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TABLE TENNIS INFO



October 1996

TTNZ Issue:one

FIRST ISSUE SPECIAL

New Board up and running.
Message from the new Chairperson.

Lots discussed at first full meeting.

Details inside.

Table Tennis New Zealand Inc is pleased to present this new venture into communication.

This Table Tennis **INFO**rmation Magazine will be issued 4 times each year. The next issue will be mid November.

Each association has the opportunity to contribute and it is hoped that many contributions are received on any aspect of National or Local TT. It will also be pleasing to receive articles and letters from players.

Send contributions to the National office or editor.

Deadline next issue is October 25th.

Remember we should cater for a wide spectrum of players from high level to social.

Come on associations and players - how about a reply.

There is little point in this **INFO** communication being issued and distributed at some cost and endeavour if it does not contain something for all and what ever it is that people want.

We look forward to hearing from associations AND players.

Dates of Note

	Oct 25	Time to get input to the mag away!
Sun-Sun	Nov 3-10	Australian Veteran Champs (Adelaide)
Sat	Nov 9	Board meeting
	Nov - Mid	Next Issue of magazine
Sat	Dec 7	Annual General Meeting and Workshops

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Contributions and letters can be sent direct to
<<<<<<_____

Constructive criticism welcome - be positive and help others with



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WELLINGTON



The New Structure and Board

The National body has restructured and a Board of 7 members has been appointed replacing the old structure of a management committee and regional councillors.

The Board will be accountable for preparing a Strategic Plan and yearly operating plans which will cover such vital aspects as marketing the sport, communication, publicity and other areas all designed to assist Associations to increase numbers and generally develop. It will still remain the responsibility of district associations to help themselves and develop the sport in their own area, but hopefully with the support and, some assistance and ideas from the national body.

An appointments committee was created earlier in the year to seek people with the required skills and Board members were appointed as distinct from being elected at an AGM.

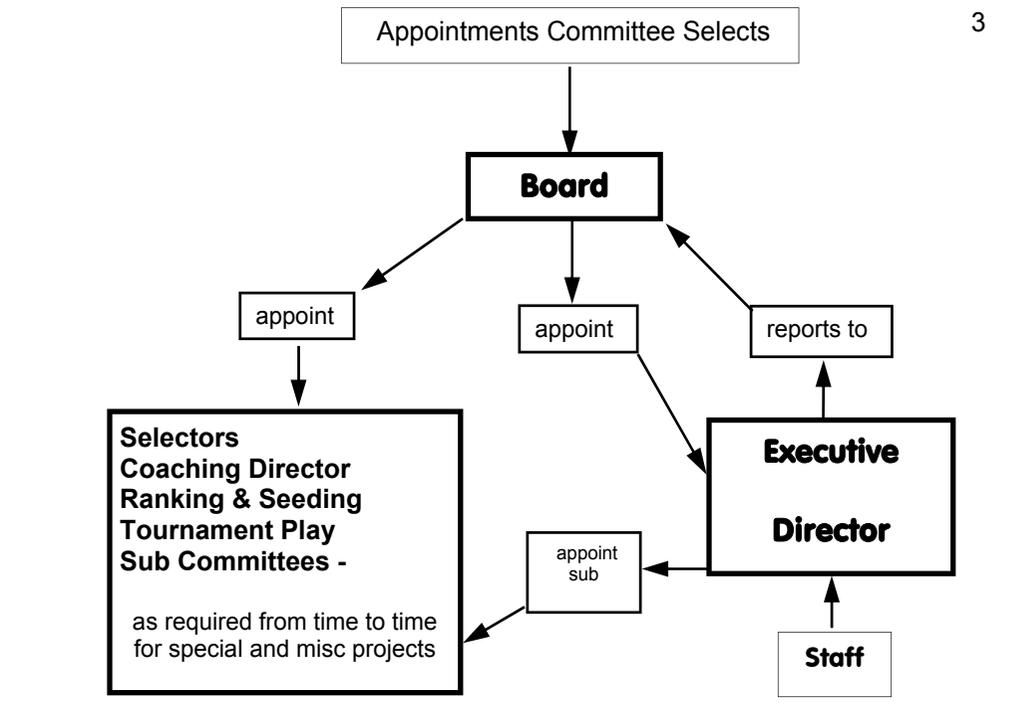
The Board was formally operative from July 11 1996 when a Special General Meeting in Auckland approved the new Rules (Constitution) which also changed the name of the association to **TABLE TENNIS NEW ZEALAND INC.**

