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Bert Sutcliffe Retirement Village Birkenhead Men's Invitation Pairs Edition

On The Greens

- Wednesday 1 February - 10am Club Day (AC).
- Thursday 2 February - 6pm Handicap Singles Round 2
- Saturday 4 February - \$5,500 Bert Sutcliffe Retirement Village Men's Invitation Pairs (1)
- Sunday 5 February - \$5,500 Bert Sutcliffe Retirement Village Men's Invitation Pairs (2)
- Monday 6 February - Birkenhead Rotary Charity Tournament (OACF - mufti - non bowlers welcome)
- Wednesday 8 February - 10am Club Day (AC)
- Thursday 9 February - 6pm Handicap Singles Round 3
 - Entries close 5pm Men's Championship 1-5 Year Singles
 - Entries close 5pm Women's Championship 1-5 Year Singles
- Friday 10 February - 1pm 2-4-2 (OACP)
- Saturday 11 February - 9am Men's Championship 1-5 Year Singles
 - 9am Women's Championship 1-5 Year Singles
- Sunday 12 February - 9am Men's Championship 1-5 Year Singles
 - 9am Women's Championship 1-5 Year Singles
- Monday 13 February - 6pm "YOU Travel Birkenhead" Social Bowls (8)

Inside This Weekend

- Friday 3 February - Club Night**
Raffles, Happy Hour, Club Membership Draw, Joker 500
Racing: Ellerslie (thoroughbreds) Cambridge (harness) and across Australia
- Saturday 4 February**
Racing: Te Rapa - Waikato Guineas, Wingatui - Dunedin Gold Cup (Thoroughbreds), Ashburton (harness), and across Australia
- Sunday 5 February**
Racing: Tauranga, Wyndham (harness), Manukua (dogs) and across Australia
- Monday 6 February**
Racing: Tauherenikau (Thoroughbreds), Rangiora (harness) Palmerston North (dogs) and across Australia.

Huriwai's Golden Run

Having skipped his team to success in the Centre Fours two weekends previous, last weekend saw Jack Huriwai fly solo for the Men's Club Championship Singles played over Auckland Anniversary weekend.

Recording three wins on Saturday to qualify and taking the notable scalps of Lionel Drew and Doug Parlane in the process.

Sunday first up Huriwai took apart Curtis Ennor (21-7), next up in the semi-final Daymon Pierson went down to Huriwai (21-16), and Huriwai had his spot in the final.

Shane Gibson's charge to the final, after qualifying Saturday, began Sunday with a solid win against Gary Wallace and a surprise demolition of Mark Rumble (21-5) in the semi-final.

The Huriwai/Gibson final saw the two draw even three times at nine all, twelve all and thirteen all, before Huriwai stepped out to a 20-14 lead. Then Gibson pulled within one shot of Huriwai at 20-19, before Huriwai claimed the winning shot and the Championship for the season.

The field of eight qualifiers for Sunday consisted of three second year bowlers Robbie Henson, Jerry Belcher and Gary Wallace. Belcher fell just short of a semi-final spot pipped by Pierson (20-21), Rumble defeated Henson, while Wallace went down to Gibson.

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Let the Battles Commence

Saturday 8.30am will see 32 teams take to the greens of Birkenhead for two days of bowling action and \$1,500 to the winning team, in the Bert Sutcliffe Retirement Village Birkenhead Men's Invitation Pairs. With the tournament celebrating five years last year, the sixth year reaches another significant milestone with a slight name change from "open" to "invitation". The Champions Cup is engraved "Invitation Pairs" so to bring the actual tournament name in line with the cup retains Rod Mahon's vision.

Saturday is about battling it out to gain a high seeding and a spot in the top sixteen for Sunday. First round Saturday and Pukekohe Cossie's Alan Gibbons / Shaun Pennell return and first up against Riverhead's Gordon Smith / Duane McDonald. Orewa's Scott Curran / David Eades take on the untried, but favoured pairing, of Birkenhead's own Mark Rumble and Riverhead's Bart Robertson. Joe King / Mike Fitzgerald travel up from Motueka and are straight into the lion's den to take on last year's winners Browns Bay's Kerry Chapman / Hinuera's Dwayne Cameron. Hot after their Bowls North Harbour Centre Men's Fours a couple of weeks back, Birkenhead's Jimmy "Jandals" Heath / Daymon Pierson will be straight down to work against Whangarei's Sam Nelson / Kerikeri's David Hood. Northcote versus Hillsbro as Kenny Moran / Harry "The Horse" Keane chase a win over Jordan King / Chris Lowe. Glenfield brothers Terry and Tom Campbell take on the other Northcote side, Brent Malcom / Greg Taylor as local clubs do battle. Young gun Waiheke's Scott Cottrell pairs up with, recently awarded NZ Male Domestic Player of the Year, Carlton's Petar Sain in what possibly is the game of the round against Riverhead's Steve Cox / Grant Goodwin. Cox / Goodwin are always never far away from a top finish but the first place has eluded them to date.

