Minutes of Bowls Devon Executive Committee meeting held at the Exeter Golf & Country Club, Tuesday 13th April 2010, 7.00pm.

Present: Executive Officers: Mr A.Mann (Chair), Mr B.Edwards and Mrs S.Silcox (Presidents), Mrs S.Trott and Mr D.Coyne (SV Presidents) Mrs L.Trewin (JV President), Mrs C.Horgan (Administrator), Mr D.Tucker (Treasurer), Mrs K.Page and Mr H.Riley (Assistant Administrators), Mrs D.Yeowell (Assistant Treasurer), Mrs R. Mayne (Match Secretary)

Section Representatives: Mrs E.Lever and Mr M.Rowe (Section 1), Mr R.Robertson and Mrs B.Goss (Section 2), Mrs S.Harriott and Mr D.Coyne (Section 3), Mr D.Counter and Mrs J.Martin (Section 4), Mrs K.Perryman and Mr J.Stevens (Section 5), Mr M.Birch and Mrs M.Wellington (Section 6), Mr J.Kelly and Miss S.Parnell (Section 7), Mr P.Chudley and Mrs J.Crocker (Section 8), Mr G.Thomas (Men's Patrons Secretary)

	Action
1. Welcome: Mr Alan Mann (Chair) welcomed everyone, with a special greeting by way of introduction to Mrs Linda Trewin (JVP) and Mrs Mavis Wellington (Section 6 Rep), this being their first Bowls Devon meeting.	
2. Apologies: Mr B.Corp (JVP), Mr T.Howle (Match Secretary) and Mrs T.Day (Ladies Patrons Secretary)	
3. Minutes of Meeting 3rd February 2010: The minutes having previously been circulated were approved as a true record and duly signed by Chairman Alan.	
4. Matters Arising: There were no matters arising.	
5. Correspondence: Administrator Carol read out many items of correspondence. Requests had been received and approved from Mount Gold, Tothill, Sir Francis Drake (Plymouth), Pinces Gardens, Topsham, St.Thomas and Exonia to adopt coloured shirts. It was confirmed that the competitions administered by Bowls England	

would continue to be played on a regional basis for this season. A query regarding the wearing of sandals during play had been raised with Bowls England by a member of Isca Bowling Club. A reply had been received from Mr Tony Alcock the Chief Executive of Bowls England stating that the matter of whether the wearing of sandals be permitted was a domestic matter for Counties and individual clubs. A letter had been received from Section 1 concerning the attendance of County Officers at Funerals. It was agreed that a Bowls Devon Officer would attend the funerals of Honorary Members and a Section representative would be asked to attend the funeral of any County Player within their section. Administrator Carol explained that she had prepared boxes (to be collected after the meeting) for every section for the distribution to each of their clubs of the following items:- Year Books, copies of the Bowls Devon constitution, Annual draw tickets, Posters with information of County Luncheons together with an order form for tickets to the luncheons, score cards (to be used whilst awaiting our new supply). As soon as the men's diaries are received distribution would be arranged. It was hoped this would be within the next week or so. Mrs Sue Harriott (section 3) queried whether a letter that she understood had been sent to Bowls Devon from Madeira Bowling Club had been received. Administrator Carol explained that the letter had been received and was at present with Mr Alan Mann as Chair of Bowls Devon. Consultation with the Competitions Committee would then be sought. She then went on to give a brief resume of the contents, which concerned a decision that had been made by a committee of the DCLBA before dissolution of the Association.	
6. Report from Finance and General Purposes Committee: Treasurer David reported that in view of the current economic climate particularly with thoughts of the present investment in the Anglo Irish Bank he had taken advice on the Associations investments and his recommendation was that the assets should now be split as follows: At present the Association has £55,774 invested in the Anglo Irish Bank and he proposed £30,000 be transferred from this account to the Secure Trust Bank. He also recommended the Investec account be raised from £19,396 to £30,000. The Secure Trust Bank offered a 60 day notice variable account at an interest rate of 2.52%, the Investec account was a South African based bank and very sound. As the Anglo Irish account still offered a rate of 2% above the base rate, Treasurer David recommended the account remain open. Treasurer David had been approached and recommended the purchasing	

