



A few dates to take note of ~~~~~

Dec 7 Board Meeting
Dec 6 - 7 Annual General Meeting and Conference

1998

Jan 17-24 Summer Nationals Nelson
March Next issue TABLE TENNIS INFO

SUMMER NATIONALS

A new innovation from Nelson is the introduction of a Summer Nationals tournament. The event will be held at the Richmond YMCA Nelson - Teams events 17-20 January and Individual events 21-24 January 1998.

Entries for the inaugural Star & Garter Summer National Teams and Individuals Championships close 9th December with TTNZ, so be in soon and enjoy a stint in sunny Nelson.

The new age events will create interest with most players and the two player teams will mean every game is important. Good cash prizes are offered and everyone should go home with happy memories of Nelson. Interest is already strong and TTNZ hopes this new event will be supported.

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Table Tennis appreciates the support given by



Note: The new E-MAIL and WORLD WIDE WEB addresses.

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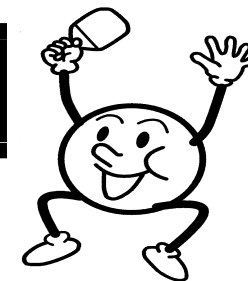
TABLE TENNIS INFO

NOVEMBER

1997



Issue: 5



STUNNING PERFORMANCE BY LI CHUNLI

Li Chunli's recent 3rd place at the Women's World Cup in Shanghai ranks as the best ever by a New Zealander. In a field that included 5 players ranked in the World's top ten, and 10 ranked in the top 20, Chunli lost only twice, to the world's 3rd and 4th ranked players. In addition to the prestige of her placing, Chunli won \$US8,000 in prizemoney.



After the tournament we contacted Chunli in Japan and asked her about her performance and her job in Japan.

She said this was her best moment in Table Tennis, in a career that already has encompassed two Olympic Games, a World Championships and one previous World Cup. Chunli felt very proud to be representing New Zealand when she went up to receive her third place award.

Her lead-up to the World Cup had been

good, with lots of hard practice and regular training and games. In particular, the Japan Open was just before the World Cup and she reached the quarter finals of this event. The World Cup itself was held in Jinhuan Stadium in Shanghai and was watched every day by around 2000 people. Chunli said they were very noisy, even more so than the disco at the tournament!

During the tournament she had no advice or support from a coach, but she had some friends that could help her practise each day.

In Japan, Chunli works for the Table Tennis club of Kenshoe, which is a Japanese Kimono company. She is a player/coach for the club, although mainly employed as a player, and practises six days a week at the club. Next year she intends to continue playing in Japan, as the number of good Chinese players there make it a good competition. She believes she can improve her game more, and who could argue with her based on this performance.

Li Chunli's World Ranking moves from 49 to 28 as at September.

PEOPLE OF THE YEAR

PLAYER Li Chunli (Nth Harbour)
JUNIOR PLAYER Yi-Sien Lin (Canty)
JUNIOR UMPIRE AWARDS Girls: Tamara Doak (Canty) Boys: Bradley Morrison (Sth Cant)



From the Executive Director

I have just returned from Australia where I spent an extremely valuable three days meeting with representatives from Table Tennis Australia. I was very impressed with a number of the things they are putting in place and believe there is a lot we can learn from them, and also a lot we can share with them. We both agreed that given our geographical status, and the minority status of Table Tennis in both countries, it's crazy for us not to be working closely together in all aspects of Table Tennis. I'm looking forward to a high level of co-operation with Australia in the coming years. A good start to this process will be the start of an annual test series against Australia, and it looks likely we will kick that off in New Zealand next year.

Australian Table Tennis is in a unique situation with the Sydney Olympics in 2000. Almost overnight their funding increased by 500%, but with the pressures that the funding is targeted towards success at Sydney. A challenge for Table Tennis Australia is to put in place programmes and structures before 2000 that will ensure the continued success of the sport once the funding inevitably drops after the Olympics.

I think Table Tennis in New Zealand is at a cross-roads as well. Some of the pressures operating on us are:

- We are implementing a completely new membership system in the coming year
- A number of Associations are struggling financially and administratively
- TTNZ is cash-strapped and we need to raise a significant amount of new money quickly
- We are implementing a High Performance programme including the establishment of a National Training Centre
- A new National coach has been appointed

Muddling along is no longer an option for us. To do that is to resign ourselves to obscurity as a sport. I see two possible scenarios for Table Tennis in New Zealand.

One is a depressing outlook.

- An inability to change what we offer the public as a sport and recreation will lead to decreasing membership. This in turn will lead to less public funding and worsen our financial position.
- A lack of resources will mean we cannot implement a full coaching programme. We won't have enough coaches to attract juniors to the game, and those who are playing will receive good coaching by luck rather than as of right.
- Factionalism and infighting within Table Tennis will hinder our progress and ensure isolated pockets of success rather than a nationwide improvement.
- Our top players and some of our coaches will lose confidence in our ability to provide an environment for them to succeed in, and either leave the game or attempt to do it themselves.

This scenario sees the sport splinter itself.

A second scenario is more optimistic.

- As a community we sit down and critically evaluate how we present ourselves to the public as a sport and recreation option. We agree on what we need to do to be seen as a viable option for people and work as hard as we can to re-create ourselves.

Executive Director continued--

- With new and innovative schemes, involving when and how Table Tennis is played and how much it costs, and an environment that actively welcomes people, we begin to increase our membership.
- We are able to put in place a programme that trains coaches and ensures a consistent quality of coaching across the country. Players are able to progress to the standard they can, because we have the coaching structure to allow that.
- Co-operation leads to a sharing of resources, ideas and personnel among Associations. We view ourselves as a united body whose success depends on us working together and in harmony.
- We provide an environment where our top players feel able to be the best they can. Within the bounds of healthy internal competition, there is a feeling of inclusiveness at the High Performance level.

