

## 2011 NZ PROFESSIONAL BOWLS ASSOCIATION FINALS WEEKEND – 2 & 3 SEPTEMBER 2011

### HILL TAKES SCOTTISH AND AUSTRALIAN BERTHS

Auckland's Jamie Hill qualified for the Co-operative Funeralcare Scottish International Open Singles on Friday night at the Frankton Railway Bowling Club in Hamilton but had to battle very hard overcoming first set losses in both his matches against Dunedin's Ross Munro and Waikato's Chris Lourie. The match against Lourie in particular was absolutely outstanding enthraling the crowd with accurate draw and drive play on every end before Hill came out the winner 5-7, 7-4, 2-1. The players enjoyed the game and spoke of their great respect for each other's ability. The win over Lourie also secured a top four ranking for Hill earning a place in the New Zealand PBA team to play Australia next year. Lourie ensured he will remain the NZ number one ranked player by beating Munro on Saturday morning in the round-robin play-offs.

### HILL REMAINS UNBEATEN QUALIFIES FOR WORLDS

Six time former NZ number one Jamie Hill moved up a gear on Saturday winning every set on his way to qualifying for the Potter's Leisure World Indoor Singles. Hill outclassed Central Otago's Simon Nyhof and edged Hawke's Bay's Murray Glassey in two tighter sets 10-8, 12-6. The win over Nyhof secured a number two NZ ranking for 2011 behind Chris Lourie.

### REWARD FOR GLASSEY

Hawke's Bay's Murray Glassey received reward for a very good season by qualifying for the Co-operative Funeralcare Welsh Grand Prix to be played in February beating both Ross Stewart (Southland) and Wayne Stewart (Waikato). Glassey was taken to a tie-break in a see-saw match with the Southlander and came through a tight second set against the resurgent Waikato Stewart. Glassey ended the day winning the remaining round-robin match for the World Singles against Simon Nyhof and thereby displaced Peter Wilson from the top four of the rankings keeping his place in the NZ PBA team to play Australia next winter. Lourie, Hill, Glassey and Ken Walker make up the top four in the year-end rankings and will make up the NZ team along with an invited PBA member likely to be 2011 Challenge champion Raika Gregory.

### NZ PBA Finals Weekend Results:

#### Co-operative Funeralcare Scottish International Open Singles play-offs:

Jamie Hill (Auckland) bt Ross Munro (Dunedin) 4-9, 11-1, 2-0; Hill bt Chris Lourie (Waikato) 5-7, 7-4, 2-1; Lourie bt Munro 6-6, 9-3. Jamie Hill (Auckland) qualifies for the Co-Operative Funeralcare Scottish International Open Singles 5th-12th November in Perth, Scotland. The New Zealand qualifier is drawn to play Billy Jackson (England) in the first round.

#### Co-operative Welsh Grand Prix Singles play-offs:

Murray Glassey (Hawke's Bay) bt Ross Stewart (Southland) 11-5, 4-11, 2-0; Wayne Stewart (Waikato) bt Ross Stewart 10-5, 10-4; Glassey bt Wayne Stewart 8-3, 9-7. Murray Glassey (Hawke's Bay) qualifies for the Co-operative Funeralcare Welsh Grand Prix Singles starting 4th February in Wales.

#### Potter's Leisure World Indoor Singles play-offs:

Jamie Hill (Auckland) bt Simon Nyhof (Central Otago) 13-0, 10-2; Hill bt Murray Glassey (Hawke's Bay) 10-8, 12-6; Glassey bt Nyhof 8-7, 9-5. Jamie Hill (Auckland) qualifies for the Potter's Leisure World Indoor Singles 16th-29th January in Norfolk, England. The New Zealand qualifier is drawn to play Andy Thomson (England) in the first round.

#### Henselite Shanghai Singles play-offs:

Semifinals: Chris Lourie (Waikato) 31, Ken Walker (Dunedin) 30, Mike Haggart (Auckland) 25, Mark Griffiths (Auckland) 31, Graham Gaut (Hawke's Bay), Ray Boffa (Kapiti Coast) 19, Dave Hodges (Dunedin) 31, Ross Munro (Dunedin) 29, John Cross (Dunedin) 21. Final: Lourie 31, Hodges 25, Griffiths 20.

Thanks to Richard Corry – Victoria Bowling Club, Wellington.