

## Aaron Li; Peri Campbell-Innes win NZ Singles Titles

By Ron Garrett

Chinese-born **Aaron Li** and Australian **Peri Campbell-Innes** starred at the New Zealand Open Championships in Christchurch in October.

Canterbury's new Stadium was the venue for this year's event and proved an excellent venue for play throughout the eight days of competition. While the stadium may require some finishing touches it is a far cry from the old Selwyn Street headquarters. This is a credit to Table Tennis Canterbury and we will no doubt see many more National Championships in the garden city.

The senior team finals saw Auckland and Canterbury take away the men's and women's A grade titles respectively. Auckland were always favourite to take the men's title. With Hutt Valley's Andrew Hubbard assured of three matches it would have needed two upsets by Andrew's team-mates to deprive the northerners of victory. The final result: 5-3.

The women's result was not so easy to predict although recent arrival **Linda Chen** gave Canterbury the edge. Otago also fielded a newcomer in **Joanna Ma**. Ma performed well throughout the teams events and helped Otago's cause in the final by defeating **Lisa Astle**, but it was the experienced **Lesley Gardner** that made the difference for Canterbury by beating both Ma and **Samara Collins**. The final result was 5-3 to the local team.

It is disappointing to see less teams entered in the senior teams events, particularly in the women where only six associations entered teams. In contrast, the total number of individual entries was the largest since 1993.

The men's singles saw a number of upsets with the main surprise being the defeat of third seed **Aaron Winborn** by Otago's sixteen year-old Chinese student **Ying Yang** in a thrilling four game victory at the quarter final stage. Winborn allowed the youngster to upset his usual rhythm with Ying Yang rapidly changing pace and causing Winborn to overhit or net the ball.

The unseeded Hutt Valley player **Jared Smith** was involved in two upsets. In the second round he defeated fourth seed **John Tawadrous** of Australia then went on to beat fifth seed **Chris Herlihy** after being two games down in the quarter-finals.



Canterbury – Winners of the Under 19 Girls' Teams Event.  
L/R: **Deborah Morrison, Meena Chang, and Andrea Gosney.**

Both Smith and Ying Yang were outclassed in the semi-finals by top seed **Aaron Li** and second seed **Andrew Hubbard** respectively, neither of whom were giving anything away.

The final was played at a fast pace with Li keen to hold onto the title and Hubbard even keener to defeat the top seed. The crowd of just over 250 was treated to some great rallies with Li always having the upper hand to win in straight games.

Queenslander **Peri Campbell-Innes**, top seed for the women's singles, started badly in the final against second seed **Sarah Finch** being down 4-11 before coming back to 15 all, then moving ahead to win 21-19. The second game was all Australia with Campbell-Innes winning 21-6. The third game went almost point for point until 8-7, then Campbell-Innes went ahead to 18-12. Sarah Finch clawed back to 20 all, held game point at 22-21 but finally dropped the game and match at 24-22.

Second seeds **Sarah Finch** and **Tracey McLauchlan** upset top seeds **Peri** and **Claire Campbell-Innes** in a very close match in the women's doubles, going almost point for point throughout. Finch and McLauchlan won 21-19, 21-16.

The Men's doubles was a thriller with serves and attack by all players having a big bearing on the match. In the first game **Andrew Hubbard** and **Aaron Winborn**, a very experienced combination, led narrowly all the way over **Aaron Li** and **Hagen Bower**, except when they went behind at 17-18, but rallied to win 21-19. The second game was something Hubbard and Winborn will want to forget, however they came back in the final game in which neither side led by more than three points at any stage. Hubbard/Winborn led 21-20, Li / Bower at 22-21 and 23-22 before Li/ Bower took the title at 24-22.

By also winning the mixed doubles with Sarah Finch, Aaron Li again collected three titles and proved he is a class above anyone else in New Zealand at present.

The inclusion of Australian and New Caledonian juniors increased interest in the championships, particularly the Campbell-Innes sisters and John Tawadrous who were a class above our juniors.



A number of juniors show they will have bright futures in the game with the likes of **Jiani Hu, Sandy Wang, Sophie Shu, Binbin Zhu** and **Nathan Lowe** in the under 13 age group, and older players like **Andy Huang, Simon Wallace, Wendy Zheng, Ying Yang** and **Adrian Soh**.

Nelson, helped by the performance of Aaron Li, won the Arthur Meachen Memorial Trophy for the Association with the most successes in the senior finals.

Southland teams cleaned up both men's and women's Victor Barna Dunlop cups for the teams with the best appearance, sportsmanship, punctuality and table etiquette.

Not to be outdone, Southland juniors **Leanne Ridder** and **Paul Lemon** (photo left) won the Alan and Edna McCallum trophies for junior umpiring.

