



THIS column's award for most outstanding Premier Sevens bowler in 2017 goes without hesitation to a young man who has played only one game.

Glasshouse Mountains games director David Hayes (*pictured*) made his debut last weekend as second for the club's Division 3 fours team against Jindalee.

It is doubtful if there is a more inspirational bowler in Queensland than 37-year-old David.

He was born without legs, a left hand and only two fingers on his right hand.

Yet he was able to conjure up enough skill on prosthetic legs, bowling with the right palm, to win Glasshouse's B grade singles title last year along with being a member of the winning fours championship team.

And Glasshouse coach Bill Tunbridge reckons David has the ability to represent Australia's disability team at the Commonwealth Games.

"He is an amazing bowler who has enormous potential, he doesn't complain because he doesn't consider himself disabled," said Tunbridge.

David will contest the state multi-disability championships for the second time this year but jokingly quips: "I seem to be on a bigger handicap than most of them."

After running the Glasshouse video store for 17 years, David spends most of his spare time working for the bowls club which is new to Premier Sevens this season.

As games director his role included organising home and away matches for the club's two teams.

David was content with administrative duties instead of playing in the Sevens but was thrilled to be selected for his debut game at home.

"First game, woohoo," was his reaction in an email to this column.

David's introduction to bowls was as a schoolboy at Rainbow Beach but it was not until a barefoot session at Glasshouse five years ago that he decided to tackle the game seriously.

"I love the game, it is a big part of my life now," he said.

Division 1

Two young brothers from Dalby stamped themselves as future Premier League stars playing for Enoggera at Toowong.

Toowong won 2-1 but Carl Fleger, 14, and Brad Fleger, 13, gave an eye-catching display in the pairs to come from behind and beat seasoned campaigners John Arrowsmith and Doug Pannell 26-24.

The North Dalby products have moved to Brisbane and attend Craigslea High School. Keep an eye on them at the state junior championships.

Toowong's win featured another polished singles display by a Polish player, Piotr Malicki, who beat John Cuttcliffe 31-28 in a tight contest.

Malicki has now won three of four singles outings after being thrust into the position in place of Robbie Rimes, who is only available every second week.

Rimes was back skipping the fours to a comfortable 21-10 victory and when he plays, no matter the discipline, it makes a huge difference to Toowong.

Tewantin Water Rats started their run to the finals with a solid 2-1 away defeat of New Farm Lightning.

In a singles battle royale over 36 ends, unbeaten Water Rat Mark Wrigley outlasted Geoff Jensen to win 31-27.

Tewantin's fours team, skipped by the old warrior Danny O'Neil, came home strongly to score 14-1 over the last eight ends and beat Pat Campbell's team 23-13.

New Farm salvaged the pairs with the new combination of Bob Myers and Steve Cooper never headed in seeing off Troy Rowley and Cain Skerry 21-18.

Jindalee inflicted the first defeat on West Toowoomba 2-1 at home with Jason McNaught notching a 31-26 singles win and Chris Scott skipping Kev Burdon, Logan Litfin and Gary Ratcliffe home 26-15 in the fours.

An impressive 23-10 pairs win by Cheryl Moran and Lou Beckman over G Reed and D Logan was the only bright for South Tweed in a 2-1 home loss to Mt Gravatt.

John Camlin won the singles 31-23 against Gordon Wood over 41 ends and Mt Gravatt prevailed 21-16 in the fours with Garry Scott disturbing the head at crucial times.

Division 1 Over 60s

Ferny Grove Fire were too strong for Beenleigh Ladies 2-1 at home after Ruth Smith had pipped Wayne Lees 31-30 in the singles.

Ian Kennedy and Don Brumwell were untroubled to win the pairs 33-6 and the Fire's Judy Collingwood, Bob Hirst, Sue and Ernie Bond ran away with the fours 29-12.

Ferny Grove (10) still trail North Ipswich (11) in their section.

Division 4

South Toowoomba consolidated at the top of their section with a 2-1 away win against Hamilton Power.

Russell Nicholson gave the Tigers a great start defeating Mike Hill 31-26 in a good singles battle. The pairs went to the Power's K Hardy and P Lovell 28-13, but Kay Hewitt, Brenda Shea, Roley Wilson and Doug Spinks came to the rescue with a solid 26-19 fours win.

Victoria Point hosted South Tweed for a 2-1 win featuring John Price's 31-23 singles victory against John Brown after it was 23-all.

Brian Spurway and Del O'Neill were unstoppable for the Sharks in the pairs, winning 29-16, but Darryl Peacock skipped Victoria Point to an exciting 16-15 fours win.

Division 5

Section leaders Rosewood were too strong for South Toowoomba at home, winning 3-0. It was 31-19 in the singles, 22-12 in the pairs and 17-14 in the fours.

A fighting singles win by Veronica Melville was a feature of McKenzie Park Ladies 2-1 home win against South Tweed.

Ivan Ensbey looked to have the singles in the bag for the Sharks at 29-23 but Veronica won a series of short ends to take the game 31-29.

The Sharks' Joe Scicluna and Glenn Coste were solid 26-17 pairs winners but the Ladies were too strong in the fours, 28-13.

Division 6

Paradise Point were missing one of their most popular players, Wayne Keleher, for the trip to Russell Island.

Sadly, Wayne passed away on Sunday, February 12, after having a good win the previous day.

Paradise Point would like to thank the players and supporters from Russell Island and Springwood who supported the tribute to Wayne.

Despite a 3-0 loss, the Paradise team played proudly in Wayne's memory.

Mick Thorne fought Lyn Morley for 39 ends in the singles before losing 31-30, home team pair Ross Johnson and Geoff Nelson beat Russ Wilson and Terry Fox 19-16 after leading 12-0, and the locals were too consistent in taking the fours 22-15.

South Toowoomba Tigers beat Brighton Ladies 3-0 at home in Section 2, but Brighton Barracudas gained revenge with a 3-0 home win over the Tigers in Section 3.

Rod Scollen won the singles 31-15 at home, Tom Nolan and John Beresford took the pairs 20-13 and the fours team of Julie Bailey, Theo Poelstra, Marilyn Stubbs and Neville Bannerman conceded only six ends in a 27-8 fours canter.

At Brighton, the singles clash took centre stage with Chris Vickery sneaking home 31-30 over Tigers' Barry Johnstone.

Dean Wright and John Leppala lost a tight pairs game 17-9 and Brighton were comfortable 27-14 winners.