This second scenario sees a growing, vibrant sport.

The future of Table Tennis is not guaranteed. We can fail as easily as we can succeed.

My commitment, that of the National office and that of the Board of TTNZ, is to make the second scenario a reality. We can only attempt to lead this process though. The commitment of every player, coach and administrator in New Zealand to work together with us is needed to give Table Tennis a chance. Without your commitment, the first scenario becomes increasingly likely.

Michael Brown

BAY OF PLENTY HEADING BACK INTO THE FOLD

After disaffiliating from TTNZ in 1990, a keen group of Tauranga club players are considering re-forming the Bay of Plenty Association and rejoining the national body. Currently in progress is a sixteen team Friday night interclub competition destined to run throughout the summer. Its participants range from serious competitive players, to social players and include rapidly improving juniors. The 1997 B Grade Championship was won by a junior.

Bay of Plenty has a proud history at national level – they have hosted the New Zealand Championships twice; the men's singles runner-up at the inaugural NZ Championships in 1934 was a Bay of Plenty player (Frank Paton); and Tauranga is now home for a former NZ representative at the World Championships, Malcolm Darroch.

A Happy and Relaxing Christmas and New



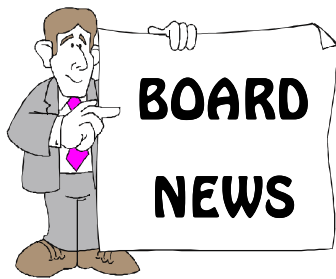
WORLD RANKINGS

The latest World Rankings (August) show Peter Jackson advancing from 129 to 123, Shane Laugesen from 355 to 353, Andrew Hubbard from 416 to 414, and Aaron Winborn entering the list at 425. Sarah Finch advanced from 378 to 371, Tracey Epps dropped one place to 404. Li Chunli's revised ranking is 28 from 49, after her brilliant Women's World Cup performance.

SELECTION PANEL

The National body is calling for nominations for the NZ selection panel for 1998.

Two positions are available and job descriptions are available from the National office. Applications close on Friday 28 November.



DENNIS GALVIN JOINS BOARD

Waitemata Secretary Dennis Galvin has been appointed to the Board of Table Tennis New Zealand for the next two years. He replaces Marilyn Smith and, together with Ron Garrett and John Beatson, will provide input from the perspective of an active district association administrator.

Dennis brings to the Board a wealth of experience derived from participating in, administering and (as a professional journalist in New Zealand and Australia) reporting on a wide variety of

sports.

MARILYN SMITH

Table Tennis New Zealand would like to acknowledge the valuable contribution retiring Board member, Marilyn Smith, has made over the past year. As someone involved in the restructuring process and as an inaugural Board member, her experience and knowledge was important to us.

We are sorry to see her leaving the Board, but wish her well in future endeavours.

HILLARY COMMISSION LIAISON OFFICER ATTENDS BOARD MEETING

Sandra Miller addressed the meeting and answered questions. The statistical information she presented included:

- * A number of other sports, including Waterpolo, Boxing and Karate, all receive a smaller Hillary Commission grant per member than Table Tennis.
- * Table Tennis has the 39th highest membership of all funded sports and receives the 33rd highest funding.
- * Table Tennis's percentage of Hillary Commission income against total income is one of the highest of all sports.

Ms Miller defined the criteria taken into account in determining the amount of each sport's grant. They are membership, participation, complexity (eg, whether the sport has semi-autonomous sub-groups), strategic direction, performance (in meeting set targets, etc), target quality, high performance results.

Board members reminded Ms Miller that our cash position prevented us from employing coaches and development officers which in turn limited our ability to meet some of the declared criteria, creating a catch-22 situation. This was acknowledged and can only be resolved by Table Tennis finding alternative sources of additional funding.

BUDGET

The budget as presented showed a deficit of \$44,000. The increased expenditure was largely in the area of High Performance and was allocated to items that were deemed high priority at the Olympic Solidarity Course (eg Training Centre, National Coach). Securing a commercial sponsorship is one way of raising the money and a basic proposal document needs to be prepared as soon as possible.

It was pointed out that, ideally, we should aim to budget for a small surplus in order to rebuild our reserves.

NEW ZEALAND COMPETES IN ASIAN JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

A team of three boys travelled to India at the beginning of September to face some of the world's best juniors in the 6th Asian Junior Championships. The original selections for the event were Paul Innes, Jason Ng, Vincent Ho and Peter Craven, but after the withdrawal of Paul Innes the decision was made to compete with only three players. James Morris accompanied the team as Manager/Coach.

Twenty-one teams participated and New Zealand finished 11th. "We could have beaten Sri Lanka as all games were very close," said Morris. "Had that happened we'd have played off for ninth. However, 11th was a good result considering the boys had little international experience and all three won around 50% of their games."

The team beat Syria, Yemen, Turkmenistan and Saudi Arabia. The lost to Bangladesh, India, Taipei and Sri Lanka.

Individual events were played in groups of

either five or six, so at least four more matches were guaranteed.

Vincent Ho met the top seed (Ryu Seung Min, of Korea) while Peter Craven had to deal with fourth seed Wang Jianjun of China. Vincent Ho won three group matches, Jason Ng, two and Peter Craven one.

All three players submitted reports and were unanimous on the value of the trip as a learning experience. They were satisfied with their overall number of wins considering the standard of the opposition.

