

THE HANDICAP SINGLES — LEGENDS WERE NOT BORN. THEY WERE ROLLED.

On **Saturday 28 September**, the sun did not merely rise. It stood to attention. For on that day, twenty-two champions-in-waiting gathered on the hallowed turf of Tokoroa Bowling Club, summoned by destiny — and the promise of a damned delicious morning tea.

They came armed with bowls polished like obsidian. With spray chalk holstered like revolvers. With game faces so serious even the jack flinched.

Day One - Qualifying. What began as friendly competition soon escalated into gladiatorial warfare with scorecards. Masters of draw met assassins of drive. Biases were questioned. Allegiances shattered. Spectators gasped. One end reportedly lasted so long someone considered ordering Uber Eats.

By sunset, the original 22 had been forged like steel in fire — reducing to 10. Those who fell retired to the clubhouse to offer noble post-game analysis such as *“If it wasn’t for that one wide bowl, I’d have had them.”*



Day Two: Post Section. To the astonishment of meteorologists and club historians alike — the sun returned. Two fine days in a row. Angels wept. The green trembled beneath the steps of the remaining ten as they faced **Sudden Death Sunday** — *where friendships go to die and tape measures go to work.*

One by one, champions fell. With each clash, the *click* of bowls was like thunder. Chalk dust hung in the air like smoke on a battlefield.



Until only two titans remained:
MAIA “THE MACHINE” WILSON
vs
LARRY “THE LIONHEART” SULLIVAN



The final was not a match. It was an epic showdown.

Spectators stood silent. Small children froze mid-Savoury Pie. Time itself took a knee. Bowl for bowl. Shot for shot. Destiny hung by a millimetre.

Then — with a decisive strike — **Maia claimed victory, 21–11**, raising her arms not in celebration... but in inevitability.

Let it be known that henceforth, **Maia Wilson reigns as 2026 Handicap Singles Champion**, while **Larry Sullivan earns eternal honour as valiant runner-up** (and perhaps free coffee for his troubles).

Full results may be viewed on the Results Page — *for the brave, the curious, and the ones still insisting they were “robbed by the wind.”*