



# NEWSLETTER

Issue 1  
March 2009

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



We are already approaching the fourth month of 2009 and the Masters, the Test Series against England and the Inter Districts are history and almost forgotten. Allow me however to thank all parties concerned for the five memorable championships that were successfully planned, organised and hosted. To all the winners and runners up, congratulations on your performance and achievements; you are all true champions. To all the other participants, thank you for your commitment and support. The standard of bowls is extremely high and makes all championships a wonderful experience.

Once again I want to thank Ian and Bill Kilbride and their staff from Warwick for the outstanding support and wonderful sponsorship during the Masters 2009. We are looking forward to the Nationals to strengthen our relationship. To GC Swanepoel from Perfect Delivery a huge thank you for sponsoring the Open Inter District. We really appreciate your commitment.

Fellow bowlers then the good news as far as the 2009 Atlantic Championships are concerned. These championships will be held at the Wanderers Club in the CGBA district between 4 and 16 May 2009. It is my privilege to announce that the whole tournament will be funded by the National Lottery Board and that no funds from our members will be used to finance these championships. A lot of effort and

hard work went into our application but the reward makes it worth our while in the end. All bowlers are invited to come to the Wanderers to support our own Protea teams during two weeks of high quality bowls against some of the top bowling countries in the world. Come and enjoy the hospitality of a world class facility and ensure you do not miss out on watching top bowlers playing at the highest level.

Maar voor ons die bogenoemde toernooi aanbied, is dit belangrik dat ons 'n groot sukses maak van ons mans en dames Nasionale toernooie wat in die Westelike Provinsie en Oos Gauteng Distrikte onderskeidelik aangebied gaan word. Die nuwe formaat is 'n groot uitdaging en behoort 'n kans gegun te word op sukses. Ek wil hiermee alle deelnemers opreg bedank vir hul wonderlike ondersteuning deur deel te neem. Dit is 'n bewys van u liefde vir die sport en dat u positiewe benadering sal verseker dat die sport nog lank in die toekoms gespeel sal word. Lekker speel en geniet die toernooi.

Laat my laastens toe om die Rolbal SA 'kantoor' geluk te wens met ons 'nuwe gesig' webtuiste. Die reaksie wat ons ontvang is uitstekend en bewys dat daar nie 'n plaasvervanger vir 'n professionele benadering is nie. John, jy en jou span, wel gedaan!

Rolbalgroete  
Piet Breitenbach

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## SILVER SQUAD TOUR –

The Silver Squad toured and played against the four Natal Districts achieving a mixed bag of results. It soon became evident that the talent in our country amongst the young players is exceptional and the enthusiasm that they have for this sport is beyond question. The hours of hard work and life skills that are being imparted into the Silver Squad has been time and money well spent. In the near future we will be seeing the results coming through.

Jessica Henderson is a well loved manager who controls this squad with an iron fist and can be proud of her squad. We wish them all the best in the future. They definitely left our districts richer for having hosted them.

## SILVER SQUAD



## SA MASTERS –

The Warwick Bowls SA Masters was played in February at the Wingate Country Club. The players and spectators were hosted to excellent facilities. Well done Wingate Park! All credit to the organising committee – they really outdid themselves.

The winners in the Junior Masters Tracy-Lee Botha and Pierre Breitenbach played fantastic bowls. They have been selected to represent South

Africa in the Junior World Cup, Warilla, Australia.

In the Senior Masters special mention must be made of Brenda Webb, a late replacement, coming in at the eleventh hour and making it to the finals only to be beaten by Ellie van Coller who had a fantastic week end culminating in winning the ladies Senior section.

Eddie Fann had a tough weekend with all his games going to the wire however he managed to hold out and win the Senior Masters for the second time in a row.

In the SA Masters Brian Dixon and Shaun Addinall had a gigantic struggle with Brian Dixon winning. In the ladies section Susan Nel by narrowly winning her last round secured a fairly comfortable victory in the final.

It was good to have the Deputy Minister of Sport present at the closing ceremony. We need as much official support for our Sport as we can get.

For the big bank of spectators, thank you for your support! To all the players, you treated us to very competitive bowls and wonderful comraderie.

## ENGLISH TEST SERIES –

South Africa and England competed in a three match test series held at the Wanderers Club under sunny skies. It was a great backdrop for South Africa to test their mettle against a strong bowling nation. The South African ladies came up trumps and played bowls of

a very high standard to win the test with a clean sweep. Our lady Selectors were beaming from ear to ear as the team justified the Selectors faith in them. Helen Grundlingh as a new cap was one of the stars and all the ladies combined and played well together.

Our men did not have the same success and only just managed to win the last test. Hard lines South Africa, but we are looking forward to you delivering good things at the Atlantic Championships. It must be said that the English side was filled with superstars and they played the better bowls in the series. The highlight of the test being Sam Tolchard who is an old hand at the tender age of 19, playing phenomenal bowls and so committed to this sport.

