

Women's Coach and Selectors Report March 2026

In recent years we have attended the Intercentre with 7 players plus a manager/reserve. This year sees a change of focus in taking a team of eight players to give us the maximum flexibility plus a manager who can, if required, step in as a reserve in the event of an incident. The approach of 8 players, coach and manager is in line with a number of other centres at this event and is a change the team sees a great deal of benefit in.

Over the last few weeks we have had on green training sessions, thank you to Bannockburn Bowling Club for their support, as well as online catchups. Players are committed to their training and team mates, focussing on belief in themselves and finding that extra 1% wherever possible. The whole team is excited for the challenge that awaits them in Auckland.

Unfortunately the clash of the Open Singles and Pairs Champion of Champion events has made the selection of a team for the Lex Kimber impractical. In addition to the selection challenges the closest possible accommodation was over an hours travel each way from Oamaru due to a major festival in Timaru. The result of these two challenges has meant the withdrawal of Central Otago from the event this year. We are aware that a number of the centres involved in this valuable competition struggle to field a team at this time of year so it may be time to reschedule.

Next season we look for a new selector to join the team with Margaret O'Connor deciding this will be her last season in this role. Selecting a team is no easy task and I want to take this opportunity to wholeheartedly thank Margaret for her words of wisdom and candour during the last 2.5 years.

Carl Street
Women's Centre Coach and Convenor of Selectors.