

**Did you know?**

**Paralympic Games.**

Table Tennis was one of the 1996 Atlanta Paralympic Games. 206 participants from around the world contested 7 events in the teams competitions and seventeen events in the singles.

Table Tennis includes all the disability groups (except visually impaired) and has a complex classification system. There are 10 classes all told - 5 compete in wheelchairs and 5 in a standing position. The classes provide for the various disabilities, co-ordination, balance problems and functional power, taking into account various amputee states and in some the use of prosthetics is allowed. Provision is made for those with cerebral palsy.



**Dates of Note**

Sat	Dec 7	Annual Conference
1997	Feb 22	Next Board meeting
	<b>Feb 22</b>	<b>Time to get input to the mag away!</b>
	March	Next Issue of magazine
	March 28/31	NZ Veterans Championships (Invercargill)
proposed	May 31 - Jun 2	South Island Championships (Nelson)
dates	Jul 10 - 14	Nth Island Championships (Nth H./Waitemata)

**1996 Olympic Videos**

TTNZ is ordering the official IOC - sanctioned ITTF production of the **1996 Centennial Olympics Table Tennis Competition**. The collection is 6 hours and viewing will be well worthwhile. More INFO later.

For those on the Internet the Web site is: <http://www.ReflexSports.com> for a complete list of matches on Olympic Videos and other TT Videos.

Published by **TABLE TENNIS New Zealand Inc.**

Phone (04) 8014160 Fax (04) 4712152 P O Box 867  
Sports House, Central Library, Level 4, 65 Victoria St WELLINGTON

World Wide Web - <http://www.isor.vuw.ac.nz/~matthew/tt/nztt.html>



Compiled and edited by:  
R M Radford (with John Kiley) Ph 04-232 5672  
16 St Edmund Cres Tawa Wellington Fax 04-232 9172

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**TABLE TENNIS INFO**



November 1996

Issue: 2

**Why another issue so soon**, some may well ask?

The intention is that we report on each Board meeting to as many players as possible, as soon as possible. The first issue was a little later than intended but it was nice to have the National Junior results included.

Some association's clubs may be closed but there is no reason why we should not continue to communicate with players, team captains, club secretaries and anyone interested, in the summer to keep interest up.

The next issue will be March we expect, and a report on the new style annual conference (and AGM, short though it

should be!) will be sought for inclusion.

Some positive feedback on the new magazine and some welcome contributions have been received.

Sorry - not possible to publish many this issue, and trust the contributors can be patient until March.

**PEOPLE OF THE YEAR**

**PLAYER:** Li Chun Li has been named as player of the year for outstanding performances overseas. (See page 7)

**JUNIOR:** Mark Stewart (Canty) is the 1996 holder of the H N Ballinger trophy earned for playing results, sportsmanship, potential, dress, personality, enthusiasm and interest in club or assn affairs.

**JUNIOR PLAYER:** Tracey Mclauchlan of Hutt Valley received the Russell Dickey Memorial Trophy. This is awarded to the junior who brings most credit to NZTT taking into account: Performance, Behaviour, neatness of presentation, co-operation and team spirit (where applicable).

**CONGRATULATIONS**

**THIS ISSUE :**

**Merv Allardyce - Retirement**  
**Phillipa Baker - Board member**  
**Board meeting**  
**Rankings**  
**Ratings**

\*\*\*\*\*  
★  
★ **HI HAVE A HAPPY XMAS** ★  
★  
★ **AND NEW YEAR** ★  
★  
\*\*\*\*\*



I have found the period since being elected as chairman of Table Tennis New Zealand quite enlightening and have received numerous letters and calls, not to mention many conversations with players and officials.



Clearly there are many aspects of the sport to be looked into and resolved to the satisfaction of as many members as possible.

The full Board has now met twice and are working through the many issues that have arisen and they will continue to do so over the following months. They are questioning all aspects, functions and considering alternatives where appropriate. You will all see this as circulars following the Board Meetings are disseminated.

