### **Bowls Devon**



Minutes of Bowls Devon Annual General Meeting held at the Isca Centre, Exeter, Saturday 1st December 2012, 10.00am.

Presidential Team: Mrs C. Rockey and Mr B. Corps (Presidents), Mrs H. Pickard and Mr E. Melluish (S.V. Presidents), Mr D.Butterworth (J.V. President).

Executive Officers: Mr A. Mann (Chairman), Mrs C. Horgan (Administrator), Mr D. Tucker (Treasurer), Mr H. Riley and Mrs K. Page (Assistant Administrators), Mr A. Howle (Match Secretary), Mrs D. Yeowell (Assistant Treasurer).

Mr G. Thomas (Patrons Secretary) and Mrs M. Shillabeer (Chair Ladies Patrons).

Honorary Members: Mr D. Counter, Mr D. Coyne, Mr E. Edworthy, Mr R Robertson, Mr G. Short, Mrs S. Silcox, Mrs C. Theedom, Mrs S. Trott and Mr P. Wheeler.

In attendance: Mr J. Theedom

Section Delegates: 7 Club Delegates: 62 Non-voting members: 33

Action

# Chairman Alan Mann opened the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance. He assured the membership that the Association was in good hands. The Officers worked very hard for one and all, ensuring that the voice of the grass roots bowlers is heard. Once again this year the Presidential team had done a good job on behalf of Bowls Devon. 2. Obituaries: In asking for a moment's silence to reflect on the passing of a large number of our membership, Chairman Alan read out the names of the following: Honorary Members – Mrs Babs Barlow DCLBA President 1987 and Bowls England President 1992. Mr Ted Jarvis DCBA President 1996, Mr Frank Davies Bowls Devon President 2009. A further 86 members were named in the Roll of Honour. Chairman Alan asked that the meeting stand for a moment of silence.

### 3. Apologies:

Mrs R. Mayne (Ladies Match Secretary), Mr B. Blatchford (Bowls Development Officer), Mrs M. Robertson (Year Book/Diary Secretary), Mrs T. Day (Ladies Patrons Secretary), Mr A. Horwell (Honorary Member), Mrs S. Devonport (Competitions Committee), Mrs J. Symons (Ladies selector Sect 1), Mrs P. Parkhouse (Amy Rose selector), Mr P. Churchman (Juniors selector), Mr B. Baker (Sect 4 secretary), Mr T. Deemer and Mrs S. Bowden (Buckfastleigh), Mrs M. Dyer and Mr M. Evans(Brixham), Mr D. Lake (United Services), Mrs J. Riley (Plymstock), Mr J. Robins (Phear Park), Mr A Routledge (Marldon), Mr G. Ruwald (Totnes), Mrs J. Sherwood (Morchard Bishop), Mrs B. Willis (Tiverton W.E.).

# 4. Minutes of the AGM held 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2011:

Proposed by Mr R. Robertson and seconded by Mr D. Counter that the minutes of the last AGM held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2011were accepted as a true record. There were no matters arising.

# 5. Presentation by The Presidents to their chosen Charities:

President Carol, in presenting a cheque for £1680 to Mrs Katherine Allen of the Barnstaple Chemo Therapy Unit thanked the membership and her club for the donations received throughout the season. In accepting the cheque on behalf of the unit, Mrs Allen extended her thanks to everyone for their generosity and explained that the unit treated 5000 patients a year. Although the staff and treatment was second to none the actual building was not so good. This money would be going towards renovation costs.

President Barry, thanked members and his club for their generosity and presented a cheque for £1119 to Mr Mike Sampson representing the Devon Air Ambulance. Mr Sampson explained to the membership the importance of the Devon Air Ambulance in saving lives throughout the West Country and further afield. It costs approximately £2.2 million to keep a helicopter in the air and it is only through donations such as this that makes the work of the Devon Air Ambulance possible. He thanked President Barry for making this his chosen charity and thanked the membership for their very kind donation.

Chairman Alan thanked both Mrs Allen and Mr Sampson for attending and congratulated the Presidents on the choice of two such worthy charities.

### 6. Presentation of the Order of Merit Awards:

Chairman Alan announced the recipients of the 2012 Order of Merit Awards. From the list of those nominated these very special members had been chosen for their dedication to club and County with no thought of recognition. The awards were then presented to:-

Mrs Audrey Cross (Newton Abbot), Mr Martin Dear (Hemyock), Mr Peter Hobbs (Lynton & Lynmouth), Mrs Janet Latchem (Tiverton), Mrs Lilian Lovatt (Axminster) and Mr Des Vallance (North Tawton).

