GREEN EVALUATIONS

BOWLS NEW ZEALAND GREENKEEPERS ASSOCIATION Inc.

A Greens evaluation Committee of experienced greenkeepers with the addition of a NZSTI Agronomist to help with professional advice in final selection of greens.

ROLE OF COMMITTEE: Prior to Nationals

On behalf of National Tournament Organisers the Greens committee shall interact with the local greenkeeping associations and Centre liaison officers within the Centre hosting the Nationals. The role of local representatives will be to assist the National greens sub-committee and to inform of any unforeseen problems, which may arise.

The committee shall inspect and grade greens on a consistent basis in comparison to the grading given to the **Headquarter greens** as set out in the **Criteria for greens deemed suitable for national play**. Were necessary Clubs will be advised on what corrective course of action that should be taken to achieve a green of suitable standard or consistency (e.g. green speed ditch specifications etc.)

Greens in all centres will be visited and graded at least three times prior to the nationals:

1. During Mid December prior to national event been held.

2. After Greens renovation during April.

3. Mid August/Early September coming out of winter for cover going into spring.

3. At the end of October prior to the allocation greens/event once final entries are known.

During Nationals:

Greens will continue to be monitored once play commences by representatives of the sub-committee or their Centre liaison officer. Player reaction will be noted and acted upon if justified.

To this ends reserve greens will be allocated within each region of play so that they can be used at a moments notice. **No green shall be closed or play transferred without the permission of the National Tournament controllers.**

GRADING CRITERIA FOR THE NATIONALS

Greens will be graded during:

1. At renovation – April/May
2. During August/September
3. During October prior to the allocation greens/event and once final entries are known. This is the most important grading. Past history should also be taken into account. For Example does the quality of some greens decline over summer due to high organic matter levels or other inherent problems.

Grading standard:

Likely to be used:

1. A = Very high surface standard, all green dimensions correct (e.g. HQ standard)

2. B = High surface standard, all green dimensions not correct (e.g.).

3. B- and C+= Medium to High surface standard, green dimensions not regulation (e.g. surface tends to be soft due to thatch, uneven draw, banks not correct height or ditches/banks badly need attention).

Unlikely to be used:

4. C = surface standard below par (e.g. weak areas/slow green speed), and or green dimensions not regulation, but with some work could be graded a C+ or better.

5. D/E = below necessary standard (e.g. 1/2 green size) or need major renovation (e.g. Levels, out side rinks unplayable).

Note: All greens will be graded against the Headquarters Green to be used for the finals.

Surface conditions:

It has been recommended that for natural Maniototo, Dioica and Starweed surfaces the following criteria will be used:

Greens must be true and level, coverage even, disease and weed free and Greens subjected to regular cutting. In many case this be will dependent upon species cover (**Green of dominant Dioica**) and cutting height this may mean daily cutting (**morning of play**) and rolling.

Green allocations and checking the standard of greens to be used and clubs need to know that as from 2011 green evaluations will be carried out with greens being graded as follows:

1 Grade "A" Greens being to standard for National and Centre Finals Standard.
- (a) Green surface to be within 5mm of level in all directions
- (b) Even cover of weed (Maniototo, Dioica, and Starweed) all over green.
- (c) Green Speed between 16 & 18 seconds maximum.
- (d) Bowls come back to centre line on all outside rinks.

2 Grade "B" Greens being to standard for post section standard for National and Centre fixtures.

3 Grade "C" Greens being to standard for section play for National and Centre fixtures.

4 Grade "D" Greens being to standard for Club and inter-club only. (Clubs need to carry out work)

Maurice Symes
(Secretary)
For: Bowls New Zealand Greenkeepers Association

BOWLS NEW ZEALAND GREENKEEPING ASSOCIATION

Greens Inspection Form

Club……. **Date Inspected…….....**

Green Supervisor…… **Phone No. …….....**

GREEN No……..... GREEN Name.....

Factors to be recorded	**For each factor place tick in that part of the box that best describes the visual appearance or playability of the green.**			
Surface Cover	Bare	Thin	Good	Very Good
Green Surface	Dioica	Maniototo	Dioica + Maniototo	
General Growth	Weak	Uneven	Lush	Very Good
Colour	Dark Green	Light Green	Brown or Bronze	
Problem Weeds Diseases and Pests	Grass Hydrocotyle Pratia Colbanthus Pearlwort Moss and Slime Other		**Disease** Yes No **Pests** Yes No	
Groove Lines	Filled Yes No		Faint	Not Visible
Mowing Height	High	Medium	Low	Cleanness of Cut Good Poor
Surface Firmness	Very Soft	Soft	Firm	Very Hard
Draw of Bowl	Uneven or Narrow	Poor Draw off Ditch	Even Draw	Wide to Very Wide Draw
Green Speed	14 sec or Under	15 to 16 sec	17 to 18 sec	Over 18 sec
Ditches	Narrow	Deep	Uneven	Regulation
Banks	Height to Low	Obvious Rebounding	Acceptable	Regulation

Overall Green Rating Criteria: A+ to B. Surface and ditches/banks all acceptable - suitable for all Centre and/or National events and as HQ greens.

B- and C+ Surface acceptable, but ditches and banks below regulatory standard - suitable only for Centre qualifying events.

C or Less General green standard below standard. - Unsuitable for Centre or National events

Comments:

General Procedure

Equipment required

1. Bowl
2. Tape measure
3. Watch with stopwatch or second hand
4. Jack

Procedure

1. Complete the testing procedure for each of the identified items:
   - *Artificial greens, Sections 1 & 2 (legal and playing requirements)*
   - *Natural greens, all sections.*

   When completing each test refer to the points raised under "Issues to consider".

2. Within the scoring section select (and tick) the description that best fits the situation observed on the green being tested.

3. Add up the score after completing each section (Legal, Playing, Green requirements).

4. On completion of the survey add up the total scores for each of the Legal, Playing and Green requirements.

5. Based on the total score achieved, circle the appropriate grading for the green.
   - *Artificial greens are graded "out of 40 points"*
   - *Natural greens are graded "out of 60 points".*

DITCH HOLDING TESTING PROCEDURE