After a week of living in a foreign culture, excessive heat, long bus journeys from hotel to stadium for each playing session, and an unavoidable nine hour wait at Bombay airport before beginning the long journey home, it's not surprising that the moment the plane touched down in Sydney for the final stopover the team headed for the place they'd been itching for since leaving home.....

McDonalds.

More Board

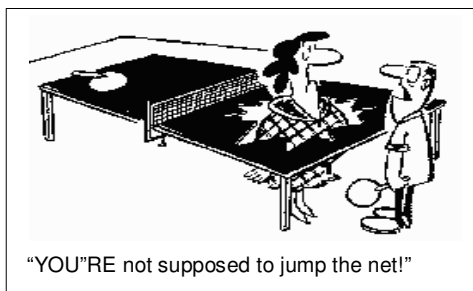
TOURNAMENTS

As a result of multiple requests from players and on the recommendation of the Technical Committee, the NZ senior and junior championships will be re-combined into one event in 1998, to be held at the end of September.

Following the initiative of the Nelson Association, a new national event will be held in January, 1998. This new tournament, the Summer Nationals, will include team and individual events in several age-groups.

RESTRUCTURE

A background paper on further restructuring of TTNZ was presented to the meeting. The Executive Director spoke to this paper and outlined some of his views on how table tennis should look at and re-evaluate what it currently offers players.



It was agreed that these issues should be a major part of the discussion at the AGM workshop.

BALL ADOPTION

The official ball for the next two years will be the Nittaku 3 Star. Ball tenders had been called for and, on balance, the Nittaku tender was the superior one.

RANKINGS - 1997

Men	Women	Under 19 Boys
1. Aaron Li	1. Li Chunli	1. Chen Lei
2. Peter Jackson	2. Sarah Finch	2. Jason Ng
3. Shane Laugesen	3. Tracey Epps	3. Paul Innes
4. Andrew Hubbard	4. Sabine Westenra	4. Vincent Ho
5. Aaron Winborn	5. Shelley Neal	5. Peter Craven
6. Hu Binquan	6. Tracey McLaughlan	6. Shane Warbrooke
7. Chen Lei	7. Lisa Astle	7. Kirk George
8. Paul Bowman	8. Ulrike Kusche	8. Graeme Windley
9. Jared Smith	9. Val Beaver	9. Gahan Joughin
10. Paul Innes	10. Diana White	10. Paul Stewart
Under 19 Girls	Under 15 Boys	Under 15 Girls
1. Tracey McLaughlan	1. Yi-Sien Lin	1. Deborah Morrison
2. Melissa Beazer	2. Andrew Hovey	2. Rachel Griffiths
3. Monique Neal	3. Adrian Soh	3. Alison Thomson
4. Anna Danby	4. Jimmy Lin	4. Lisa Boaden
5. Catherine Danby	5. John Cordue	5. Jenny Brewerton
6. Tanya Daly	6. Frank Tsai	6. Bridgette Carmody
7. Amber Johnson	7. Greg Burton	7. Claire Dimmock
8. Aroha Tam	8. DJ Forbes	8. Helen Wilson
9. Tamsyn Burgess	9. Kelsey Fagan	9. Amy McInnes
10. Belinda Beazer	10. Adis Kulasic	10. Leanne Wight

To qualify for a NZ ranking, players must have competed in a minimum of 4 rating events in any particular category, excluding B & C Grades. Allowance is made for overseas commitments.

Still More Board *INDIVIDUAL MEMBER REGISTRATION*

Mike Brown reported the results of the membership returns on which **IMR** is to be based. The total number of members was considerably less (1,700) than we had been led to expect from the figures given in the last two years. This left two basic options: increase the fee per member; or charge an affordable fee and supplement it with an association levy. The Board chose the second option and agreed on:

* Fees of \$25 (competitive player), \$10 (social player), \$10 (competitive school player), \$5 (social school player)

* 45% of 1997 fees chargeable to Associations as a levy in 1998, 30% of 1997 figures in 1999, 20 % in 2000.

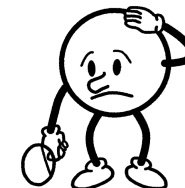
* Membership fees to remain unchanged for three years

A paper is to be sent to all Associations giving them full details of the proposal.



BALL ADOPTION DECISION ANGERS SOME

The adoption the Nittaku ball as the official ball for 1998 and 1999 has been questioned by a top senior player and a junior who feel the decision will threaten an existing sponsorship arrangement with Butterfly. Through their NZ agent, Hagen Bower's HB Sports, Butterfly have supplied clothing to a number of top players and have funded juniors to training camps in Japan.



The Butterfly ball was among those considered for adoption and Hagen Bower was reported as being angry that the ball was passed over considering the degree of support Butterfly has given to New Zealand players over the years. "Butterfly's support totals \$350,000 over ten years, and the firm supplying the Nittaku ball has put nothing into table tennis," he said in a recent interview with the Timaru Herald.

HAGEN BOWER of HB Sports ~ says:

"TTNZ decided to adopt a ball from an importer that has no direct involvement with the sport other than importing TT balls. They have easily forgotten the amount of sponsorship that Butterfly offers to our top senior and junior players. TTNZ seem to think that this sponsorship is irrelevant and should have nothing to do with the ball adoption. Are TTNZ making decisions that the players want? I know for a fact that not one player in the top ten senior male players in New Zealand was asked which would be his preferred choice for the official ball. On the other hand we had our top senior players ringing Mike Brown and telling him which ball they would prefer and still they ignored the advice. We would have had a world class table tennis ball for \$1.65 instead of one selling for well over \$2. You be the judge!