**Results – Pages 18-19**

# New Zealand Open Championships – Christchurch Sept/Oct

<u>Open</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Singles Runner Up</u>
Men's Singles	Aaron Li (N)	Andrew Hubbard (HV)
Women's Singles	Peri Campbell-Innes (AU)	Sarah Finch (A)
Men's Doubles	H Bower & A Li (A/N)	
Women's Doubles	S Finch & T McLauchlan (A/HV)	
Mixed Doubles	A Li & S Finch (N/A)	
<u>B Grade</u>		
Men's Singles	Mike Liu (A)	Ben Collins (A)
Women's Singles	Akiko Kimura (S)	Lesley Gardner (C)
<u>C Grade</u>		
Men's Singles	Jeffery Vinicombe (HV)	Glen Foulkes (C)
Women's Singles	Meena Chang (C)	Sophie Shu (MN)
<u>Over 55 years</u>		
Men's Singles	Alan Alabaster (C)	Chip Eade (WT)
Women's Singles	Christine Cunningham (NH)	Pauline Bennyworth (WK)
Men's Doubles	B Penberthy & W Willis (A/A)	
Women's Doubles	P Bennyworth & C Cunningham (WK/NH)	
Mixed Doubles	R Dunn & C Cunningham (NH/NH)	
<u>Over 45 years</u>		
Men's Singles	Maurice Burrowes (O)	Doug Pattinson (A)
Women's Singles	Val Beaver (NH)	Lesley Gardner (C)
Men's Doubles	K Fogarty & D Pattinson (A/A)	
Women's Doubles	S Chang & J Murray (C/NH)	
Mixed Doubles	K Fogarty & Y Fogarty (A/O)	
<u>Over 35 years</u>		
Men's Singles	Malcolm Darroch (C)	Lyndon White (C)
Women's Singles	Kadia Keller-Rice (BP)	Yvonne Fogarty (O)
Men's Doubles	M Darroch & L White (C/C)	
Women's Doubles	L Barker & J Murray (C/NH)	
Mixed Doubles	D Scott & K Keller-Rice (NH/BP)	
<u>Under 21 years</u>		
Men's Singles	John Tawadrous (AU)	Andy Huang (A)
Women's Singles	Peri Campbell-Innes (AU)	Tracey McLauchlan (HV)
Men's Doubles	A Soh & Yang Y (N/O)	
Women's Doubles	C Campbell-Innes & P Campbell-Innes (AU/AU)	
Mixed Doubles	A Soh & P Campbell-Innes (N/AU)	
<u>Under 19 years</u>		
Boys' Singles	Yang Ying (O)	Adrian Soh (N)
Girls' Singles	Peri Campbell-Innes (AU)	Wendy Zheng (A)
Boys' Doubles	A Soh & Yang Y (N/O)	
Girls' Doubles	A Gosney & D Morrison (C/C)	
Mixed Doubles	A Soh & P Campbell-Innes (N/AU)	
<u>Under 17 years</u>		
Boys' Singles	John Tawadrous (AU)	Andy Huang (A)
Girls' Singles	Claire Campbell-Innes (AU)	Wendy Zheng (A)
Boys' Doubles	R Abbas & J Tawadrous (AU/AU)	
Girls' Doubles	R Dias & W Zheng (A/A)	
Mixed Doubles	A Soh & C Campbell-Innes (N/AU)	

## Under 15 years

Boys' Singles	John Tawadrous (AU)	Andy Huang (A)
Girls' Singles	Claire Campbell-Innes (AU)	Jiani Hu (N)
Boys' Doubles	A Huang & J Tawadrous (A/AU)	
Girls' Doubles	C Campbell-Innes & E Schwab (AU/NH)	
Mixed Doubles	R Abbas & C Campbell-Innes (AU/AU)	

## Under 13 years

Boys' Singles	Binbin Zhu (HV)	Nathan Lowe (A)
Girls' Singles	Jiani Hu (N)	Sandy Wang (A)
Boys' Doubles	C Erskine & J Wells (N/N)	
Girls' Doubles	J Hu & K Samson (N/C)	
Mixed Doubles	B Zhu & J Hu (HV/N)	

## NZ SCHOOL TEAMS CHAMPIONSHIPS

These championships were held in Christchurch immediately prior to the NZ Open Championships. Round robin play preceded the final in each category. Finals results:

### SECONDARY

**St Kentigern College, Auckland** (Johnny Cheung, Peter Lee, Nathan Lowe) beat Hutt Valley High School (Simon Buchanan, Vance Kelly, Ian Loubachevskii) 6 – 1

### PRIMARY / INTERMEDIATE

**Wairau Intermediate, North Harbour** (Brock Barrie, Geoffrey Smart, Rhys Van Stipriaan) beat Hutt Intermediate (Kim Xia Au, Mark Leslie, Binbin Zhu) 5 – 2



## Inter Association Teams Championships Winners New Zealand Championships

Men's A grade	Auckland
Men's B Grade	North Harbour
Women's	Canterbury
Under 19 Boys' A Grade	Wellington
Under 19 Boys' B Grade	Auckland
Under 19 Boys' C Grade	Counties Manukau
Under 19 Girls'	Canterbury
Under 15 Boys' A Grade	Auckland
Under 15 Boys' B Grade	Hutt Valley
Under 15 Boys' C Grade	Northland
Under 15 Girls' A Grade	North Harbour
Under 15 Girls' B Grade	Canterbury
Men's Over 45	Otago
Women's Over 45	North Harbour
Men's Over 55	Canterbury
Women's Over 55	Canterbury



**Tracey McLauchlan (L)**  
and  
**Sarah Finch**  
NZ Women's Doubles  
Champions.

# Novelty Table Tennis

Various contributors have put together some novelty and alternative ways of playing the game, which can be enjoyed at clubs, business houses and special tournaments. These ideas are also being added to the help/resource pages in TTNZ web site: <http://www.tabletennis.org.nz>. We have more for future issues. Further contributions are welcome.