At the recent meeting we resolved to hold two workshops prior to the AGM. One will discuss the Affiliation fee method/associated problems, and the other will address the most important issue of coaching. The latter workshop will be conducted by an independent facilitator. The workshops have been designed so that all attendees can contribute their own ideas and suggestions, and those of their associations.

Two other major matters arose from the meeting. The Board has decided to form a Technical committee which will incorporate the previous functions of tournament play, rankings, seeding, umpires and generally make recommendations on any matter of a table tennis nature such as the rules, many of the regulations and other functions when required by the Board or Executive Director. The membership will comprise of those with the appropriate skills to handle the requirements and will be formed shortly.

The Board confirmed the retirement of our Executive Director - Merv Allardyce on 20th December next and we do of course wish him all the best in the future. (see page 5 - Ed)

**I wish everyone compliments of the season and hope you all have an enjoyable Xmas and New Year.**

Alan R Hounsell

## Knowledgeable and Experienced People

The Executive Director is to build up a database of persons within the sport whose knowledge and expertise could be utilised. These persons would be put on a direct mailing list, if not already on a list, to keep them abreast of what is happening.



The programme was finalised and the morning session will be firstly, a briefing and discussion on TTNZ structure and direction in 1997; secondly, a discussion on affiliation fees. The afternoon will be devoted to coaching matters in general as a first step for the Board to review the whole coaching structure. A major effort should be made to ensure attendance by all those interested in coaching.

The Annual General Meeting will commence at 5pm and under the new structure will basically cover the legal requirements.

The Board decided that travel equalisation for the AGM will be discontinued as from and including the 1996 AGM

## SELECTORS

The process for the appointment of selectors will be for the Executive Director to make recommendations for Board approval.

The meeting considered that the time frame for applications was rather tight and so the date for applications has been extended to Friday 29 November. It is not necessary for those who have already submitted an application to submit a new one.

A new circular has been sent to associations who are asked to bring it to the attention of any persons they consider suitable to fulfil the role of a New Zealand selector.

## ASSOCIATION AWARDS

For 1996 associations are invited to apply for an Award. The guidelines are:

- \*\* Awards are made to associations for significant achievement
- \*\* Awards do not have to be made annually
- \*\* Awards should be made at the annual meeting

Applications, accompanied by supporting documentation, close on Wednesday 20 November. This is the latest date they can be received for the awards to be ready for the annual meeting.

The Board decided that future awards (from 1997) should be linked to the TTNZ strategic plan. For example, if increased membership is a priority, awards would be made to the associations which achieved significant gains.

The strategic plan is to be further revised when the new Executive Director is appointed. A progress report is to be given at the AGM

### **NATIONAL TYPE CHAMPIONSHIPS**

The Board affirmed a decision of the previous Management Committee that the work currently done by the national office be extended to recruiting a specialist team to prepare the timetable and run all national type championships. The team would not be paid for their services but costs such as transport, accommodation and food would be met. In addition there will be a need to keep the computers and associated equipment in top order. This will be covered by increasing entry fees by \$1 per event, commencing in 1997. The system will be implemented from 1997 if those associations which have already been allocated championships agree, otherwise the implementation date will be 1998.

This will be an opportunity for associations with the facilities but not the personnel or expertise to host a North Island, South Island or New Zealand championships.

### **TOURS**

Planning is under way for the Commonwealth and World Championships in Glasgow and Manchester and a developing players tour to South Australia in January.

The officials to accompany the teams to the Commonwealth and World championships have not been finalised.

### **NZ REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS**

A Board member expressed concern that the preliminary arrangements for the South Australia tour had been made without reference to the national office. The Board agreed that only teams for events sanctioned by and selected by TTNZ would be recognised as NZ representative teams.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Applications for the position closed on 1 November and a short list is being prepared by Personnel Consultant Grahame Bilby for the TTNZ Appointments Committee to finalise an appointment.

*More Board notes - page 10*

After almost 11 years in the job, retirement time has arrived for Merv and he rides off into the sunset on December 20th.

Merv has spent a lifetime since leaving school in sports administration starting in Wanganui in cricket and continuing in Palmerston North when prior to moving to Wellington he was chairman of the Manawatu Cricket Association.

His table tennis days started in Wanganui after he left school. As secretary of Wanganui TTA 1957-1959 he attended his first TTNZ AGM when the meetings started on the Friday afternoon. Not being able to leave it all alone he was secretary of the Manawatu Table Tennis Assoc 1964 -1966. Records will indicate he also represented Manawatu at the NZ Champs in Christchurch during this period.

On moving to Wellington in 1968 he joined the Empire club. Surprise surprise, he is still there working hard as ever, including junior coaching on Friday nights and seniors on Mondays. He has been on the committee and served as Chairman for the past 16 years, in the club which boasts about 300 members.

Nationally, table tennis received an experienced administrator in 1975 when he joined the national executive committee with a special interest in coaching and was closely involved in the import of Peter Hirst, in the milestone move to appoint a full time paid Director of Coaching.

On the retirement of Ken Wilkinson (after 30 years as the chief executive) Merv was appointed Executive Director on 1 February 1985.

In the role of liaison officer for the national body, Merv has taken the role further and assisted at national championships in the draw and other related duties in the interests of smooth running tournaments, a role we hope, he will still be interested in.

Merv has been a Director of Sports Services Ltd (the administration company for sports house) and managed the move of about 10 sports to the Library building from the Dominion building. His reputation as a handy man is high for his work at Empire club and the fixit man for chairs, photocopiers etc in sports house.

He was deeply involved in the 1986/7 restructure to regions and the national council and was an enthusiastic participant in the restructure to the recent Board. He constantly brought forth aspects for consideration before, during and after the restructure.

His cheerful voice, bringing forth the fountain of all table tennis knowledge and his trademark "devils advocating" role when ideas are thrown around (unfortunately seen by some as negative comments - so wrong!!) could be missed, but we hope his contributions to our sport will continue.

*Robin Radford*

# The Rankings

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The following rankings for 1996 have been announced:

## Men

1. Peter Jackson
2. Shane Laugesen
3. Aaron Winborn
4. Hagen Bower
5. Hu Binquan
6. Jian Liu
7. Daniel Hempstead
8. Paul Bowman
9. Simeon Cairns
10. Tony Radford

## Under 19 Boys

1. Chen Lei
2. Stephen Hirst
3. Chris Herlihy
4. Paul Innes
5. Conrad Lee
6. Brendon Adam
7. Jason Ng
8. Shane Warbrooke
9. Vincent Ho
10. Mark Stewart

## Under 15 Boys

1. Peter Craven
2. Yi-Sien Lin
3. Paul Stewart
4. Frankie Wong
5. Mark Freeman
6. Jimmy Lin
7. Guy Williams
8. Michael Mullin
9. Stanley Kwok
10. Jeffery Vinicombe

## Women

1. Li Chun Li
2. Karen Li
3. Tracey Epps
4. Sarah Finch
5. Tracey Phillips
6. Sabine Westerra
7. Val Beaver
8. Debbie Garrett
9. Raewyn Young
10. Chris Cunningham

## Under 19 Girls

1. Karen Li
2. Tracey Mclauchlan
3. Belinda Beazer
4. Melissa Beazer
5. Catherine Danby
6. Monique Neal
7. Anna Danby
8. Tamsyn Burgess
9. Andrea Winstanley
10. Amber Johnson

## Under 15 Girls

1. Deborah Morrison
2. Helen Wilson
3. Lydia Burgess
4. Lisa Boaden
5. Alison Thomson
6. Emily Huang
7. Rachel Griffiths
8. Grace Chiang
9. Jenny Brewerton
10. Bridgette Carmody

## RATINGS/RANKINGS

### What's the difference? Why two systems ?

*from Ron Menchi.*

Good questions. The answer to the first is that ratings are *quantity* driven. The more events one plays in, the greater the opportunities to accumulate points and improve one's position. Rankings on the other hand are *quality* driven. Once a player has qualified for ranking by playing in the required number of events, the performances are assessed by a panel and a ranking position is allocated.

There are guidelines for rankings in our Handbook. The salient points of interest to players being:

(A) The rankings shall be based on performances both in New Zealand and overseas in a season of tournament play and representative contests.