Mike Brown, TTNZ Executive Director~ stresses:

"The decision to go with the Nittaku ball was made after considering all tenders and choosing the best overall offer taking into account ball quality, price, and royalties. "At the end of the day the superior quality of the Nittaku ball was the deciding factor" he said.

Regarding Butterfly's decision to support individual high profile players over the years, much of this support had been negotiated directly between the players and Butterfly. TTNZ has not been involved in any of these negotiations. We believe we should have a role in this process as it seems that one of the criteria has been membership in the NZ Senior team. However Hagen made it clear to me that he doesn't see a role for TTNZ in this process, and that sponsorship decisions are commercial ones based on which players they feel will advertise and market Butterfly products well. Given this, we had no choice but to treat ball adoption purely on the merits on the respective balls."

The Editor ~notes:

Yes - you the reader be the judge - what say you? HB Sports are the Butterfly distributors in NZ and clearly have a vested interest. ***Of course the question arises - Exactly WHY is the sponsorship outside TTNZ sphere of influence?***

A **PLAYERS** committee was set up following a meeting of some senior players at the Nationals in Timaru.

The initial members are **Sarah Finch** and **Aaron Winborn**, and **Mike Brown** (Executive Director) will be the co-ordinator.

Results - North Island Championships

Open

Men's Singles
Women's Singles
Men's Doubles
Women's Doubles
Mixed Doubles

B Grade

Men's Singles
Women's Singles

C Grade

Men's Singles
Women's Singles

Over 35 years

Men's Singles
Women's Singles
Men's Doubles
Women's Doubles
Mixed Doubles

Under 21 years

Boys' Singles
Girls' Singles
Boys' Doubles
Girls' Doubles
Mixed Doubles

Under 19 years

Boys' Singles
Girls' Singles
Boys' Doubles
Girls' Doubles
Mixed Doubles

Under 17 years

Boys' Singles
Girls' Singles
Boys' Doubles
Girls' Doubles
Mixed Doubles

Under 15 years

Boys' Singles
Girls' Singles
Boys' Doubles
Girls' Doubles
Mixed Doubles

Under 13 years

Boys' Singles
Girls' Singles
Boys' Doubles
Girls' Doubles
Mixed Doubles

Winner

Aaron Li
Li Chunli
Aaron Li & Chen Lei
C Li & K Li
A Winborn & C Danby

Graeme Windley
Tanya Hefferan

David Pui
Diane Te Pania

Geoff Rau
Val Beaver
K Barry & G Rau
V Beaver & A Roberts
P Low & J Murray

Chen Lei
Karen Li
B Adam & C Herlihy
M Beazer & T McLauchlan
C Herlihy & B Beazer

Chen Lei
Tracey McLauchlan
G Joughin & P Stewart
M Beazer & T McLauchlan
V Ho & M Neal

Paul Innes
Monique Neal
L Chen & Y Lin
T Burgess & M Neal
V Ho & M Neal

Y Lin
Deborah Morrison
Yi-Sien Lin & A Soh
A Thomson & L Wight
J Lin & L Burgess

Frank Tsai
Kelly Winkley
H Bunce & K Fagan
S Lee & J Lo
H Bunce & J Lo

Singles Runner Up

Shane Laugesen
Karen Li

Kevin Barry
Averil Roberts

Ben Collins
Lynne Taylor

David Jackson
Christine Cunningham

Paul Innes
Tracey McLauchlan

Vincent Ho
Melissa Beazer

Chen Lei
Tamsyn Burgess

Andrew Hovey
Lisa Boaden

Kelsey Fagan
Jiani Hu

Vets results - Page 15

North Island Championships

The participation of Li Chunli and her sister Karen Li ensured a spectacular women's singles final, won in four by Chunli and featuring some of the best rallies in the tournament.

As with the NZ Championships, Aaron Li faced an opponent in the final who had beaten him in teams events. Li was untroubled to win, beating Shane Laugesen 21-13, 21-9, 21-10.

In the Over 40 men's singles, the over 50 year old unseeded Australian Ken Cole disposed of Terry Murphy and Doug Pattinson, then beating Pat Low in the final 15-21, 21-18, 22-20.

Vincent Ho performed well in the Under 19 boys' events, beating Paul Innes on the way to the singles final where he lost to Chen Lei; he and Frank Sin all but beat top

seeds Chen Lei and Peter Craven in the boys doubles, and with Monique Neal he took the mixed doubles title after beating Jason Ng and Melissa Beazer, and Chen Lei and Anna Danby.

The hosting of the North Island Championships was shared between North Harbour and Waitemata Associations.

SPECIALIST TOURNAMENT TEAM

A specialist team to assist Associations with the running of tournaments is being set up for 1998. **David Jackson** will head the team and it is envisaged that a small group of people will work with David and be trained in the systems that TTNZ will operate under. Local Associations will be encouraged to have someone as part of the team when they are hosting a tournament.

Smoke - Free Junior Sports Awards - Nelson

At the inaugural Sport Tasman "Smoke-free Junior Sports Awards" recently in Nelson, Table Tennis came out with 3 from 3. Three nominations were received from the Table Tennis sector and all three came out with top awards. Schools in the region were asked to nominate the best players and teams who had won titles for their school or individual successes this year.

Outstanding performances came from Nelson table tennis players over the past month or so, winning all titles set before them starting with Nelson Intermediates fine and unexpected win in the Intermediates Schools South Island final in Christchurch. The team was Erin Salmon, Kim Yang, Jonathon Young, Holly Dickson, Stacey Linton, and Sarah Edgley who all played extremely well and deserved the "Intermediate" team Achievers Award.

Following hot on that win was the Nelson College Team of Chen Lei, David Woo and Matthew Chan who took the NZ Secondary Schools final in Timaru with a great team effort. This big win against some of the top schools in the country earned them the "Secondary" Team Achievers Award.

