

Dart 'n' Around

The official newsletter of the NZ Darts Council Inc

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“Farewell to Bob & Mike”

This year Annual General Meeting saw the retirement of two long serving Directors “Bob Wilson” & “Mike Crone”

Both have served on the Board of Directors for the last 10 years during which time gave a wealth of knowledge and dedication to our organization.

In recognition of their service both were presented with small gifts by Chairman John Bright and senior Board member John MacLeod on behalf of all NZ Darts members. In accepting the gifts Bob & Mike recalled the many friends they had made over the years and everyone for the support shown to them.

While it was sad to see them leaving a new Board member “Eddie Girdler” joins the Executive. Eddie is based in Dunedin and will take on the Liaison Officer role for Southland & Aoraki regions. Canterbury will be covered by the CEO Craig Stevens until such time as a 6th director is appointed.

New Rankings Kick Off with Mosgiel 5000

The Mosgiel Darts Association hosted the first of this year’s NZDC Ranking Tournaments on Saturday 2nd February. Many of the South’s top players competed as well as a couple of northerners Peter Hunt and Bill Fergus from Palmerston North. The trip paid off for Hunt by him winning the Men’s Singles over Englishman Tony Carmichael 5-0. Carmichael who has recently settled in NZ beat Dave Lamb in the Semis 4-1 while Hunt took out Darrell Ramage 4-2.

In the Ladies it was another northerner “Mihi George” who claimed her first win of the year by beating Canterbury’s “Piki Morrison” 5-3 in the final. Morrison took out Auckland’s Peggy Wikaira (*formally Speir*) 4-1 while Mihi snuck through 4-3 against Sth Canterbury’s “Val Henry”

Our thanks go to the Mosgiel Darts Association for hosting this very enjoyable tournament

Back to Winning Form

Former NZ Team player “Bernie Smith” returning from shoulder surgery, showed the operation was a complete success by winning his first NZ Ranking Title of the year by blitzing 2007 No 1 Ranked player “Warren Parry” 5-1 in the South Island Masers final with a per dart average of 27.53. Now every knows Warren is no slouch when it comes to scoring and he proved this in his semi final match with a 30.09 average winning against Tony Carmichael 4-2 but he just could not muster it up again against the very consistent Smith. Bernie didn’t have it that easy of a ride to make the final with having to play last years runner up Barry Whittaker in the Semi’s and just scraping through with a 4-3 win. Although long since off the international scene Whittaker is still hard to beat when he puts his mind to it. Keep it going Bernie!

Long trip pays off for Peggy

With rising travel costs it takes a dedicated dart player to travel from virtually the top of the North Island to the very bottom of the South Island these days. Such a player is Auckland’s Peggy Wikaira who made the pilgrimage to Invercargill for the South Island Masters over Easter Weekend. Peggy was however rewarded for her efforts by securing her first NZ Ranking Title for 2008, firstly by defeating current Ladies No.1 Mihi George in the semis 4-3 and then Canterbury’s Jane Harrington in a tense final 5-4. In the other semi Jane beat South Canterbury’s Val Henry 4-2. With Peggy taking this win, she now sits in the No 5 spot and with so many women now vying for a top placing on the rankings lists it looks to be an exciting year. A big thanks to Southland Darts for hosting all the competitors.

"Young Guns" Win First Title

20 teams from 8 Associations took part in the annual Lower North Island Junior Tournament held in Palmerston North 12th April. After the qualifying rounds 12 teams made it through to the Main draw, Taupo 2, Hutt Valley 1, Wanganui Young Guns, Manawatu RTD, Wainui 1, Manawatu Mustangs, Hastings Blue, Hutt Valley 2, Hastings Black, Wainui 2, Mana Hopefuls & Wai Misfits. After 3 more rounds it was down to the final between the Hastings Black team of Chase Heather, Tangata Stevens, Trevor Skedgwell & Mathew Pullen against Wanganui Young Guns team of Justin Hinga, Harley Smith, Aiden Simpson & Patrick Hiscox who lived up to their name by winning the final 4 games to 2. 3rd Equal pacings went to Hutt Valley 1 & Manawatu Hopefuls. For the non qualifiers a Consolation round was run with the eventual winners being the Hastings White team over Horo Vikings 4 games to 3 after a tie breaker.

