

# Open News - Taranaki Open Fours

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## De Jongh the star as title heads to the Waikato

Giving a brilliant individual performance, Waikato's Karen de Jongh skipped her side to victory in the Taranaki women's Open fours tournament at Paritutu yesterday.

De Jongh's team of Carol Cox, Sue Broadbent and Debbie White took the honours of the six-day event when they beat Hawera Park's Kristin Stampa 30-20 in the decider. Stampa's team included Ella Smailes, Irene Waller and Pauline Kennedy.

De Jongh made a big name for herself in Auckland bowls before moving south last year and linking up with the Hillcrest club in Hamilton. It was the first time she has competed in the event, which was in its 67th edition, and what an enactment it was. She drew superbly and when necessary attacked with accuracy.

In the final Stampa played a number of very good bowls to counter de Jongh. It was just that de Jongh played more of them.

Stampa's side opened 3-0 in the final, but the signs came soon after that de Jongh meant business, as she had throughout the week.

On the fifth end, she sat through the Hawera Park shot bowl for three. It gave the Waikato team the lead for the first time, an advantage they never relinquished.

Counts of four and five soon after extended their score, which by the midpoint had become 21-7.

But sensing that the game was slipping away, Hawera Park showed plenty of fight. They scored 11 points on the next five ends, but crucially they missed out on a further three when de Jongh, with her last delivery, glanced off one of White's bowls, dislodging

the jack back to give the Waikato quartet two.

However, with the score at 23-18, Hawera Park conceded a somewhat loose four. The momentum went back to de Jongh's side and she firmly sealed the deal converting the next three ends in an impressive display.

White, in breaking with tradition where the skip makes the victory speech, told the crowd that it was unfair to single out only one player, but in this instance, de Jongh deserved

special praise. No one could argue with her observation.

De Jongh's side is the first Waikato team since 1986 to win the Open, when the legend Rhoda Ryan skipped a side that included an even greater legend in Elsie Wilkie. On the form de Jongh brought to the final, she is of similar ilk.



**Waikato winners: Karen de Jongh, Carol Cox, Sue Broadbent and Debbie White enjoy the moment of winning the 2019 Taranaki women's Open fours.**



Hawera PARK v. Compton

LEAD				
SECOND				
THIRD				
K STAMPA	K De Jongh			
SECTION	ROUND	RINK		
		1		
SCORE	TOTAL	ENDS	SCORE	TOTAL
1	1	1		
2	3	2		
		3	2	2
		4	1	3
		5	3	6
		6	2	8
1	4	7		
		8	1	9
2	6	9	5	14
		10		
		11	4	18
		12		
		13	3	21
2	9	14		
2	11	15		
		16	2	23
3	14	17		
4	18	18		
		19	4	27
		20	1	28
		21	1	29
1	19	22		
1	20	23		
		24	1	30
		25		
		EXTRA		
		TOTAL		
The winner of the game is:				
WINNER	K de Jongh			1.45
(Use Block Letters)				
LOSER (Signed)	K Stampa			

Prize winners: Ella Smailes, Irene Waller, Pauline Kennedy and Kristin Stampa (top left); Jill Dyett, Colleen Martin, Jan Johnson and Jackie Moeahu (middle left); Carolyn Harris, Sandra Zittersteijn, Heather Johns and Debbie Smith (bottom left).

Looking like they could do another fortnight, Bows Taranaki president Brien Bennett QSM and vice president Ian Andrews complete the presentations.