Chen Lei was nominated for the Secondary Star Achievers Award and with 21 finalists to choose from he was presented with the award. Chen Lei was the only boy to receive one of the seven awards with the rest going to top young Nelson sports women.

Table Tennis Nelson Spokesman Bryan Keane said "It just goes to show the depth of the sport in our area and with the Academy and quality of coaching available, all things are possible. It's a dream result and we have a very bright future".

OPPORTUNITY TO BUILD UP FOR SUMMER NATIONALS

Five training camps will be held at the Table Tennis Academy in Nelson from 9 December till two days prior to the commencement of the Summer Nationals on 17 January. The cost for each five day camp is \$175 per person with a limit of ten trainees per camp.

Bryan Keane (phone 03 547 7530, fax 03 547 4828) will welcome any enquires.

JIANI HU YOUNGEST EVER NEW ZEALAND CHAMPION



The record books were promptly consulted when Nelson's Jiani Hu won the Under 13 Girls Singles at the New Zealand Championships, less than three weeks after her eighth birthday.

In addition to her singles title, she also won the girls doubles and the mixed doubles (see article on the Junior Nationals). Her performance outshone all her previous successes this season – which included a finals appearance at the North Island Championships, a mixed doubles title at the South Island Championships, and the Under 13 Girls Singles title at the Canterbury Championships.

Jiani is the daughter of Nelson Academy Coach, Binquan Hu and table tennis is a part of her life. She is dedicated to her practice and trains two hours a day with her father, six days a week.

It was discovered that the previous youngest national title winner was ten-year-old Gary Traill (Northland), and Jiani's record breaking feat is even more impressive when it is noted that the previous record-holder competed in the Under 12 age category prior to the change in 1987 to Under 13.

Table Tennis Training Trip To China November-February 1997/98

In this letter I'll tell you about how the training system of Table Tennis in China works.

Everybody should know that China is best place for Table Tennis training and now I will introduce you to my Chinese province, Shandong.

Shandong is the biggest province in China and Table Tennis is a very popular sport there. The Shandong team is in the top six table tennis teams out of thirty provinces. Shandong has a very good table tennis system for training, and learning how to play table tennis and to gain the experience you need to use in your games. In China every province has one very big sports school for all the top sports players from that province. Shandong is the best place for training out of every sports school in China. We have got a very big Table Tennis stadium that has twenty-five first class tables. We have forty people playing for Shandong and these people are chosen from eight million people. The forty people make up a squad of ten senior men, ten senior women, ten junior boys and ten junior girls. We have six teachers for the forty people, three for the mens team and three for the womens team. My father is one of the coaches for the senior mens team.

Now I will tell you about the training of table tennis in Shandong. We train six days per week, from Monday to Saturday. Sunday is a holiday for everybody. We train five hours every day and we have three sessions of exercises after training on the table. We start training at 8:30am approximately to 11:10am, that is the first session. We then have lunch at 12:00 noon. After lunch we will have a 2 1/2 hour break, then we will start the second training session at 2:40pm approximately to 5pm. Some days we will have extra exercises after the training, this depends on the teacher. The stadium will open in the evening, if you want to practise serves at night or if you want to talk over some thing with another player. The table tennis coaches are at the stadium in the evening and it's a very good chance for you to ask the teachers what you don't understand and where you went wrong.

I am going back to China on November 15. If anybody is interested in going with me you can ask me or Bryan Keane about the cost.

Continued bottom page 11

WHAT DO ALAN HEWSON, TANA UMAGA, JOAN BROWN & MAXINE GOLDIE HAVE IN COMMON ? For the answer to this intriguing question - from Ron Menchi- read on.

All have represented their country, but what is significant, they gained N.Z. representation while members of Petone Clubs.

PETONE? Is a modest sized community of approximately 8,000 souls, situated between Wellington City and Lower Hutt. The residents are fiercely proud of the sporting successes of their citizens and members of clubs. As a tribute to these athletes, a Charitable Trust, "The Jackson Street Programme" has organised a "Walk of Champions". The names of sports people who have represented New Zealand and are, or were either Petone residents or members of Petone clubs, have their names and sport cast in a bronze plaque and set into the pavement of Jackson Street, Petone, which is the principal shopping street of the suburb. Funded by sponsorships, the number of each unveiling is limited by the available money. Table Tennis must take pride in having two representatives suitably honoured - **Joan Brown** and **Maxine Goldie**.

Joan Brown may be an unfamiliar name to many. She joined the Empire Club, Petone, in the early 1950's and soon established herself as a formidable opponent, winning the first Club Singles title in 1955. A strong defensive player, Joan came into National prominence in 1958, winning the North Island Singles. Again in 1959 and 1969 along with countless doubles titles at New Zealand level, twice runner up in the N.Z. Open Singles it took great champions, Margaret Hoar in 1957 and Netti Traill in 1961 to defeat her. At Interclub she was more than a match for the men and was the first woman to be included in the Club's A Team. In 1965 Joan won 34 out of 36 matches played. In 1963 Joan represented New Zealand at the World's Championships in Prague, Czechoslovakia and in 1969 played against Australia in 3 tests.

Maxine Goldie has a more recent career, withdrawing from serious table tennis in 1991. A comeback is detected after a Canterbury Singles title this year. Originally from the West Coast, Maxine moved to Lower Hutt to take advantage of better employment opportunities and to be nearer Director of Coaching, Peter Hirst. She joined the Empire Club in 1988 and that year was selected for the New Zealand team to compete in the Australian Bi -Centennial Senior Championships in Sydney. She also represented NZ in Australia in the Under 19 Girls team. At home she won the New Zealand Under 19 Singles and the Under 21 Mixed Doubles.

