

## Tenpin Bowling Australia Limited Tournament Team

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## **Countdown to Australian Tenpin Bowling National Championship**

Proudly supported by Events Tasmania 11 October – 28 October 2006

The countdown has begun to the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual National Championship for the sport of tenpin bowling and this year the Nationals will provide a major focus on Tasmania.

Entries have been received from adult bowlers from every State and Territory of Australia and New Zealand who will line up in one of the highlight events of the Nationals – the Rachuig Trophy Interstate Teams tournament.

The Nationals are staged by the sport's governing body, Tenpin Bowling Australia Limited (TBA), in association with volunteers from the Hobart region. AMF Moonah will host this year's National Championship and Events Tasmania will play a leading role in supporting the three-week event.

"There is always keen competition from capital and regional cities throughout Australia to host our sport's National Championship" said TBA CEO, Alex Popov today. "As well as the prestige and considerable economic impact a host city will enjoy, there is also a significant increase in awareness of the sport's benefits to the community at large" he explained.

"The initial enthusiasm of the local associations, combined with the support of Events Tasmania in submitting a very professional bid to the TBA Board in June last year resulted in the decision to bring the Adult National Championship back to Tasmania, after a lapse of more than fifteen years," he added.

Highlight events of the Nationals will include the Rachuig Trophy tournament, a prestigious State versus State Team challenge, the Walter De Veer Restricted Challenge, a handicapped Teams event introduced in 1996 and now firmly established as an annual event.

Reflecting TBA's focus on developing and promoting the sport, this year's Nationals will include some changes to the timing and presentation of events, designed to encourage participation to a broad base of bowlers of all ages and skill levels.

TBA's Tournament team is already working hard organising sufficient squads to cater for the large number of entries. Bowling in Teams, Doubles and Singles events begins on Saturday, 11 October and TBA is especially keen to encourage local participation from the local Tasmanian centres to this year's event. "The Nationals are an integral part of our tournament calendar year, enabling bowlers of every level to compete in our sport" said TBA National Event Coordinator, Peter Coburn.

The bowling program includes numerous events including the Intercentre Cup, open to three-person teams of bowlers, the Classic and Restricted Cups, events with qualifying based on a 3-game Singles score.

The Nationals also incorporates the Australian Open Masters event, to be held on the 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> October. The event is open to all adult TBA registered players with qualifying based on the highest three-game Singles or Doubles series bowled during the Championship Winner of the Men's and Women's Masters will win the Champion's Trophy, medallion, commemorative shirt and a substantial cash prize.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics consistently ranks tenpin bowling in the country's top ten participation sports and surveys confirm the sport is enjoying a strong resurgence of popularity. Participants and spectators are welcome throughout the entire three weeks of the Nationals to enjoy the activity and fun or simply to witness the skill, challenge and camaraderie of tenpin bowling.

The official Entry Form is available for download from TBA's official website...www.tenpin.org.au

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