Bowls Devon

Minutes of Bowls Devon Annual General Meeting held at the Isca Centre, Exeter, Saturday 6th December 2014, 10.00am.

Presidential Team : Mrs. C. Sliney and Mr. D. Butterworth(Presidents) Mr. J. Theedom (S.V. President) Mr. D. Mercer (J.V.President)

Executive Officers: Mr A. Mann (Chairman), Mrs C. Horgan (Administrator), Mr D. Tucker (Treasurer), Mr H. Riley and Mrs K. Page (Men's and Ladies Administrators), Mr A. Howle and Mrs R Mayne (Match Secretaries), Mrs D. Yeowell (Assistant Treasurer), Mrs S. Silcox (Development Officer).

Mr G. Thomas (Patrons Secretary)

Honorary Members: Mrs M Robertson, Mr R Robertson, Mrs C Theedom, Mr K A Boobyer, Mr D Coyne, Mr D Counter, Miss J Grant, Mrs S Trott and Mr E Edworthy.

Section Delegates: 11 **Club Delegates: 32** **Non-voting members: 16**

	Action
1. Welcome: Chairman Alan Mann opened the meeting by thanking everyone for their attendance.	
2. Obituaries: Administrator Carol asked that the Meeting stand for a minutes silence to reflect on the passing of a number of our members and she read out the names which sadly came to 49. **3. Apologies:** M Kennedy, B Baker, P Churchman, B De Cruz, J Hall, M Birch, M Burden, D Bateman, C King, R Evans, V Hingston, M Rowe, B Corp, C Macauley, C Goldsworthy, E Sprague and J Pinney.	

4. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 7th December 2013

The Minutes of the last A.G.M. held on the 7th December 2013 were accepted as a true record and signed.

There were no matters arising.

5. Presentation of the Order of Merit Awards:

Chairman Alan announced the recipients of the 2014 Order of Merit. The Bowls Devon Order of Merit was presented to Margaret Force of Paignton and Derek Davis of Starcross for their many years of dedication to their Club and County.

6. Administrators Annual Report

Administrator Carol's report was circulated prior to the meeting and Carol had nothing further to add. The report was unanimously accepted by a show of hands.

7.Treasurer's Annual Report and Statement of Accounts:

Treasurer, David presented the examined Statement of Accounts for the year ending 30th September 2014, a copy of which is attached to these Minutes.

David further went on to say that whilst there is a surplus of £3,576 there was in fact a loss of £1,549. The loss turned out to be less than projected. However, Bowls Devon is in a healthy position. The balance of funds is £46,346 plus stock in hand.

It had been a very quiet year as far as loans are concerned.

Affiliated members total 6,091 with a fall of 230 over the previous year and the Treasurer emphasised that recruitment had to be a very high priority for all Clubs.

David thanked the Accountants Examiner for the speedy and helpful way in which the accounts were examined. He also thanked Daphne Yeowell for her help.
David said he would be happy to continue as Treasurer.

Treasurer's Report and Statement of Accounts were adopted. The Chairman asked for a formal acceptance of the Treasurer's Report with a show of hands. Approved.

8. Appointment of Account Examiners :

The appointment of Haines Watts, Chartered Accountants was approved.

9. Patrons Reports:

Both Patrons reports had been circulated prior to this Meeting and Honorary Secretary Gordon Thomas had nothing further to add.
Chairman Alan thanked the Patrons Secretaries for their reports. He said that the activities of the Patrons were greatly valued and appreciated by everyone.

10. Motion from the Executive Committee to Make Changes to the Rules :

Chairman Alan told the Meeting the Executive Committee had asked the Constitution & Rules Committee to carry out a thorough review of the Rules after four years operation, aiming at clarifying the wording, removing references no longer relevant, and making them reflect how the Association has developed. The meeting was asked to consider the proposed changes en bloc, and they were accepted.
Changes to the Schedules had been implemented at the October Executive Committee Meeting.
The revised **Constitution & Rules** and the revised **Schedules** will be produced, and will be posted on the website.

11. Fees, Grants and Allowances

Treasurer David and the Finance Committee proposed a 2% increase across the board of all the allowances and expenses. This was proposed by David Tucker and seconded by Don Coyne and was approved.

12. Appointment of Officers

Tony Howle had expressed his wish to step down as Match Secretary at the end of 2015
Kay Page also wishes to step down eventually as Ladies Administrator.

		Proposed	Seconded
Chair	Alan Mann	D. Tucker.	C. Horgan.
Administrator	Carol Horgan	J. Dawson	M. Ewing
Treasurer	David Tucker	D. Counter	J. Brand
Assistant Treasurer	Daphne lYeowell	J. Mason	V.Roundsley
Ladies Administrator	Kay Page	H. Riley	C. Horgan
Men's Administrator	Harry Riley	A. Mann	K. Page
Match Secretary (Lady)	Rosemarie Mayne	C.Vale	Sec.Sec 2
Match Secretary (Man)	Tony Howle	R. Burch	D. Coyne
Development Officer	Sue Silcox	H. Riley	C. Horgan

The above appointments were accepted 'en bloc'

