**Tournament Report for 2022/2023**

**Presented to the Annual General Meeting on the 10th June 2023**

At the last AGM the President was tasked with introducing major changes to how WPA tournaments could be run.

The first task was to produce a calendar in line with the traditional timing of events based around the calendar for the National Championships.

After discussions with Clubs and other experienced players Claire Bradburn developed a set of guidelines/rules that Clubs would need to take into account if they were to run a WPA tournament. This was distributed to Clubs along with an invitation to host and/or run events. I would like to thank Graeme Morris and Claire Wilson for offering to mentor and assist, where needed, in the running of these events.

Manawatu, Horowhenua, Otaki, Kapiti and Silverstream Clubs put their names forward and were allocated events, with the two 2 day tournaments (Singles and Doubles) going to Kapiti and Horowhenua. This was a big step for Clubs that had not previously run WPA Championships. Horowhenua, in particular, need to be recognized and thanked as they took on a heavy load with little experience at this level. Considering this was a major change there were very few teething problems and those that arose were quickly addressed.

Looking forward to next season, I think some changes need to be made to help spread the work load:

* There needs to be two or three people identified as advisors (not a committee)
* If all clubs sent out the entry forms for the tournaments they were hosting and have entries returned directly to them it would mean they would know who, and how many teams, had entered. There would be no waiting to hear from someone outside their club. Otaki and Silverstream Clubs did this last season. The WPA Secretary could provide templates for entry forms.
* Someone needs to be given responsibility for drawing up the calendar and allocating the hosts for each tournament.
* Someone needs to be made responsible for getting the trophies in time and to the tournament.
* Someone needs to be made responsible for ordering the Championship winners shirts and having them presented.
* One or more people need to be available to answer any questions a hosting club might have.
* Entries into tournaments already include players club affiliations therefor there is no need to continue checking their eligibility.

Umpires

A big thank you to Tony Simpson who did a great job coordinating umpires. Not only has he arranged for umpires for almost all tournaments but he is securing the future of umpiring in the Wellington region by encouraging players to train and getting training for them.

General

The year’s tournaments went well with similar numbers to past years. There was even fine weather for most events. The Champion of Champion Triples at Silverstream was a standout with eight Clubs participating - the most ever.

Thanks

How do you thank all the people who make our Association great? People who ensure that WPA Tournaments not only run well but are enjoyed by all. Club members;

* who prepare terrains, sometimes days beforehand;
* who turn up early on the day and leave late;
* who provide refreshments and look after the players in so many ways.

We can show our thanks at the end of a tournament and at all times give them the respect they deserve. Thank you all.

Claire Bradburn

President