The members are:

Philippa Baker MBE	Sport Wanganui Programme Manager	Wang
John Beatson	Information Security Consultant	Wgton
Ron Garrett	General Manager - Education Service	Inver
Alan Hounsell	Retired General Manager Int' Marine Insurance	Auck
	Former Marketing Manager Commercial Union	Wgton
Helen Mathieson	Sponsorship Manager	Auck
Sarah Sandley	Marketing Manager Gordon & Gotch	Wang
Marilyn Smith	Marketing Liaison Secretary	
	Wanganui Regional Community Polytechnic	

At the 14th Sept Board meeting the following were appointed:

Chairperson	Mr Alan Hounsell
Deputy Chairperson	Mr John Beatson



Who is the new Chairperson?

Table Tennis has gone for the best of both worlds in appointing **Alan Hounsell** as its Chairperson under the new structure.

A man of wide sporting interests, he's best known as a former first class cricketer, playing for Canterbury, Wellington, Auckland and Northern Districts in the 1970's. He has also coached cricket at various levels and was for three years the convenor of selectors for the Wellington first class team. His main winter sport was basketball, playing National League for nine years.

As a businessman in the insurance industry, Alan has been responsible for major achievements in the field of sales and marketing, and has a spectacular track record in restructuring, refocussing and elevating existing operations to their full potential. He believes in the value of applying business skills to sports management and, as his message makes clear, is committed to the task of re-invigorating table tennis.

Table Tennis New Zealand welcomes his appointment and wishes him well in an exciting and challenging position in exciting and challenging times.

Message from the Chairperson

Welcome to this new publication which aims to keep members up to date on matters of importance and

interest to you from the Board and National office.

At the recent Board meeting I was delighted to accept the position of Chairman, and although unexpected, I can assure you of my enthusiasm for sport, the participants and the challenges ahead of Table Tennis New Zealand..

There is no doubt that the calibre of all the Board members, the goals and expectations of the sport will be achieved. It is already apparent to me that there are a number of very capable people working within table tennis. It is my aim, and that of the Executive Director to involve and utilise as many of these talents as possible.

The creation of the Board is no magic cure on its own for the problems that face Table Tennis New Zealand today. With the cooperation, assistance and support of you all in the table tennis family, the strategies and changes which are required for the future development of Table Tennis New Zealand, will be successfully achieved and implemented.

I look forward to meeting many of you over the coming months or at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting in December. Please feel free to contact me or any of the Board members direct with your ideas and feedback.

Alan R Hounsell



**1997
World Championships (Manchester)
Commonwealth Championships (Glasgow)**

The New Zealand team to compete in the above has been announced:

Men:	A Hubbard	Women:	Li Chunli
	P Jackson		T Epps
	S Laugesen		S Finch
	A Winborn		D Garrett

The first Board meeting with the new members from outside table tennis was held on Sept 14 when major issues were discussed.

After deciding the role of the Board should be a governing one as opposed to the way a management committee operated the chairperson and deputy chairperson were elected. (see page 2)



Strategic and Operational plans.

The detailed strategic plan presented to the 1995 Annual Meeting was reviewed and the following sections discussed:

Issues.

Comment was made that in the past the success of membership growth initiatives has always depended on other people (administrators of clubs and associations) getting wholeheartedly behind the ideas.

Volunteers needed to tap into professional guidance offered by Regional Sports Trusts through their development managers who have their own targets to met.