A big thanks to Manawatu Darts , chaperones and team managers for giving up their time and supplying transport in order for the these players to be able to attend.

2008 NZDC Rankings Top 10 Men

Warren Parry 36pts
Herrbie Nathan 22pts
John Dodunski 20pts
Peter Hunt 18pts
Rob Szabo 17pts
Barry Whittaker 16pts
Warren French 14pts
Greame McElroy 12pts
Wayne Carey 12pts
Jason Ladbrook 11pts

2008 NZDC Rankings Top 10 Ladies

Mihi George 47pts
Jannette Jonathan 38pts
Rachel Padget 24pts
Jane Harrington 24pts
Peggy Wikaira 23pts
Piki Morrison 22pts
Megan Smith 22pts
Mata Tuao 12pts
Chris Hay 11pts
Val Henry 11pts

Into the Future "Kiwi wins 2009 Las Vegas Open"

This could well be the headline in February 2009 because our good friends at PUMA Darts have put a special bonus Prize for the **Winner of NZ Men's Singles Title** at the **NZ Darts Championships** being held in Palmerston North in August. The lucky player will receive a 12 month Sponsorship Contract with PUMA which will include return airfares to Las Vegas to compete in the *2009 Las Vegas Open*. This is a joint venture with NZ Darts and more details will follow.

Puma and NZ Darts - The Total Package



The Directors of the New Zealand Darts Council wish to thank the NZ Community Trust for the donation of \$3632.16 for the purpose of purchasing 6 months office lease.



Incorporated Societies

As Association AGM's take place - many may have changes of Secretaries. Those Associations who are incorporated should be aware that they must inform the Companies Office of change of contact and address details. Financial Statements must also sent in yearly. These must be sent on the prescribed forms which can be downloaded from www.companies.govt.nz or by

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Asia Pacific Cup 2008

Plans are well under way for this year's Asia Pacific Cup which will be held at Club Palmerston, Linton St, Palmerston North, New Zealand 8th - 10th October 2008.

Invitations have been sent to 11 countries with the due date for them confirming their attendance being 25th July 2008.

The Event Itinerary is:

Tuesday 7 th October	Teams Welcome Ceremony
Wednesday 8 th October	Official Opening and Qualifying rounds
Thursday 9 th October	Main round knockouts and Semi finals
Friday 10 th October	Finals Day and closing banquet

The NZ "Black Flights" Team will be selected at this years NZ Championships 3rd to 9th August in Palmerston North. No doubt there will be a lot of players vying for a spot in the 6 person team.

Tournament Results:

Kapi Mana gets the matching pair

The Kapi Mana Darts Association successfully challenged Wellington Darts for the North Island mens Sheild on the 18th April in their quest to obtain both Island Trophies. At the end of the pairs they were in a comfortable lead 11-5 Wellington's Rob Szabo & Tom Cornes winning their singles but it wasn't enough with Kapi's Joe Temarama & Koha Kokiri taking out wins to get kapi the magic 13 games to unlift the thropy.

Kapi Mana also successfully defended the North Island Ladies Sheild on 20th April against challengers Wainuiomata in a Two team contest with the Ladies A winning 14 - 8 and Ladies B 13 -7 giving Kapi a 27 - 15 combined win.

The Next challenge for the Ladies shield will be against Upper Hutt on 23rd August 2008.

NZDC Trophy Holders

Nth Island

Ben Hill - Counties Manukau
Franklin - Hutt Valley
N.I. Mens - Kapi Mana
N.I. Ladies - Kapi Mana

Sth Island

Scott Cup Canterbury
McNamara Cup - Canterbury
Spence Cup - Canterbury

New Challengers being accepted now

Challenge Forms available from Chief Executive or by downloading from www.nzdarts.com/online_forms.htm

Upcoming Events

26 April Hastings Open Drawn Pairs 27 April N.I. Masters - Hastings *NZDC Ranked*

31st May Canterbury Mixed Pairs
1st June Canterbury Open Singles *NZDC Ranked*
2nd June Canterbury Men's & Ladies Pairs