

DEVELOPMENT MEN vs SOUTH OTAGO

11.01.26

A team of 9 travelled away to Balclutha and played two rounds on Sunday, 11th January. The fixture was held at the Balclutha Club. The Development team was up of a 4's combinations, 2 Pairs and a Singles player being the same format as the upcoming Southern 6 competition at the end of January. The fixture against South Otago is held annually and serves as part of an ideal lead up into the Southern 6.

Of a small number of players unavailable for the South Otago fixture were two who are likely to feature in the Southern 6 competition. With two places yet to be decided in the final make-up of the Southern 6 side this allowed others an opportunity to play and some changes were made from the morning games as part of what was essentially a trial.

Logistically, things went very well. There was excellent communication from South Otago prior to the event and Pauline's communication from the Centre was, as always, without fault. The van was sourced from the Queenstown side and pick-ups went without a hitch. The green was excellent though the wind provided challenges to the players. Despite that there were excellent bowls played from both teams. It is worth noting that the day was enjoyable, the players had fun and the camaraderie was exemplary.

Overall, Central Otago prevailed by 16 points to 7. This was a satisfactory result but there needs to be a marked improvement if we are to retain our championship title in 2026. I believe the players understand that after yesterday which is important and that we will be very competitive come the Southern 6.

MORNING GAMES

4's - Dewald de Beer (S), John Harley, Simon Clouston, Marty Duff (L)	WON 16-9
Pair 1 – Todd Swain (S), Grant Hammond (L)	DREW 20-20
Pair 2 – Dave Chisholm (S), Sean Geary (L)	WON 16-13
Singles – Kim Bartrum	WON 25-22

AFTERNOON GAMES

4's - Dewald de Beer (S), John Harley, Sean Geary, Marty Duff (L)	LOST 14-18
Pair 1 – Todd Swain (S), Grant Hammond (L)	WON 19-18
Pair 2 – Dave Chisholm (S), Kim Bartrum (L)	WON 30-12
Singles – Simon Clouston	LOST 13-25

From this point a draft team, with commentary, will be sent to my fellow selectors, Terry Scott & Richard Morgan for feedback. The finalized team should be announced no later than Thursday this week. It is planned to hold one practice before leaving for Dunedin on Friday, 23 January and a roll-up on the St Clair green.

Peter Dunne
Manager
Central Otago Bowls Development Squad