### 7. Administrator's Annual Report:

## **BOWLS DEVON ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT 2012**

Our outdoor greens opened in April and immediately the weather changed. Most of the April fixtures had to be cancelled as greens were flooded or unplayable. What a start to the season this year!

2012 will, I am sure, be long remembered for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations and the Olympics held in our country. In May 2012 the Olympic Torch was seen passing through our County with celebrations in towns along the Devon route. If only bowls was an Olympic sport!

Just as we seemed to be approaching the time for a single President in our County, a nomination for Lady SVP this year was received in May and we welcomed Heather on board. Hopefully more nominations will be forthcoming for the next Lady SVP and JVP for 2013 before our Annual General meeting in December.

Devon once again was honoured to have Natalie Melmore, Nicola Payne and Sophie Tolchard selected for the Ladies England Senior International Team and Natalie and Sophie also selected for the ladies Junior International Team. Jamie Chestney, Lee Haywood, Rob Paxton and Sam Tolchard all made the Men's Senior International Team and Ian Lesley and Sam the Junior International Team. We congratulate Sam on being Junior Captain for the series.

The Devon ladies triple of Sophie Tolchard, Ruth Rogers and Natalie Melmore did both Devon and England proud when they won the British Isles this year, another outstanding success for both Devon and England.

Another successful year at the nationals at Leamington and Worthing. Devon girls won the Amy Rose for the second year in succession and our boys won the White Rose national title again for the third time in four years. Well done our junior players. We lost in the final of the Johns - beating Cambridgeshire in the semi final 137 shots to 95 and then losing in the final to Lincolnshire 99 shots to 110. In the Middleton Cup semi final, an exciting game, Devon lost to the eventual winners Norfolk 118 shots to 122, Norfolk won by 4 shots in the final – some may say a disappointing result for Devon in both the Johns and Middleton Cup but our teams played well to reach these stages and it is all on the day as they say. A Devon rink once again won the national mixed fours and we congratulate Sophie Tolchard, Lorraine Hackett, Phil Hackett and Sam Tolchard of Kings a marvellous result again for the County. All our players who qualified for the national finals at Leamington and Worthing were worthy competitors and did their County proud. To come away from the national finals with three winners is no mean task and Devon bowlers continue to remain a force to be reckoned with.

The ladies did not have a good season in the South West Counties League this year finishing last. At least two matches had to be cancelled due to weather with points having to be shared. In the senior men's South West County League, Devon came fourth out of five and again not all counties were able to fulfil fixtures but our Men's Junior squad won the Junior League winning two of their three fixtures, one had to be cancelled, to finish top of the league in 2012. Very well done the boys again! At the time of going to press the continuance of the men's South West County League looks bleak with Wiltshire and

Dorset already pulling out next year.

The number of invitations from Clubs for Presidents matches dropped again this year. In 2010 the men had invitations from 41 Clubs, in 2011 - 36 Clubs and this year 33 matches were scheduled with the ladies in 2010 having 8 invitations, in 2011 - 8 invitations again but this year only 5 matches. The Mixed Presidents matches seem to be on the increase in 2010 we had 4, in 2011 -7 and this year 11 plus the County Mixed matches of course. Every year we play Cornwall, Somerset and Dorset in a mixed County match and mixed county matches are also arranged with any Club who are celebrating their centenary if requested. If any Club would like to invite the Presidents to bring a team to play them our match Secretaries, Tony Howle and Rosemarie Mayne, would be pleased to hear from them.

President Barry took a party away on tour to Bournemouth for a week in May. Organised by Honorary Member, Ernie Edworthy, 39 gentlemen played five matches during the week winning three and losing two. During the week the Devon tourists were treated, I believe, to Barry's 'Karaoke' evening. There has not been a Lady President's tour for over two years but in 2013 a Mixed Tour is being organised to Berkshire in September.

