

Seagulls soar in bowls grand final

By Herb Barclay

THE Inverloch bowling team has stamped itself as the region's premier outfit with a comfortable win in the SGBA pennant bowls grand final on Saturday.

The win gives the Division One team its ninth pennant flag in the past eleven years.

A capacity crowd of more than 250 packed the Inverloch bowls club to watch the five divisions battle it out for grand final honours.

The weather and the greens were perfect.

Ted Bott (Inverloch) and his fellow players, Peter Shaw, George Scott

and Tom Atkins had control over Col Watt (Leongatha) and his team of Bill Rahilly, Ron McGannon and John Russell all day and were comfortable winners by 12 shots.

Ron Burge (Inverloch) with terrific support from Chas Buccilli (the yellow terror), Doug Muir and Norm West handled the conditions better than their opponents Peter Kennedy, Ron Hutton, Graham Greenway and Harry Forrester and were never threatened, to eventually finish with a 13 shot margin.

Again, it was John Hall (Leongatha) and his team of Russell Trotman, John Turner and Jack Kuiper who provided the Leongatha supporters with some hope of success. The draw bowling of these players was a delight to see. However, Ron Lawson (Inverloch)

with John Hedley having his best day for the season, hung in all day and never let the Leongatha team take total control of the match.

Nine Inverloch players, Ted Bott, Ron Burge, Ron Lawson and Norm West, have played in all nine premierships. Congratulations to these players and well done Inverloch.

Division 2

Congratulations to Korumburra and welcome back to Division 1 next season. I'm sure you will do as well in your first season as Meenyan did this year. Ron Snooks (Korumburra) was too accomplished for Mirboo North's Bernie Fraser and was the difference between the two sides. Joe Pinneri (Mirboo North) and Robert Cosson were separated by five shots.

Phil Stimson (Mirboo North) and John Fisher (Korumburra) had a battle royal all day, with the Korumburra side finally winning by three shots.

Division 3

Inverloch had all three rinks up and recorded a convincing 44 shot victory over Leongatha, Inverloch will now be promoted to Division 2 next season.

Division 4

The winner was Port Welshpool, which didn't have it all its own way but were able to come out winners by seven shots. Port Welshpool will be promoted to Division 3 next year and everybody wishes them well.

Division 5

It was Foster's day in this division, well done. Inverloch had one winning rink and Foster also had a winning

rink. However the Foster rink won by 27 shots, too much for the Inverloch rink.

To all who participated in the grand finals, be proud of your achievement as there are many players in other teams who didn't make it this far.

Good bowling to Korumburra and Inverloch when you play at Sale towards the end of March.

Grand final results:

DIVISION 1:

Inverloch 83 d Leongatha 70

DIVISION 2:

Korumburra 79 d Mirboo North 66

DIVISION 3:

Inverloch 90 d Leongatha 46

DIVISION 4:

Port Welshpool 74 d Inverloch 67

DIVISION 5: