



# QUARTERLEY NEWSLETTER

*Issue 4 – December 2008*

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



I believe that it is important at this time of the year to thank people and institutions for their contribution over the past twelve months and to show a bit of appreciation and gratitude for their efforts and support. We tend to become self centred and thereby allow valuable contributions to pass us unnoticed.

I would like to give credit to the following people:

- All the positive bowlers that have supported Bowls South Africa throughout the year – you made the difference.
- The Bowls South Africa Council for their wonderful support.
- Lotto for their important contributions.
- Sport and Recreation for their support.
- SASCOC for their support and help.
- The media; radio, written and even TV – special mention to Alan Simmonds for his positive contribution.

- The Bowls South Africa Office Staff under the leadership of John Ravenscroft.
- Also Disabled Bowls under Brian Sneag's leadership for their support and positive contributions.
- All our Standing Committees for their unselfish sometimes thankless work they so often perform to make bowls a better sport for us all.
- All our sponsors who are so kind to us. Allow me however the exception to once again thank Warwick for their wonderful support.
- Lastly, I want to thank my Executive for their hard work and loyal support. Only a pleasure working with you!

On a sad note; Neil Burkett and wife Sheila will leave South Africa on a semi permanent basis for Australia. Neil will play in the Premier League and will also do some coaching. We wish them all the best "down under" but expect them back from time to time (Neil has played from 1983 to 2006 for South Africa).

Laastens wil ek aan al ons rolbalspelers 'n woord van hoop, vrede en liefde oor hierdie Kersseisoen toewens. Mag u en u geliefdes die samesyn waardeer wat ons almal so onverdiend ontvang en onthou, in hierdie lewe is 'n sin vir humor onontbeerlik.

Dit help ons om die snaakse in die lewe raak te sien; die onkonvensionele te verstaan, die onaangename te verdra, die onverwagte dinge te hanteer en die ondraaglikes tong in die kies te oorleef.

Rolbalgroete  
Piet Breitenbach

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[www.bowlssa.co.za](http://www.bowlssa.co.za)

**WARWICK**

PRIVATE WEALTH



## EDITORIAL

During November the Protea Men's & Women's Team returned from a successful series in Namibia where they won the Test Series convincingly after battling to adjust to the slower greens. The South African Senior Team was also successful by completing a clean sweep.

Following an intensive training camp the teams to face England in the Test in February were announced. These can be viewed on the website under the International Icon. These Tests will all be played at the Wanderers Bowling Club in Johannesburg and we encourage all bowlers in the area to support our National team.

Two very exciting young prospects in Tracy-Lee Botha and Pierre Breitenbach have been selected to represent South Africa in the World Junior Cup being staged in Australia during March 2009. We wish the two of them the very best. "Do us proud".

The Silver Squad (U/25) will be touring Natal during January 2009 and we encourage local bowlers to support this tour and take the opportunity to view the new talent available to South Africa.

The annual Botswana Invitational Pairs Tournament took place during October 2008 and our women, Helen Grundlingh and Louise Longmore did us proud by winning Gold at the event. The men's team consisting of Pierre Breitenbach and Juane Meyer ended the tournament in the top half of the results.

Preparation for the Warwick Bowls SA Masters taking place at Wingate Park Bowling Club are well in hand and spectators are encouraged to attend to enjoy a weekend of superior bowls.

The new Executive Committee of Bowls South Africa for 2008/09:



Back row:

Ron Weddell, John Ravenscroft, Allan Freeman, Kallie Haupt

Front row:

Isabel Smith, Piet Breitenbach, Debra Ferguson

We wish you all a great festive season and good bowling.

## CIRCULARS

Below is a list of Circulars that was sent out in the past 3 months. The Circulars can be viewed on our website: [www.bowls.co.za](http://www.bowls.co.za).

