

# Open News - Taranaki Open Fours

*Saturday, January 23, 2021*

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## Five local sides to battle with nine visitors

Five Taranaki teams, being two each from Paritutu and Tower, plus one from West End, will compete against nine visiting teams for the ultimate prize in the 116th Taranaki men's Open fours tournament.

That follows two rounds of post section at Paritutu yesterday, where for the first full day of the week the players did not have to contend with any rain. But, be warned — Sunday is not forecasting so well.

While the rain kept away, a strong breeze in the afternoon kept bowlers concentration levels high.

Of the nine visitors that remain, three are from Auckland — David Nightingale (Glendowie), Warwick Fredrickson (Blockhouse Bay) and Dan Delany (Royal). The latter two meet this morning.

In addition, there are two teams from the capital, one from Manawatu, one from Bay of Plenty, one from Counties and one from Wanganui.

Six teams won two games on the day — Dean Elgar (West End), Dan Dickison (Tauranga), Mark Anderson (Tower), Anton Ferrari (Naenae), Darren Goodin (Paritutu) and Stefan McCartain (Paritutu).

Elgar had to work hard in both of his victories — 19-13 over Stokes Valley's Steven Brien and his family side, and 25-20 against Johnston Park's Bruce Harris. Harris led the latter match 20-18 with two ends remaining. But Elgar's side drew the better on the penultimate end, a five giving them the lead back. A further two on the last sealed the result.

The Dickison side of Lance Tasker, John O'Shea and Steve Hughes has appealed throughout the week as one of the most likely. They were relatively untroubled throughout the day to set up a potentially

high-quality clash with Elgar this morning. In the second round, Dickison collected one six and three fours on the way to a 32-17 triumph over Garry Murfitt (West End).

Raymond Martin's side from Wellington is another, like Dickison's quartet, which has plenty of talent and previous success.

Martin held the upper hand for most of the match with John Gray (Fitzroy). Gray's side kept in touch, trailing 12-9 through 10 ends, and 20-15 after 18 ends. But Martin cribbed away to a 26-17 victory.

Martin's team includes Mike Carroll, Rod Leitch and Grant Wakefield. They face a big match this morning, Peter Belliss (Aramoho).

However, two other favoured visitors fell by the wayside — Aiden Takarua (Pt Chevalier) and Paul Matheson (Halswell).

Takarua was never in the hunt against Anderson. After trailing 13-2 after eight ends, Takarua never recovered and shook hands after 22 ends, 30-13 in arrears.

Matheson went down 24-17 to Nightingale, whose side is emerging as one of the surprise packages of the week. A five to Nightingale on the 16th paved the way for the win.

Nightingale, however, doesn't get an easy run. His opponent this morning is the Tower side headed by Bruce Phillips. The defending champions overcame mid-game troubles to beat Kevin Coombe (Aramoho) 32-26.

Anderson and Ferrari are the two teams through to the quarterfinals. The winner of that game this morning gets the afternoon off ahead of the semifinals tomorrow.

Anderson defeated Parklands' Andrew Bowden in a last-16 game, while at the same time, Ferrari won 25-9 over Kelly Hill (New Plymouth). In the prior round, Ferrari held off Taylor Horn (Mangere) 25-23, despite dropping a seven on the eighth end.

The closest match of the morning saw Goodin edge Mike Bradshaw (Onehunga and Districts) 23-20.

Goodin led by two shots playing the last end, but was two down playing his last bowl. Playing through the head, Goodin hit one of his own team's bowls in for shot.

Goodin then beat David Hood (Whangarei) 26-17, after Hood had eliminated Ray Park (Wanganui) 22-10.

McCartain, whose team includes Taranaki president Ian Andrews, had a memorable day. First off they accounted for Jeremy Brosnan's well-pointed Glen Eden side 26-17 — it had been 19-17 after 21 — and then denied the 2018 victor Adam Wishnoski (New Lynn) 25-14.

This morning's all Paritutu-affair is likely to draw plenty of local interest.

It was all one-way traffic for Delany in the second half of his match against Kevin Smith (Hinuera). After the scores had been locked at 8-all after 10, Delany, the four-time champion, powered to a 23-9 win.

