

Open News - Taranaki Open Fours

Wednesday, January 24, 2018

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Nine visitors and five Taranaki teams unbeaten

Margaret Reed and her strong side from Tauranga South sent out a loud and long warning to the rest of the field that they mean business in the 2018 Taranaki women's Open fours when the tournament commenced in New Plymouth yesterday.

Playing at West End, the side of Karen Clarke, Robyn Davis, Marilyn McLeod and Reed posted two convincing wins, to be among the 14 sides who won both matches which were played in fine conditions, despite at times heavy overnight rain. Nine of the two winners are visitors and the other five are from Taranaki.

In the feature game yesterday morning, Reed ran away from Val McEldowney's New Plymouth side, that was in fact skipped by Anne Brophy, 28-14 before defeating another New Plymouth quartet, this time skipped by Heather Thomas, 33-10, in the afternoon.

An early four had the McEldowney side in contention in the morning game and after seven of the 25 ends, the scores were locked at 8-all. However, the Tauranga South side then went on a scoring spree, winning the next nine ends to open up an unassailable 27-8 advantage.

It was just as emphatic in the afternoon against Thomas' team, that had produced heroics of its own in coming from 19-14

down after 20 ends to beat 2013 Dominion fours semifinalist, Val Webster (Vogeltown), 26-19 in round one.

The day got better for both McEldowney and Webster, however. McEldowney beat Cathy Andrews (Paritutu) 21-19, while Webster accounted for Cindy Nichol (Inglewood) 23-17. Nichol had caused an upset in round one, beating Reen Stratford (Aramoho) 23-22, in one of a number of matches separated by just a single shot.

Veteran Ellie Goble (Lepperton) and Taranaki rep Gloria Shaw (Paritutu) are the only unbeaten teams in section two. Shona Chambers (Browns Bay), after a narrow loss to Goble in the morning, responded to comfortably defeat Kristin Stampa (Hawera Park) 28-16 in round two.

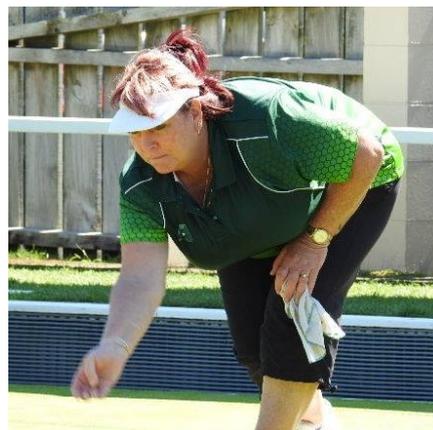
The Goble-Chambers match was an up-and-down affair, with some large scoring taking place. Goble collected three fives, and despite dropping four on the last end, had still done enough to win 29-28.

Shaw personally responded to the pressure in round one, getting the shot on the 25th end to defeat Judy Hyland (Tauranga) 29-26, having earlier led 26-17. Stampa's morning win, 23-22 over Liz Johnstone (Waitara) was an extra end effort, with No 3 Pauline Kennedy putting the jack into the ditch.

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Vogeltown's Gale Fache, above, posted two wins, while Pukekohe's Sharon Siegruhn, right, had one win and one loss.



WEATHER FORECAST

Wednesday



Thursday



Friday



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Visiting teams largely dominated section three, with Ngaire Cowen (Palmerston North), Mary Bettleheim (Ohope) and Denise Taylor (Wanganui) all unbeaten. Bowls Taranaki life member and patron Patty Symes (Tower) also finished the day with two wins.

Lepperton's Pauline Davy, a Taranaki gold star holder, had a frustrating day after being pipped twice — 22-21 by Bettleheim and 22-20 by Rhonda Adams (Fitzroy).

Section four also saw the visitors emerge from the day with more success. Karen Forrest (Papakura), Wendy Green (Ngongotaha), Jean Sheary (Mauta) and Bev Corbett (Hinuera) all won twice, as did Gale Fache

(Vogelton).

Corbett had a tough tussle with Margaret McCallum (Inglewood) before winning 23-19 in the morning and then defeated Bev Robinson (Opunake) 29-18 after that. Both McCallum and Robinson remained in touch with qualification by both winning their other match, although for the later it was only just, 25-24 over Margaret Oates (Browns Bay).

Forrest's second win was a tense one, 21-20, coming at the expense of Anne Searanckle (Tawa), who also had opened with a comfortable win.

By the conclusion of the sixth round on Thursday, teams need to have won four matches to qualify.

Who won how many on day one? Match of the morning — Symes v Taylor

Standings after the first day's play:

Section 1: two wins, Margaret Reed

(Tauranga South), Valda Rowan (Paritutu), Denise Samuel (Glenfield); **one win**, Janice Ropitini (West End), Rosemary McGill (Te Awamutu), Val Webster (Vogelton), Cindy Nichol (Inglewood), Reen Stratford (Aramoho), Heather Thomas (New Plymouth), Cathy Andrews (Paritutu), Val McEldowney (New Plymouth).

Section 2: two wins, Gloria Shaw (Paritutu), Ellie Goble (Lepperton); **one win**, Nellie Hewson (Fitzroy), Shona Chambers (Browns Bay), Berys Norgate (Paritutu), Maree Gadsby (New Plymouth), Faye Bird (Central Cambridge), Kristin Stampa (Hawera Park), Denise Cottam (West End), Faye Hopkins (Hawera).

Section 3: two wins, Ngaire Cowan (Palmerston North), Mary Bettleheim (Ohope), Patty Symes (Tower), Denise Taylor (Wanganui); **one win**, Sharon Siegruhn (Pukekohe), Shona Lawn (Hawera Park), Artie Sissons (Ohope), Heather Johns (Paritutu), Rhonda Adams (Fitzroy), Julie Reid (Paritutu).

Section 4: two wins, Karen Forrest (Papakura), Wendy Green (Ngongotaha), Gale Fache (Vogelton), Jean Sheary (Mauta), Bev Corbett (Hinuera); **one win**, Margaret Oates (Browns Bay), Margaret McCallum (Inglewood), Anne Searanckle (Tawa), Bev Robinson (Opunake).

The New Plymouth Bowling Club is the place to be this morning when two of the unbeaten teams from day one, Patty Symes (Tower) and Denise Taylor (Wanganui) square off.

Symes and her team of Hazel Schwartzfeger, Frances Busby, two relative newcomers to bowls, and Maureen Tamou, an experienced campaigner, worked hard for their two wins on the opening day.

They edged out Rhonda Adams (Fitzroy) in the opening game 27-25 and then won a high-scoring contest 29-25 over Sharon Siegruhn (Pukekohe).

Taylor's side of Cynthia Adams, Pam Burgess and Dot Belliss didn't have things all their own way, either. But they got across the line twice — 21-13 over Shona Lawn (Hawera Park) and 29-24 against Val Fleming (New Plymouth).



Patty Symes gets it away smoothly