13. Presidential Officers :

Lady President	Margaret Brotheridge	S. Trott	R. Mayne
Men's President	John Theedom	C. Marshall	D. Counter
Lady SVP	Jacky Howle	E. Healy	J. Grant
Men's SVP	David Mercer	K. Boobyer	M. Slinger
Lady JVP	Ruth Voysey	M. Ewings	J. Marin

Men's JVP Colin Healy D. Macaulay D. Coyne Chairman Alan asked the respective proposers and seconders to speak in support of the incoming Presidential team. Sue Trott, as Proposer for **Margaret Brotheridge** told us that Margaret, a retired school teacher, had been bowling at Hemyock since 2001 and had held several Club positions. She has the total support of Section 2 and will make an honourable Lady President in 2015. Rosemarie Mayne as Seconder, was very pleased to support the nomination and wished Margaret all the best for 2015. Margaret gave grateful thanks to Hemyock Bowling Club for their support and good wishes and realises she comes into the roll of Lady President completely new but looks forward immensely to the 2015 bowling season. Chris Marshall , as Proposer for **John Theedom** said it was a pleasure to propose John who has given 47 years of lifelong dedication to Crediton Bowling Club in work, time and as a player and is supported totally by his Club. David Counter seconded the proposal on behalf of Section 4. They are sure he will be a proud President and Ambassador for Devon. John thanked his Club for their support and hard work. John is the third President from Crediton Bowling Club over the years and his wife, Christine was also a Devon County Ladies B.A. President. He said how much he looks forward to his role in 2015. Elizabeth Healy, as Proposer for **Jacky Howle** told us that Jacky had been bowling at Madeira since 1999 and quickly became involved with all activities and is a valuable and committed member. She has been Ladies Captain and Fixture Secretary an excellent Coach and is also the Club's Child Protection Officer . Elizabeth has no hesitation, on behalf of Madeira Bowling Club in proposing Jacky as Ladies S.V.P. July Grant expressed her delight to second the proposal for Jacky for Ladies S.V.P. Section 3 will endeavour to support Jacky in 2016 and wish her well. Jacky thanked everyone for their support in Section 3 and at Madeira Bowling Club especially the members who are not County Bowlers who work hard behind the scenes. She looks forward to the 2015 season and to supporting Lady President Margaret. Ken Boobyer, as Proposer for **David Mercer** said he was very pleased to propose David as Senior Vice President and told of his hard work at Bitton Park Bowling Club and as Section 5 Treasurer and Secretary . Mavis Slinger had no hesitation in seconding David for S.V.P. for 2015. She said David has proved himself as a first class Administrator for Section 5 from whom he has their total support. David thanked Ken and Mavis for proposing and seconding him on behalf of Section 5 . He looks forward to a very busy 2015 and to supporting all the Presidential Team.	

Margaret Ewings, as Proposer for **Ruth Voysey** and on behalf of Topsham Bowling Club told us that Ruth started bowling at Topsham in 1999. She has worked on various committees in the Club and they are very pleased to propose her for Junior Vice President 2015.

Joan Martin, on behalf of Section 4 said it was a great pleasure to second Ruth for J.V.P. All who know her admire her courage and determination and there is no doubt she will be a valuable member of the Presidential Team.

Ruth thanked her Club and Section 4 for their support and is looking forward to assisting and playing in 2015.

David Macaulay, as Proposer for **Colin Healy** as Junior Vice President for 2015 stated that Colin joined Madeira Bowling Club in 1991 and has served as Vice Captain, Captain, Club Secretary, Chairman, President and is a Life Member. On top of his many achievements Colin is diligent, discrete, highly organised and will be a valuable member of the Presidential Team.

Don Coyne was pleased to Second Colin for J.V.P. and said having known Colin for a number of years, he is sure he will bring the same dedication to the position of Junior Vice President as he had to his other posts and will have the total support of Section 3.

Colin thanked his Club and Section 3 for their support. He thanked all the members present for giving him the opportunity to put something back into the game he enjoys and looks forward to working as part of the Presidential team for the next 3 years.

At this point in the Meeting both David and Charlotte came forward to be presented with their Honorary Membership. Both retiring Presidents gave their thanks to their own Clubs and the County for their support and both said how much they enjoyed their year.

14. Vote of thanks to the Chair :

Administrator Carol thanked Chairman Alan for all that he has done, not only this year but since unification. His work has been very much appreciated and hopefully he will continue for many years to come.

15. The Chairman closed the Meeting at 11.00 a.m.

An Open Forum took place whereby questions and answers were given

Signed..... Date.....

Open Forum following the A.G.M. David Tucker reported on on Bowls England matters. He said that the relocation to Leamington had gone very well and with a very good team of new staff. There have been very positive comments from the men regarding the Men's Championships. He went on to mention the excellent play from our two Devon ladies, Natalie Melmore and Sue Evans on both reaching the National Finals of the Ladies Singles. Bowling Clubs social members must not exceed 50% of bowling membership under new legislation. David mentioned a model constitution for clubs had been prepared by Bowls England to include all the legal requirements necessary in these times. It is suggested that clubs obtain a copy of this suggested Constitution. On the new ruling regarding the playing national championships relating to working and non working players David suggested we have to move forward and we have to compromise.	