In 1989 Maxine was selected for the New Zealand team to compete at the Commonwealth Championships in Cardiff, Wales and the World Championships in Dortmund, Germany. The New Zealand Under 19 Singles was hers again, also the Under 19 Doubles, under 21 Singles and Mixed Doubles.

Continues —> Page 15

We will provide you with the best training time and accommodation with yummy Chinese food. Sometime, I will take you to the China National Park for a visit which is an amazing place. I am expecting somebody to go with me and I hope I can give them the best training time during their visit to China.

If you would like to go I will arrange everything for you and your safety.



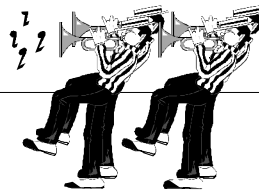
Table Tennis is a sport for people of all ages.

New Zealand SENIOR Championships Timaru Aug 3 - 9 1997

Aaron Li demonstrated his total dominance of men's individual events at national level by winning the NZ Men's Singles title in July without dropping a game. **Peter Jackson** had beaten him in the teams events, and a close final between the two of them was looked forward to. In the event it was as one-sided as Li's earlier matches (21-15, 21-6, 21-9), and Jackson could well have been deprived of a place in the final by Andrew Hubbard, whom he just beat 16-21, 12-21, 21-17, 21-18, 21-19; or by **Paul Bowman** who also took him to five.

Sarah Finch beat fellow-international **Tracey Epps** in a tight four-game women's singles final. **Jackson** and **Finch** won the mixed doubles.

<u>Open</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Singles Runner Up</u>
Men's Singles	Aaron Li	Peter Jackson
Women's Singles	Sarah Finch	Tracey Epps
Men's Doubles	A Hubbard & A Winborn	
Women's Doubles	S Finch & S Neal	
Mixed Doubles	P Jackson & S Finch	
<u>B Grade</u>		
Men's Singles	Graeme Windley	Shane Wilson
Women's Singles	Anna Danby	Averil Roberts
<u>C Grade</u>		
Men's Singles	Stephen Duggan	Bruce Penberthy
Women's Singles	Tanya Daly	Sandra Mitchell
<u>Over 55 years</u>		
Men's Singles	Alan Alabaster	Chip Eade
Men's Doubles	A Alabaster & C Tipper	
<u>Over 45 years</u>		
Men's Singles	Doug Pattinson	Alan Alabaster
Women's Singles	Yvonne Fogarty	Val Beaver
Men's Doubles	C Eade & B Penberthy	
Women's Doubles	V Beaver & A Roberts	
Mixed Doubles	D Pattinson & V Beaver	
<u>Over 35 years</u>		
Men's Singles	Malcolm Darroch	David Jackson
Women's Singles	Yvonne Fogarty	Val Beaver
Men's Doubles	S Cairns & D Jackson	
Women's Doubles	V Beaver & A Roberts	
Mixed Doubles	D Jackson & V Beaver	
<u>Under 21 years</u>		
Men's Singles	Martin Rogers	Chen Lei
Women's Singles	Tracey Mclauchlan	Melissa Beazer
Men's Doubles	P Innes & C Herlihy	
Women's Doubles	M Beazer & T Mclauchlan	
Mixed Doubles	M Stewart & B Bennyworth	



CANTERBURY Assn, last month, celebrated its 60th Jubilee with a turnout of 180 players and supporters at the Cashmere Club for a dinner, speeches and a specially baked cake.

Alan Brook-Taylor, Peggy Whitely and Merle Meir who played in Canterbury in the late 1930's were given a place of honour with the officials. Immediate past President George Hart spoke of prominent players of the past decade and Trevor Flint, Association President for the past 16 years, spoke of the early days. Former New Zealand Women's representative Jan Morris touched on some amusing incidents as a player competing on the world circuit.

Petone and Walk of Fame - from page 11.

1990 was a continuation of solid performances, picked to represent New Zealand at the First Australian International in Melbourne and the Oceania Championships in Palmerston North. 1991 was the last year Maxine played for the Empire Club. She was in the New Zealand team for the World Championships in Chiba, Japan and at New Zealand level shared in the Womens Doubles.

These two worthy champions have their names firmly established in the Petone environment. At an impressive ceremony in September, the latest unveiling of plaques took place. A large crowd gathered in central Jackson Street, were addressed by V.I.P.'s and then had a conducted walk around the area, to view the new additions. Replicas of the plaques were presented by Anne Hare, Olympic 5,000 Metre Runner who rounded out an impressive day with an after dinner speech.

A great day for those who attended and a great day for Table Tennis.

Ron Menchi

CONTRIBUTORS

Where are you?

Next Issue **TABLE TENNIS INFO** - March '98

Table Tennis ROBOT Machine for SALE
only 2 years young!
 Johnsonville Mid Week Club is selling it.
 Contact Jenny Armstrong
 04-4785717