There was some brief discussion on the possibility of dispensing with district associations and affiliating clubs direct to the national body. Opinion was divided.

Several aspects of television coverage were discussed.

Operational Plans.

The plans were endorsed during which comment was made that surveys had shown that people playing table tennis outside the structure has increased over the last decade.

Coaching Plan.

The meeting held a discussion on the present state of Coaching in the sport.

Hillary Commission Funding Application.

The strategic plan was required by the commission to be updated with specific targets and dates and the meeting arranged for this to be achieved by early November.

Communication

A flow chart proposing communication from the Executive Director to administrators and directly to players was presented to the Board meeting by Marilyn Smith. General discussion on communication followed. The right of any person to send letters direct to the Board was endorsed.

A suggestion was made that a "Road Show" could be launched in association with public statements issued by the Board.

The Board supported the introduction of a magazine.

Processes for appointments to various positions.

Selectors.

The Board agreed that the best three available people would be appointed as the National Selection Panel, regardless of their geographical locations and the entire panel would be responsible for selecting the North and South Island teams. Job descriptions were to be drafted with reference therein to the selectors role relating to disciplinary issues. The disciplinary process is to be set out clearly with the selectors being kept informed.

National Director of Coaching, National Coach and Area Coaches and Co-ordinators.

This whole area was discussed and job descriptions were to be revised and the jobs reviewed.

Tournament Play, Ratings, Ranking and Seeding committees and Umpires Convenor, and Officials to accompany NZ Teams.

It appears that these are also to be reviewed.

Ball Adoption - the Sunflex 3 star ball distributors are to be offered the opportunity to continue the existing sponsorship arrangements for a further year in return for their ball being adopted for major tournaments.

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Executive Director

The Board approved a new job description and advertisements for the position were to be placed in the major papers and circulated to associations, tertiary institutions and Regional Sports Trusts in due course.

The panel to consider a short list is Grahame Bilby (management consultant) Sarah Sandley and John Beatson.



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Auckland Sept 22 / 27 1996

Event	Winner s	Runner ups
<u>Under 19</u>		
Boys' Singles	L Chen	S Hirst
Girls' Singles	K Li	T McLauchlan
Boys' Doubles	S Hirst/G Windley	B Adam/C Herlihy
Girls' Doubles	K Li/C So	M Beazer/T Mclauchlan
Mixed Doubles	L Chen/K Li	P Innes/A Johnson
<u>Under 17</u>		
Boys' Singles	L Chen	S Hirst
Girls' Singles	C Danby	A Winstanley
Boys' Doubles	L Chen/Y Lin	M Bourke/P Craven
Girls' Doubles	A Smith/A Winstanley	S Utramadra/F Waliko
Mixed Doubles	V Ho/M Neal	J Lennox/T Mclauchan
<u>Under 15</u>		
Boys' Singles	P Craven	F Wong
Girls' Singles	D Morrison	H Wilson
Boys' Doubles	M Mullin/P Stewart	J Lin/Y Lin
Girls' Doubles	A Thomson/L Wight	G Chiang/E Huang
Mixed Doubles	J Lin/E Huang	P Craven/J Brewerton
<u>Under 13</u>		
Boys' Singles	A Hovey	A Soh
Girls' Singles	J McCord	A Gosney
Boys' Doubles	J Cordue/A Hovey	K Samson/M Vinicombe
Girls' Doubles	F Collins/C Gazengel	A Gosney/J McCord
Mixed Doubles	A Hovey/K Winkley	J Cordue/E Silvester



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

Some words about the JUNIOR Nationals

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As an interested observer I find there is something quite different about the National Junior championships. This is the first occasion that they have been held as a completely separate tournament (a change brought about by the introduction of the four term school year) and in my humble view they were very successful. One was able to focus completely on the juniors. And the "senior" juniors who are good enough to play in their association senior teams did not have to concern themselves with saving some energy for those events.

