

Alexandra BC

Barry Helm has stepped into the role as President of the club after Neil Pritchard resigned at short notice. I am very comfortable with Barry's appointment as someone we can work with. Having joined the Alexandra club as a playing member I have been witness to some good signs in terms of the club moving forward.

Over the past four or so years Pat Houlihan has been a very, very generous sponsor of the Alexandra BC's Anzac Men's Fours. 2026 saw the end of that sponsorship. Pleasingly the Black Family from Arrowtown have now secured naming rights for the tournament. They already sponsor the Arrowtown Women's tournament which is held on the Saturday of the Anzac Fours. This, through contacts in Melbourne, has opened up an opportunity to promote both tournaments across the ditch.

Sponsorship Plan

Phase one is now nearly behind us i.e. the retention of existing sponsors and the attraction of new ones. I believe we have now put a peg in the ground and should be pleased with the results, having secured Central Financial Planning and Waipiata Pies as new sponsors. Phase two will be ensuring we provide value for money over the playing season before we start again earlier than applied in 2026.

President's Meeting

Further to the invite sent to the Club Presidents (16) on the 13th August I have heard back from most and am only aware of one club not being represented. Most have provided their two greatest challenges and two best opportunities. I plan to provide you with a draft presentation for that meeting on Monday for you to critique and for discussion at the Board meeting. Ideally, the more input we have from fellow Board members at the President's meeting the better.

Novice Programme

Barbara W put together a fabulous poster to promote this programme and it has been well circulated and advertised. Maria (Wallis) is currently taking entries for both days being information/education (Years 1-2) on September 27 at Clyde and the tournament (Years 1-3) on October 4 at Cromwell. Club coaches and/or senior players have been invited to attend and assist on both days.

Dave & Jo Edwards

Carl and I are communicating with our Women's Senior Squad and Men's Development Squad respectively regarding attendance at Wanaka on Sunday, 20 September. This should prove to be a great start to the season for those players. Club coaches have also been invited to attend as observers.

Senior Selector (CONFIDENTIAL)

Terry Scott has recently advised us that he is stepping down as Senior Selector and Senior Squad Coach (Men's). Given the timing we have moved quickly to rearrange matters and co-opt a replacement selector. We felt it important to put things in place as soon as possible to provide certainty and clarity. Therefore, we seek ratification at the Board Meeting of the following:

Senior Selector and Manager/Coach:	Richard Morgan
Selector and Development Squad Manager/Coach:	Peter Dunne
Fellow Selector:	Neville Stirling (Clyde)

Richard and I bandied about quite a number of names and determined that the most important factor was appointing someone we felt we could both work with closely and who had no "baggage" with any of the current players. It is noted that Neville is co-opted for this season and thought then be given to the future during this current season.

Terry has now informed his squad of his decision and, as requested, he advised them that the Board would be announcing very shortly the make-up of the new panel. The three of us plan to meet with Terry as part of the handover process by the end of the month. The Senior Squad's first fixture is not until the end of November.

Handbook

Pauline has done a fantastic job in now having this up on-line with the likelihood the hard copies will be dispatched from Auckland early next week. Behind the scenes Clu has once again worked tirelessly in providing the draws for our many competitions and tournaments. Many thanks to both.

I look forward to Pauline's review of the challenges from this year and thoughts on its production and delivery in future years. The Handbook is our "gospel" and is very important to the clubs and their members. Rightly or wrongly, we are judged on its content and delivery.

Bowls New Zealand "Umpire of the Year"

Well done and well deserved – Pauline Seaton (Waipiata and Central Otago)

Cheers
Peter D