(B) To qualify for a New Zealand ranking, players must participate in a minimum of four rating events in any particular category, excluding B & C Grade events. Allowance is made for players unable to compete in rating tournaments whilst they are representing New Zealand. The Management Committee had the discretion to rank players who, because of overseas playing commitments, would not otherwise qualify for a ranking.

## Ratings / Rankings Cont'd

(C) Where records of individuals are equal, the player with a better performance in matches of best of 5 games shall be entitled to the higher ranking.

(D) Cognizance shall also be taken of the number of winning performances in tournaments and also of winning results in semi-finals.

(E) Overseas players shall not be considered for ranking unless they have been resident in New Zealand for a period of not less than three months.

The accuracy of the list is often questioned but it needs to be remembered that rankings reflect the *opinion* of a panel. This principle of basing decisions on a panel's opinion is little different from the policy adopted by a selection panel for team selection.

The answer to the second question, why two systems, revolves around the fact that ratings are still not accepted as an accurate reflection of the relative merits of players. The reasons are many and varied. There are better opportunities to accumulate points in some areas of the country than in others; the ratings are influenced by the previous year's performances; and there is only one overall list, rather than a separately calculated list for each age-group.

This last item is an area of concern and the anomaly is that when players in restricted categories (eg, under 15) score well in that category and don't play in open events, the "built-in" safeguards of the computer programme are unable to make corrections. This concern is uppermost in the minds of the ratings programme controllers.

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At the last AGM delegates were informed of changes to be introduced in 1996 which included halving the weightings for age-group events, and bringing under 17 events into the system which has the effect of lowering the points of the top under 15 players to a more realistic level.

I believe we must all be patient and let the system continue to develop. Who knows, we may yet reach the ideal situation where acceptable rankings and seedings are produced at the press of a button.

## MEMBERSHIP RETURNS

Both the Chairman and Deputy Chairman has each been advised by the Hillary Commission that the Commission was concerned at the performance of table tennis. A major indicator which they used was the continuing downward trend in membership. Doubts were expressed on the accuracy of some associations returns and the importance of accurate information being furnished by clubs to associations and associations to TTNZ was stressed. Failure to do so will adversely affect the level of funding from the Commission. The consequence of this will be additional levies on associations.

**Li Chun Li's** performances in 1996 to earn her Player of the Year include:

beating the current China Open champion  
beating world number 3 (Chen Jing)  
clean sweep Oceania champs  
clean sweep Oceania Olympic qualifying tourn.  
world ranking raised from 52 to 48

Table Tennis New Zealand welcomes the appointment of high-profile sportsperson Philippa Baker to its Board.

Philippa's sporting achievements in rowing are legendary: three gold medals, two silver and one bronze at World Championships; two Commonwealth gold medals; 1991 NZ Sportswoman of the Year; 1994 NZ Sportsteam of the year (with Brenda Lawson); awarded the MBE in 1993; received the Halberg Award in 1991 and 1994; finished either first or second in a total of 42 NZ Championship events between 1984 and 1996; ... her list of achievements could go on.

Her personal message below describes how she sees her role on the Board and what she feels she can offer table tennis. Her comments are thought provoking and re-affirm one of the key philosophies underlying our re-structure: that table tennis has much to learn from the successes of other sporting codes.

We wish Philippa a rewarding term of office with Table Tennis New Zealand.

**Philippa writes:**

"I'm delighted to be involved with the new "forward thinking" TTNZ and hope that as a just retired New Zealand Rower and Manager of a Regional Sports Trust that I may have some ideas to contribute towards the development of New Zealand Table Tennis as it heads towards the new millennium.

You may very well wonder what Table Tennis and Rowing have in common and therefore what I may have to assist the sport. Well, apart from the fact that we name some of our events similarly (eg. Womens Single and Womens Double), I believe that all sports have huge cross credits with each other. I think it is imperative that as a small nation we need to listen and learn from each other. I do not believe in magic formulas for producing results at high performance level, but I do believe there are many examples of "good Practice" in a variety of sports that Table Tennis can call upon.