[Circular 68 - 06/10](#) - Financial Administrator - Appointment

[Circular 69 - 14/10](#) - District Standing Committees for Coaching

[Circular 70 - 16/10](#) - Open Inter Districts 2009

[Circular 71 - 31/10](#) - Inter Districts Entry

[Circular 72 - 11/11](#) - The Warwick Bowls SA Senior Masters 2009

[Circular 73 - 19/11](#) - The Warwick Bowls SA Nationals 2009

[Circular 74 - 19/11](#) - Warwick Bowls SA Nationals - 2009

[Circular 75 - 24/11](#) - Level 2 District Coach upgrading Course and Level 2 Refresher Course.doc

[Circular 76 - 28/11](#) - Tournament Venues

[Circular 77 - 01/12](#) - Affiliation Fees January to December 2009

[Circular 78 - 01/12](#) - 1 English Test Series Team Selections 2 Junior World Cup 2009

[Circular 79 - 01/12](#) - Inter District Development Championships 2009

[Circular 80 - 02/12](#) - Team appointments

[Circular 81 - 04/12](#) - Inter Districts 2009 Draw

[Circular 82 - 04/12](#) - Sponsorship Barloworld Fleet Marketing

## **OTHER NEWS - AMAZING BOWLERS**

*(90y old and still going strong)*



Reinhold Paul Johannes Koch (Reini) was born on 18 November 1918 in the Estcourt District. When Reini came to the Vryheid District in 1943, he was a keen tennis player. Reini's ambition was to play tennis until he turned 70.

Reini's parents were members of the VRYHEID BOWLING CLUB in the 1950's and 1960's. In 1989 Reini joined the club. Before long Reini was an enthusiastic bowler. He was greenkeeper for a few years.

He really enjoys bowling just as much today whether it is competitive or social bowls.

Reini plays bowls on a Monday, Wednesday and Saturday. He bought brand new bowls in 2007. It is such a pleasure for him to belong to the great bowling family. It is a great privilege for Vryheid Bowling Club having such a remarkable man in our midst.

Congratulations on your 90th Birthday.

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## **OTHER NEWS – So, you thought bowls is for the retired elderly?**

**Think again**

No less than 31 members of the Junior Elite Squad, as chosen by Bowls SA, attended the recent Bowls Clinic at The Nest Hotel in the Drakensberg.

These modern young people are very enthusiastic about the game and, apart from playing in competitions and tournaments over weekends, they practise two afternoons a week and more. Most members of the Junior Elite Squad are at school, college or university and their busy schedules make their dedication and eager practice programs even more noteworthy. They have traveled from all the corners of South Africa, to devote their holiday period to this clinic, which developed the skills needed to excel in their beloved game.

Various factors have caused the members of the Junior Elite Squad to become interested in and even fanatic about playing bowls:

Zenith from the Strand received some training by Mrs. Aloma Smith of the local bowling club. She did well and loved the game immediately. 'My ambition is to become a Protea player,' says the girl who has already

won some prizes.

'My friend Andrew introduced me to the game and I loved it since the first bowl,' says Cavin from Morningside in Durban.

Piet Breitenbach, President of Bowls SA, tells that in general, these players are well behaved and very disciplined. 'They come from various backgrounds, but the one thing they all have in common is their love of the game. Since I became President three years ago, Bowls SA has become totally committed to youth as far as development is concerned. For bowls to become a school sport is very high on the agenda. A lot is being done at school level to draw players.

Bowls SA is well organized with a Development Standing Committee taking responsibility for developing the sport in our country. They are hugely assisted by the Coaches Standing Committee, under the able leadership of Kallie Haupt.

It is a very emotional experience for me when I attend an under 25's tournament and see only the youth playing bowls.

During the late '90's we had our first youth tournament in Kroonstad. There were 38 players. Our latest under 25's tournament was in Bloemfontein during July this year where close to 400 players participated! We have never looked back,' says Piet excitedly.

The players are confident and enthusiastic when they encourage their friends to come along and play. 'It also keeps one out of trouble,' says Dorcas Phelane of Potchefstroom.

The high ideals of the players are very noticeable. Their aim is to climb the rungs of the bowls ladder to attain Silver Squad level, which is considered the Junior Protea team. Thereafter it is a very steep climb to reach the Gold Squad from which a very select few are chosen to represent South Africa in full colours.

Piet Breitenbach concludes: 'These youngsters have the determination and drive to be part of the bigger picture.'

This is clearly visible by the vibrant enthusiasm that radiates from each player in the group

## COACHES FORUM

### FOR THE EXCHANGE OF COACHING NEWS AND VIEWS

From  
The National Standing Committee For  
Coaching

Coaches Forum No. 20

#### **NSSC FEEDBACK**

This Forum has long been used as a medium for passing on news of courses and events in our many districts but we have neglected to keep our many active coaches aware of what is happening at National level.

