



BOWLS NEW ZEALAND – SECOND AGM NOTICE

JULY 2026

TO: CENTRE SECRETARIES, AGM DELEGATES, BOARD MEMBERS, LIFE MEMBERS

31st ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF BOWLS NEW ZEALAND

The 31st Annual meeting of Bowls New Zealand will be held on Saturday 12th September 2026 at the Ponsonby Bowling Club, 105A Jervois Road, Herne Bay, Auckland, commencing at 10am. All interested stakeholders are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting via the **Teams video link** provided in advance of the meeting.

2026/2027 Bowls New Zealand Board Selection Panel

Your attention is drawn to Clause 18.2 of the Bowls NZ Constitution:

18.2 Selection Panel:

- a) There shall be a Selection Panel established whose function shall be to consider candidates (18.1c) for appointment to the Board.
- b) The Selection Panel shall consist of three (3) persons comprising:
 - 18.2.b.1 one (1) person who shall be elected or appointed by the Delegates at a General Meeting from applications received and circulated to Delegates prior to the General Meeting;
 - 18.2.b.2 the President for the time being of Bowls NZ or her/his nominee; and
 - 18.2.b.3 one (1) person who shall be appointed by the Board.
- c) In establishing the Selection Panel, the Delegates, the Board and the President (if her/his nominee is to be appointed) shall have regard to gender, geographic location and suitability factors.
- d) The Selection Panel shall be established by the Board no later than the 15th day of May in each year.
- e) No person applying for a position on the Board under Rule 18.3 shall in the same year be eligible to be a member of the Selection Panel.
- f) The Delegates may also appoint a deputy who shall stand in for its appointee under this Rule should the appointee for any reason not be available.

*Nominations for this position 18.2.b.1 should be sent to the Chief Executive,
mark@bowlsnewzealand.co.nz*

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Your attention is drawn to Clause 17.2 of the Bowls NZ Constitution:

Bowls NZ has received the following nominations for President and Delegates Elected Member. The confirmation of these officers shall take place at the September 2026 AGM.

President

One nomination has been received for the role of President: -

- Christine (Chris) Kibblewhite nominated by Bowls Canterbury

Delegates Elected Member

One nomination has been received for the role of Delegates Elected Member: -

- Robyne Walker nominated by Bowls North Harbour

CV's for the President & Delegates Elected Member are ***below (Schedules One and Two)***.

NOTICES OF MOTION – BOWLS NZ BOARD

There are no (0) Notices of Motion for consideration at the Annual General Meeting, as submitted by the Board of Bowls New Zealand. These Notices of Motion are dealt with pursuant to Rule 22.2 of the Bowls NZ Constitution.

NOTICES OF MOTION - CENTRES

There are no (0) Notices of Motion for consideration at the Annual General Meeting, as submitted by a Centre. These Notices of Motions must be received by the Chief Executive by 30th June prior to the Annual General Meeting in order to be considered at that Meeting. These Notices of Motion are dealt with pursuant to Rule 22.2 of the Bowls NZ Constitution.



Mark Cameron
Chief Executive, Bowls New Zealand

Schedule One: Centre Delegates Representative – Robyne Walker

Dear Bowls New Zealand,

I wish to apply for the position of Delegates Elected Member from September 2026.

I have been involved in paid and voluntary governance roles since the 1990s, across telecommunications (contracting and consultancies), education (trustee of two schools, board member charter school, board member education innovation trust), health (head injury society) and bowls.

In the last nine years I have been the Secretary (2017-21), President (2021-24) and Chair (2024-2026) of the Takapuna Bowling Club and Board Member and Chair at Bowls North Harbour (2021-24). At the same time I have continued to work as General Manager of our Consultancy Business, and as Company Secretary and Board member of our planned Charter School during 2017-2022.

In the bowls roles I have administered a number of areas that have seen me in direct contact with Bowls North Harbour when not on their Board, other New Zealand Centres, and Bowls New Zealand. I believe I have managed to develop and maintain good relationships and a good reputation, with the betterment of our game as my consistent objective. As well as the day to day work of the roles I have also spearheaded policy development and processes within the club and centre which I believe adds to the sustainability and viability of our sport. I was also asked by Bowls New Zealand to provide input as part of the BNH - Working Group for the BNZ Administration Pilot Programme Proposal in 2023 and the Substitution Working Party in 2024 - 25.