Our Presidents, Carol and Barry, have worked tirelessly for Bowls Devon throughout our outdoor bowling season and we are indebted to them for their enthusiasm and commitment. They have both been superb advocates for our sport and in particular for our County. Barry had such great support from Edgar and David whilst Carol started off the season relying on the support of the Lady Honorary members. Marldon B.C. nominated Heather as Bowls Devon Lady SVP in May and Heather went into office in July since which time she has supported Carol in any way she could. Our lady President Carol had a particularly trying year when husband John broke his leg at the beginning of the season. Carol continued to undertake all her duties with gusto and, still supported by John, never once grumbled or missed a match. Barry equally has served the County well as our male figure head with the support of his wife Jenny. Both Carol and Barry have worked so hard this year making sure all commitments were fulfilled and I must add a special 'thank-you' to Barry's wife, Jenny, who has filled in so many times in matches when the County were short of players. Carol's charity this year was the Barnstaple Chemo Therapy Unit and she raised £1,680 for them. Barry supported The Devon Air Ambulance and £1,119.50 has been collected for this worthy charity. Cheques for the final amounts raised will be handed over at the AGM.

Once again all the Executive Officers have given of their utmost to the County spending many hours throughout the year behind the scenes on administrative work not to mention the work during the playing season. Devon has a committed and dedicated team of officers all of whom support one another and work for the benefit of all bowlers. For health reasons Bernard, our Development Officer, has decided not to seek re-election. Bernard has been a tower of strength and great help to everyone in his role as Development Officer and also as our Child Protection Officer. Thank you Bernard for all you have done for Devon and bowls and we all wish you a speedy recovery. I am pleased to say that all other officers have been proposed for their respective posts and are willing to continue in office if elected.

Finally in closing my report for the year I should like to take this opportunity of not only thanking all the officers and honorary members for their support this year but to also to

thank all Club officers and members. We are indebted to you all and we do not forget the many hardworking unpaid heroes of our Clubs who ensure our sport continues to prosper and grow. Carol Horgan **Bowls Devon Administrator** Proposed by Mr E. Melluish (S.V.P.) and seconded by Mrs S. Trott (Section 2 Secretary) Carried that the Administrators Report is accepted. 8. Treasurer's Annual Report and Statement of Accounts: The accounts as at year ending 30<sup>th</sup> September had been previously circulated and had been examined by HW Chartered Accountants. Treasurer David explained that although the accounts showed a loss this was not altogether surprising given the bad weather, which resulted in the cancellation of matches with the ensuing loss of revenue. There was a £1200 loss in coaches for Johns Trophy and Middleton Cup matches having to be re-arranged. There was added expense with the success of the Johns Trophy, Middleton Cup, White and Amy Rose Teams. The membership has fallen by approximately 155. Treasurer David commented that having heard the number of names given in the roll of honour he's not surprised. However recruitment and retention must be a priority for all clubs. Treasurer David thanked the Patrons Association Committee for the donation of £500 which will go towards the Juniors expenses. On behalf of the membership Treasurer David will continue to spread investments to ensure all the eggs are not held in one basket. Treasurer David proposed an increase in membership fee of 50p from 2013, with the Juniors membership fee being £2. Even with the loans available to clubs rising from £5000 to £7500 the amenities fund was healthy and Treasurer David reminded everyone that the Fund was available for Benevolent purposes. In closing Treasurer David thanked the Finance Committee and Mr Ben De Cruz of HW, Chartered Accountants for their help and also thanked Assistant Treasurer Daphne and the Officers for all their assistance and co-operation during the 2012 season. David is pleased to continue as our Treasurer. Proposed by Mr M. Birch (Section 6 Secretary) and seconded by Mrs L.Joachim-Rowe Carried (Section 1 Competitions Secretary) that the Treasurers Report be accepted. 9. Appointment of Account Examiners:

Proposed by Chairman Alan Mann and seconded by Mrs Carol Rockey (Lady President)

that HW. Chartere	ed Accountants is a	appointed as Accour	nt Examiners.
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# 10. Patrons Reports:

(a) On behalf of the Ladies Patrons Secretary Mrs T. Day, the chair Mrs M. Shillabeer thanked everyone for the cards and flowers received by Terri during her recent operation and recovery period. Mrs Shillabeer then continued to read out the report previously circulated by Patrons Secretary Terri.

Report for Bowls Devon AGM 1st December 2012

### **Terri Day Ladies Secretary**

Firstly I would like to thank those of you who sent me cards, flowers & good wishes during my recent illness. I had decided to hand over to a new Ladies Secretary, but no one came forward and I would hate to see three years hard work go to waste. So here I am??? My Thanks also go to Ladies Chairman Margaret & Committee for the sterling support throughout the season. Thank you Ladies and of course to the Gentleman.