Members of the National Standing Committee for Coaching are constantly researching and investigating coaching matters with all the different bowls playing nations (some 44 at the last count). Most recently we have obtained information from Canada and the United Kingdom and some of the information is worth passing on via this Forum.

Other activities of the NSSC involve specific research projects and the results and findings of these will be made available as they are completed. A major undertaking at present is the complete review and updating of all our training material in line with International Standards. It is hoped that much of this material will be re-issued in the early part of 2009.

In order to ensure our District Standing Committees are up to date we recently requested that the names and **CONTACT DETAILS** of all committee members be forwarded to Bowls South Africa. Unfortunately not all districts have complied, with the result that some districts will not receive the new information. Please assist us in keeping you informed. Once again the subject of communication is foremost in our problems. Maybe we should just say that a "problem" is really just an "opportunity" to get something right !

#### **COURSE UPDATE**

Several successful courses have been held recently and we look forward to welcoming the new coaches into our fold.

A Circular has just gone out to all Districts in connection with the 2009 Upgrading and Refresher

Course for Level 2 with a closing date for applications of February 13<sup>th</sup> and it should be noted that there will be no extension to this date.

#### **COACHES DATABASE**

Once again it is that time of year when all districts are required to submit their coaches database returns. PLEASE help us to help you by getting these returns in on time, complete and in the official format requested. Please remember this is not just for Bowls South Africa but also for our annual return to SASCOC.

Whilst talking about SASCOC we wish to advise you that they are in the process of setting up a Coaches Association, covering all sports, and their current Mission Statement says :

**"To enhance sport development in South Africa by building, supporting and publishing sound coaching principles and through the promotion of coaching excellence".**

**There is even a possibility that they will introduce some form of "licence" that will need to be renewed on a periodic basis. We will do our best to keep you all informed on developments within this area.**

#### **A CLOSING NOTE**

For all those people travelling over the forthcoming holiday period please drive carefully and return home safe, and well rested, for another year of good bowling in your area.

#### **REMEMBER**

**LETS WEAR OUR BADGE AND PLAY THE GAME  
WITH PRIDE**

*The complete version of this informative  
newsletter can be obtained from our website  
[www.bowlssa.co.za](http://www.bowlssa.co.za)*

## **GRASS CLIPPINGS**

### **Random thoughts**

In August I dutifully submitted my Grass Clippings 16 to the office but unfortunately a gremlin got into the computer and hid my offering with the result that the offerings of my colleagues went out without anything for the green keepers.

Anyway GC16 will be published with the November edition and we will all have to wait till next year for GC17.

In the meantime some odd incidents have prompted me to share these random thoughts with you and give you something to think about during the Festive Season.

#### **Wrong Grass Wrong Place**

I have, in the last year or so, become aware of instances where a GKP has re-planted bare areas with a grass which is not of the same variety as the existing grass on his green.

Maybe he is just trying to see how the other grass reacts to the environment but, in practice, he has created a position where he has fast and slow patches on the green.

We are all aware of the fact that all grasses do not have the same growth habits and texture.

The management of the two is different and a bowl running over one might find more resistance than it would find running over the other. In Australia they recognised this problem in 1963 and decreed that no State Competitions would be played on Multi-Strain greens (they call them Heinz greens) . . .

#### **New Grass. (Paspalum)**

A few years ago I planted Paspalum Vaginatatum (Country Club Grass) on my "C" green. Our Municipal water is very saline (t.d.s up to 2800 ppm) and I decided that in view of the fact that many clubs might be faced by the prospect of having to use borehole water with a high salinity I should try it out at Kowie.

The planting has been a great success and some of our members actually prefer it to our Bayview greens. Two weeks ago I had the opportunity to demonstrate the grass to the other members of the Bowls SA Greens Standing Committee – they were all impressed by the appearance colour, and speed – even when cutting at 5.0mm. . .

#### **Gulf Green**

I have noticed that a number of contractors are planting Gulf Green on bowling greens.