My governance experience has also involved working closely with Auckland Council and AKTIVE, preparing submissions on behalf of both the club and centre to the Local Board Long-Term Plans, and advocating with Councillors on rates-related issues affecting our club.

I would look forward to continuing to develop these relationships and the development of our sport.

During my time in these roles, I successfully helped to guide both my club and the centre through two significant challenges: the COVID-19 pandemic (February 2020 to September 2022, when the Government ended the COVID-19 Protection Framework) and the Auckland Anniversary Flood of January 2023, which resulted in several of our clubs being inundated by floodwaters.

These events had a substantial impact on our operations, disrupting tournaments, competitions, and, during the pandemic, our ability to meet and participate as a club. In response, I worked closely with club and centre leaders to adapt to rapidly changing circumstances, communicate clearly with members, implement required health and safety measures, and develop practical solutions to maintain engagement and continuity wherever possible.

Leading through these periods of uncertainty required resilience, sound decision-making, and a collaborative approach. By remaining focused on the wellbeing of our members and the long-term sustainability of our organisations, I helped ensure that both the club and the Centre were able to navigate these challenges and emerge in a strong position to resume normal activities.

Having served at both club and centre level, I believe one of the most significant strategic challenges facing the Board of Bowls New Zealand is attracting, developing, and retaining volunteers and administrators. The sport relies heavily on volunteers, yet many clubs and centres are finding it increasingly difficult to recruit people willing to take on governance and leadership roles.

This creates a significant capability gap across the sport, with some clubs and centres benefiting from strong leadership and governance, while others struggle to fill key positions and maintain organisational continuity. Without a sustainable pipeline of volunteers and future leaders, the long-term growth and effectiveness of the sport may be impacted.

I would like to see Bowls New Zealand develop a national strategy focused on volunteer recruitment, leadership development, succession planning, and governance education. Such an approach would help build capability at all levels of the game and ensure clubs and centres have access to the skills and support they need to thrive.

Through my experience in club and centre governance, I have developed strong leadership, relationship-building, communication, and mentoring skills. I understand the challenges faced by volunteers and administrators and would be able to contribute practical insights to discussions on volunteer engagement, capability development, and succession planning. My collaborative approach and experience working with a wide range of stakeholders would assist the Board in developing solutions that are both strategic and achievable across the bowls community.

In addition to my roles I am also a competitive member of the Takapuna Bowling Club, the Bowls North Harbour Centre as a Premier Representative, at National level playing in the Summerset National competitions and internationally at the Bowls Singapore Lion City Cup and Bowls Victoria Open. As a result I believe I can bring a high performance player's perspective to the Delegates Elected Member role. In meeting a number of players across NZ and internationally, as well as developing relationships with Bowls NZ staff, I believe this will be of benefit to my application, particularly in understanding developments in other areas.

As well as my club roles, which will end in June 2026, I also perform the company general management functions as part of running a number of companies and trusts I have established with my husband Brett O'Riley since 1999. This involves financial, trust, charitable, legal and governance administration which I am very familiar with. This work also assists me in keeping up to date with business requirements for companies and not for profit organisations.

I have also had significant governance experience and training as a Board of Trustee member at Milford Primary School for 6 years and Takapuna Normal Intermediate School

for 2 years. I had particular experience in the Property Portfolio at Milford Primary School and the Secretarial and Property Portfolios at Takapuna Normal Intermediate School.

In all of these roles I have had to manage significant workloads, complex issues, and at times challenging relationships. I am proud of what the organisations have been able to achieve and the role I have played in getting people to work together within professional-like governance frameworks. I am a strong believer in collective responsibility and the ability to advocate strongly for a position, but accept the views of the majority. I don't take differences personally and also believe strongly in the separation between governance and the executive, while ensuring we should be able to work collegially.

