenge be????? I was the recipient of a minor gift of a Freddo Frog solely to do with my parking skills and a wee mark on the car in front, which was soon sorted with both parties being happy. However our fellow bowler and President drove part way to New Plymouth without his license, (Most illegal) in fact he had left his entire wallet at his Hastings office which had to arrive by overnight courier. I am sure Preston will know of whom we are speaking. Hastings did very well in the event. Sixteen medals and three trophies, keeping that up will be a hard task.

Marie

Tournament Directors Report.

Well once again we had a great turnout at New Plymouth for our June tournament 2016

We had a turnout of 96 Bowlers and an attendance of 94 at Saturday night's dinner. I would like to say this was one of the best dinners I have been to, so enjoyable.

We had a lovely clean centre and delightful people helping us at the counter so found the tournament ticked along well in fact many times we ran early.

It was lovely to see Les and Bev arrive on the Friday, and mingle with everyone.

A big thanks goes out to Shirley Wilson and her band of hard workers the food and kitchen, and not to mention the front check in table and raffles. Your contribution to this tournament was wonderful and made a big difference towards the final cost of the tournament so many, many thanks to you all.

Unfortunately the sad side of things is that we can no longer continue with the costs of things going up, so we have had to increase all bowling fees for 12 games to \$80 and dinner \$30 this will come in to effect from the Porirua tournament. Also for new members now the cost is \$15 and for members renewing their membership from 2017 will be \$10. The committee did not put the costs up lightly but due to the costs of each tournament this had to happen.

On the brighter side I would like to thank Preston, Judy, and Shirley for your continual support to me at each tournament, and this time also like to thank Warwick Jones for his help. Also from here on you will notice Benny Bensemen assisting me as he is learning the system so he can help me at the tournaments so welcome aboard Benny.

Well that's all from me and look forward to seeing you at Porirua.

Cheers

Lorraine Heath, Tournament Director

The Honorary Members Corner

Les and I enjoyed our trip to New Plymouth. It was so nice to catch up with so many of you and to see all the new faces. It is the first time we have had no responsibility and so we were able to sit and finish conversations rather than leave them half way through. It is great that the team that has taken over is doing such a good job and we can relax and enjoy your company for the first time in many years. Hopefully this will make you smile. Thank you for making my birthday memorable on Saturday night. I had had a tough time renewing my driver's license. First my renewal papers did not come in the post like I expected. So I rang up the authority and said I was concerned that my papers hadn't arrive and that Les had got his on time so where were my papers. "Ohhhh" said the voice on the phone let me look and see.... No we have nothing for you but don't worry, just go to the Dr and get a medical certificate and bring that to us and we will do the rest. Ok So I'm non-existent. That was a great feeling. Then I went to the Dr and failed the eye rest. Ok Now I'm non-existent and a failure. Luckily my optician was able to see me immediately. She got me to put on my glasses and said no wonder you can't see your bent. Thanks I said, I'm non-existent, a failure and now you tell me I'm bent. Luckily after all this my license has been renewed. On a different note Les and I were wondering where the pride in wearing our club shirt has gone. While it is not compulsory everyone does look nice in the shirts. For mystery pairs where you do not have similar shirts perhaps this would be a good time for wearing the club shirt. Mixed Doubles and teams is a good time for group/area shirts. You look so good wearing the same shirts and of course for singles individual choices will prevail. Finally, ex-President Del has arrived back from Australia after attending a Lawn Bowls tournament and was involved with the down pour of the storm they encountered.

From Porirua

Fran and I enjoyed our time in New Plymouth at the 55+ Tournament. The petrol tank in our car was almost empty when we arrived, so the first thing we did was to fill the tank and found that we would have been better off to have filled up south of Wanganui on the way through as the price of petrol in New Plymouth was about the same as Wellington prices. Never mind, we then looked for our motel and we eventually came to the motel's back entrance in Lemon Street after cruising the one-way streets of New Plymouth.

Having visited New Plymouth a couple of years ago to bowl against a New Plymouth team led by Errol O'Byrne, we were aware of the Centre's parking restrictions on weekdays, so we had planned to take taxis between the motel and the Centre on the Thursday and Friday and this arrangement worked very well. I am aware that some Porirua members didn't enter the tournament because of the lack of parking available during the week and the potential cost of parking on the street.

One of the great advantages of attending 55+ Association tournaments is to make new and to renew acquaintances made at previous tournaments and the New Plymouth tournament was no exception. Firstly, Bruce Sheehan, who used to bowl for New Plymouth at Association

tournaments some years ago on a regular basis came into the Centre and came up to me and said “remember when we won the Men’s Mystery Pairs 10 years ago at Panmure”. Unfortunately Bruce can no longer bowl because of physical damage to his upper arms. Secondly, just before we started bowling in the Mixed Doubles, Robyn Carrigg came to us from the next pair of lanes and asked whether Fran and I still lived in Papakowhai in Porirua and when we told her that we did until April last year. Robyn then explained who she was and where she used to live, which was just round the corner from us and that our respective daughters were great friends in their last year at Secondary school. Robyn’s daughter and her daughter’s husband came into the Centre after we had finished our Mixed Doubles, so we were able to catch up with them as well.

As Porirua is hosting the next Association tournament in September, I look forward to meeting you all again then. Because we now live about 45 minutes’ drive from the Porirua Centre, Fran and I have booked a motel in Porirua for the occasion.

Dave Hercus,
Porirua Delegate

Upcoming Events

Porirua, 16 to 18 September 2016. Entries close 18 August 2016. The Saturday night theme is “Your Favourite TV Program, so get your thinking caps on and your costume’s organised. The Saturday night dinner will be held in a private dining room at the Porirua Club, which is located at 1 Lodge Place in Porirua

The Third Gil Evans Memorial Tournament will be held in November 2016 at Porirua. I shall email the entry form and Rules to Delegates when they are available.

The dates for the following Association Tournaments in 2017 and 2018 are still to be confirmed

Petone (Strike Lower Hutt) February 2017.

Rotorua, June 2017.

Kapiti, September 2017.

Hastings, February 2018.

More details will be included in later newsletters.

Dave Hercus
Editor