

GRIFFIN & MORTON

NEW KITTYHAWKS CHAMPIONS

After a gripping final between players from two small South Island towns, Sam Morton, from the Pleasant Point club in South Canterbury, established himself on the national scene by winning the Kittyhawks National Bowls Under 20 singles men's title at the Pakuranga Bowling Club over Easter Weekend.

Morton beat young West Coaster and a product of the well known Blakestown club, Bradley Dixon, in a thrilling tie-breaker. Both bowlers were evenly poised when a solitary shot decided each of the first two sets but Morton was able to snare the telling shots to win the tie-breaker, three – nil.

Two team-mates from the New

Zealand Development side at the recent Trans-Tasman series in Australia, Kirsten Griffin and Misty Arnold, faced each other in the women's final, with Wellingtonian, Griffin, taking the title in straight sets. Griffin gained the upper hand in the first set to win, 10 – 5, and never relinquished the pressure.

The plate finals went to Nelson's Amy Brenton and Bay of Plenty player, Cameron Riddington.

Upsets saw several of the favoured players eliminated at the quarter-final and semi-final stages and confirmed that the sport is developing a growing number of top class young players throughout the country.

Final Results

Championship: Women's Final: Kirsten Griffin (Wellington) beat Misty Arnold (Nelson), 10 – 5, 10 – 4. **Men's Final:** Sam Morton (South Canterbury) beat Bradley Dixon (West Coast), 8 – 7, 8 – 9, 3 – 0.

Plate: Women's Final: Amy Brenton (Nelson) beat Lana Craik (North Otago), 11 – 9, 15 – 11. **Men's Final:** Cameron Riddington (Bay of Plenty) beat Mark Leith (Canterbury), 4 – 13, 15 – 3, 2 – 1.



From Left: Lanah Craik, Amy Brenton, Misty Arnold, Kirsten Griffin, Sam Morton, Bradley Dixon, Cameron Riddington, Mark Leith.