In my various governance roles I have had to work with the key contemporary governance issues; health and safety, finance, risk, security and audit, recruitment, employment relations, strategy development, and organisation oversight. I have been closely involved with digital media at club and centre level, including policies and content development. I also understand the integrity issues that can impact sporting organisations.

In my career, before motherhood, I worked for KPMG (Sydney) as a Marketing and HR Manager in the International Executive Tax Division with responsibilities across the Australasia and Asia-Pacific region, Mobil Oil (Wellington) in the Commercial Division and then International HR Manager managing inbound and outbound executives, and at National Provident Fund (Wellington) as an Accounts Executive.

I have a Bachelor of Business Studies majoring in Marketing which I gained at Massey University in 1990.

Finally bowls is a huge part of my family. My husband Brett O'Riley has been involved with the game at all levels as a player and administrator and is currently the President of World Bowls and Patron of Bowls North Harbour. My parents Marie (still playing at Havelock North) and the late Des Walker have been competitive players and administrators. My grandfather Cyril Walker is a member of the Bowls NZ Hall of Fame as the founder of Turf Culture and a New Zealand selector, manager and Councillor. Fellow Hall of Fame member Professor Maxwell Walker is also a relative.

Having been involved with bowls for most of my life I have an extensive network of friends and contacts at all levels of our sport, and in other major sports organisations. I am passionate about the future of bowls and delighted with the progress Bowls New Zealand has made in the last decade in revitalising our sport.

It would be my privilege to serve as the Delegates Elected Member for Bowls New Zealand and work alongside the existing dedicated group of Board Members, executive and administrators.

Nga mihi I Kind regards

Robyne Walker

Schedule Four:

Bowls New Zealand

Nominations are called for: **DELEGATES ELECTED MEMBER**

Centres are invited to submit names of suitable Persons for the role of Delegates Elected Member as stated in Rule 17 of the Bowls New Zealand Constitution.

Nominations for Delegates Elected Member will close with the Chief Executive on 1st July 2026

Nominations shall be in writing, signed by the President or Secretary of the nominating Centre and shall contain the consent of the nominee, together with the Nominee's full postal address and such other information as the Board may request in respect to each nomination. Each nomination should be accompanied by an appropriate CV.

We Bowls North Harbour (The Centre) nominate for
the position of Delegates Elected Member of Bowls New Zealand:

Nominees Name in Full: Robyne Walker
Email: robynwalker@xtra.co.nz
Phone Number/s Home: _____ Mobile: 021 236 0585
Home Address: 14 Rangitoto Terrace
Suburb: Milford City/Town: Auckland 0620

I hereby consent to the above nomination:

Signed (Nominee) [Signature]

Bowls North Harbour Inc
Nominating Centre:

Name: GARTH PARTWIDGE

Signed: [Signature]
Nominating Centre President/Secretary

Nominations close 5pm on 1st July 2026 and are to be forwarded with the applicants CV, cover letter and any other information requested to: Chief Executive Officer, Bowls New Zealand, c/- 105A Jervois Road, Ponsonby, Auckland 1011 or by email: mark@bowlsnewzealand.co.nz

Schedule Two: President – Chris Kibblewhite

26 May 2026

Mark Cameron
Chief Executive Officer
Bowls New Zealand
P O Box 62502, Greenlane
AUCKLAND 1546

email: mark@bowlsnewzealand.co.nz

Kia ora Mark

APPLICATION FOR THE POSITION OF PRESIDENT - BOWLS NEW ZEALAND

I am excited to apply for the position of President of Bowls New Zealand. Along with my Cover Letter and CV, I also **attach** the signed Nomination Form from Bowls Canterbury, who have supported my application.

Since September 2023 I have held the position of Delegates Elected Member on the Board of Bowls New Zealand. This is a position I have thoroughly enjoyed and have learnt a lot over the past nearly three years. Prior to this I have held roles in sports administration including, Board Member of Bowls Canterbury and a member of various Executive Committees in both the bowls community and prior to this within Canterbury Netball.

I am passionate about the sport of bowls; I play competitively and have also represented Canterbury at a regional level. I keep myself up to date with what is happening in the Bowls Community within New Zealand and also follow the sport in Australia. I regularly attend and also participate in our National Events and this has enabled me to gain and grow my connections within our bowls community across the motu.