## MINI-BATS

Can be any size but 12 ½ cm from top of bat to end of handle is suggested. The covered part of the blade should be 5 ½ cm long and the handle 7 cm.

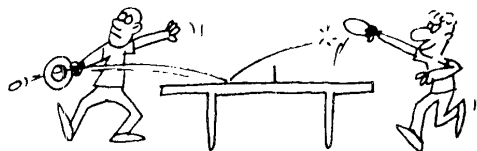
Collect old bats, remove the rubber and cut down to the above size. Collect old sponge rubbers that players discard and recover your creation.

Easier to play with than you'd think.

## HOLES IN BATS

Cut a hole of approx 5 ½ cm in diameter in the centre of a cheap pimple-covered bat.

Great for a laugh. Variant: score a bonus point if you can make the ball pass cleanly through the hole in your bat.



## RELAY RACES:

- Teams start on one side of the hall .
- Select a stroke, eg backhand push.
- At the signal "go" one member of each team runs to the table; drops the ball on the table and with the selected stroke plays the ball over the net and catches it after it has bounced; runs to the far wall; touches it; repeats the same stroke on the way back to the team.
- The second player then does the same until one team uses up all its players.
- If a player misses the shot or fails to catch the ball he/she plays the shot again.

Organising this with large numbers of juniors, you will need ear protection.

## TARGETS

A flat target is placed at each end of the table. If the ball hits the target the striker earns a bonus point. Anything from a five cent piece to a dinner plate can be used depending on the skill of the players.

## TENNIS DOUBLES

As ordinary doubles but instead of alternating the striking of the ball, players may only play the ball that lands on their side of the centre line. Balls landing right on the line can be hit by either player but prior agreement on who should take them will minimise collisions, heated argument and opposition mirth.

## HERE'S A CHALLENGE

This picture was spotted in a table tennis magazine, accompanied by a two-column article, in Italian! Wondering what the object's function could possibly be, the picture-spotter had the article translated. What a let-down. The picture was nothing more than a highly creative and imaginative work of art, and the article was a comment on its artistic quality.

Being Kiwis and incurably practical, we're not interested in anything high-browed or abstract. Where there's a table tennis table there has to be table tennis. Our challenge to all readers is to suggest a game that could be played on this monstrosity.



In case the picture isn't quite clear, the apparatus consists of four oval-shaped table halves arranged around a square water tank containing water lilies with table tennis balls lying on the leaves and floating in the water. The whole piece is entitled the "Ping Pond Table" ("Pond" is not a typo).

So sharpen your pencil and tell us what four players can do with it; or, for that matter, what general use the object could be put to.

## World Veterans Championships

Eighteen players, mainly from Manawatu, plus a small number from Canterbury and Hutt Valley, travelled to Vancouver, Canada, to compete in the World Veterans Championships last May. Most managed at least one win in their groups (stage one of both singles and doubles were round-robin), and some progressed well through the consolation events for players winning less than two group matches.

Jim Jarmin wrote an account of the trip in the NZ Veterans Newsletter, reporting on the play (1860 competitors), and painting a vivid picture of Vancouver's lush and colourful landscape; the spectacular view from their 16<sup>th</sup> storey accommodation; the inner-city transport (free during the championships); the gondola trip up a mountain – all combining into a memorable social event for the participants.

Seven veteran players head for Australia in November to compete in the Australian Veterans Championships.

## Bay of Plenty and Innovative Ideas for Interclub

Bay of Plenty got off to a great start in 2000 by electing a new go-ahead line up of officials spearheaded by President **Judy Smith**, Treasurer **John Lea** and Secretary **Russell Grubner**. We have had more tournament entries than previous years and have just installed 7 new Fredman tables, delighting our interclub players.

Two terms of innovative interclub organized by **Stephen Ogle** were played this year. The April/July interclub was eight person teams with four singles per player. Each team consisted of four A grade and four B grade players and points for both grades were added together. After all the teams played each other there was a doubles only night where double points were awarded for each win.

The later interclub was really innovative as each team consisted of five players. The top two and bottom two played three singles and two doubles each and the middle player played five singles. The top two played the top three and the bottom three played the bottom two. This ensured that the top players got quality matches. There was a total of 21 matches, played over three tables.

Both the Otumoetai and Papamoa Clubs report plenty of new players, with Otumoetai struggling to cope with so many juniors on 6 tables. **Ron Sheridan** and **Ricky Smith** have been running the Friday evening intermediate schools tournament with great success.

Next year promises to be even better as we will have the services of a Chinese coach from Tauranga's sister city Yantai. We have received some Hillary Commission funding and an itinerary is being arranged for next year. The coach's name is Sun Yang and she has excellent credentials as both a player and a coach so we are very much looking forward to utilising her experience.

*Ron Sheridan*

## Junior Development in Wairarapa

Last year, after a very interesting coaching course by **John Stapleton** on Kiwi Table Tennis, a small group of dedicated players, working through Sport Wairarapa, began travelling throughout the Wairarapa Valley taking Kiwi Table Tennis to the schools.