One pundit had forecast that through the complete separation of the senior and junior championships the number of teams would be well down and that the support of associations would be less. A total of 61 teams competed in the various under 19 and under 15 boys and girls championships. In fact every association except two had representation in the teams events even though in a couple of instances they were in composite teams.

Whilst the focus may have been on the finals of the A grade under 19 boys and girls finals there was time to also observe the finals of the under 15 B and C grades which to those players was more important than the big boys and girls events. The Manawatu under 15 C grade team of Jarred Luty, Kerry Beals and Timon Walkley prevailed by the barest margin over the Waikato team of Morgan Coster, Misty Jones-Middleton and Karl Vinnicombe. In the under 15 girls B grade the North Harbour team of Sarah Jones, Stacy Liu and Susan Hwang had a narrow win over the Northland team of Karen and Kim Parker and Annemarie Welsh.

The under 19 boys and girls A Grade finals were both real thrillers.

In the under 19 boys section play, Auckland A beat Waikato A 5-4 mainly due to some great form by Brendon Adam who won his three singles. When the two teams squared off for the final Waikato were represented by Chris Herlihy, Paul Innes and Aaron Larkin. In the Auckland team were Brendon Adam, Conrad Lee and Jason Ng. Unfortunately for Auckland Brendon was not able to play up to the same standard as he had earlier (he was not well) and Waikato prevailed 5-3. After 6 matches the teams were all square. Paul Innes then proceeded to beat Brendon Adam and Chris Herlihy accounted for Jason Ng to seal the win for Waikato.

The Under 19 girls final was also a reversal of the result of the sectional contest. In both contests North Harbour had Karen Lee, Monique Neal and Clara So whilst Hutt Valley were represented by Tracey McLauchlan and the Beazer twins, Belinda and Melissa. It was predictable that Karen Li would win her three singles so in the final the star was Monique Neal who won two singles to give North Harbour the title.

The outstanding players in the individual events were Karen Li (North Harbour) and Chen Lei (Nelson.) Karen had a clean sweep in the under 19, winning the singles, girls doubles with Clara So and the mixed with Chen Lei. Chen Lei won both the under 19 and 17 boys singles, the under 19 mixed doubles with Karen Li and the under 17 boys doubles with Yi-Sien Lin (Canterbury.)

Yes, there is something about the junior championships - the participation of young players for the first time, their reaction to the size of the event and the natural exuberance of youth. Add to this the presence of mothers, fathers, coaches, helpers and minders and all the essential ingredients are present for a great atmosphere and a great tournament.

The debate on the pros and cons on whether the senior and junior championships should be combined will continue but on the Auckland experience there seems to be pluses for having them as separate tournaments.

Merv Allardyce



The Olympics

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CHUNLI TRIES HARD

Our sole Olympic table tennis representative, Li Chunti, departed for Atlanta knowing that a medal was a distinct possibility. Although her world ranking was only 52, within the past twelve months she had beaten the world number 3 and 1988 Olympic Champion (Taiwanese Chen Jing), and in the Japan Open only a few weeks before Atlanta she had beaten the world number 11 and winner of the 1996 China Open (Wang Chen, of China).

Chunli was in Group C with Larissa Chouaib (Liberia), Alessia Arisi (Italy) and Chen Jing, the player she had beaten before but who nonetheless was one of the favourites. Her first opponent was Arisi, ranked 46th in the world, whom she disposed of ruthlessly 21-14, 21-8. She then faced Chen and unfortunately was decisively beaten this time 10-21, 15-21. (Chen went on to win the silver medal.) In her final match Chunli beat the unranked Chouaib 21-7, 21-5 to finish second in the group. Her quest for a medal ended there as only the group winner progressed to the second stage (last sixteen).

Team manager Peter Jackson said that Chunli would have approached her match against Chen Jing with more confidence if he had been able to spend more time with her leading up to the event, He felt that the player/coach partnership had not been set up early enough for them to come together as a team.

Both team members were very impressed with the table tennis venue (8 match tables in the main stadium and sixteen practice tables in an adjacent hall); and they found the village accommodation and facilities to be adequate although very spread out.