In my professional life, I hold the role of Manager People Services (HR) with the Department of Corrections, where I lead a team of 10 direct reports and a total of 17 staff within my reporting line. This is a very complex organisation. I believe the skills and experience from my working life, are transferrable and have certainly assisted me during my current tenure on the Board of Bowls New Zealand. My day-to-day role requires me to partner and influence Managers, coaching them and building strong relationships within an environment that can be at times challenging. I am an honest and direct communicator, and believe I do this in a professional manner. Confidentiality and integrity are what I base my reputation on, as well as a much-needed sense of humour.

As part of my application, I have been asked to address the following questions – please see my responses below:

Please state what you consider to be the key strategic issues facing the Board of Bowls New Zealand (as the key administrative body for the sport of bowls in New Zealand) and show how your identified professional or interpersonal skills would help the Board.

I see the key strategic issues being those listed below and how my professional/interpersonal skills would help the Board.

Inclusion

- I see Inclusion continuing to be a key strategic focus for Bowls New Zealand. In the past two years in particular, Bowls New Zealand have made positive headway in this area and I would like to see this continue. We are getting the message out there that bowls is about “connections” and that can mean different things for different people.

- From a Wellbeing perspective the “Check Your Bowls” nationwide campaign has been hugely successful in raising awareness around early detection of breast, prostate and testicular cancer. This also encourages people to talk about their journey with others in a safe environment where they are part of a community.
- Equity and Inclusion - I am very passionate about working with those with physical or mental disabilities to try our game. I have assisted at Canterbury Centre level with a group of special needs teenagers who were trying out the game of bowls. Whilst this is challenging and hard work, it is so rewarding to participate in and encourage them to try something different. It truly is a game for everyone. Para Bowls including those with physical, hearing or vision impairments offers a number of opportunities to those wanting to participate at all levels.
- I would still love to see more Mixed Events in bowls. The entries over the past 2-3 years in the National Mixed Pairs, is testament to this being something the bowls community is obviously interested in.

Membership growth – a different focus

- From a membership perspective, there are so many opportunities for the community to try a game of bowls. I believe it is about as many people as possible having a go at our great game and understanding that you don’t have to be out there for 8 hours a day in the traditional format to enjoy the game. The recent increase in numbers and the continual growth of these types of memberships show our game is growing in the social and casual memberships. If we continue to grow in these memberships, eventually a percentage of these people may take up the game in a more competitive way.

Technology and Broadcast of Events

- Over the past 12-18 months, Bowls New Zealand has taken this part of the game to the next level. The investment in the new Production Studio in the Ponsonby Office, whereby there are less people needed on the ground at any event we televise, continue to livestream on YouTube and all of our National Events are live on Sky Sport. BowlsHub, new website etc, from a technology perspective we have moved rapidly and continue to do so.

Mindset shift to encourage Bowling Clubs to focus more on a “Community Hub” focus, than just a “Bowling Club”

- Having now had the opportunity to travel to more clubs outside of Canterbury, I can certainly see this is happening more and more and this encourages the Community Focus. I was on the Executive Committee at Parklands Bowling Club when a decision was made to rebuild our damaged Bowling Club House and change the focus to a Community Sports Hub – now called the Pukeko Centre. There was a lot of push back from some of our older members as they didn’t want to lose their identity and be taken over by other sports clubs. It is also prudent to mention that this was after the Canterbury Earthquakes, and quite frankly if it hadn’t been for the camaraderie and friendships at our Bowling Club a lot of our members wouldn’t have coped so well. Our suburb was hit hard by the Earthquake with the majority of our members either losing their homes or sustaining significant damage – our bowling club was their safe place and one where they could meet their friends. We subsequently entered into a MOU with the local Junior Rugby Club, and it has worked well. They are a winter sport, and we are summer sport. What we are seeing from this is that the parents of the rugby children, have now joined up and play bowls casually/socially on a Friday night and they love it. I wouldn’t say there is 100% unity still, but personally I don’t think the Parklands Bowling Club would have survived if it had stayed just a Bowling Club, as we are now seeing a decline in the traditional membership, particularly the women.

