

PBA FINALS WEEKEND RETURNS TO INVERCARGILL

Invercargill's Waverley Bowling Club will host the New Zealand Professional Bowls Association Finals Weekend this weekend for the first time since 2013. Play begins on Friday night at 5pm with a 'Shanghai' singles qualifier for players to get used to the rink with the playoffs in earnest under way from 8.30am on Saturday.

The fields look wide open this year with only a few PBA internationals making it this far. Hawkes Bay's Mike Isaacson is the most experienced in the Scottish Singles field having played in the 2020 World Indoor Pairs. But also look out for Auckland's David Motu as an up-and-coming star of the future.

Dunedin's Andy McLean, partnering with Brent McEwan in the World Indoor Pairs, has played twice in the UK and once against Australia, while the Wellington pair feature PBA Chairman Richard Corry who has also played twice in the UK (once for NZ and once for Canada) and Ian McLeod. And the Taranaki pair of Craig DeFaria and John Roberts are a very experienced combination.

The UK Singles has perhaps the toughest field with a feature clash at 4pm on Saturday between NZ No.2 Craig Tinker and No.7 Aidan Zittersteijn, though Isaacson and Corry are also in the mix.

Wairarapa's Garry Muriwai comes in as a late replacement in the World Indoor Singles and will be one to watch having played in the UK in 2003. Taranaki's Dean Elgar is making an impact as a PBA rookie this year, and Southland's Kerry Heffer could make the NZ Ladies Invitation Singles nomination if she were to win the World Indoor Singles event.

Watch live action on Saturday and Sunday on the Bowls New Zealand Youtube channel.

Information including an application form, entry forms, dates and venues for the NZ PBA can be found on the worldbowlstour.org site under PBA – New Zeala



Draws:

Waverley, Invercargill

Fri 15 Sep:

5pm – Shanghai Singles Qualifier

Sat 16 Sep: (current provisional 2023 rank)

8.30am – Scottish Singles Quarterfinals: (108)David Motu v (20)Ethan Flynn;
(47)Mike Isaacson v (87)John Roberts.

8.30am – World Indoor Pairs Quarterfinals: (109)Mark Smith & (39)Jason Wheal v
(203)Andy McLean & (14)Brent McEwan; (71)Richard Corry & (63)Ian McLeod v
(118)Darren Wright & (146)Bryan Gibson.

10.30am – UK Singles Quarterfinals: (132)Bryan Harvey v (47)Mike Isaacson;
(71)Richard Corry v (75)Logan Clark.

10.30am – World Indoor Singles Quarterfinal: (28)Marty Kreft v (146)Dean Elgar.

1pm – Shanghai Singles Semifinals.

1pm – World Indoor Singles Semifinals: (171)David Clark v (40)Garry Muriwai;
(29)Kerry Heffer v winner Kreft/Elgar

2.30pm – Shanghai Singles Final

2.30pm – World Indoor Pairs Semifinals: (30)Craig DeFaria & (87)John Roberts v
(146)Vili Fifita & (212)Sam Taloke; Smith/Wheal or McLean/McEwan v
Corry/McLeod or Wright/Gibson.

4pm – Scottish Singles Semifinals: (171)Richard Morpeth v (19)Dave Bean; Motu or
Flynn v Isaacson or Roberts.

4pm – UK Singles Semifinals: (2)Craig Tinker v (7)Aidan Zittersteijn; Harvey or
Isaacson v Corry or Clark.

Sun 17 Sep:

8.30am – World Indoor Pairs Final

10am – Scottish Singles Final

11.45am – UK Singles Final

1.30pm – World Indoor Singles Final

Player Profiles:

Scottish Singles

Player database				
Name	Centre	Joined	Career-high Rank	PBA highlights
David Motu	Auckland	2021	278=, yearend 2022	winner 2023 Auckland Scottish singles qualifier; runner-up 2023 Auckland UK singles qualifier

Player database				
Name	Centre	Joined	Career-high Rank	PBA highlights
Ethan Flynn	Central Otago	2022	118=, yearend 2022	runner-up 2022 Dunedin World Indoor pairs & 2023 Scottish singles qualifiers
Mike Isaacson	Hawke's Bay	2005	12, yearend 2011	2019/20 WBT World Indoor pairs in Norfolk; winner 2006 Hastings World Indoor pairs, 2021 International singles & 2023 Scottish singles qualifiers
John Roberts	Taranaki	2016	12, yearend 2017	winner 2017 New Plymouth International & 2023 Scottish singles & World Indoor pairs qualifiers
Richard Morpeth	Manawatu	2023	rookie	winner 2023 Wellington Scottish singles qualifier
David Bean	Southland	2020	19, yearend 2022	winner 2023 Invercargill Scottish singles qualifier; runner-up 2022 Invercargill World Indoor pairs qualifier

World Indoor Pairs

Player database				
Name	Centre	Joined	Career-high Rank	PBA highlights
Mark Smith	Southland	2023	rookie	winner 2023 Invercargill World Indoor pairs qualifier
Jason Wheal	Southland	2023	rookie	winner 2023 Invercargill World Indoor pairs qualifier
Andrew McLean	Dunedin	2008	4, yearend 2015	R32 2014/15 WBT World Indoor singles in Norfolk, Pool play 2016/17 WBT World Indoor pairs in Norfolk, 2016 Australia v New Zealand Challenge in Hastings
Brent McEwan	Dunedin	2016	15, yearend 2020	winner 2019 Dunedin International singles & 2023 World Indoor pairs qualifiers
Richard Corry	Wellington	2001	1=, midyear 2003	R16 2002/03 WBT International singles in Sheffield; winner 2003 Pukekohe World Indoor pairs, Dunedin World Indoor singles, 2004 Hastings World Indoor pairs, 2013 Hastings World Indoor singles, 2018 & 2023 Wellington World Indoor pairs, 2023 Wellington UK singles qualifiers
Ian McLeod	Wellington	2019	66, yearend 2022	winner 2023 Wellington World Indoor pairs qualifier
Darren Wright	Manawatu	2019	240=, yearend 2019	winner 2023 Hastings World Indoor pairs qualifier
Bryan Gibson	Manawatu	2018	169=, yearend 2019	winner 2023 Hastings World Indoor pairs qualifier

Player database				
Name	Centre	Joined	Career-high Rank	PBA highlights
Craig De Faria	Taranaki	2008	7, yearend 2019	winner 2015 New Plymouth International singles, 2018 World Indoor singles, 2019 Scottish singles & World Indoor pairs & 2021 & 2023 World Indoor pairs qualifiers
John Roberts	Taranaki	2016	12, yearend 2017	winner 2017 New Plymouth International & 2023 Scottish singles & World Indoor pairs qualifiers
Vili Fifita	Auckland	2023	rookie	winner 2023 Auckland World Indoor pairs qualifier
Sam Taloke	Auckland	2023	rookie	winner 2023 Auckland World Indoor pairs qualifier

UK Singles

Player database				
Name	Centre	Joined	Career-high Rank	PBA highlights
Bryan Harvey	Southland	2018	11=, yearend 2020	winner 2019 Dunedin World Indoor singles & pairs, 2023 UK singles qualifiers
Mike Isaacson	Hawke's Bay	2005	12, yearend 2011	2019/20 WBT World Indoor pairs in Norfolk; winner 2006 Hastings World Indoor pairs, 2021 International singles & 2023 Scottish singles qualifiers
Richard Corry	Wellington	2001	1=, midyear 2003	R16 2002/03 WBT International singles in Sheffield; winner 2003 Pukekohe World Indoor pairs, Dunedin World Indoor singles, 2004 Hastings World Indoor pairs, 2013 Hastings World Indoor singles, 2018 & 2023 Wellington World Indoor pairs, 2023 Wellington UK singles qualifiers
Logan Clark	Counties	2022	297, yearend 2022	winner 2023 Auckland UK singles qualifier; runner-up 2023 Auckland World Indoor pairs qualifier
Craig Tinker	Southland	2017	2, yearend 2019	R32 2019/20 WBT World Indoor singles in Norfolk; 2019 Australia v NZ Challenge in Perth
Aidan Zittersteijn	Taranaki	2020	10, yearend 2021	winner 2020 New Plymouth World Indoor pairs, 2021 International singles, 2022 World Indoor singles & 2023 UK singles qualifiers

World Indoor Singles

Player database

Name	Centre	Joined	Career-high Rank	PBA highlights
Martin Kreft	Dunedin	2013	16, yearend 2018	winner 2017 Dunedin World Indoor pairs & 2023 World Indoor singles qualifiers
Dean Elgar	Taranaki	2023	rookie	winner 2023 New Plymouth World Indoor singles qualifier; runner-up 2023 New Plymouth World Indoor pairs qualifier
David Clark	Counties	2023	rookie	winner 2023 Auckland World Indoor singles qualifier; runner-up 2023 Auckland World Indoor pairs qualifier
Garry Muriwai	Wellington	2000	5=, prefinals 2003	R64 2002/03 WBT World Indoor singles in Norfolk, winner 2022 Wellington World Indoor pairs qualifier
Kerry Heffer	Southland	2018	47=, yearend 2019	winner 2018 Invercargill World Indoor pairs & 2023 World Indoor singles qualifiers