

Bowls Taranaki (inc.)

Minutes of a meeting of the board of Bowls Taranaki held
at the Bowls Taranaki office on the 2nd March 2026 at 10.30am

WELCOME: The Board Chairman welcomed the board members.

PRESENT: Grant Hassall (President & Chairman), Kristin Stampa (Vice President), Robert Wolfe, Chris Commane, Dean File, Val McEldowney, Kevin Gray, Ian Lewis (Executive Officer).

APOLOGIES: None.

MINUTES: Moved by Kevin Gray/Val McEldowney that the minutes of the board meeting held on 12th January 2026 having been duplicated and circulated to all members, be taken as read and confirmed. **CARRIED**

MATTERS ARISING: Most Clubs have now either re-registered or are about to ahead of the deadline for the Incorporated Societies Act. Waimea Bowling Club remain the only club yet to approve their new constitution.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Inwards: Bowls NZ - Parajacks inclusion at National Intercentre
Bowls NZ – National Intercentre Draws, Conditions of Play
Bowls NZ – Notice excluding performance reporting from audit
Bowls NZ – Census returns and Club Constitutions reminder
Managers Minutes – Junior Hexagonal Men’s and Women’s
‘Open’ Fours surveys
Bowls Auckland Under 26 Pairs Notice
Simon Rowe – Resignation as Under 26 Manager.
Sport Taranaki – Lawn and Field Plan
Report – Women’s Selector from Octagonal

Outwards: Letter to Inglewood BC – Club Championships and Programme
Letter to Southern Division – Limited Membership
Letter regarding Limited Mobility
Sponsors Reports
Thank you to Auto City for use of cars during the ‘Open’.
Marketing Report to The Devon Hotel, Venture Taranaki
Grant Application to Venture Taranaki – Major Event Fund
Invites to Finals Day Lunch
Meeting with TSSSA – Secondary Schools event and Youth Committee Meeting
Notice for Bowls Taranaki Youth Challenge Cup
Bowls Taranaki Sides for National Intercentre to Bowls NZ
Bowls NZ Centre Managers and Secretaries Meeting.

The inwards correspondence was received and outwards confirmed.
Moved by Kristin Stampa/Chris Commane

CARRIED

FINANCIALS: Moved by Dean File/Robert Wolfe that the financial statements for January and February be approved. **CARRIED**

It was moved by Kevin Gray/Val McEldowney that 'Bowls Taranaki apply to the Lion Foundation for the amount of \$3125 exc. GST to cover the cost of Rent for the Office.'

CARRIED

HEALTH AND SAFETY:

A RAMS (Risk Assessment Method Statement) was completed for the Taranaki Open Fours. No Health and Safety issues were noted.

REPORTS

a) Administration and Marketing

A grant application was put in to Venture Taranaki for assistance in hosting the 'Open Fours' for 2027.

b) Greens

The Greenkeepers Association had conducted a successful Field Day for Greenkeepers.

c) Events

Kevin Gray filed a report on the Men's Shield Finals, and Kristin Stampa filed a report on the Women's Egmont Shield Final. A discussion was held around the Men's Shield in the Northern Division. Board members to discuss with their 'buddy' clubs.

Robert Wolfe filed a report on the Junior Bowls3five. Overall, the concept of a final's day starting in the morning, featuring winning and qualifying teams from each section was a success with many supporters and teams involved. It was noted, that players and clubs should be familiar with the conditions of play before entering a tournament. This to be included in the Centre Handbook for next season.

d) High Performance

Successful Tournaments were had by the Men's and Women's Sides. The Senior and Junior Men were winners of the Octagonal and Junior Hexagonal respectively and the Junior Women were winners of the Junior Hexagonal.

A debrief of the season to be planned with the High Performance Committee with player feedback to be sought after input from selectors.

A letter of thanks had been received from Simon Rowe for the opportunity of being Selector/Manager for the Under 26's. It was acknowledged that Simon had done an excellent job with success including winning the National Under 26's in 2023-24.

It was moved by Robert Wolfe/Kristin Stampa that, 'A letter of thanks to be sent to Simon Rowe on behalf of the Centre.'

CARRIED

A new Selector/Manager to be sought and the Centre Office to advertise for expressions of interest for the Board to consider.

e) Youth

The Bowls Taranaki Secondary Schools event to be held on the 5th of March. Our Youth Challenge Cup to be postponed for another date. Schools sessions are currently being held at Fitzroy Bowling Club with New Plymouth Boys High School.

GENERAL BUSINESSOpen Fours Debrief

A survey had been posted on our website and sent to participating teams, which was open to all players who had competed in the 'Open'. All responses were confidential and over 100+ had been received. In summary, the overall majority of responses were overwhelmingly positive, with over 9 out of 10 people willing to recommend the 'Open' to fellow bowlers.

In particular:

- Players were most attracted to the event by the 'Quality of the grass greens' and 'Competition against better bowlers'.
- Approx. 90% of players want a Sunday finish.
- The majority of players are in favour of the current conditions of play, including 25 ends and 6 out of 8 to qualify.
- The current conditions of entry, and dispensations allowed for teams approved by the tournament committee was supported.
- A large number of players and teams visited The New Plymouth Club during the tournament.

The decision to change conditions of play during the men's tournament on the Friday from 2 games of 25 ends, to 3 games of 18 ends, was endorsed by the feedback received.

It was noted that, 25 Ends is the preference for the 'Open' however, when circumstances require us to change conditions of play to ensure the completion of the tournament on the Sunday, then a lower number of ends will be played. Shortening games would preferably be conducted in section play rather than in post section play.

Greens are to continue to be inspected by the Green's Advisory Panel and the policy of only those greens that are suitable for Centre play in the division in which the event is held, shall continue.

The next tournament to start on Monday the 18th of January 2027 for the Men and the 26th of January 2027 for the Women. Entry Fee to be confirmed after receiving the outcome of the Venture Taranaki grant.

Champion of Champion's Singles

A discussion was had about potentially playing the singles through to a completion on the day. It was resolved to stay with the current status quo and that Champion of Champion's Singles events will be played through to a final to be held over and concluded on 'Finals Day'.

Health and Safety

A discussion was had about travel in adverse weather conditions. Grant Hassall, Robert Wolfe and Ian Lewis to look at some guidelines around safe travel in adverse weather.

Bowls New Zealand National Events

The Centre Office to contact Bowls New Zealand about the possibility of hosting National events and in particular looking at the National Fours and Mixed Pairs for 2029.

Aotearoa Maori Bowls for 2026-27

It was noted that Aotearoa Maori Bowls will be held in Taranaki during February of 2027.

Bowls Taranaki Board for 2026-27

Applications for President, Vice-President, Board Membership and our High Performance Coach for next season are due to close on the 1st of May. Application forms will be sent to all clubs and will be available on our website.

The meeting was closed at 11.45am.

Next Meeting: Monday 20th April, 2026 at 10.30am at the Centre Office.

Confirmed as a true and correct record:

President/Chairman: Grant Hassall