Bowls North Harbour Inc

MINUTES

Type of Meeting: Meeting of the Board
Meeting Location: Bowls Orewa Annex
Meeting Date: Monday 15 September 2026
Meeting Time: 6:30 pm

Present: Tony Popplewell (TP), Neil Connell (NC), Mark Batley (MB), Jan Harrison (JH), Sue Rossiter (SR), Sheryl Wellington (SW), Greg Yelavich (GY), Raewyn Thomas (RT), Garth Partridge (GP)

Apologies: none

Meeting:

MB opened the meeting at 6:30 pm

Approval of minutes from previous meeting:

Proposed that the minutes from the previous meeting on 17 August 2026 be approved

Moved:	NC	Seconded:	SW
Carried			

Matters arising from previous minutes:

Others: Included in General Business

Incoming Correspondence:

1. Bowls New Zealand Financial reports - circulated to President and Board Chair
2. Bowls New Zealand re new club affiliation
3. BNZ – Wellsford removed from list of affiliated clubs

Outwards Correspondence:

1. To Bowls New Zealand asking for clarification about new club affiliation process

Finance Report:

Raewyn Thomas

P&L and Balance Sheet reports attached.

Financial reports accepted as presented.
RT to investigate shadow account that features on the Westpac summary of accounts.
Advised that the P O Box has been closed.

Presidents Report:

Neil Connell

NC Attended competition finals and presented prizes and trophies. Requests more attendance from board members. Advised not standing as President next season.

Centre Manager Report:

Garth Partridge

Handbook & Match Logistics: Met with the Match Committee Chair to work through venue and operational logistics for the 2026/2027 season competitions. Proofing the 2026 2027 season handbook, due to be produced and delivered mid September.

Masters Tournament Planning: Focused on key logistics, venue coordination, event structures and scheduling for the upcoming Masters tournament in October.

BowlsHub Integration: Kept pushing forward with setting up tournament entries and results in BowlsHub, while helping local clubs get their membership and competition management sorted on the platform.

General: Assisting with event entry, responding to emails and phone calls, updating the website and social media. Attended the virtual workshop held by Bowls New Zealand.

Report accepted as presented

Match Committee Report:

Tony Popplewell

Completed Events – The only event which has been held since last month is the Executive Fours held at Mairangi Bay on 5 September. This was won by the Manly club.

Coming Events – The Mixed 2x4x2 pairs event has drawn a strong field of 76 entries and is set for the 12/13 September. Following that is the Ivan Kostanich singles which has drawn a maximum entry of 128 players from across Auckland.

The entries for the NZ Masters have now closed and overall there is an increase in the total entries from 261 last year to 287 this year. The interesting feature is that there are considerable variances now in the age groups with half of them showing increases and half of them showing reductions. One event is below and advertised minimum number of entries in which to run the event but in the interest of player involvement we will run the event anyway.

Champ of Champ events 2006 - The national finals for these events has now been completed with mixed results for the teams from Bowls North Harbour.

Mens Pairs & Womens Pairs - there was no entry from Bowls North Harbour
Mens Triples – Browns Bay won 2 games and lost 2 games and finished 6th on the ladder
Womens Triples – Mairangi Bay lost all 4 games and finished 23rd on the ladder
Mixed Pairs – Hobsonville won 2 and lost 2 games and finished 6th on the ladder which was one place out of qualifying

Champ of Champ events 2027 - We have been unable to get any confirmation from Bowls NZ on the venues for the national *Champ of Champ* finals but we need to move ahead to let clubs know the dates for the Centre *Champ of Champ* finals. As much as Bowls NZ have been able to tell us is "…that the order that these events are to be played in will be similar to 2026…". Therefore to move ahead with our programme we will play the Centre *Champ of Champ* events in that order which is different than it has been in the past. The dates for the Centre *Champ of Champ* events will be –

Men & Women Singles 1-2 May

Men & Women Fours 15-16 May
Men & Women Pairs 22-23 May
Men & Women Triples 29-30 May
Mixed Pairs 12-13 June

This should allow those clubs/players winning the Centre event to make the necessary travel and accommodation bookings in good time.

In the meantime we are discussing with Orewa club to be able to hold the Champ of Champ finals at Orewa under cover and discussion is also being held to live steam the events on the Sundays.

NZ Masters – This event is well under the control of the Centre Manager with entries this year exceeding last year. Work is currently underway for the allocation of the events to various clubs.

Tony Popplewell
Match Committee Chair

Report accepted as tabled

Coaching & Development Report:

Greg Yelavich

Are waiting for the next dates of the Auckland coaching courses. Their top course instructor has had an accident but she hopes to be mobile soon.
Once we have the dates, we can advertise the courses

Would like to encourage our squad coaches to qualify, this would benefit both the coaches and their players

Coaches for the representative teams should attend the coaching courses and be qualifies coaches. Bowls North Harbour to consider paying for the coach course fees for the representative coaches.

Representative Teams Report:

Greg Yelavich

We have had one meeting with the squad managers. Discussions on having the squads follow similar build up sessions and similar thoughts on contents for training sessions

- Discussions on going
- help on competition day
- calendar with competition and training sessions date
- training session content
- coaching up skilling

We have the rep team launch at Manly on the 27th
Premier and developments squad announcement same day
1 to 5 not ready
Start time 9:30 am
Lunch at 12:30 to 1:45
Two Speakers -
Brett O'Riley to check if Sam Tolchard is available to speak
Norm Phillips, Personal Trainer on Nutrition, warm up, mental attitude -invited

Report accepted as presented

General Business:

1. Masters logistics, entry numbers, review Conditions of Play (dress code) – no action required
2. Barracudas / Wellsford
   It was moved MB, Seconded GY that we write to both organisations to communicate the Bowls North Harbour Board position. Carried.

   GP to contact Chris Lander at BNZ to ask about the process for winding up the Wellsford club.
3. Reps Day 27 September – as noted in GY report
4. Website updates – GP asked for news and story contributions from board members
5. Constitution – Complaints

Feedback from BNZ is that only serious complaints should be handled by BNZ and that clubs should handle most complaints especially the one of a trivial nature.

6. Pathways project – supported by the board, however it needs a passionate project manager to drive it forward.

   SR to contact Bowls Auckland and to report back to the board regarding the Bowls Auckland pathways program and how Bowls North Harbour may leverage off resources that they have.
7. BowlsHub 2.0 – demonstration at the BNZ workshop looks impressive and very much more user friendly than the current BH interface.
8. BNZ discussions – TP to carry on discussions with Mark Cameron
9. Oceania dates clash – 21st & 22 October 2026 at Bowls Orewa.

A decision was made to shift the Bowls North Harbour 4's competition to the weekend 28 & 29 November to avoid clash with the World Bowls Oceania event. Moved NC Seconded SW Carried

10. Reps code of conduct

It was agreed to add "If you believe that any past, current or future matter may affect the safety, fairness, integrity of the centre, please advise the Bowls North Harbour Board in confidence."
Moved GY Seconded NC Carried

11. Ongoing discussion regarding sponsorship opportunities. GP to send note to clubs asking for assistance with sponsorship. Any expertise in our clubs regarding fund raising.
12. Board to discuss uniforms at next meeting with SR looking to provide samples.
13. Match committee to look at standardising conditions of play regarding jack delivery, end kills and jack placement.

Meeting closed at 8:30 pm

Next Meeting Dates:
Monday 12 October – in person Bowls Orewa Annex
Monday 9 November
Monday 14 December