By June this year we had visited 30 schools, travelled over 500 kms and been involved with 2,000 children from 5 to 13 years. About 60% had never held a table tennis bat and this also applied to the teachers. Quite a challenge! However, armed with John's excellent Kiwi Coaching manual and fired up by his boundless enthusiasm we sallied forth, determined to do our best.

What a joy it is to watch a child achieve a skill they thought impossible. Be it a 5 year old bouncing a balloon on a bat or an older child rallying a ball 20 times over the net. Such was the enthusiasm in some schools that we returned several times to them. The benefit of this is starting to show in increased numbers joining clubs. Our schools tournament this year had 12 intermediate teams entered, double last year, and interclub has 32 teams (64 players) - the most ever.

The current success of our top juniors, **James Silverwood** and **Adam Ryland**, winning gold at Taupo; and the increasing competitiveness of **Craig Lawrence** and **Camus Wyatt**, are showing the rest of our juniors what can be achieved by hard work. With the right guidance, table tennis in the Wairarapa could be set for a bright, or dare I say it, "Golden" future.

*Des Orange Junior Selector, Wairarapa*

## Otago

## WHO SAID TABLE TENNIS IS WANING

### Schools

By introducing Kiwi Table Tennis, Otago now have over 700 children enjoying the fun version of the game. The schools competition has taken 3 years to build to 15 intermediate and secondary teams with 60 children playing. The competition was originally for only 6 weeks but by popular request they wanted to run it for 10 weeks with semi finals and finals.

### Senior Citizens

A new class of senior vets (most over 70) at the Edgar Centre totals ten members. St Peters church have a similar set up and all senior citizens are enjoying it. The two clubs have asked for a match which will shortly take place but it is hard to get all players there on the same day. Senior citizens are very busy people. Southland have clubs in the same age group and it is on the agenda to hold a Southland v Otago senior citizens match.

### Hospital Patients

The exclusive Phoenix Club (open heart surgery patients) have a club running by courtesy of the surgeons who recommend table tennis as a good remedial exercise. They have 4 tables and at least 30 players and the tables are never empty. The speed at which they perform has to be seen to be believed.

### International

The inaugural "China v New Zealand" match took place recently. Dunedin has a host of Chinese players who because of restaurant businesses etc can only play on a Sunday afternoon. The Chinese enjoyed the event and would like to hold it every month.

### Finance

All of the above is good for table tennis but not for the coffers of the Association. It is a start to rebuild and most of the above are entrants to the Masters Games and local Otago table tennis tournaments. So table tennis is not dead here but I think our budget may have to be looked at to entice these players into the association interclub.

### Great South Island Teams Tournament Clash with Canterbury.

Otago players have expressed their appreciation of the sportsmanship shown by Canterbury in their recent match. Canterbury could have beaten our team easily but they chose to make a game of it, which made it enjoyable for players and spectators alike.

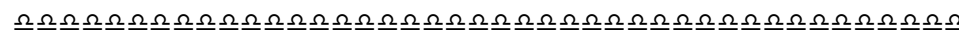
### Obituaries

**Morrie Hormann** passed away aged 91. Morrie was a great supporter of Otago junior table tennis and for the past 25 years donated the individual trophies at the secondary school champs. Morrie was a Life Member of the Association. He will be sadly missed.

**Wally Dickson** aged 69. He was one of the unsung heroes doing various jobs "around the place" that players take for granted. Wally could be relied upon to support Otago table tennis whenever he was needed to make up a team and travel to other areas. Wally was a second string player not winning many medals but giving 110% in every game. He took part in every Masters games held in Dunedin, winning several bronze medals along the way. He will be missed from Nelson to the Bluff.

*Contributed by Ben Hurr*

*(Otago Operations Manager and Schools Development Officer)*



## 2001 Summer Nationals



Table Tennis NZ has approved the use of the 40mm ball for the 2001 Summer Nationals so this will be NZ's first Tournament to use them.

This exciting event looks set to gain its largest ever entry with many overseas players expressing an interest in entering. The tournament will run from Saturday the 13th of January till Wednesday the 17th and will include teams and individual events. Entry forms can be obtained from your local Association, Table Tennis Nelson at PO Box 2230 Stoke or off the TTNZ web site.

This is a chance to try out the new ball while catching up with old friends during Nelson summer holiday season. Nelson's a great place to be in the summer so come along, enjoy the beaches and play a little table tennis all in one very exciting week.

For further inquiries contact Bryan Keane on 03-5477530, he will be able to help with any problems you may have. Accommodation will again be available at the Academy for \$22.00 per night, bed and breakfast.

## SUMMER TRAINING AND COACHING CAMPS

Nelson will be the focal point for players wanting to improve over the summer as it puts together its best training programme ever. Three top coaches will be on hand to help players of ALL LEVELS improve their games and along with the training, a fun time is assured. Australian players and a Chinese team of juniors will take part in a special camp of 24 players for four days before the Summer Nationals.

The camps range in price from \$145.00 for three days to \$185.00 for five days and the international training programme will cost \$195.00 per person. Players who wish to come to the Academy for a longer time should contact the Academy very soon to arrange a special rate and confirm a booking. The normal camps consist of a maximum of 10 players so if you would like to get a few friends together do it NOW.

The first camp starts on 10th of December and they run almost continuously with a few days break over Christmas. All camps will be well supervised and players will stay at the Academy. Many applications have already been processed and some camps are filling extremely fast so contact the Academy today and secure your booking. Full details of dates are available from the **Academy** Phone (03) 547 7530. Fax (03) 547 4828. email: ttacademy@xtra.co.nz

*Bryan Keane*

## EXPERIENCED MAN JOINS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

**Andrew Palmer** (North Harbour) is now a member of the TTNZ Technical Committee. This committee advises the Board on issues such as tournament regulations and formats, ball adoption, representative eligibility, and a wide range of technical rather than administrative matters.

Andrew comes to the job with a wealth of experience and involvement in similar matters within the North Harbour Association. He served on its management committee for eight years and has managed junior representative teams since 1991. He designed and maintains North Harbour's web site, the first table tennis site in New Zealand.

The Technical Committee is chaired by David Jackson (Auckland) and a third member is Bob Hurr (Otago). One further member is being sought.

## The Effect of the New 40mm Ball Top Coach's View

The 40mm ball replaces the 38mm ball as the official ITTF ball on October 1. In NZ the required starting date for using the new ball in open tournaments is 1 May 2001 although it will be used at the 2001 Summer Nationals and NZ Veterans Championships. The existing ball may continue to be used in local competitions up until 31 December 2001.

USATT Magazine reported on a talk given at the U.S. Open Coaches Seminar by Swedish Men's Coach Ulf Carlsson on the effect of the larger ball. How will it change the sport, and how do players adjust to it? That was the subject of Carlsson's talk, his exposure coming from Swedish players who have already starting using the 40mm ball.

His main points were:

**Blocking:** Blockers can't use the speed of the ball to re-direct the ball at high speeds. Players must be "more active" when blocking – i.e. blockers must supply their own power, since the 40mm ball won't rebound as fast.

**Off-table play:** Since the ball slows down faster due to air resistance, players who play off the table will need more power. They will also have to adjust their instinct for how far they play from the table, since their natural instincts will now have them too far from the table.

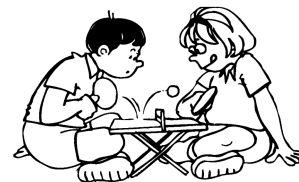
**Service:** There will be less spin on the serve. Therefore, placement will become more important. With the 38mm ball, players often serve crosscourt; with the 40mm ball, players will have to learn to add more variety to their placement.

**Choppers:** They will have to adjust the distance they play from the table – and since they have to react precisely to balls hit at such high speeds, it may take them some time to comfortably adjust their instincts. With the 38mm ball, world-class choppers have to be world-class attackers as well; with the 40mm ball, attacking won't be as important for choppers. However, choppers will have more time to attack (since the ball travels slower), and so attacking will be easier for them. They will not be able to generate as much backspin, so they will have to concentrate more on placement and change of spin.

**Rallies:** Since power won't win rallies as quickly, placement becomes more important. Players will have to learn to use the whole table more, with shots going to all three of an opponent's "weak" spots – the two wide angles, and at his middle (the crossover point between the forehand and backhand, roughly at a player's playing elbow). With the 38mm ball, many players successfully rely on sheer power, but that won't work as well with the larger ball.

**Physical Training:** Since the rallies will be longer, physical endurance will become more important.

**Drills:** Since the 40mm ball will emphasise more rallying (as opposed to the 38mm ball, which emphasised serve and attack), drills will emphasise rallying more, serve & receive less. Also, drills will be longer, to match the expected longer rallies. Currently, most drills done by the Swedish team are 7.5 minutes long. They may do more 10-minute drills to build up greater stamina for longer rallies.



*Continued bottom right next page*

## INSIDE THE MIND OF AN OLYMPIC CHAMPION

Chinese star **Kong Linghui** was World Champion in 1995 and top seed and favourite to win the men's gold medal at the Sydney Olympics. In the final he faced 35 year old Swedish veteran Jan-Ove Waldner, the fifth seed who had defeated third seed Liu Guoliang (winner in Atlanta) in the semi-final. Waldner had won in Barcelona in 1992 and was still the western player most respected by the Chinese.

"When I played Waldner in the past, I always had to follow his tempo", said Kong. "When he changed it I had to change also, so I always felt passive. Then I analysed this with my coaches and came to the conclusion that when you play someone like Waldner who is so good with variations, the best thing is to not change when he keeps changing: he plays his tempo and I play mine. When rallying, try to move the ball to his forehand until he has to stand in the middle so that he cannot initiate anything. Then I will win. Of course, this tactic is based on the fact that I am better in extended rallies than him, and may not apply in general (to everyone)."

It worked - for the first two games. In the third Waldner attacked more ferociously, especially early in the rallies, and in other rallies slowed the pace leaving Kong no power to "re-use". Waldner won the next two games.