I have just completed a fourteen year rowing career that followed a ten year swimming career. I am from a sporting family and can name at least 10 sports that I have completed in at least club level and at least another ten (including Table Tennis) that I have at least participated in and understand the rules of. I didn't get the results that I have achieved in rowing easily. I trained extremely hard, ensured I understood the Physiological and Technical requirements of rowing and used my experience over a number of years to ultimately achieve high performance results.

**Philippa Baker cont'd ~**

I am a strong believer that nothing substitutes hard work. However I also believe that for every champion there were at least another equally as talented that were somehow lost. Some of the reasons these people are lost include a lack of motivation, determination, positive role models and structures in place from sports to recruit, retain and foster these individuals. I believe it is imperative that TTNZ strives to improve communication with its' players, coaches, administrators and supporters and I look forward to being a part of

**INFO - 1996 World Veterans Championships, Lillehammer, NORWAY**

The Norwegian Association with less than 800 licensed players who hosted this event were celebrating their 50th anniversary. Events played were over 40, 50, 60, 70 and 80 yrs, men's and women's singles and doubles.

Some statistics:

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| 72 tables used plus 18 practice tables.   | 1969 players entered     |
| 20000 bed nights organised                | 8396 matches played      |
| 63500 photocopies produced                | 240 volunteers assisted  |
| 7000 pints beer consumed in the Troll pub | 2800 people involved     |
| Oldest player -Germany born 1908          | 880 players from Germany |
| Oldest lady player - Japan born 1909      | 300 players from Japan   |

A Video of the Championships is available from the Norwegian Assn.

**Kiwis overseas      our professionals**

Peter Jackson is back playing in France, Andrew Hubbard in Germany, Li Chun Li is in Japan, Aaron Winborn and Paul Bowman are in Germany. Jared Smith and Shane Laugesen are in Belgium.

Shane reports he is playing in the Belgium national league in a team in second division hoping to move to super division next year with his team being 1st equal. He had won all his matches, last we heard. More regarding Belgium next issue.

**Radio Commercial** Table Tennis has produced a 30 second radio commercial for broadcast on Wellington Access Radio during a new hour long sports programme "Sports Link" - 5 - 6 pm on Wednesdays. The commercial was produced free of charge as a result of a deal negotiated by the NZ Sports Assembly, who are co-ordinating the production of the hour long programme. Access broadcasts on 783 AM and can be heard as far north as



# Latest Top 10 Ratings

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## The Rating System - in brief

from John Kiley

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### Men's Open

1. Hagen Bower
2. Shane Laugesen
3. Binquan Hu
4. Aaron Winborn
5. Chen Lei
6. Jian Liu
7. Daniel Hempstead
8. Simeon Cairns
9. Paul Bowman
10. Tony Radford

### Women's Open

1. Karen Li
2. Hilary Finch
3. Tracey Epps
4. Sarah Finch
5. Tracey Phillips
6. Sabine Westenra
7. Chikako Maki
8. Debbie Garrett
9. Yvonne Fogarty
10. Raewyn Young

### Men's Over 40

1. James Morris
2. Lindsay Ward
3. Doug Pattinson
4. Alan Tomlinson
5. Bob Lassen
6. Geoff Rau
7. Terry Murphy
8. Pat Low
9. William Weinstock
10. Kevin Fogarty

### Women's Over 40

1. Yvonne Fogarty
2. Val Beaver
3. Pam Shadbolt
4. Chris Cunningham
5. Pat McArthur
6. Jill Murray
7. Lynley Barker
8. Linda Wynks
9. Averil Roberts
10. Kaylene Findlay

### Men's Over 50

1. Alan Tomlinson
2. Bob Lassen
3. William Weinstock
4. Warren Evans
5. Chip Eade
6. John Lelliott
7. Nam Hang Lee
8. Bruce Connolly
9. Robert Dunn
10. Ron Garrett

### Women's over 50

1. Chris Cunningham
2. Pat McArthur
3. Kaylene Findlay
4. Val Scarr
5. Annice Robottom
6. Gaylene Plowright
7. Pauline Bennyworth
8. Joyce Coleman
9. Elva Craig
10. Pamela Keene