Gulf Green was "discovered" by my friend Bill Hadlow on the Scottburgh Golf Course. He asked me to look at the grass and we both decided that it had possibilities and sent it to Superlawn for evaluation. We all know now that it was a success on golf courses and sent it in large quantities to the Arabian Gulf – hence the name.

On a bowling green the problem has always been the speed of growth of which a large proportion is vertical –in contrast with the Cynodon Transvalensis which has an 80% lateral growth habit.

Two weeks ago at the meeting of our Bowls SA Greens standing Committee we decided that the jury was still out on the use of Gulf Green on a bowling green. . .

#### **The Roller-Polisher**

With the Roller-Polisher (RP) being manufactured in the RSA many more clubs have acquired this machine. While I stand by my original assessment that it is worth its weight in gold a club must be certain that, in laying out almost R30,000.00 for such a machine their greens are ready for it.

The RP is not a cure-all and will not -

1. Replace unsuitable soil.
2. It will not replace ill-chosen grasses or fix a Heinz Green.
3. It will not fix variations in the levels

The club must realise that it is only if the problems mentioned above do not exist on their green that the RP comes into its own. . .

**To all the Green keepers - Enjoy the festive season because a lot of planning lies ahead and by the time you have welcomed the New Year in the days will already be getting shorter.**

*The complete version of this informative newsletter can be obtained from our website*

[www.bowlssa.co.za](http://www.bowlssa.co.za)

## **JACK UP BOWLS!**

**We're on a roll' . . .**

### **WELCOME OUR NEW DEVELOPMENT TEAM!**

On 15 November, the newly appointed Development Steering Committee met for the first time. The main task was to map out structures and strategies for the coming 2 years. The "oldies" on the committee are Herman van Rensburg, Aloma Smith and Fonny Meyerdricks and the new faces are Reg Misselhorn from Border and Reagan Jacobus from Port Natal.

In order to improve communication and interaction between the committee and district committees, each member of the committee will be responsible to work with their allocated district Development Officers as follows:

**Aloma** – WP, Boland and S. Cape

**Reg** – Border, EP and Southern Free State

**Herman** – North West, N. Cape & NFS

**Reagan** – KZNC, Kingfisher, Natal Inland and Port Natal

**Fonny** – BGN, CGBA, EGB, Limpopo, Mpumalanga, Sables and Sedibeng.

### **We say farewell!**

We wish to thank the outgoing members of the Bowls SA Development Standing Committee, Chris Naidoo and Ron Cloete, for their major contributions over the past few years as well as to Elize Opperman who was the Secretary.

### **BOWLS SA APPLAUD THE WARWICK TEAM!**

Bowls South Africa has signed a four-year, R12-million sponsorship deal with investment company Warwick Private Wealth. It is the largest sponsorship agreement concluded by a grassroots nonprofessional sport in South Africa.

Warwick, with its head office in Cape Town, becomes title sponsor of the country's three premier national bowling events – the SA Masters and the men's and women's championships.

Announcing the major boost for the sport, Bowls South Africa President, Piet Breitenbach, says: *"Warwick has been a great supporter at club level for years. Now they are seriously involved at national level. We are delighted to work with them and are grateful for their faith in us."*

Says Warwick CEO, Ian Kilbride: "We are proud to sponsor bowls, also club tennis, football, cricket, golf and croquet.

"This major move is a thank you to bowlers for their support of our financial products and services. We are confident enlightened leadership from Bowls SA will take competitive and social members into an exciting future." . . .

### **PLEASE BE AWARE!**

**ONLY AUTHORISED BOWLERS MAY PLAY WITH BOWLS SA DEV BOWLS**

It has come to the notice of Bowls SA that unauthorised bowlers are playing with bowls that were specifically allocated for development purposes. . .

### **UNDER 19s**

**BOWLS SA RED CARDS  
SCHOLAR MEMBERSHIP CARDS**

Red Cards are issued to learners under 19 who are coached within the development schools program.

**Red Cards for 2008/9:** Just a reminder that the status quo on the criteria for Red Card holders for the Under 19 scholars must kindly be adhered to for the following reasons:

- To Identify unaffiliated under 19 players
- Allow these players access to the greens . . .