We were treated to a great series of bowls. Support our side at the Atlantic Championships – you won't be disappointed.

## ENGLISH TEST TEAM



## PROTEA TEST TEAM



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## COACHES FORUM

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Coaches Forum number 21 raises the question regarding the need for more recognition of the benefits of coaching at all levels.

By using qualified coaches we can achieve even greater success – so why is this not the case with bowlers ?

Details of coaching courses in several districts are given together with contact numbers where appropriate.

Completion of the National Talent Identification and Assessment program is planned for the end of April with the three remaining Districts organising these events to fit in with their local calendars.

The National Academy has recently released a DVD entitled "Walk the Line". The new DVD produced by the National Academy to assist coaches and bowlers.

The DVD has English, Afrikaans and sign language options and is available via your District at R 50 each.



## GRASS CLIPPINGS

### CONFLICT-

The main thrust of GC 17 is to draw attention to those areas of conflict between the President of the Club, his Executive and the members on the one hand and the Green keeper who has to ensure that the health of the grass is not jeopardised.

The one group is trying to promote the club and boost the finances while the other party is trying to avoid putting too much pressure on the grass.

I have often said that a well cared for and perfectly adjusted mower in the hands of an expert can convert a "C" green into a "B" while, a badly adjusted mower used incorrectly can reduce a "C" to a "D".

Above all this is the fact that the President is the custodian of both the Clubhouse and the Greens and honour bound to ensure that they are not irrevocably "damaged" during his term of office.

### MOWERS AND MOWING-

Recent inspections have indicated a "falling off" in mower care and mowing and many greens have been downgraded because of marks lost because of slovenly mower care and mowing techniques.

### UP -DATE ON LEVEL ONE-

Progress report .

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# JACK UP BOWLS!

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**In his inaugural speech  
Barak Obama said:**

*"THE WORLD HAS CHANGED  
AND SO MUST WE!"*

**How can we achieve this?  
Consider introducing  
some of the following at  
your club:**

- Corporate Team Building Days**
- Business Leagues**
- Open Days**
- Relax Stringent Dress Rules**
- Promotion Drives:** One Year Specials/free coaching, membership and entrance fees – they only pay affiliation and green fees
- Bring a Buddy Bowler:** Promote the **BBB** concept!

The **BBB CONCEPT** has had good response thus far at clubs.

**DEVELOPMENT PLAYERS  
from Previously  
disadvantaged communities  
HISTORICAL WIN!**

History was made on Saturday, 7 March 2009! These two players were both coached within the **BSA and WP Dev Schools' Programme** for previously disadvantaged players, now ended up each winning the **WP Novice Championships** on the same day!

Two very proud Strand BC players, Lee-Andrew Arnolds

who won the WP Mens Novice title and Merle Valentine the WP Ladies Novice title.



**BORDER DISTRICT –  
CONGRATULATIONS –  
SCHOOMBEE BC**

**"An Orchid in the Desert"**  
A few members have constructed a bowling green and are currently busy with building a club house.

*"Well done!  
What a wonderful effort!"*

## TO THE POINT

**Standard of Umpiring at the Inter District Tournaments** – After the 2008 Inter District tournaments there were numerous complaints regarding the standard of umpiring at the hosting districts. A decision was made that the member of the Bowls SA TOSC, who is responsible for the district hosting the tournament, must ensure that the District TOSC is putting in some effort to ensure an acceptable standard.

**Feedback after the Tournaments: Senior Inter District Tournament – Border Bowls** - The Technical Officials did an excellent job. There were a few minor hiccups but nothing major. The Umpires were consistent and the overall standard of Umpiring was good.

We take our hats off to Glynis Murray and her Umpires, for a job well done.

**"B" Inter District Tournament, Northern Cape Bowls** – On request from the Tournament Committee Chris Serfontein was asked to assist with the Technical Officials. This was a great success and there was only positive feedback from the players.

**Open Inter District Tournament – Bowls Gauteng North** – After the SA Masters the Technical Officials of Bowls Gauteng North were still in form. The Technical Officials of Stan Baragwanath, Convener of Bowls Gauteng North did an excellent job.

**To summarise:** There was a major improvement in the standard of umpiring this year, but there is still room for further improvement.

**The new "No Smoking" rule** - Whenever there is a change, people feel uncomfortable, out of their comfort zone and the "RC Factor" (Resistance to change factor) steps in. We experienced this again during the recent Inter Districts tournaments at all three venues. We take our hats off for the Technical Officials who had the unpleasant task of implementing the rule, but also congratulations to the players, who after the initial resistance on the first day accepted the fact and gave their full co-operation.

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## "BOWLS" THE BEST SPORT FOR ALL

### BOWLS SOUTH AFRICA EXECUTIVE:

President:  
Piet Breitenbach

Vice President:  
Debra Ferguson

Members:  
Allan Freeman  
Kallie Haupt  
Isabel Smith  
Ronald Weddell

Operations Manager:  
John Ravenscroft

*Send us your views or  
any interesting  
news to  
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