

From the Board

First things first..... PNZ would like to wish you all a very happy Christmas and a safe and enjoyable New Year. 2014 has seen some huge ups and downs for our members both on the personal front with many of our members weathering some very sad and challenging situations and others celebrating great joys, similarly on the petanque front with everything from 21st celebrations to cancelled world championships. I don't know about you, but all I want for Christmas is a little bit of calm amongst the storm of life and some warm summer days to catch up with friends and family.

Secondly an apology. You could be forgiven for thinking the PNZ Board started off our commitment to better communication this year with a hiss and a roar and that we have now reverted to Nothing. I assure you this is not the case and that the absence of information is largely a result of my personal circumstances. The last few months have been extremely challenging personally and most of my energy has gone into keeping up with the essential requirements of the job and haven't allowed much time or energy to gather my thoughts into a newsletter. So while I'm sure you understand the need for family to come first, I do apologise for the break in communication. I would emphasise that just because we haven't been writing about it, doesn't mean the Board and executive team haven't been hard at work achieving their goals.

So while this is a short message to let you know that we are still here and beavering away, I do assure you that normal service will resume in the New Year. There are so many exciting things happening behind the scenes that I want to take the time to let you know everything fully, so will be sending out an update later in January.

There are a few things that I want to remind you of in the meantime though:

- Nominations for positions on the Board close on the 19th January. Richard Turfrey has stood down from the Board due to work commitments, leaving a vacancy that we need to fill. I have also completed my two year term, but am willing to stand for re-election, so there will be an election for two positions. If you want more information about this prior to putting your hat in the ring, please feel free to contact me.
- PNZ is on the lookout for sponsors! Do you know of any organisations or companies that might be interested? Sponsorship can take many forms, from donating raffle prizes to sponsoring teams or the magazine. We would be happy to discuss this with anybody you think might be able to help. It doesn't have to involve big money, and we can offer advertising both on our website and in the magazine and customer loyalty from nearly 1200 members around the country. Please contact me if you have any ideas.
- N³ is coming to your club!!! More in January
- We are in the process of developing a new website that we hope will be up and running by the end of January, so watch this space.
- Are you on facebook? If so have you found the PNZ site? We are posting information there regularly. Have a look for 'Pétanque New Zealand PNZ' and like and follow us.
- The magazine has been a little intermittent this year, largely due to Graeme's personal circumstances, but it will be up and running again in 2015. The next issue will be in early February, followed by July/August and then Oct/Nov. We will be making changes to the delivery of the magazine next year, but more on that later.
- The winner of PNZ's 21st celebrations was Christchurch Petanque Club and we hope they enjoy the \$200 prize put up by PNZ. There were some other fantastic efforts from around the country as well, with at least 1/3 to 1/2 of all clubs involved at some level. The Board were very heartened by the response.

- Do you know about the “Goodwill Tour” of Australia in March of next year, which will operate around the TransTasman competition in Avoca? If you need information on this get in touch with Trevor Neilson urgently. trevorandsue@xtra.co.nz
- Congratulations to all 24 players selected to represent New Zealand at the annual TransTasman Challenge. Their names are on the website if you haven’t caught up with this. To those selected, can you please ensure that you have returned your information to Sarah-Jane ASAP? This information is needed before the 5th February. dezandsarah@xtra.co.nz
- AGM notices will be coming out at the end of January. The AGM will be held during the National Triples Championships in Christchurch on Saturday 28 March following play on day one.
- PNZ’s next Board meeting is over a full weekend in Wellington on 31st January and 1st February. If you have any issues you want raised, please get them to the Secretary in writing at least 1 week before that date. secretary@petanquenz.com

All the best to you and yours till the New Year

Stefany Frost

President PNZ

Just a little bit of Christmas humour