**BOTH AFFILIATED & NON-AFFILIATED  
U/19 BOWLERS  
MAY NOW PARTICIPATE IN THE U/19  
DEVELOPMENT TOURNAMENT NEXT YEAR!**

**UNDER 25s – BREAKING NEWS!**  
(Bowls SA Circular 59/2008)

The Under 25 Inter-District Tournament will from 2009 be arranged into two separate tournaments. . .

### **DISTRICT REPORTS**

**CONGRATULATIONS GAUTENG NORTH  
FOR THE 'BRING A BUDDY BOWLER' CONCEPT**  
*"We encourage districts to use this initiative!"*

**Gauteng North:** Corné Kruger says in Gauteng North we decided on 3 projects . . .

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newsletter can be obtained from our website**  
[www.bowlssa.co.za](http://www.bowlssa.co.za)

## TO THE POINT

### **Technical Officials Standing Committee Issue 25**

Merkers	152 persone
Vlak 1	107 persone
Vlak 2	30 persone
Vlak 3	19 persone

#### **LEVEL THREE TECHNICAL OFFICIALS COURSE**

At the beginning of September the Technical Officials Standing Committee Presented a Level 3 Course for 19 Candidates at Potchefstroom. The course ran over a period of 3 days at the Witrand Club. All the Candidates gathered at the Club the night before the where they were introduced to each other and to the Members of the Standing Committee. Everyone was buoyed up and keen to get started the next day. Each morning we had to be at the Club by for a delicious breakfast and start working by 08h00 where after we only had short breaks for tea and eats or a tasty lunch and a lovely supper and we worked through to 21h00 each night. The ladies at the hosting Club really excelled in the food department!!

This course was not merely for testing the Candidates knowledge of the Laws or their measuring skills, it was also to see if they could perform other duties which fall into the duties of Technical Officials. . .

The Technical Officials Standing Committee will be presenting another Level 3 course during 2009. Details of this course will be circulated to all Districts.

#### **NUWE TEGNIESE BEAMPTTE KURSUS IS BESIG OM VRUGTE AF TE WERP**

Enige persoon het weerstand teen verandering. Ons het dit weereens gesien met die instelling van die nuwe Uitkoms gebaseerde onderrig metode wat gebruik word vir die opleiding van Tegniese Beamptes. Maar nadat die kursus material hersien is en meer verbruikers vriendelik gemaak is het daar ewe skielik 'n herlewing plaas gevind wat betref die aanbieding van Tegniese Beampte kursusse. Die hersienne uitgawe van die kursusse is aan die Distrik Sekretarisse gegee in Augustus gedurende Rolbal Suid Afrika se algemene jaar vergadering.

Daar is gedurende die jaar in 14 van die 20 distrikte kursusse aan gebied en die volgende hoeveelheid persone is opgelei:

#### **GUARDIANS FOR THE VARIOUS DISTRICTS**

Each member of the Bowls South Africa Technical Official Standing Committee is responsible for the well being of certain districts and that person act as the guardian for the districts allocated to him/her. I would like to invite the District Technical Officials Standing Committees to contact your representative wit any queries, questions or assistance regarding the interpretation and application of any laws or presenting g courses or any Technical Official matters. If he /she do not have the answers they will refer it to the convener and the other committee members but your problem or query will be solved.

#### **PREPARATION FOR 2009**

Interesting times are awaiting the Technical Officials in 2009.

Two big tournaments are scheduled for 2009 and we are already busy with the preparations to ensure the tournaments will be a great success.

#### **SA Masters**

We require 58 markers, 58 flip board operators and 20 Umpires per day for the first two days and 26 markers and 26 flip board operators and 10 Umpires for the third day to render a proper service to the 80 bowlers who will take part in the SA Masters. . .

#### **Atlantic Championship**

The Technical Officials who will do duty at this tournament in May 2009 at Wanderers Bowling Club in Central Gauteng are already identified and five of the Senior Officials already attended the Level 3 course in preparation for this event. . .

**“The greater the challenge, the greater the reward”**

*The complete version of this informative newsletter can be obtained from our website*  
[www.bowlssa.co.za](http://www.bowlssa.co.za)

# “ BOWLS” THE BEST SPORT FOR ALL



We would love your input on this newsletter so please tell us what you want to see at [info@bowlssa.co.za](mailto:info@bowlssa.co.za)

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