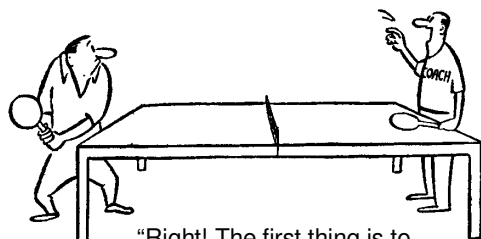
Remembering how second seed Vladimir Samsonov (Belarus) had tightened his game too much and choked in the fifth game against Waldner in the quarter-final, Kong determined not to go the same way. "I had to open up in the 5th game. So starting the 5th game, I increased my attacks, and did not dare to let up. Waldner might have been playing a little too safe after he tied me in games. So I jumped to a 10-1 lead, and basically that was the game. After I won, I was especially emotional, because winning was not easy. If I had won 3-0, I don't think I would have been as emotional. I remember I was very excited after I won in 1995. I could not calm down for a long time.

This time after I won the Olympic gold, I felt calm very quickly afterwards.

I know I won because I was able to stay cool during the match, and that does not mean that I do not have any more mental weaknesses. For example, when I am ahead, I sometimes play safe and wait for the other side to make mistakes. Also, my forehand against short balls needs to be strengthened. Next month we start playing the big ball. There are so many technical issues to work on".

Chinese players collected all four gold medals at the Sydney Olympics, bringing their tally since table tennis became an Olympic sport in 1988, to 14 gold, 9 silver and 3 bronze.

*Thanks to **Ron Sheridan**, the Sports Weekly and the New York Times, for supplying material on which this article was based.*



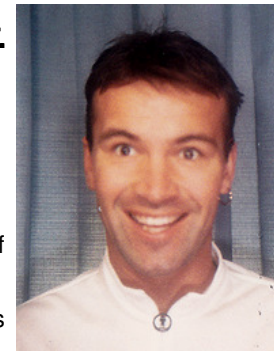
"Right! The first thing is to forget all you ever knew about cricket."

### Effects of the 40mm Big Ball – (Continued from page 25)

**Equipment:** Attackers will probably need faster rackets, and faster and thicker sponge. Players will need to change their equipment both to adjust to the ball, and to adjust to their new playing style, which presumably will change with the new ball.

**In General:** The 40mm ball will favour players who hit and smash. Big, strong loopers may also do well. It's too early to tell how choppers will do, since they may take longer to adjust.

## Profile – Wayne Gear.



At age 28, Wayne has been playing Table Tennis since he was ten years old. He has represented North Harbour (1986-1995), Auckland (1996), Waikato (1997) and Auckland again in 1998/99.

On the national scene, he was in the NZ Men's team to compete at the Australian Pro Tour Open in 1996, the NZ Junior Team to Australia in 1991 and participated in the 1989 development tour of Australia.

He has had one season playing professionally in Belgium and has competed in the English Open Championships with Shane Laugesen.

This experience has helped to steer him into the coaching arena and he is currently the North Harbour Junior Squad Coach. In past years he has coached the North Harbour and Auckland Association's junior teams. Wayne was Aaron Winborn's coach at the 1999 Olympic Qualifying tournament and recently the NZ under 20 Men's team coach at the 2000 Oceania Championships.

Clearly Wayne has many more years of coaching ahead of him, and he is a welcome addition to coaching on the National scene. ☒☒

## Oceania Championships – a Junior Player's View.

13 year old **Brock Barrie** wrote of his experience at these championships in New Caledonia: (See July issue for previous reports)

The Opening Ceremony was a tiring 4 hour stand, but was really interesting. We watched people do traditional dances and listened to people talk in French and then had it translated into English. The people who gave speeches were the Mayor of Koumac, the Deputy Mayor of Koumac, the President and Vice President of the New Caledonia Table Tennis Federation.

The U20 and senior team events were first. I supported the teams because I wasn't in one. Then the individuals started. It was group play, which means there are 4 people in a group that play each other. In the U20's there were only 3 in each group and I had the player that won the Open Men and the top New Caledonian seed. I played hard and went to the second division and reached the ¼ finals. In the U17 group I had the top seed and I went into the second division again. In the U14's I made it through to the tournament and played to the ¼ finals losing to the eventual runner up. In the doubles Nathan Lowe and I came third in the U20 men's. We lost to the NZ team that won it so that was cool. In the U17 we lost to the top seeds, and in the U14 we made it to the semi's and lost to the team that won. This gave us third and we got 2 Bronze medals.

I liked the way that the whole team supported each other no matter what our age was. The best part was when Karen Li trusted me enough to be her coach in one of her games. She asked my opinion about her play during the game and she won. That was really cool. All the Coaches and Managers were really friendly and gave us lots of help. We stayed in a hostel with all the U20 team members, which was a lot of fun except for the cold showers!

I am really proud to have been given the chance to play in a team for NZ and wear the Silver Fern. I had a lot of fun and learnt heaps. Thank you to Table Tennis NZ for providing me with this opportunity. I also have to thank all my friends in Karting who sponsored all my costs to get to New Caledonia. ☒☒

## 37001 Reasons for Individual Member Registration (IMR)

In 1998 a system of registering each player with Table Tennis New Zealand was instituted. With full Board support, the system, now in its third year, albeit slowly, is starting to settle down with more and more administrators coming to the party.

The large number of reasons? \$37000 is the amount TTNZ will receive in the next financial year from the Hillary Commission. This is a small increase (\$2000) over the current year. Not as much as is needed but at least the amount has not decreased as it had the year before.

Performance in many aspects of the sport as set out in the annual strategic plan is important, to gain Hillary Commission funding and the numbers game is most important, almost critical. Growth of numbers playing indicates progress, which in turn assists greatly in the funding allocation.

The other reason – dear to the writer’s heart – is that each registered player receives a copy of TT INFO, the TTNZ magazine. Prior to registration it was clear many were not and direct dispatch to players became essential. Ironically the more members the more difficult financially it will be to produce the magazine. It is however an important link in the communication chain.

There are of course other reasons – statistics for the strategic plan; verifiable membership numbers, with every member’s name and address on one database; and increased direct contact between players and TTNZ, drawing the whole table tennis family into a more tightly-knit group.

Over the 3 years, the most serious problem with registration, is in fact getting everyone registered who are affiliated and playing in clubs and associations. We still do not have the base numbers registered to truly gauge progress. We will show a healthy increase this year, due to a change in attitudes, but without doubt there are many who should be but regretfully not yet in the system. We are aware of many affiliated club members, interclub players, even association secretaries and administrators, many of long standing who have yet to be registered/renewed by their Association.

Controlling the system in Associations is by no means simple or easy, especially by secretaries who have other priorities and duties to perform. In some cases it is difficult to get the cooperation of clubs. The difficulties are clearly understood. Perhaps the only solution could be for each association to appoint an IMR person, who throughout the year could liaise with the appropriate people, including club secretaries. We are grateful to those administrators who do take the time and patience to get to grips with the problem and support the concept.

In the interests of the sport throughout New Zealand – associations, players and administrators need to play their part in the registration concept.

**Robin Radford**

*(Originally produced for the NZ Open programme)*

As at 28 September, year 2000 registrations totalled 4170 a considerable increase on the total 1999 registrations of 3364. Interesting to note there are 950 1999, and 600 1998 registrations unrenewed, so there is quite a turnover of

## Profile – Anne Noble

Anne (photo below) is the Promotions and Development Officer of the Auckland Association and in addition is the Auckland Association Coach. She says she has been very busy over the past 7 months establishing herself in the various roles.

Formerly Anne Stonestreet, she won the New Zealand Open Women’s Singles title in 1971, 1972, 1973 and 1976 and in 3 of those years won the NZ Open Women’s Doubles with Kathy Fraser twice and Neti Trail once. 1972 and 1973 saw her win the Open Mixed Doubles with Geoff Jennings and in 1979 with Richard Lee. She had previously won the NZ Under 18 singles title.

With that sort of experience behind her, her objectives for the Auckland Association are to increase player numbers and to raise the sport’s profile. She has been doing this by going out to schools, participating in various expo’s with the robot machine and demonstrating the sport to the public. Anne is also aware that extra income has to be generated to sustain an

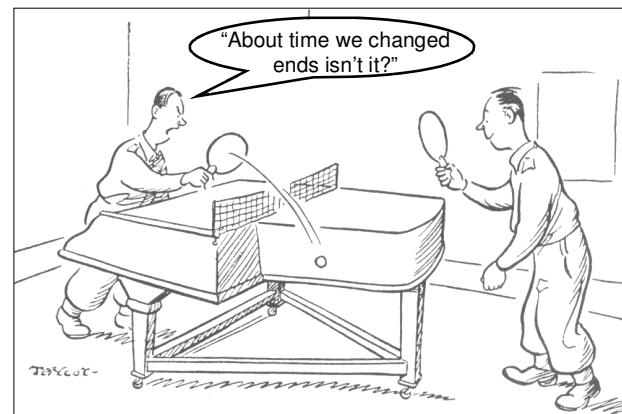


extra wage and feels they are progressing positively in that direction. She feels it is important to be seen publicly and has attended breakfast meetings and seminars through various organisations, meeting CEO’s of various sports.

Right from the beginning Anne has applied tremendous energy and a no-nonsense approach to her duties.

Auckland have this year increased their main winter inter-school competition by some 30 teams and had an entry of 185 players in the Auckland Open, the biggest for 20 years - up from 89 in 1998 and 125 in 1999.

Anne is hopeful that Auckland’s pendulum has swung in the right direction and that table tennis in New Zealand will benefit from the progress being made. She also welcomes contact from other associations in a mutual exchange of ideas and help.



### WORLD RANKINGS NZ Players (as at 1 October 2000)

<u>Women</u>	
Li Chunli	35
Karen Li	95
Sarah Finch	362
<u>Men</u>	
Peter Jackson	159
Shane Laugesen	288
Andrew Hubbard	352
Aaron Winborn	406



# Top 10 Ratings

As at: 15 October 2000

## Men's Open

1. Aaron Li
2. Peter Jackson
3. Shane Laugesen
4. Andrew Hubbard
5. Aaron Winborn
6. Hagen Bower
7. Yang Ying
8. Malcolm Darroch
9. Andy Huang

## Women's Open

1. Li Chunli
2. Karen Li
3. Linda Chen
4. Sarah Finch
5. Tracey McLauchlan
6. Kadia Keller-Rice
7. Val Beaver
8. Sabine Westenra
9. Yvonne Fogarty
10. Lily Huang

## Men's Under 21

1. Yang Ying
2. Andy Huang
3. Mike Liu
4. Peter Craven
5. Ben Collins
6. Adrian Soh
7. Simon Wallace
8. Yi-Sien Lin
9. Paul Innes
10. Paul Stewart