WHAT DID PJ HAVE TO DO TO MAKE THE OLYMPIC TEAM ?

When the top Australian player is selected for the Olympics and you beat him three times in one tournament, you can be forgiven for feeling hard done by when omitted from the New Zealand team. When you've also beaten the world number 70, the world number 50 and the world number 25 over the past twelve months, the decision seems even more harsh. , -



That is precisely what happened to Peter Jackson. A veteran of two previous Olympics; playing better than ever and with the highest world ranking ever attained by a New Zealand male, Jackson's hopes were high after a sensational Oceania qualifying tournament in Melbourne where he won all fifteen matches. But it wasn't enough. The Olympic selectors were working within the confines of a strict criteria, considering only players with a realistic chance of finishing in the top half of the field - regardless of how they performed in any qualifying tournament within the sport.



Olympics—from page 9

Vigorous and well researched lobbying by a team led by Peter Hirst resulted in the final decision being postponed until after Peter had played in the Japan and China Open. It was a big ask - either beat someone in the top 32 in the world, or don't play in the Olympics. Peter had only one opportunity (in the China Open against the world number 6) and, predictably, didn't win.

Denied a place in the team as a player, Peter Jackson's previous Olympic experience made him an obvious choice as team manager/coach. But the situation highlights a clear injustice in the system. Maintain Olympic standards by all means, but Olympic standards cover the whole field, not just half of it.

J Kiley.

And what about the Logo?

The new Board decided that a change of Logo was unnecessary.

NZTA letters disappear however and are substituted with **TNZ**.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

The one that will not go away! Also discussed at the Board meeting of course.

Management: The National office is to take over management of the accounting system as from 1 Oct. At the same time an improved computer accounting system is to be installed.

Controls: A proposal for control procedures for the issuing of cheques and controlling payments is to be sought from Robin Radford. Procedures will also include Internal Audit recommendations.

Affiliation Fees. A paper by Robin Radford on the method of allocation of affiliation fees was considered. After discussion it was decided to circulate the document to district associations for comment.

Budget: It's that time again, and the Executive Director has been asked to prepare and submit one for 1997.

Financial Management Reports: are to be submitted regularly to the Board.



On the 3rd and 4th floors of the Wellington Public Library building you will find sports house, where many National offices of sports bodies are located. On the 4th floor the Executive Director Merv Allardyce and the

Administration Officer John Kiley labour away in the interests of Table Tennis as employees of Table Tennis New Zealand Inc.

The phone rings, messages arrive on the fax and someone - table tennis or others call in. A sophisticated high speed photocopier is shared by the 15 or so sports offices making the cost most economical.

The functions and work carried out by the Merv and John include:

National Championships (NZ, Nth Isl, Sth Isl and Veterans) liaison and administration of entries, entry fees, draw making, certificates, medals and many other items which all go to help an association to conduct the championships. The Executive Director attends when ever possible.

Liaison with the Hillary Commission, Sports Foundation, Coaching Association of NZ, NZ Sports Assembly, Olympic Games Association, Oceania Association and other organisations as required.

Rating System. All Open Championship results are input into the computer rating system. The players ratings are published periodically.

Overseas tours and championships can be a major item some years as the travelling/accommodation, general arrangements and liaison can be a long and complex task.

The many tasks include:

- Annual report
- Desktop publishing
- Circulars and Communication
- Lottery
- Seminars etc
- Handbook/rules maintenance
- Championship reports
- Accounts/ Banking/Mail
- Meetings attendance/Minutes
- Training camps organisation
- Coaching liaison
- Reports and investigation as required by the Board
- Supervising and design and manufacturing clothing and control
- Publicity
- Liaison and providing resources to Associations

The Annual General Meeting is to be held in Wellington on Saturday December 7.

Being planned is a series of workshops on specific subjects prior to the meeting.

The AGM itself may not start until 5pm.

With much of the business of the old AGM now in the hands of the Board better use can be made of the time when representatives from associations meet.