

# Open News - Taranaki Open Fours

Saturday, January 24, 2026

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## Title race wide open as field is reduced to 12

Seven visitors and five Taranaki sides will re- and 14th ends in beating one of the teams solve the 121st Devon Hotel Taranaki men's some were picking to win the title, Garry Open fours title. And the field has a wide- Muriwai (Martinborough), 21-12. open field to it.

The three games of 18 ends yesterday cer- (Omarunui) 20-14 in round two, after leading tainly tripped up a few, the agony of a narrow by two shots playing the last, and Chris Wat- defeat and the "what-might-have-beens" had erson (St Johns) 20-14 in the morning, after the it been 25 ends. While everyone was aware of scores had been tied after 16 ends.

the changes to the conditions of play, the most Robertson oozed class most of the day, with noted feature was the number of games his side winning 21-11 over Pat Walklin where the plug was pulled early, including (Raglan) in the last round. Robertson coolly one match after just 10 ends.

Four of the surviving 12 sides are already through to the quarterfinals and they will play

Deegan (Opunake) 15-14. those clashes this morning at West End: Adam

There were plenty of other nailbiters, too. Blucher (Te Atatu Peninsula) meets Peter Nathan Goodin (Rahotu) dropped a three on Belliss (Aramoho) and Andy Ellis (Te Atatu the last end of his third-round clash against Peninsula) will play Cary Pinker (Wanganui Ted Walker (Carlton Cornwall). That forced East). Those two winners will earn the after- the game to an extra end, where Goodin's No noon off and play the semifinals on Sunday. 3, Joel Chard, rose to the occasion, drawing

The other eight teams still in contention will off the shot bowl to give Rahotu a 19-18 win in need to win twice today to make the money front of a vocal Coastal gallery.

rounds. In matches this morning, Liam Hill Belliss, after two big wins, also needed a 19th (Onehunga & Districts) meets Nathan Goodin head to prevail 15-14 over cross-city rival, (Rahotu), Evan Jones (Fitzroy) plays Frankie Roger Neilson (Wanganui East). And it re- Lim (Pukekohe), Mark Anderson (Tower) quired a bit of Belliss magic with his last bowl, squares off with Maurice Symes (Fitzroy) and when he came through a narrow gap to dis- Bart Robertson (New Plymouth) will tangle lodge the shot bowl. It was described as a with Paul Eaton (Mt Maunganui).

All the successful sides won thrice on the day, memory banks, and the Inglewood crowd except for 16-year-old Hill, who had a bye showed their appreciation.

first thing. They all had their own recipes and Belliss' clash with Blucher promises much, af- respective delights in advancing.

Robertson and Symes, both vastly experi- after the latter ended the hopes of Barry enced players, had to call on their composure Fishburn (Picton) 22-18. Fishburn led 15-14 throughout the day to get through.

Symes has always thrived on post section play merged, play was halted and the end de- and his side is warming nicely after their 19-8 clared dead. On the replay, Blucher took a third-round effort against Dean McMurchy three and repeated it on the next to take a (Kamo). Symes led 10-8 after 12 ends and won match-winning break.

the next four heads to sew up the contest. Pinker also went to the death in his final match McMurchy, in the previous round, had scored of the day, taking a brace on the last head to 15 points in succession between the eighth pip West End's John Garrud 22-21.

After the successful completion of three tu's Indoor Complex rounds yesterday, normality is restored forth- with in the Open. All the remaining games will be of 25 ends and will be held at West End. Should the weather turn sour — and there is a strong chance of this at the time of going to print — then play will be transferred to Paritu-

Meanwhile, 20 combinations won the necessary three games from four to qualify in the Marbles Restaurant pairs event. Those teams will also play at West End today, with the field being reduced down over three 21-end games to the semifinalists.

## Results from day 5

**Results of post section play in the 121st Devon Hotel Taranaki Open fours yesterday:**

**Section 1 – Inglewood, round 2:** A Blucher (Te Atatu Peninsula) 27 W Rona (Waitara) 7, T James (Mairangi Bay) 16 B Anderson (Wanganui) 13, P Corney (Durie Hill) 20 D Turner (Lepperton) 14, B Fishburn (Picton) 17 K Smith (Burnside) 7, S Fisher (Royal Oak) 19 J Petelo (Birkenhead) 15, P Belliss (Aramoho) 29 M Ponder (Eastbourne) 2, D Jones (Feilding) 24 S Fleming (Rahotu) 8, G Muriwai (Taupo) 17 P Digby (Stratford-Avon) 7, R Neilson (Wanganui East) 23 D O'Sullivan (Inglewood) 11. **Round 3:** Blucher 20 James 7, Fairburn 20 Corney 16, Belliss 19 Fisher 6, Neilson 19 Jones 15. **Round 4:** Blucher 22 Fairburn 18, Belliss 15 Neilson 14.