Given that the Administrative Bodies (and indeed the bowling public that they serve) are made up of diverse groups of people (sometimes with very definite viewpoints which may run counter to progressive, strategic planning) show how your skills/experiences have prepared you to not only make “the tough decisions” but most importantly to justify these decisions assertively to nonreceptive audiences.

- Within the Bowls New Zealand context, I am more than comfortable justifying decisions made either operationally or at the Board table. I believe I have a strong reputation in bowls, particularly in the

Canterbury Region and this enables me to have these conversations if challenged or asked by a member of our community. If I was elected as President I recognise I would need to continue to develop and strengthen my connections particularly in the North Island.

- At times there have been decisions made at a Board level that I may not totally agree with, but I would never communicate that out to the bowls community. Once a decision is agreed by the Board or the CEO, I am comfortable if questioned over a strategy or decision that I hold the line and communicate that decision appropriately. This can be difficult from time to time, but I am confident in the way I communicate and in my integrity in how I interact in these situations.
- The skills and experience I possess from holding senior Human Resource management roles certainly do stand me in good stead. I am required to make “the tough decisions” on a regular basis in my current role with the Department of Corrections. I am also required to lead out decisions that have been made at a National Office level into our Region. I am very clear with my team when it is an appropriate time for feedback in a safe space and take on board their comments, but at the end of the day the decision has ultimately been made and we need to go out to the business and front it.

If elected to the Board, what specific contributions will you be making to grow participation in the sport of bowls?

- I have addressed this earlier under “*Membership Growth – A different focus*”, I currently work alongside my Club encouraging and participating when we hold corporate bowls, twilight bowls events and assist at these events. I believe it is about as many people as possible having a go at our great game and understanding that you don’t have to be out there for 8 hours a day in the traditional format to enjoy the game. I talk about the game a lot, whenever I can in my social life and at work. Keeping it top of mind for everyone and socialising the game with a mixture of people.

What experience do you have in governance – commercial and/or not for profit?

- I am a current Board Member of Bowls New Zealand and have held this position since September 2023. I was honoured last year to be nominated and accepted to an Online Governance Professional Development Course facilitated by Martin Sneddon over a period of 5 weeks. This was a big commitment, along with working full time, however I wanted to commit the time to this and it certainly paid off. I thoroughly enjoyed this course and learnt a lot from Martin. I am also continuing to learn from working alongside more experienced Board Members, in particular one of my board colleagues who is a professional Board Member. I have sought feedback from him after Board Meetings and he is happy to provide this which is helpful. I would certainly like to continue my governance journey. I have previously been a member of the Executive Committee for Canterbury Netball, and the Board of Bowls Canterbury.
- I have a broad background of industries that I have worked in including, private sector, co-operatives, health boards and large government organisations, as well as consulting to not for profit organisations.

In closing, I wish to reiterate my commitment to the Board of Bowls New Zealand. I am supported by my manager to undertake this position and the required time away from the workplace. I believe I can juggle my paid employment with the requirements of the role of President of Bowls New Zealand, if I was successful with my application.

Mark, if there is any further information you require, please don’t hesitate to contact me.

Ngā mihi nui

C A Kibblewhite

Chris Kibblewhite

CHRIS KIBBLEWHITE

64 Royal Park Drive, Parklands, Christchurch 8083
(M) 027 5900443 (E) chrisandross@gmail.com

PROFILE

A highly motivated and experienced leader with over 20 years' experience in Human Resources, Employment Relations, and Recruitment.

Just under three years' experience as a Board Member of Bowls New Zealand, in addition to holding sports management positions within the Canterbury Netball Association (prior to taking up Bowls) served one year as a Board Member with Bowls Canterbury, six years as an Executive Committee Member of the Parklands Bowling Club and two years as Club Captain.

Experience working within large complex highly unionised environments with a strong knowledge of current NZ Employment Legislation and focus on employment relations.

Pragmatic and down-to-earth individual who builds and maintains strong and effective relationships at all levels.

Adaptable and flexible having worked in both the private and public sectors and within a variety of industries.

