

REPORT FROM THE BOARD – June 2014

To start with we would just like to acknowledge the death of Rex Hayes a much loved stalwart of petanque both in the Wellington region and nationally. He will be sadly missed. PNZ received a lovely card from Shirley today acknowledging the support from the Petanque community and it was lovely to hear that she has started playing petanque again. Our thoughts are also with Graeme and Linda Morris following the death of their daughter Raewyn a few weeks ago, such a heart breaking time for them. I know the petanque community in Masterton and Wellington, indeed throughout the country will be sending them their love and support.

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Our second Board meeting was held on 2<sup>nd</sup> July via Skype and while we anticipated there may be a few problems with this method, actually it was very successful, with all seven of us online for over three hours with no glitches....and it cost us nothing! Way to go.

You will no doubt all be aware of the various publications the Board has put out over the last month and I would like to draw your attention to three items in particular:

- 21<sup>st</sup> Celebrations! We hope you are all starting to think about how we can celebrate petanque in NZ.... remember there is a prize for the best promotion! All enquiries to Richard Turfrey or Sarah-Jane Wright. If you need any help with ideas or how to promote your event, or if you need some financial investment in your promotion, we are keen to help, we really want it to be a National celebration.
- Technical Directors of Umpiring and Coaching and NZ Selectors positions – job descriptions are on the website and we are keen to hear from anyone who is interested in giving something back to the sport. We can assure you, you will be well supported by the Board in the roles and will have the opportunity to access training and resources for the roles. Applications to Barbara Whittington and enquiries to Stefany Frost.
- Youth Plan – this discussion document is on the website and we really want to hear from individuals and/or clubs about this issue. All enquiries or submissions to Claire Bradburn.

The long awaited Strategic Plan will be released this week. We see this as a living document that will change and adapt as we evolve and as always we are keen to hear any comments or suggestions that you may have.

The constitutional review will be starting shortly and if you would like to be part of this process please contact Stefany Frost.

### **Tournaments**

Barrie is organising some training in the Swiss System for the Auckland region, and eventually will do this throughout the country, so keep your ear to the ground for when it comes to your area. Planning for the annual TransTasman tournament is well underway with Sarah-Jane being coordinator for this event. The next National tournament is the National Women's tournament in Alexandra in September, followed by the Singles in Christchurch in early October. The long awaited umpire shirts have been ordered and should be ready to distribute to Regional and National umpires in the next couple of weeks.

### **Selection**



The 2014 Mens World Championship is being held in Papeete, Tahiti from 23 to 26 October. While NZ didn't qualify for automatic entry to this tournament, we have been invited to attend. The Board are pleased to announce we will be sending the team of Christian Fouquet, Andre Noel and Bill Peachy. As I will be attending the tournament as our delegate to the world congress, I will also double as the manager of the team. We wish them all the best and I'm sure you will hear more about this as the time draws closer.

The schedule for the Open and Senior selection process for 2015 has been advised and registration information goes on the website on 18<sup>th</sup> August.

### **Communication**

We are very conscious of this as a critical area of need and I think we are making some headway. I really want to emphasise that communication is a two way process, not just the Board to members, but members to the Board and to other members. While we are investigating a new website and hope that will be online in a few months, we all need to take responsibility for the information that goes on the website. John Targett our webmaster, and many

others before him, have pointed out, a website is never going to be up to date and informative if people don't send information to him. John can't create news and shouldn't have to go chasing it. We encourage all clubs to send information, photos and results to John and he will gladly post it on the website. The same goes for the magazine. Graeme is always keen to hear from anyone with information to share. Facebook is another good resource for those who are connected, please use it. You can post information directly, or you can send it to Sarah-Jane who will post it for you. Please note that the current issue of the magazine has been delayed due to Graeme's family circumstances, but he is slowly getting back into it so I'm sure it won't be too far away.

### **Membership**

You may be interested to know that we have had a 6% increase in membership numbers in 2013 to 1149. Largely due to increased numbers in the South Island...go the mainland. A great trend that we will be working hard to build on.

### **Youth**

For those clubs who do have Youth members, or know of young people who play petanque, are you aware of the National Youth Tournament being held at Panmure Pioneer Club in Auckland in early December? I mention this because in past years people have said they didn't know it was on and I just want to point out that the date and venue are on the website and have been for 6 months now, so no excuses. Although the age for youth is changing to 18 and under for 2015, we have kept it at 23 and under for 2014 because some people may have already made arrangements to attend and we don't want to disadvantage anyone who has already committed themselves to attend. If you do have youth members, you may need to get behind them and support them to raise money to get to this national event.

### **Promotion**

Richard is working on a plan to promote participation in petanque, with a view to breaking this plan down into manageable goals to work on. If you have any ideas or want to be involved in this project, feel free to contact Richard.

### **Umpiring and Coaching**

Barrie and Claire are in the process of reviewing the very comprehensive PNZ policies in these areas, a process that will be completed with the new Technical Directors once they are on board. If you have any interest in these areas and want to be involved, now is your opportunity.....they are waiting for your call!

**Sponsorship and funding** – Do you know anyone who would like to sponsor a club kit that we are developing? Or do you have any business contact that we could approach for sponsorship? Please contact Richard if you have any ideas or contacts that we could use.

**Next meeting** – Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> July via Skype so please send any items for the agenda to the Secretary at least 2-3 days prior to that.

Salut,  
Stefany Frost for  
PNZ Board