

SUPER CHALLENGE MARCHES ON

The decision of Bowls Queensland to dissolve its partnership with Bowls Super Challenge does not affect the competition in any way. The competition will run as normal in 2009. The start date for the first round is the weekend of the 31st January. The last round will be the weekend of the 14th March. The round robins will be on the 28th/29th March and the Grand Final at Tweed Heads Bowls Club is on the 4th April. There is a spare weekend on the 21st/22nd March to allow for incomplete games. The nomination forms for BSCQ 2009 will be posted out within the next week.

The format for the men will remain unchanged. The format for the ladies is still a pairs and a fours game. The tie break situation has been changed. If the teams are level on 1 rink all, both teams will now return to the green for an extra end. On this extra end the combined shots of both teams will count. If still level it will become sudden death until a result is achieved.

The Board of BSCQ recognises that travel costs are becoming a major issue with clubs. Therefore, with the draw for the Bronze section, we will attempt to keep travel to a minimum (the survey results suggested under 2.5 hours travel). The Board has also decided to introduce equal prize money for 3rd and 4th placegetters in the Silver and Bronze divisions. This will help alleviate the costs of travel to the round robins and then to the semi finals.

Bowls Super Challenge will provide \$15,000 towards the launches for the 10th Anniversary of Super Challenge on the 6th and 7th December. The men's launch will be a 4's tournament at Coolum Beach Bowls Club with over \$13,000 in prize money. The ladies launch will be a 2 bowl triples tournament with over \$5,500 in prize

money held at a venue to be announced. These tournaments are open to all players that played in the 2008 competition and members of new clubs coming into the 2009 competition. Teams must consist of players from the one club. Nomination forms will be sent to all clubs in due course.

The Board would like to acknowledge all the clubs that returned our survey forms. There were 99 returned and the results have determined the changes that have been made.

There has been some negative publicity of late toward our competition. The Board would like to point out that every club will be invited to play in 2009 and we hope that the competition will continue to expand as it has done over the past 9 years. In 2008 we put 2,720 people on the greens for every week of the competition. We generated over \$335,000 in green fees for our clubs. Take into account the extra turnover in the club during BSCQ games and we feel it is in the best interests of our sport that we continue to do as we have. We will still cooperate with district events as long as our competition is shown the same respect by those same people.

BSCQ does not have any issues with PLQ (as pointed out in certain magazine press releases of late) and wishes them all the best for their 2009 competition.