### Men Under 21

1. Shane Laugesen
2. Chen Lei
3. Jared Smith
4. Paul Innes
5. Chris Herlihy
6. Conrad Lee
7. Stephen Hirst
8. Jason Ng
9. Mark Stewart
10. Daniel Astle

### Women Under 21

1. Karen Li
2. Tracey Phillips
3. Vicki Garrett
4. Tracey Mclauchlan
5. Melissa Beazer
6. Heidi Schrama
7. = Kirsty-Anne Giles
7. = Kylie Ferguson
9. Catherine Danby
10. Tamsyn Burgess

### Boys Under 19

1. Chen Lei
2. Paul Innes
3. Chris Herlihy
4. Conrad Lee
5. Stephen Hirst
6. Jason Ng
7. Mark Stewart
8. Paul Stewart
9. Brendon Adam
10. Shane Warbrooke

### Girl's Under 19

1. Karen Li
2. Tracey Mclauchlan
3. Melissa Beazer
4. Catherine Danby
5. Tamsyn Burgess
6. Anna Danby
7. Belinda Beazer
8. Monique Neal
9. Deborah Morrison
10. = Aroha Tam
10. = Andrea Winstanley

### Boy's Under 17

1. Chen Lei
2. Paul Innes
3. Stephen Hirst
4. Jason Ng
5. Paul Stewart
6. Shane Warbrooke
7. Vincent Ho
8. Yi-Sien Lin
9. Peter Craven
10. Greg Smith

### Girl's Under 17

1. Tracey Mclauchlan
2. Catherine Danby
3. Tamsyn Burgess
4. Anna Danby
5. Monique Neal
6. Deborah Morrison
7. = Aroha Tam
7. = Andrea Winstanley
9. = Alison Thomson
9. = Clara So

These Rating lists are as at Oct 8th and include all 1996 tournament results.

### See where you are!

Full lists are held by Association secretaries. For example 100 players are rated in the mens senior, 92 in the womens, 100 in the men's under 21, 80 in the womens, with 99 in the Boys' under 19 and 75 in the girls.

Players who attend major tournaments will know that Rating Lists are displayed and circulated regularly. They know there is a main list for men and women and separate lists for seven age-groups. They know there are a hundred names on the main lists and that the top name can have over a thousand points, the lowest might have just zero, and many more players are not on the list at all.

**But how does it work ? Here are some answers to commonly asked questions:**

### What are the Rating Lists based on ?

Championship singles results at New Zealand, North and South Island Championships; District Open Championships (eg Wairarapa Open, South Canterbury Open); and Northern Districts, Central Districts, and South Island Teams Tournaments.

### How are the points calculated ?

There is a mathematical formula which takes into account:

1. The level of the tournament (NZ Championships individual event events carry more points than district championships and teams tournaments.
2. The event (open events carry more points than age group



### Boys Under 15

1. Paul Stewart
2. Yi-Sien Lin
3. Peter Craven
4. Frankie Wong
5. Michael Mullin
6. Jimmy Lin
7. Guy Williams
8. Mark Freeman
9. Jeffery Vinicombe
10. Stanley Kwok

### Girl's Under 15

1. Deborah Morrison
2. Alison Thomson
3. Helen Wilson
4. Lydia Burgess
5. Lisa Boaden
6. Grace Chiang
7. Rachel Griffiths
8. Emily Huang
9. Bridgette Carmody
10. Jenny Brewerton

3. The difference in points between the players (if you beat someone well above you on the list you get more points than if you beat someone below you - the calculation table is usually displayed with the list).

### How do new players get onto the list ?

By beating two or more players already on the list.

### Do new players start from zero ?

No, they are allocated "start points" based on their first results. The start points are under review and can be adjusted until the player has had five wins and five losses.

### Are the age-group lists (eg under 19) calculated separately ?

No. There is only one men's list and only one women's list. The age-group lists contain the names and points of all the rated players in that age-group. An under 19 girl, for example, will have the same points on both the Girls Under 19 list and the Open Women's list. This is an important distinction between ranking and rating lists. It means that when two under 19 girls achieve similar results in under 19 events, the one with a better record in under 21 and open events will be placed higher in the under 19 rating list.