Fredrickson, after being well-beaten in the

opening qualifying game, has flown below the radar all week. But his side did enough to beat Jim Cornish (Omarunui) 25-18 after they had led by four shots starting the last end. With three senior Auckland titles, Fredrickson is a more than useful competitor.

The remaining match this morning is between Mike Cavanagh (Pukekohe) and Brian Little (Palmerston North).

Little had control throughout his match against Bill Foley (New Plymouth), cruising home 31-5.

Cavanagh had a much tougher ride, beating Darren Scott (West End), 26-21, having trailed 21-15 with just four ends remaining. A five on the 23rd end was crucial. Scott drove the jack, but it came back up the green to deflate the West Enders.

Belliss was required to play only one match on the day. And his side of Ray Wilson, Ron Hutchinson and Keith Slight did it comfortably, winning 26-9 over Kurt Smith (Oakura).

In the pairs event, 24 of the 68 duos made it through with three wins from four games. Like the fours, the last four will be known today.

## Results from day five

### Post section results for the 116th Taranaki men's Open fours on January 22:

#### Section 1, at Paritutu A:

**Round 1:** G Murfitt (West End) 27 M Doak (Far North RSA) 16, D Dickison (Tauranga) 28 G O'Sullivan (Inglewood) 9, D Elgar (West End) 19 S Brien (Stokes Valley) 13.

**Round 2:** Dickison 32 Murfitt 17, Elgar 25 B Harris (Johnston Park) 20, D Nightingale (Glendowie) 24 P Matheson (Halswell) 17, B Phillips (Tower) 32 K Coombe (Aramoho) 16, K Hill (New Plymouth) 26 N West (Inglewood) 14, A Ferrari (Naenae) 25 T Horn (Mangere) 23, M Anderson (Tower) 30 A Takarua (Pt Chevalier) 13, A Bowden (Parklands) 25 I Mahoney (Central Levin) 15.

**Round 3:** Ferrari 25 Hill 9, Anderson 21 Bowden 12.

#### Section 2, at Paritutu B:

**Round 1:** D Hood (Whangarei) 22 R Park (Wanganui) 10, D Goodin (Paritutu) 25 N Hill (Royal Oak) 22, A Wishnoski (New Lynn) 23 M Jones (Hillcrest) 17, S McCartain (Paritutu) 26 J Brosnan (Glen Eden) 17.

**Round 2:** Goodin 26 Hood 17, McCartain 25 Wishnoski 14, W Fredrickson (Blockhouse Bay) 25 J

Cornish (Omarunui) 18, D Delany (Royal Oak) 23 K Smith (Hinuera) 9, R Martin (Victoria) 26 J Gray (Fitzroy) 17, P Belliss (Aramoho) 26 K Smith (Oakura) 9, M Cavanagh (Pukekohe) 26 D Scott (West End) 21, B Little (Palmerston North) 31 B Foley (New Plymouth) 5.

**Draw for Saturday morning:** Anderson v Ferrari (quarterfinal), Phillips v Nightingale, Elgar v Dickison, Goodin v McCartain, Fredrickson v Delany, Martin v Belliss, Cavanagh v Little.

#### Draw for post section play in the Taranaki Open pairs at Paritutu B on January 23:

**Round 1 (8.45am start):** R Gadsby (Fitzroy) v P Hassall (Tawa), M Bridgland (Naenae) v T Heimuli (Papatoetoe), C Pinker (Wanganui East) v P Ferguson (Tui Park), K Bishop (Motueka) v J Quay (Okato), C Horo (Rahotu) v P Deegan (Opunake), B Lilley (West End) v G Crow (Paritutu), P Huxtable (Far North RSA) v L Bourne (Wanganui East), M Whittle (Fitzroy) v M Griffin (Levin). **Round 2 (report 11.15am):** S Robinson (Omarunui) v E Chilton (Kia Toa), M Dudley (Hawera Park) v T Fabling (Hillcrest), B Mummery (Paritutu) v N Bovey (Central Levin), B Read (Paritutu) v W Smith (Papamoa).