Veterans Results - North Island Championships



<u>Over 40 years</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Singles Runner Up</u>
<i>Men's Singles</i>	Ken Cole (Austr)	Pat Low
<i>Women's Singles</i>	Val Beaver	Lynley Barker
<i>Men's Doubles</i>	K Fogarty & T Murphy	
<i>Women's Doubles</i>	V Beaver & A Roberts	
<i>Mixed Doubles</i>	R Lassen & C Cunningham	
<u>Over 50 years</u>		
<i>Men's Singles</i>	Bob Lassen	Chip Eade
<i>Women's Singles</i>	Christine Cunningham	Pat McArthur
<i>Men's Doubles</i>	R Lassen & R Penberthy	
<i>Women's Doubles</i>	C Cunningham & K Findlay	
<i>Mixed Doubles</i>	R Lassen & C Cunningham	
<u>Over 60 years</u>		
<i>Men's Singles</i>	John Lelliott	Bill Otene
<i>Women's Singles</i>	Margaret McGregor	Nellie Milich
<i>Men's Doubles</i>	H Dye & W Otene	
<i>Women's Doubles</i>	M McGregor & N Milich	
<i>Mixed Doubles</i>	H Dye & N Milich	
<u>Over 65 years</u>		
<i>Men's Singles</i>	John Lelliott	Ron Trautvetter
<i>Women's Singles</i>	Nancy Brant	Rose Orange
<i>Men's Doubles</i>	R Gregory & J Lelliott	
<i>Mixed Doubles</i>	J Lelliott & N Brant	
<u>Over 70 years</u>		
<i>Men's Singles</i>	Theo Sandberg	Jim Coad
<i>Men's Doubles</i>	J Coad & T Sandberg	



Ratings~Latest Top 10



These Rating lists are as at 16 October 1997

See where you are!

Full lists are held by Association secretaries. There are considerably more players rated.

Men's Open

1. Aaron Li
2. Peter Jackson
3. Shane Laugesen
4. Hu Binquan
5. Chen Lei
6. Aaron Winborn
7. Hagen Bower
8. Andrew Hubbard
9. Paul Bowman
10. Paul Innes

Women's Open

1. Li Chunli
2. Karen Li
3. Sarah Finch
4. Tracey Epps
5. Sabine Westenra
6. Shelley Neal
7. Debbie Garrett
8. Tracey Phillips
9. Tracey McLauchlan
10. Maxine Goldie

Men's Over 40

1. Lindsay Ward
2. Geoff Rau
3. Bob Lassen
4. Doug Pattinson
5. Maurice Burrowes
6. Terry Murphy
7. Alan Tomlinson
8. Warren Evans
9. Pat Low
10. Chip Eade

Women's Over 40

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

Men's Over 50

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

Women's over 50

1. Chris. Cunningham
2. Pat McArthur
3. Val Scarr
4. Jill Murray
5. Kaylene Findlay
6. Ngaire Garrett
7. Margaret McGregor
8. Pamela Keene
9. Diane Te Pania
10. Pauline Bennyworth

Men Under 21

1. Chen Lei
2. Paul Innes
3. Jason Ng
4. Chris Herlihy
5. Mark Stewart
6. Stephen Hirst
7. Graeme Wiindley
8. Conrad Lee
9. Vincent Ho
10. Kirk George

Women Under 21

1. Karen Li
2. Tracey Phillips
3. Tracey McLauchlan
4. Melissa Beazer
5. Vicki Garrett
6. Monique Neal
7. Anna Danby
8. Catherine Danby
9. Samara Collins
10. Belinda Beazer

Boy's Under 19

1. Chen Lei
2. Paul Innes
3. Jason Ng
4. Stephen Hirst
5. Graeme Windley
6. Vincent Ho
7. Kirk George
8. Peter Craven
9. Yi-Sien Lin
10. Paul Stewart

Girl's Under 19

1. Tracey McLauchlan
2. Melissa Beazer
3. Monique Neal
4. Anna Danby
5. Catherine Danby
6. Samara Collins
7. Belinda Beazer
8. Aroha Tam
9. Amber Johnson
10. Alison Thomson

Boy's Under 17

1. Chen Lei
2. Paul Innes
3. Jason Ng
4. Vincent Ho
5. Peter Craven
6. Yi-Sien Lin
7. Paul Stewart
8. Guy Williams
9. Frankie Wong
10. Michael Mullin

Girl's Under 17

1. Monique Neal
2. Samara Collins
3. Alison Thomson
4. Tamsyn Burgess
5. Rachel Griffiths
6. Clara So
7. Deborah Morrison
8. Lisa Boaden
9. Lydia Burgess
10. Helen Wilson

Boy's Under 15

1. Yi-Sien Lin
2. Jimmy Lin
3. Andrew Hovey
4. Adrian Soh
5. Greg Burton
6. John Cordue
7. Kelsey Fagen
8. DJ Forbes
9. Frank Tsai
10. Toosharn Haszard

Girl's Under 15

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

Oceania

A POINT OF VIEW

from Trevor Flint

I read with interest the article written by Richard Lee, "Disband Oceania and forget the Olympics". Most of what Richard has to say I agree with.

Initially the idea of setting up the Oceania tournament was to try to build up the lesser nations of the Pacific, such as Fiji, New Guinea, Samoa etc., however the reality of it all is that it just became an Australia v. New Zealand thing. The main drawback in these countries is that the hot and humid weather, is not conducive to playing table tennis. Any readers who have played in these countries will know what I mean.

Most players and administrators involved at the time of forming this tournament knew that it would be a forlorn hope unless these countries were to send their players to other countries such as Europe or Asia for experience, the general opinion was that it would only be a political exercise, which it certainly has been.

It boils down to - are you trying to help others? - plenty of merit in that - or do you want to improve your own standard, as Richard is suggesting.

Competing in the Asian Tournament (which we have) where teams as well as individual championships are held, is by far the better option.

However, I would like to go a step further in relating to the important outlook of table tennis in New Zealand.

We are continually talking about raising the standard of play in New Zealand - we need this; the administrators need this; the Hillary Commission who expects this these days appears to need results, results, results, as far as any substantial grants are concerned.

No doubt you, like myself, may be talking to friends or acquaintances and mention that New Zealand was recently competing in the World Championships or similar - eg. Commonwealth - and the question so often is "Oh! How did they do?" - you say 50th or whatever, and they say "Oh!" You get the message.

