

The Bowls Queensland State District Sides Championship games were played last week in the typically perfect Queensland weather on the Gold Coast

Fraser Coast District were listed to play their division qualifying rounds at Broadbeach Bowls Club against 9 other State Districts. The other division of 10 District sides played their qualifying rounds at Mermaid Beach Bowls Club.

At the completion of all rounds played over the 3 days the highest qualified teams were broken down to 5 Divisions of 4 sides each.

On the first day of the qualifying rounds Fraser Coast defeated Burnett 85 to 50, Central Qld 64 to 59, Port Curtis 82 to 59.

The second day of play wasn't quite as successful as the first day. Fraser Coast had to front up to the very strong Brisbane District and were defeated 76 to 56 shots. A slight set back but the troops rallied for the next two games defeating Gateway 81 to 43 then went onto defeating Condamine District 66 to 51 to complete the second day of play.

The overall result after two days of play was 5 wins out of 6.

The third and final day of qualifying was going to be much tougher as we had to play the Maranoa/Warrego side as well as the very strong Mackay District and the final game of the day against the super district in most of the championships Gold Coast Tweed.

Our first game was against the lowly ranked Maranoa/Warrego side. This resulted in a huge win defeating them 108 to 36 a 72-shot difference which boosted the percentages.

Fraser Coast then had to face up to the Mackay. This resulted in a loss by 6 shots being defeated 67 to 61.

This loss cost the Fraser Coast from qualifying for Division 1 which was what we were striving for right from day one.

The last game against the very strong Gold Coast/Tweed side was going to be a super challenge to beat them.

The players took up the challenge in magnificent style winning 1 rink and drawing with 1 as well, however the other two rinks couldn't absorb the brilliant bowls played by Brett Wilkie and Sean Ingham past and current Australian players. The overall score was 77 to 43 to the Gold Coast.

Fraser Coast qualified for the 2nd division play-offs with Condamine, Cunningham and Tropical Far North Districts to play a round robin on the fourth day to determine the State District Division 2 Champions.

Day 4 was the Championship Day. First game for Fraser Coast was against Condamine District. The Coast team came out on top winning 77 to 63 a 14 - shot win margin.

It was then down to the 2<sup>nd</sup> game against the very strong Cunningham District. Fraser Coast had an enormous battle here winning 53 to 44. A 9 shot winning margin

Overall, Fraser Coast had 2 wins plus 23 shots to their credit going into the final game against the Tropical Far North District.

The boys from the north came out with all guns blazing and were at one stage, half-way through the game belting a couple of rinks with some amazing shots. The Fraser Coast team rallied well towards the end with some very good shot pickups to eventually go down 68 to 60 shots. A result that cemented them into winning back to back State Division 2 Championships. A well-deserved win to a champion team rather than a team of champions.

In the past 5 years Fraser Coast have won two Division 3 titles 2015 & 2016 and have now won the 2018 and the 2019 Division 2 titles. An amazing result for a Country District with a membership of approx. 1400 bowlers.

It was a great effort by the squad of Anthony Williams (Boonooroo), Brian Kunde (Pialba), Alan Burness (Pialba) Scott Cruddas (Urangan). Julian Maher (The Albert), Ian Sangster (Pialba), Steve Henry ((M'Boro Services), Alan Pritchard (Pialba), Peter Worth (The Albert), Geoff Westall (Pialba), Kevin Collins (Pialba), Peter Wright (Urangan). Cain Skerry (Urangan), Mark Jabore (The Albert), Michael Roy (Boonooroo), Barry Andersen (Tin Can Bay). Reserve: Brad Mitchell (The Albert),

Managers: John Walker (Pialba) and Alan Schatz. (Urangan) and Pat Walsh President of FCDBA

## State Division Finals Winners were as follows:

Div 1: Gold Coast Tweed. Div. 2: Fraser Coast. Div. 3: Nth Qld. Div. 4: Nth West Qld. Div. 5: Downs

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