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Present	Manager People Services (HR) - Department of Corrections
2016-2017	Senior Human Resources Manager within the West Coast District Health Board (WCDHB) and Canterbury District Health Board (CDHB)
2016-2017	Attended and presented at Monthly Board Meetings of the West Coast DHB

GOVERNANCE, SPORTS ADMINISTRATION AND SPORTS MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE

2023 – 2026	Board Member – Bowls New Zealand (Delegates Elected Member)
2020 - 2021	Board Member – Bowls Canterbury
2010 - 2018	Parklands Bowling Club – Secretary (5 years), Treasurer (1 year), Club Captain (2 years)
2007	Canterbury Netball Association – Manager of the Canterbury Senior Netball NPC Team
2000	Canterbury Netball Association – Manager of the Canterbury Under 17 Netball Team
1997-1999	Canterbury Netball Association – Executive Committee Member

RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS, SOUTHERN REGION (Present role)
Manager People Services – (HR Manager)

CANTERBURY & WEST COAST DISTRICT HEALTH BOARDS
People and Capability Operations Manager (HR Manager)

SELF EMPLOYED PART TIME
Human Resources Consultant

I conducted my own business on a part-time basis during the time I was also working for the CDHB and WCDHB on a fixed term. My consulting business provided Employment Relations and Human Resources solutions to clients including not for profit organisations and NGO's.

OPUS INTERNATIONAL CONSULTANTS

Human Resources Manager – Corporate Services

Human Resources Manager – Southern Region

RAVENSDOWN FERTILISER CO-OPERATIVE

National Recruitment Manager

AREAS OF PROFESSIONAL EXPERTISE

- **Employment Relations** – Extensive experience in managing complex employment relations issues most recently within large government departments. Experienced in attending and representing employers in Mediation, Employment Relations Authority and have attended the Employment Court.
- **Change Management** – Actively involved in multiple change management programmes within a large DHB under significant time and build pressures and most recently within Corrections as we currently undertake an organisational wide restructure.
- **Leadership** – I currently lead a team of 10 Human Resources professionals. Encourage personal development and growth and a common goal to succeed.
- **HR Consulting** – Skilled in all areas of HR consulting within external organisations including Not for Profits and NGO's when I ran my own consulting business. Coaching managers, employee engagement, employment investigations, succession planning, talent mapping, recruitment and retention.
- **Performance Management** – working alongside managers to assist with staff performance issues.
- **People/Communication and Networking skills** – approachable, open, honest and up-front communicator who is not afraid to have the difficult conversations. Strong networker within the work and sporting environment.

INTERESTS

I have a strong interest in all sports and have participated competitively in Lawn Bowls to a Representative level. Prior to taking up bowls 16 years ago, I was very involved in sports management of Canterbury Netball and played netball until injuries didn't allow. I also enjoy walking my dog, reading, and spending time with friends and family.

Bowls New Zealand

Nominations are called for: **PRESIDENT**

Centres are invited to submit names of suitable Persons for the role of President of Bowls New Zealand as stated in **Rule 17** of the Bowls New Zealand Constitution.

Nominations for President will close with the Chief Executive on 1st July 2026

Nominations shall be in writing, signed by the President or Secretary of the nominating Centre and shall contain the consent of the nominee, together with the Nominee's full postal address and such other information as the Board may request in respect to each nomination. Each nomination should be accompanied by an appropriate CV.

We Bowls Canterbury (The Centre) nominate for
the position of President of Bowls New Zealand:

Nominees Name in Full: Chris Kibblewhite
Email: chrisandross@gmail.com
Phone Number/s Home 03 3836036 Mobile 0275900443
Home Address: 64 Royal Park Drive
Suburb Parklands City/Town Christchurch

I hereby consent to the above nomination:

Signed (Nominee) C A Kibblewhite

Canterbury Centre

Nominating Centre:

Name: BOWLS CANTERBURY

Signed: A. E. Wilson
Nominating Centre President/Secretary

Nominations close 5pm on 1st July 2026 and are to be forwarded with the applicants CV, cover letter and any other information requested to: Chief Executive Officer, Bowls New Zealand, c/- 105A Jervois Road Ponsonby, Auckland 1011 or by email: mark@bowlsnewzealand.co.nz