

## OMANU BOWLING CLUB

### PROGRAMME for 2009/10

This year it is noted that Men's Championship Events are being held mostly during the week. It was necessary to do this because:

- With only having one Green for the start of the season there was some restriction on play.
- Champion of Champion Events start on 23/24 January and there are two in February. Our Champs must be completed in time for the Champ of Champs.
- The introduction of Saturday Inter-Club was a new impact.
- The BoP Centre programme has most Centre Events over before Christmas.
- The last two items in particular, meant that the number of weekends available to us were limited. For example, from 17<sup>th</sup> October for every weekend through until and including 5<sup>th</sup> December there are Centre events (Inter-Club, Francis Cup, Open Triples, Baywide, Baywide, Inter-Club, Open Pairs, Open Singles). Then on 12<sup>th</sup> December there are Rep Games.
- To be able to have weekend competitions would have meant at start in early September! The greens were not ready, players were not ready and the weather most certainly was not ready. Those Clubs that did play early had some surprising results and the winners will be waiting a long time for the Champ of Champs.

A look at our Membership List revealed that playing through the week would not inconvenience anyone. That then enabled us to play our Championships closer to the Champ of Champs, and when players, greens and the weather are better.

Next year the Centre say that they will draw up their programme to suit the Clubs better - we will see.

**Open Tournaments:** By agreement with other Clubs in the area we are limited to no more than 14 Tournaments per Summer Season. The timing of these events is agreed at a 'Wool Sale' held each year. The dates pretty much have to follow the same pattern as the previous year. Participation in a lot of Tournaments this year has been disappointing for all Clubs. Our last Open Tournaments (Men's Leads and Twos) failed to attract enough entries and was canned. Decisions need to be made on what events we should hold next year.

**Mixed Championships:** These are Club only and we can hold them when we like. The best time to play bowls in the Bay is April/May. The Greens are right, the weather is settled and the temperatures are just right. The events are structured to allow for full days play (that is, you are not knocked out after one game) and we are all there at the end. While still being very competitive the atmosphere is quite relaxed and everyone has a good time. The Mixed Champs are therefore a great way to wind out the Season.

**Men's Wednesday Triples** continue to be successful and there is a good turnout for Friday roll-ups. On Tuesdays the Ladies are able to vary their programme and hold some special events (eg Strawberry Day).

**Saturday Morning 2x4x2** has been a hit. Soon there will be two greens available allowing the 'waiting list' to be shortened! Unfortunately next year we will again only have one green to start with. Perhaps there may be a case for having two series – one before Christmas and one after. It may be best to wait and see how things go when we are using two greens, and into next year before we think about changing too much for next season.

**Gary Andrews**