

Afternoon All,

I reflect back to my report from 12 months ago where it was hopeful that the pandemic, covid and lockdowns were all behind us. Unfortunately it was not to be.

Where back in 2020, it was the complete unknown of whether any tournaments could even be scheduled at all, the past 12 months have been about finding solutions to just make events happen. As I mentioned last year, we were to be all looking forward to the upcoming final events of the year, with the Youth Nationals, Youth Teams and the Senior Nationals, but lightning struck again.

I cannot thank the centre proprietors, the TBNZ management team, TBNZ tournament committee, the TBNZ Board and the bowling fraternity enough, for all their support, efforts and understanding to get these tournaments organised and completed with such a high level of commitment and professionalism.

Even with an unsettling start to the 2022 tournament calendar, these events have still been highly successful. This has been reflected by the outstanding number of entries at these TBNZ events. Centre based tournaments have also had strong levels of participation, with many putting the "sold out" sign up long before the tournament is held. An example of this was the recently held Open Nationals. The demand was so high an extra squad was added. Almost 95% of all squads were filled.

The number of New Zealand records that have been broken over the past 12 months is nothing less than outstanding. Twenty five records were smashed across the three age groups. Since the last AGM there have been six 800 series that have been achieved and, an amazing twenty-four 300 games rolled. Fifteen have been in this calendar year to date alone.

Some outstanding performances to be acknowledged over the past 12 months are as follows.

Ben Pettit retained his Open Mens National crown, becoming the first back to back Mens champion in the TBNZ era. Sarah Young backed up her 2021 performance for her 3rd National title and became the third woman to win two in a row. Phillip Mallitte won his second National Graded title.

The re-jigged format for the NTC produced a win for Waitakere Piha, with Counties Comets taking out the Baker Teams event and team Piha the 4-person teams. The North City Ice Youth team won the closest ever NYTC teams championship by a mere half-a-point. As the saying goes, literally the final frame of the tournament decided it.

Ryan Julian produced a unique double by winning the Junior Boy's and Youth Men's titles. Cindy Lister won the Youth Women and Melissa Moore her second Junior Girl's crown. Karlyn Richardson broke all records on the way to taking out the Junior Graded title. Blayden Herewini won the Junior Bantam event.

The Waitakere Muriwai Senior team completed a "three peat", with a clean sweep the Men's, Women's and Overall Senior Teams for the third time running. The National Grand Senior titles went to Phil Wright and Judith O'Rourke. Pete Richardson and Melonie Lister won the Senior Men's and Senior Women's respectively repeating their success from 2020. Macpe Bermudez and Judy Sinclair were successful in the Senior Graded division.

As a sport we have always struggled to get prominent exposure, especially with general media. This is now changing with the amount of social and print media articles that have recently been published. A big factor responsible for this happening, is the launching of Team Katipo as the International brand. To ensure this continues to be a successful branding, we as members need to support these teams, support your local centre, simply support your grassroots.

Kind Regards

Pete Richardson