

James Morris

James Morris began his playing career as a youngster in Northland and soon came under the influence of Garry Frew and Neti Traill, two outstanding role models for any young player.

He began to make his mark as a junior in the late 1960's. In 1971 he was selected to represent New Zealand in the first Commonwealth Championships in Singapore and the World Championships in Nagoya, Japan. He was an automatic choice for national teams over the next 12 years.

In 1972 James scored a very notable win over a world class player from China when that country's team toured NZ.

He was voted New Zealand Player of the Year in 1976 and 1981.



2004

James was always noted for his wonderful fighting spirit which not only brought him wins over a number of well-performed international players but often inspired his team mates as well.

For the Northland Association he played, coached, fund-raised, trained teachers to coach, and toured Northland doing school demonstrations.

As President of Northland he was Tournament Manager for very successful National and Oceania championships.

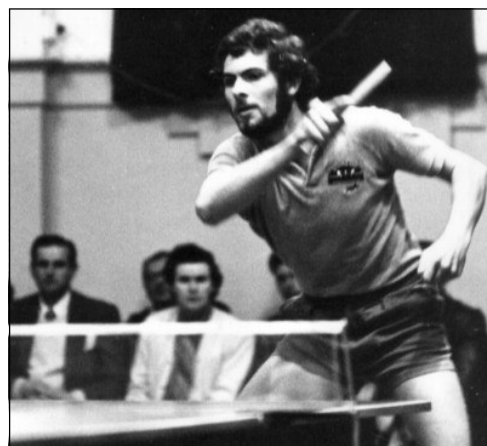
He served as a TTNZ board member from 1999 to 2004 and was an ideal choice as Director of Coaching and High Performance Director. In those positions he organised KiwiSport accreditation, ran development training camps, produced a Level 2 coaching manual, set up Level 1 assessment procedures for coaches and organised player coaching workshops. He lost no opportunity to apply for funds for his High Performance portfolio and attended many seminars, mingling with officials and coaches from other codes and always seeking opportunities for table tennis.

James was elected a Life Member of TTNZ in 2004.

National Titles:

New Zealand Open

Men's Singles - 1976, 81
Men's Doubles - 1972, 73, 74, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81
Mixed Doubles - 1976
Under 16 Boys' Singles - 1968
Under 16 Boys' Doubles - 1968



Circa 1974

James Morris continued

North Island Open

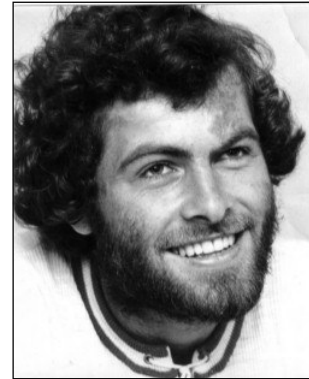
Men's Singles - 1971, 76, 77, 78, 79, 81, 83
Men's Doubles - 1973, 74, 75, 77, 78, 80, 81, 82, 83
Mixed Doubles - 1973, 75
Under 18 Boys' Singles - 1969
Under 18 Boys' Doubles - 1969, 70
Under 18 Mixed Doubles - 1969
Under 16 Boys' Singles - 1967, 68
Over 40 Men's Singles - 1994
Over 40 Mixed Doubles - 1994

South Island Open

Men's Singles - 1981
Men's Doubles -- 1973
Under 18 Boys' Doubles - 1970
Under 18 Mixed Doubles - 1970

NZ Veterans Championships

Over 40 Men's Singles - 1996



1983



1981 NZ Player
of the Year



James receiving his Life Member's
badge from Graeme Muller, TTNZ
Chairman - 2004

Local player beats Chinese in table tennis shock

By GARRY FREW
Nineteen-year-old Marua farmer James Morris set the sports world spinning last night when he scored an unbelievable victory over one of the world class table tennis players from the People's Republic of China.

Morris, the Northland champion and top ranked player in the country, was playing for New Zealand in the second test against China in the Lower Hutt Town Hall. A capacity crowd erupted with cheers when the Northlander saved a match point in the second set and then went on to notch a thrilling 16-21, 22-20, 21-19 win over Chou Ch'h-chun. Chou won the test 3-1.

The Chinese player, an all out attacker, won 21-11, 21-19.

tennis shock



1972