Waikato Area Pairs - Manager’s Report for 2023

It was good to see the increase in table numbers at each venue this year. I realise it wasn’t difficult to achieve considering covid was still lurking last year, but at least we achieved our goal.

Thank you to the clubs that held heats - you all provided excellent hospitality and a welcoming atmosphere. We had more non-open pairs playing this year, thank you to the people who encouraged them to join us. Thanks also to Pam Moore who has directed for us this year.

With the increase in numbers contributing to the overall kitty, prize money will be paid as per the schedule. It is pleasing that there are 14 pairs eligible for the overall competition this year (compared to 2 last year) including 8 non-open pairs remaining in the overall standings.

Current standing in the results see Gary / Yuzhong still top of the ladder followed by Ella / Michael in second place, Jena / Alex, third place and Rochelle / Tim close behind. Top non-open pair are Jena and Alex followed by Elaine and Ross and Lois and Mary.

Table numbers attending at each venue:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 2023 | 2022 | 2021 | 2020 | 2019 | 2018 | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 |
| Matamata | 12 | 5 | 12 | 17 | 15 | 13 | 14 | 20 | 20 |
| Morrinsville | 8 | covid | 11 | covid | 14 |  | 14 |  | 16 |
| Cambridge | 10 | 5 | 10 | covid | 19 | 20.5 |  | 20 | 17 |
| Thames | - | 5 | 10 | 13 | 13 |  |  |  |  |
| Te Aroha | 10.5 | covid | 11 | covid | 18 |  | 19 | 16 | 17 |
| Hamilton |  | 6 | 16\* | 18 | 18 |  | 21 | 14 | 15 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Dates and locations scheduled for 2024:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Heat | Venue | Date | Clashes |
| 1 | Te Aroha | 10 March | Taranaki Congress |
| 2 | Matamata | 28 April |  |
| 3 | Cambridge | 26 May |  |
| 5 | Morrinsville | 21 July |  |
| 6 | Hamilton | 1 September |  |

Discussion points for the AGM:

* should table money be increased
* now we have 5 heats rather than 6, should the number of substitutions be reduced from the 2 we currently have to 1
* if Thames decide to hold a heat again, do we increase the number of heats or remain at 5 heats with one club having a bye each year
* with nearly half the pairs in the final rankings being non-open pairs, should the existing overall prizes remain as they currently are.

If anyone has any discussion points for the AGM, please let me know before 27 August.

Now, a  This year, there have been too many instances of inappropriate communications with the Director. These days, Directors available for tournaments are few and far between. Club directors have met our needs over the last 3 years, but do not appreciate being hassled or hearing negative comments being made about their directing decisions or actions. Please treat our Director/s with courtesy, and if you have a query about a decision, approach them in a positive manner at a time when they available to listen to you. Alternatively, discuss your issue with the WAPs Manager to get another opinion.

Lastly, I am not continuing to act as Manager after this year – please consider putting your name forward. I have enjoyed my time managing the WAP competitions, but it is time for new ideas and new efforts.

Regards

Ella