**Section 2 – Stratford-Avon, round 2:** S Thomas (Paekakariki) 20 W Gundersen (Rewa) 13, W Hawkes (West End) 25 C Northcott (Miramar) 6, A Ellis (Te Atatu Peninsula) 20 A Batty (Levin) 5, T Gray (Frankton Junction) 18 B Cable (North End) 9, C Pinker (Wanganui East) 20 M Dudley (Hawera Park) 14, D Scott (Omokoroa) 20 S Muller (Oakura) 10, J Garrud (West End) 20 B Fulton (Henderson) 15, P Morgan (Mount Manganui) 19 D Ball (Carlton Cornwall) 11. **Round 3:** Hawkes 15 Thomas 11, Ellis 17 Gray 14, Pinker 22 Scott 9, Garrud 19 Morgan 15. **Round 4:** Ellis 21 Hawkes 18, Pinker 22 Garrud 21.

**Section 3 – Paritutu B, round 1:** N Earley (Inglewood) 21 P Huwyler (Durie Hill) 18, B Gibson (Johnsonville) 21 A Bowden (Parklands) 11, R Helms (New Plymouth) 26 B Peacock (Okato) 11, T Walker (Carlton Cornwall) 14 S Boyce (Whangamata) 13, N Goodin (Rahotu) 21 N Berry (Hawera Park) 13, P Hawken (Tumut) 15 Darren Goodin (Paritutu) 14. **Round 2:** L Hill (Onehunga Districts) 23 K Smith (Hinuera) 4, Gibson 15 Earley 9, Walker 16 Helms 10, Goodin 18 Hawken 7. **Round 3:** Hill 21 Gibson 12, Goodin 19 Walker 18.

**Section 4 – Paritutu A, round 1:** G Crawford (Pohara) 16 G Taylor (Himatangi Beach) 15, E Jones (Fitzroy) 20 B Pearce (Stratford-Avon) 11, B Stubbins (Naenae) 22 I Busby (Tower) 10, S Roberts (Tower) 20 D Hewitt (Upper Hutt) 11, F Lim (Pukekohe) 22 C De Faria (West End) 14, D Geaney (Blockhouse Bay) 25 B Johnstone (Katikati) 9, J Hunn (Kia Toa) 16 K Hastings (Miramar) 11, P Sain

**Round 2:** Jones 20 Crawford 8, Stubbins 20 Roberts 15, Lim 19 Geaney 6, Sain 24 Hunn 6. **Round 3:** Jones 21 Stubbins 12, Lim 17 Sain 13.

**Section 5 – West End 2, round 1:** M Anderson (Tower) 24 D Brunton (Stratford-Avon) 12, T Ross (Johnsonville) 19 D Edge (St Heliers) 8, M Taylor (Matua) 25 M Crooke (Raumati) 17, W Fredrickson (Taupo) 17 K Sargent (Fitzroy) 16, D McMurchy (Kamo) 21 J Michael (Waitarere Beach) 11, J Cornish (Omarunui) 29 M Proffit (Kihikihi) 6, M Symes (Fitzroy) 20 C Waterson (St Johns) 14. **Round 2:** Anderson 23 Ross 6, Fredrickson 25 Taylor 6, McMurchy 21 Muriwai 12, Symes 20 Cornish 14. **Round 3:** Anderson 23 Fredrickson 7, Symes 19 McMurchy 8.

**Section 6 – West End 3, round 1:** P Deegan (Opunake) 21 Dan Delany (Royal Oak) 3, B Robertson (New Plymouth) 18 G Wakefield (Johnsonville) 10, J Radka (Papanui) 20 I Mahoney (Waitarere Beach) 5, P Walklin (Raglan) 23 P Small (Naenae) 12, M O'Leary (Aramoho) 18 H Yee (Whitby) 15, L Wilding (Silverstream) 24 M Oldfield (Mt Manganui) 14, P Eaton (Mt Manganui) 16 T Belk (Takaro) 13, G Bovey (Paekakariki) 19 K Wood (Riverhead) 9. **Round 2:** Robertson 15 Deegan 14, Walklin 19 Radka 18, O'Leary 16 Wilding 14, Eaton 13 Bovey 12. **Round 3:** Robertson 21 Walklin 11, Eaton 14 O'Leary 10.

**Draw for post section play in the Marbles Restaurant at West End this, all matches commencing at 8.45am, round 1 (green 2):** Colin Gardner (Waitarere Beach) v Roger Manning (Maroochy – QLD), Jim Kishore (Kaikohe) v Max Nalder (Motueka), Tony McGrath (Calliope – QLD) v Daryl Read (Composite), Jason Peters (Manai) v Gavin McLeod (Tawa). **Round 2 (green 2):** Colin McLellan (Paritutu) v Paul Hassall (Tawa), Marshall Kenny (Silverstream) v Gareth Evans (Johnsonville). **Round 2 (green 1):** Steve Cottam (Paritutu) v Joe Rona (Waitara), Tupu Campbell (Opononi) v Ted Morris (Glendowie), Bruce Hall (Composite) v Crawford Blair (Glendowie), Nicky Morgan (Paekakariki) v Murray Bayliss (Johnsonville).