The point I am making is that for the image of the sport it is important how well we do and it does matter.

We are at a great geographical disadvantage being so far away from the hub of the table tennis world. What is the answer? Like all sports you must have competition of a higher standard than your own if you are to improve - that is obvious.

We now have several players going overseas to improve their standard, mainly to Europe, and one must admire their courage. The reality of it all is that they are our main hope. The obvious way of improving our standing internationally is heavy continual competition for the players and therefore we must encourage those who are prepared to advance. We need them, so we should be prepared to encourage those who are making the effort. The New Zealand body should make them feel wanted with some financial reward, however small, judged on performance, and consistent words of encouragement - something which has been lacking in the past. If it comes from the New Zealand Association then that makes the players feel that the rest of New Zealand is behind them.

continued over the page ~

Having played overseas for two seasons I can relate to all this. Spelling it out can be important to these players - we need these people so that we can improve our own image and, in turn, give greater incentive to our younger players. Most of our overseas players do come back and help improve our standard locally.

On the local front we must naturally continue to have our coaching systems: they are the backbone of our game. We are fortunate that we have several skilled coaches at present. One difficulty is that many players are inclined to compare one coach with another: often the cry is, one coach tells me to do it this way, and another coach something slightly different. There are several different ways to play a certain shot, with similar results. It should be remembered that the main requirement is that they are reasonably orthodox. There is no definite way to play shots and there are various reasons for this. The build of a player - tall, short, long arms, short arms, footwork movement and knee balance movement. The main thing is that they develop spin - something lacking in New Zealand table tennis in recent years.

The tapes of the world's best players should be studied to see the different styles. To achieve a high standard requires a lot of hard work.

There are different types of coaches: ones that specialise in physical training (Japan), ones that emphasise technique and others that specialise in table routines - all with great merit.

In recent years we have not had any overseas visiting teams to help stimulate interest. When we have had overseas teams here it has created great enthusiasm. Now while it might be said that when teams visit here we don't get large audiences, but it does help whip up great interest and gives those young players an incentive to strive for a higher standard. The feedback from the man in the street as well as players is always positive.

One of the last teams to tour here was from China and their play, watched on television, created amazing interest with the public, particularly their exhibition.

Several years ago we had an interchange of visits with Australia but they did not have the same impact of the top nations. The initiative for any tour should come from the National body and Canterbury would certainly support any such activity.

To sum up, I would say - scrap the Oceania, run with the Olympics and try to get into the Asia angle. But more important - get behind our overseas players: they are our main hope.

We can write and talk all we like but what is important is our standing in top level table tennis. The New Zealand Association can do their bit to raise our standard by at least making players who go overseas for experience feel wanted, encouraged and appreciated ..it does matter.

Ansett NZ has agreed to discounts for members beyond those available to the general public. The differential will be 5% but more details will follow later when Member Registration is introduced.

CONFERENCE AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- Workshops - Sat 6 Dec 10am
- Board Meeting - Sun 7 Dec 9am
- AGM - Sun 7 Dec 1pm

Lots to discuss - especially development, so a full attendance by associations is expected.

SCHOOL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS

Open Secondary (held in Timaru)

This event was won by **NELSON College**, but only after 4-3 wins over three of their four opponents. Led by star Under 17 player, **Chen Lei**, who was unbeaten in the singles, the team nonetheless depended heavily on the support of the other two players, **Matthew Chan** and **David Woo**, as two of the results hung on the finals doubles match. **Wanganui Collegiate** finished second, and **Edgewater College** (Auckland) third.

Girls Secondary (held in Timaru)

Avondale College, Hutt Valley High School and **Wanganui High School** were the front runners in this event, with Wanganui favoured to win. Avondale College had other ideas when they and Wanganui faced each other in the final round as the two unbeaten sides. **Rachel Griffiths** won two singles and **Amy McInnes** one to give the Avondale team three singles wins in succession over the "veteran" team of **Helen Wilson, Leanne Wight** and **Alison Thomson**. This left Wanganui trailing 1-3 in the seven match contest. **Wight** and **Wilson** won the next two singles and **Wight** and **Thomson** combined to squeeze home in the final doubles, 21-18, 23-21, giving the **title to WANGANUI**.

Primary/Intermediate (held in Hutt Valley)

HUTT INTERMEDIATE, led by an in-form **Ian Loubachevskii**, won this event – beating Auckland's **Pakuranga Intermediate** 4-2 in the key match of the final round. **Loubachevskii** went through the entire event unbeaten in both singles and doubles. **Pakuranga's Tianlun Chen** lost only one singles as did Hutt's **Matthew Hanna**. The winning team's other two players were **Josh Walker** and **Michael Stechman**.

ZHU HUI
APPOINTED NATIONAL COACH



The newly created position of National coach has been taken by Zhu Hui. Originally from China, Hui has lived in New Zealand for most of the last eight years. In addition to extensive coaching experience in New Zealand, he has also coached in Taiwan and China.

Hui's job will be to oversee the High Performance programme of TTNZ. This will involve setting in place long and short term plans, running the National training centre and coaching the New Zealand team in all competitions. TTNZ Executive Director Mike Brown comments that, "We believe Zhu Hui is the right person for the job. In addition to his coaching skills, he has the people and administrative skills to ensure this new programme is a success."

An interview panel of Mike Brown, Board member Ron Garrett, and Coaching New Zealand Manager Lyn Johnston interviewed the two candidates for the position, Zhu Hui and Richard Lee. They felt the quality of both candidates was excellent, and believe that although unsuccessful for this position, Richard has a lot to offer New Zealand Table Tennis.