## Women's Under 21

1. Tracey McLauchlan
2. Lily Huang
3. Wendy Zheng
4. Jiani Hu
5. Samara Collins
6. Anna Danby
7. Deborah Morrison
8. Eileen Schwab
9. Sandy Wang
10. Lisa Boaden

## Men's Over 40

1. Malcolm Darroch
2. Maurice Burrowes
3. Doug Pattinson
4. Bob Lassen
5. Alan Alabaster
6. Peter de Boer
7. Chip Eade
8. Nam Hang Lee
9. Pat Low
10. Lindsay Ward

## Women's Over 40

1. Val Beaver
2. Yvonne Fogarty
3. Jill Murray
4. Chris Cunningham
5. Lesley Gardner
6. Lynley Barker
7. Valerie Scarr
8. Anne McLean
9. Raina McKechnie

## Men's Over 50

1. Doug Pattinson
2. Bob Lassen
3. Alan Alabaster
4. Chip Eade
5. Nam Hang Lee
6. Pat Low
7. Alan Tomlinson
8. Stephen Craw
9. Chris Williams
10. Michael Warren

## Women's Over 50

1. Val Beaver
2. Jill Murray
3. Chris Cunningham
4. Lynley Barker
5. Valerie Scarr
6. Anne McLean
7. Raina McKechnie
8. Sue Shirriffs
9. Averil Roberts
10. Pat McArthur

## Men's Over 60

1. Alan Alabaster
2. Chip Eade
3. Nam Hang Lee
4. Alan Tomlinson
5. Barrie Kendall
6. Colin Tipper
7. John Armstrong
8. Denver Glass
9. Jon Cheal
10. Terry Cockfield

## Women's Over 60

1. Pat McArthur
2. Joyce Coleman
3. Annice Robottom
4. Margaret McGregor
5. Gladys Halford
6. Elsie Spooner
7. Valda Smith
8. Kath Thompson
9. Geraldine Stapleton
10. Barbara Dye

## Boys' Under 19

1. Yang Ying
2. Andy Huang
3. Peter Craven
4. Adrian Soh
5. Simon Wallace
6. Yi-Sien Lin
7. Paul Stewart
8. Josh Alexandre
9. John Cordue
10. Jeffery Vinicombe

## Girls' Under 19

1. Lily Huang
2. Wendy Zheng
3. Jiani Hu
4. Deborah Morrison
5. Eileen Schwab
6. Sandy Wang
7. Lisa Boaden
8. Andrea Gosney
9. Rachel Griffiths
10. Meena Chang

## Boys' Under 17

1. Yang Ying
2. Andy Huang
3. Adrian Soh
4. Simon Wallace
5. Josh Alexandre
6. John Cordue
7. Evan Kramer
8. Andrew Hovey
9. Karl Samson
10. Ian Loubachevskii

## Girls' Under 17

1. Lily Huang
2. Wendy Zheng
3. Jiani Hu
4. Eileen Schwab
5. Sandy Wang
6. Andrea Gosney
7. Sophie Shu
8. Sarah Ho
9. Florence Li
10. Jacqui Wood

## Boys' Under 15

1. Andy Huang
2. Simon Wallace
3. Josh Alexandre
4. Nathan Lowe
5. Anthony Wilson
6. Hadleigh Bunce
7. Binbin Zhu
8. Scott Ridder
9. Jonathan Chen
10. Jack Wells

## Girls' Under 15

1. Lily Huang
2. Jiani Hu
3. Eileen Schwab
4. Sandy Wang
5. Sophie Shu
6. Sarah Ho
7. Florence Li
8. Kelly Samson
9. Leanne Ridder
10. Katie Stretton

## Boys' Under 13

1. Nathan Lowe
2. Binbin Zhu
3. Jack Wells
4. Rhys Van Stipriaan
5. Geoffrey Smart
6. Chris Erskine
7. Brock Barrie
8. Billy Lam
9. Brodi Smith
10. Kevin Pham

## Girls' Under 13

1. Lily Huang
2. Jiani Hu
3. Sandy Wang
4. Sophie Shu
5. Kelly Samson
6. Katie Stretton
7. Michelle McCarthy
8. Hanna Squire
9. Sarah Gregorius
10. Katrina Banks



## Australian Open Championships Results:

Men's Singles:	Russell Lavale (V)
Women's Singles:	Miao Miao (V)
Men's Doubles:	M Smythe & S Gerada (V)
Women's Doubles:	T Gough & K Crowell (SA)
Mixed Doubles:	S Gerada & Miao Miao (V)
<b>Under 18</b>	
Boys' Singles:	John Tawadrous (NSW)
Girls' Singles:	May Cho (SA)
Boys' Doubles:	A Swanson (SA) & A Soh (NZ)
Girls' Doubles:	M Cho & K Bungey (SA)
Mixed Doubles:	R Abbas & M Cho (SA)



Notable is the Boys' Doubles win by **Adrian Soh** and his partner A Swanson from Sth Australia. Adrian lost, in two very close games, in the Quarter final of the Boys' singles to J Tawadrous (NSW) who won the event.

Seeded third in the Boys' Singles, **Andy Huang** reached the semi final. He also reached the semi final of the Boys' Doubles with his partner A Williams (Sth Aust).