For round one losers, round two is all that more important to get a win, as with the winners the continued success is all important. Past winners Justin Goodwin playing out of Eastbourne and Birkenhead's Tony Grantham, current Blackjack squad member, will battle it out against Onehunga and District's Mike Bradshaw / Ken Fitness. While Onerahi's John Dunn returning for his sixth tournament, and Whangarei's Larry Vallance leading, duke it out with Birkenhead's Peter Nathan / Scott Mouton. Tournament stalwart Bryan Chapman unable to play this year, has been replaced by Barclay Lee of St Heliers accompanied by Howick's Neil Fisher take on Gibbons / Pennell. Glenfield's Doug Campbell / Bruce Baker have their work cut out up against Rumble / Robertson. Browns Bay's Brad Reichert / Brian Wilson will be hoping the Aussies haven't adjusted to the Birkenhead greens when they take on Harry Skyes / John Grantham from the Lyndoch Bowling Club in South Australia. Mairangi's Don Ambros / Garry Banks are up against Auckland's Gary "Sandals" Breckon / Birkenhead's Curtis Ennor, a pair known to enjoy their bowls and party hard. Dual Birkenhead/Northcote members, playing under Birkenhead, Mike "Fish" Haggart / John Hindmarch play highly talented tournament new comers Glen Eden's Taylor Horn / Clarks Beach Adam Hayward.

Round Three, the crunch round of the day. Browns Bay's Lindsay Gilmore / Bruce McClintock will be hoping they have had two wins when they take on Chapman / Cameron. Birkenhead's Merv Garred / Shane Gibbson up against Nelson and Hood, although Gibbson hasn't play much this season but as runner-up in the Club championship singles last weekend and with Garred off the front this pair is on the radar and will hopefully be looking for their third win of the day. Glen Eden new comers Ray Brown / Tony Balogh, having played John Grantham and then Evan Thomas in the previous two rounds, will be hunting a win as they take on Malcom / Taylor. It may not be the powerhouse game of the round but the Birkenhead pairing of Greg Utting / Gary Stevens up against Point Chev's John Petelo, fresh from representing Samoa at the World Championships, and Phil Aitken will sure produce some good bowls.

Birkenhead's Lionel Drew / Evan Thomas will be hoping they won't be relying on their fourth round game against Horn / Hayward to make the cut. The same can be said for the Brown / Balogh versus King / Lowe game.

At the conclusion of Saturday the teams are seed on their Saturday performance for the Sunday draw. With the business end of the tournament starting 8.30am Sunday morning and working its way through the day to conclude with five finals starting 3.15pm.

Past Winners:

- 2012 – Neville Hill, Jamie Hill (s)
- 2013 – Tony Garelja, Vladimir Marsic (s)
- 2014 – Jordan King, Danny Delany (s)
- 2015 – Justin Goodwin, Tony Grantham (s)
- 2016 – Kerry Chapman, Dwayne Cameron (s)

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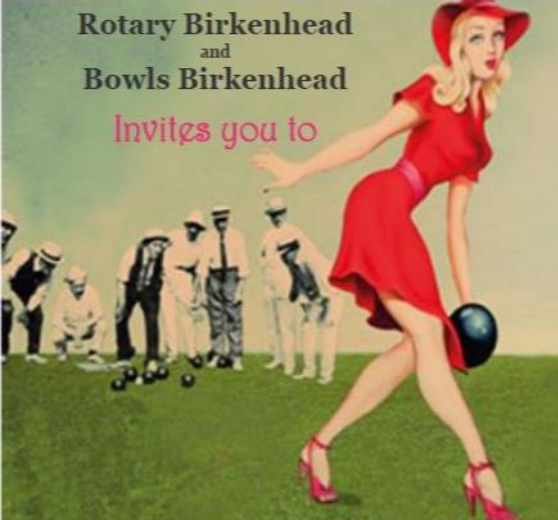


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Paris Makes NZ Squad

Birkenhead 1-5 year/student member Paris Barker has been selected for the New Zealand Development Squad for under 21s.

Sponsored Club Day Postponed

Bert Sutcliffe Retirement Village sponsored club day originally planned for today has been postponed due to the long weekends. A new date will be announced soon.

Friday Club Nights

Merv "The Swerve" spins the raffles from around 4.30 onwards, Happy hour 5 - 6pm, Joker 500 on sale from 5pm, Club Membership Draw drawn between 5.30 - 6.30pm.

\$6,500 Women's Pairs

Two day \$6,500 Women's Pairs, Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 March 2017. The season is rolling on and the 2017 Good Home Birkenhead Women's Pairs is just under three months away. With it's \$6,500 total prize pool and \$1,500 for first place this is a tournament not to be missed. Further details phone Emmie 2075 297297.

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Men's Invitation Pairs Schedule

Come and watch the action. Enjoy some great bowls while enjoying the club's facilities. All the club's facilities are open from before the first game each day till late.

Playing Schedule:

Saturday 4 February:

- 8.15am Official Welcome
- 8.30am Round 1
- 10.45am Round 2
- 1.15pm Round 3
- 3.15pm Round 4
- 5.30pm Day 1 results
- 5.45pm **Stuie's Free Sausage Sizzle**
Day 2 draw announced

Sunday 5 February:

- 8.20am Trial ends
 - 8.30am Game 1
 - 10.45am Game 2
 - 1.15pm Game 3
 - 3.15pm Finals (no time limit)
 - 5.15pm Prize Giving
- Times in *Italic* are approximate only.
Schedule subject to change due to weather or other circumstances.



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Spotlight on Sponsors

This week it's Ryman Healthcare's Bert Sutcliffe Retirement Village. Ryman Healthcare having been sponsoring at the club over the past four years in a number of areas with their ongoing partnership enabling the club to run some flag ship tournaments. This year the move has been focusing on the Bert Sutcliffe Retirement Village situated just down the road from the club in Birkenhead

Source: Bert Sutcliffe Retirement Village website

Bert Sutcliffe Retirement Village is named in honour of one of New Zealand's cricketing greats. Located on Rangatira Road, the village has beautiful panoramic views out over Kauri point and beyond.

The village provides a lifestyle option to suit everyone. Including independent living, assisted living in serviced apartments, and the very best of resthome, hospital and dementia care.

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