The system has been operating since March last year and was trialled for a full season before that. Frequent publication of up-dated lists creates interest and serves as an incentive for players to compete. Readers of *Table Tennis Info* are invited to write in with questions or comments on the rating system. Address them to PO Box 867, Wellington.

*Table Tennis Info* will regularly publish the top names on the various lists, and comment on any dramatic movements.

## NEW NELSON ACADEMY GEARS UP FOR SUMMER INFLUX

It may be the off-season in table tennis circles, but New Zealand's newest and most exciting table tennis venture will be a hive of activity over the summer. Nelson's Academy of Table Tennis, which is the brainchild of well known administrator Bryan Keane, started earlier this year offering players the chance to work on specific areas of their game under the guidance of top coach Hu Binquan.

Seventy of the country's most promising juniors are expected to take part in the academy's first summer programme starting mid-November.

"Some players have enrolled for two or more of the seven camps" says Bryan. He believes Nelson is the ideal summer retreat and the Academy is big enough to cater for both individuals and family groups. He says several current NZ junior champions have been among the first to sign up for the summer camps.

"I'm encouraged by the positive response from these players and the desire to continue to improve their game. The camps are a natural progression for players who attended training camps at the Academy prior to the junior Nationals." Bryan says he's amazed at the impact Mr Hu's coaching had on the players results at the championships. "Out of 20 events 14 of Mr Hu's students reached the finals in their events resulting in 9 champions.

The structure of the coaching camps consists of 5 hours training at the table each day, along with some outdoor activities. Academy coach Hu Binquan says that the two main areas of concern for young players are their footwork and timing of the ball. "Specific attention is given to these two areas, along with general fitness, co-ordination and skills.

Plans are well under way to increase student numbers in the new year. Six new Butterfly tables from Germany have been ordered and are due late December.

Bryan Keane, concentrating full time on the academy, is convinced his dream of making Nelson the table tennis training centre of NZ will be realised.

1997 is shaping up to be a great year. Players from Otago, Canterbury and Auckland have already enrolled along with students from Taiwan.

Lawrence Shaw (Nelson TT Publicity Officer)

### Infectious Disease Transmission in Sport - from Ron Fleming

Sports Medicine New Zealand recently made some recommendations for players and support staff and the main interest to table tennis were the following:

Dressing rooms should be kept clean and tidy with particular attention to hand-basins, toilets and showers. Adequate soap, paper hand towels, brooms and disinfectants must always be available. Household bleach is an effective antiviral agent and can be also used to clean up (rare in table tennis) blood spills. Common antiviral agents include bleach (Janola) and 70% alcohol and iodine containing compounds.

The sharing of towels, face washers and drink containers must be avoided. (Condensed)

## NEW ZEALAND ACADEMY OF TABLE TENNIS

Located in a rural atmosphere at Highland Park, Stoke, 10 minutes from Nelson, we are the only Table Tennis Coaching Academy in New Zealand.

We can offer a top Chinese Coach - Hu Binquan who lives on the premises and offers top coaching and/or private tuition.

Special programmes are arranged for any level of player starting from two days to three years.

Accommodation is in the form of single bedrooms or dormitory style depending on age and preference. All bedding is supplied and laundered by Academy staff.

Good quality meals included

### Join the Summer Camps in Nelson

**"it's fun in the sun"**

Camp dates - All Sun to Fri.

No 1 - Nov 24th to Nov 29th

No 5 - Jan 5th to Jan 10th

No 2 - Dec 1st to Dec 6th

No 6 - Jan 12th to Jan 17th

No 3 - Dec 8th to Dec 13th

No 7 - Jan 19th to Jan 24th

No 4 - Dec 15th to Dec 20th

Costs: \$175 per person, for accommodation, meals, training and other activities.

Camps start Sunday 3pm and finish Thursday night - travel home Friday.

All enquires:

Bryan Keane

Phone 03-547 7530

NZ Academy of Table Tennis

Fax 03-547 4828

P O Box 2230 Stoke, Nelson