### **Patrons Annual Renewal System**

I sent every Club, a Renewal Form for 2012 for Ladies & Gents. I did **not** get a reply from <u>all</u> clubs, only 56 clubs replied.

I again request that all Secretaries & Representatives do a return, even if they only have Life Members, as these also change from year to year and who knows maybe some new members.

I sent out the Patrons Days, Ladies & Mixed availability sheets in all of the Ladies Packs, & Men Only Clubs. It was a <u>very</u> poor result. However in 2013 we will revert back to a "Patrons Day" of yesteryear? It will be held at Culm Vale & hopefully Uffculme. It is still in the planning stage!

It was clear from comments & phone calls that the members like the round robin style day. It certainly gets people together, to meet old friends and make new acquaintances.

Please note that Ladies & Mixed games are on an availability sheet sent to the Secretary or Representative.

Also please note that <u>all Men's</u> Patrons Games, are booked through Men's Secretary Gordon Thomas 01752 815479 Or email gordon.thomas4@btinternet.com

### **PATRONS**

Devon Patrons Association is for all bowlers who are affiliated to Bowls Devon. If you need to know more about The Patrons or your club members would like to know more. Please contact me.

We started 2012 with a game against Plymouth SFD This will be going to be an Annual Fixture in future, The First Wednesday in May! Some of our fixtures were cancelled due to weather?

Our Dinner Dance Cabaret in February is booked with a very good response.

I do have a few rooms left if you want the details either call me on 01884 839445 or email thresaday696@gmail.com

As I said If you require any further Patrons information please contact me I will be delighted to help.

Thank you,

Merry Christmas & Happy new year to all. Terri Day

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(b) Gordon Thomas Treasurer and Men's Patrons Secretary presented the Income and Expenditure Account for the Year ending 30<sup>th</sup> September 2012. The accounts show a bank balance of £4044.36.

### **COUNTY AGM REPORT**

A difficult season to report due to many cancellations. A total of ten Mens' matches, two Mixed, two Patrons days and one Ladies match, although the men managed to rearrange four of their fixtures at later dates.

Membership currently stands at 526 Annual members and 511Life members.

Financially Subscription receipts were down by £321, Match receipts minus £601.50, Match expenses minus £794.85. Officers expenses including allowance down by £48.55.

By agreement with County Treasurer David Tucker, following a transfer of  $\mathfrak{L}500$  early in the year , the balance of funds will be held in the patrons funds until required by the County. All figures are subject to confirmation, verification and audit by County Treasurer but approved by the Patrons committee.

Balance carried forward includes Deposits for 2013 weekend £2558 and therefore is a net increase of £172.47 over that brought forward.

Patrons weekend plans are well advanced and being finalised by Terri Day.

Nominations for officers for 2013:-

Chairpersons Derek Viles and Margaret Shillabeer

Hon Sec/Treasurer Gordon Thomas

Ladies Sec Terri Day

Committee Jeanette Symons, Pat Clark, John Hogger and Tony Wills

**Gordon Thomas** 

Honorary Secretary and Treasurer

Chairman Alan thanked the Patrons Association for their reports and on a good job, well done.

# 11. Fees, Grants and Allowances: (a) Presidential Grants for 2013. (b) Officers Allowances for 2012. (a) Treasurer David proposed the meeting accept a 3% rise in the above Presidential Grants Carried for the year 2013. This was seconded by Mr Don Coyne (Honorary Member). (b)Chairman Alan proposed the meeting accept a 3 % rise in the Officers Allowances. Carried This was seconded by Mr David Mercer (Section 5 representative). The Patrons secretaries allowances of £690 would be paid from Patrons funds. Chairman Alan congratulated the Officers and Presidential Teams on their excellent work during the 2012 season. 12. To approve amendments to the Constitution and notices of motion/propositions received as already circulated: (1) Motion proposed by the Executive Committee - amendment to rule 7.15. Rule 7.15.2 Middleton Cup & John's Trophy Selection Committees. The sentence starting "They shall be elected annually...." is replaced with: "One of the three Selectors on each Committee shall retire each year, standing for re-election if nominated. The replacement shall be elected by the Executive Committee and will hold office for Carried three years. Nominations from Sections for the replacement, together with a CV, must reach the unanimously Administrator by 1<sup>st</sup> December and should there be more than one candidate, an election shall take place at the first Executive Committee meeting in the New Year. Sections may nominate candidates from any Section." Rule 7.15.4 Junior Side Selection Committees. The sentence starting "The three members, who shall preferably be...." is replaced with: "One of the three members of each Committee shall retire each year, standing for re-election if Carried nominated. The replacement, who shall preferably be of County Player status, shall be elected by unanimously the Executive Committee, and will hold office for three years. Nominations from Sections for the replacement, together with a CV, must reach the Administrator by 1st December and should there be more than one candidate, an election shall take place at the first Executive Committee meeting in the New Year. Sections may nominate candidates from any Section." (2) Motion proposed by the Executive Committee - amendment to rule 5.3 **Rule 5.3** Add opening sentence: Carried "All full playing members of member clubs shall pay affiliation fees to Bowls Devon and Bowls unanimously England." Before taking a vote on the following motion Chairman Alan asked if anyone would like to speak on behalf of the motion. Mrs M Whalley (Newton Abbot) spoke in favour of accepting the motion and outlined the reasons for her club proposing a change to the existing Interclub arrangements. President Carol spoke in favour of rejecting the

proposition and also outlined the reasons why. A short discussion then took place before

the vote was taken.

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		chedule in relation to the Inter Club be amended to read		
"Semi-finals to be played on a neutral green. Where possible the venue to be mid way in distance between competing Clubs. Green fees and all expenses to be shared between competing Clubs as in previous rounds. Final to be played on President's green."				
Please note that the Competition Committee considered this proposition and recommended that it should be rejected.				
13. Appointment of	f Officers:			
Assistant Administr		Prop. Section 5 Seconded C. Horgan Prop. Section 4 Seconded D.Tucker Prop. Section 4 Seconded A. Mann Prop. J. Mason Seconded V. Roundsley Prop. Section 7 Seconded C. Horgan Prop. Section 6 Seconded K. Page Prop. Section 2 Seconded T. Howle Prop. Section 3 Seconded R. Mayne Prop. J. Symonds Seconded P. Baldwin	Carried	
It was proposed by Mrs C. Rockey and seconded by Mr R. Robertson that the above appointments be accepted "on bloc"				
14. Presidential Of	ficers:			
Men's President Lady SVP	Mrs Heather Pickard Mr Edgar Melluish No Nomination Mr David Butterworth No Nomination	Prop. J. Gibbons Seconded J. Gibbons Prop. P.Chudley Seconded J.Treleaven Prop. M. Rowe Seconded C. Rockey	Carried	
Men's JVP Mr John Theedom Prop. D. Counter, Seconded P. Moon  The retiring Presidents, in handing over their chains of office, spoke of how rewarding the year had been. They thanked all the officers, members and also their respective families for the support that had been shown to them and wished the incoming Presidential team much success in 2013.				
Chairman Alan aske the incoming Presid		oposers and seconders spoke a few words about		
In accepting the position, incoming President Heather spoke of the honour of taking office and thanked her club and family for their encouragement. She also thanked retiring President Carol for all the support she had given over the past season. She was looking forward to visiting the many clubs throughout the County and informed the meeting that her chosen charity for 2013 would be Rowcroft Hospice.				
Incoming President Edgar, also thanked his club and family and explained that although his arm had been twisted to take up office, from the pleasurable experience of the past two seasons he was truly looking forward to 2013. His chosen charities would be Mayfield Special School and McMillan Cancer Research. He was looking forward to much better				

weather for the coming season.			
Chairman Alan thanked the retiring Presidents for their hard work during the past season and wished the incoming team every success for the coming season. He also hoped that there would be ladies coming forward for the vacant posts of SVP and JVP. He underlined that the excellent work of the Bowls Devon Officers, on behalf of the Presidential Team ensured the season ran smoothly.  The above were accepted 'on bloc'			
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15. Honorary Membership:			
The retiring Presidents, Carol and Barry, were awarded Honorary Membership of Bowls Devon by Chairman Alan.			
16. Vote of thanks to the Chair:			
Administrator Carol, was honoured to be given the opportunity to propose a vote of thanks to our Chairman Alan. His dedication to Bowls Devon and his support of the Officers of the Association was much appreciated by herself in particular.			
Chairman Alan closed the meeting at 11.25.			
An open forum then took place whereby questions and answers were given.			
It was during this session of the meeting that Chairman Alan apologised for not introducing Avril Coyne as the new minute taker for Bowls Devon.			

Signed.....

Date.....