of a memento for Natalie Melmore and Sam Tolchard as recognition of their selection for the Commonwealth Games Team. It was agreed a gift to the value of £50 each, be presented to them at the respective County Luncheons in acknowledgment of their achievements.	**DT/CH**
The Amenities Fund had made a loan of £5,000 to assist in the installation of a new watering system for Starcross BC. Other small gifts had been made to clubs for members who had suffered ill-health.	
Treasurer David explained the position regarding affiliation fees and confirmed that affiliation fees had never been paid in retrospect under the former DCBA or DCLBA. He also confirmed that late affiliation fees were accepted by Bowls England. At the recent Bowls England Conference the question of late affiliation had been raised and the Finance Director Howard Pryse, had agreed to look at the whole subject in particular the payment date of affiliation fees to Bowls England. It was agreed that for this year Devon would allow clubs to amend their submitted affiliation lists by substituting those affiliated members, who did not rejoin, by any new members who then joined. It was also agreed that an affiliation fee paid for a member by one Devon club who then subsequently joined another Devon club could be transferred provided Administrator Carol was informed so that the data base set up could be amended accordingly. When Administrator Carol has completed the database the details of affiliated membership for each club will be sent to sections.	**CH**
In response to a request regarding mileage allowance to be paid to Lady Umpires Treasurer David confirmed the Umpires Association had recently been unified and it was agreed by the new body to look into a recommendation of 25p per mile to be paid after the first 30 miles had been travelled. A decision regarding this recommendation would be made by the end of April. Bowls Devon would not pay travelling expenses to Umpires unless their governing body adopted the suggested proposal. It was accepted by the meeting that Umpires should be appointed from within the defined 'travel' area. If the above recommendation was not implemented a donation of £200 would be made from Bowls Devon as a donation from the County to the newly unified Umpires Association.	
Treasurer David and Administrator Carol had negotiated a price for the Ladies and Men's Luncheons for 2010, with the owner of the Langstone Cliff Hotel. A wide choice of menu had been agreed and the cost would be £17 per person. The Association would subsidise the actual cost. A County Draw would be held at the Ladies Luncheon as well as a day draw at both luncheons. Proceeds would go to the Association to offset the actual cost of the day's events.	
The possibility of adopting a new County shirt for the Johns, Middleton	

Cup and both junior squads was to be investigated. Quotes and designs would be obtained in time for the next meeting. The meeting was asked to obtain thoughts from their sections as to whether a generic shirt for all County matches should be considered. The question of who would pay for section officer's expenses was raised and Treasurer David explained that each Section must budget for any expenses when setting its section levy. As this was the first year of the new Association it was felt it was too difficult to predict the implications of the question and it was agreed to consider it again at the next meeting in November.	**CH** **CH/DT**
7. Appointment of lady representative to Competition Committee: Administrator Carol explained that a replacement for Terri Day to the Competitions Committee was needed following Terri's resignation. Julie Grant was to be approached.	**Not resolved**
8. Junior Selectors: Administrator Carol reported that no further nominations had been received to become ladies Junior Selectors, leaving Mrs Dawn Graham (Section 3) as the only Junior selector. Administrator Carol explained the importance of at least one other selector to help Dawn with the arrangements not only for selection purposes but also training and practice matches for Devon's very successful juniors. President Sue was proposed by Section 7 and seconded as a Junior Selector. Mrs Eve Lever (Section 1) was to contact Mrs Pam Parkhouse to ascertain her interest in helping with the Juniors.	**Not Resolved**
9. Report from Competitions Committee: The Competitions Committee had not met together. However, the Ladies and Men had met separately with the respective section competition secretaries to go over the newly introduced points system and to distribute forms for the recording of points.	
10. Church Celebration Service at Buckfast Abbey 14th April 2010: Administrator Carol informed the meeting of the arrangements in place for the Buckfast Abbey service. Approximately 80 guests were expected. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Plymouth, Presidents of Cornwall, Somerset and Dorset and their guests together with Bowls England Board Director, Mr Howard Pryse. There would be a collection during the service in aid of Abbey funds. Honorary members would be presented with a badge and framed certificate at a reception after the service. A motion of thanks was proposed by Mr Harry Riley on behalf of Bowls Devon to Administrator Carol for all the hard work she had undertaken to ensure the day would be one to be remembered by all. All in attendance unanimously echoed this.	

11. Report from Bowls England: Mr David Tucker reported that a Bowls England seminar had been held in Leamington on 6th April on Children and Vulnerable person's legislation. He confirmed verifiers do not have to be CRB checked nor do they need to be trained. In fact the Post Office offers a service for the checking of documentation at a small cost of approximately £5. The Bowls England conference was held the following day at which the proposed Bowls Alliance was confirmed as well underway. The subject of playing against non-affiliated clubs and non-affiliated bowlers was raised at the conference and after much discussion it was agreed that the subject needed further investigation by Bowls England. The Johns Trophy games were to be played at weekends and possibly on a round robin basis from 2012. The Bowls England competitions committee is to investigate whether this could be brought forward to 2011. An Over 60's club mixed double rink to be introduced in 2011. Bowls England were supporting 2 clubs as test cases who were appealing against the ratable value for their premises. The EYBDS is likely to be returned to the umbrella of Bowls England. Laws of the Sport will be debated at the World Bowls meeting in Delhi during the Commonwealth games in October. It is expected that the rule regarding the giving away of the jack will be revised with implementation for 2011.	

12. Reports from Sections:

Mr David Counter (Section 4) advised that Mr Pat Moon (Selector) had retired on ill-health grounds. Section 4 clubs had been advised that a replacement was required.

Mr Mike Birch (Section 6) advised the meeting that his club Torquay BC, had recently received a visit by the local Council for valuation purposes. The ratable value of the club had been reduced from £6,900 to £6,300 back dated for 5 years, resulting in a refund of £236.

Mrs Mavis Wellington (Section 6) outlined the problems she had experienced with competitions within her section and hoped that everything had now been amicably sorted.

Mr David Tucker asked the meeting if they knew if any special bowling facilities were available for visually impaired bowlers. Mrs Sue Harriott (Section 3) said that Madeira Bowling Club would be able to offer assistance. Mrs Sue Trott (JVP) explained there was a system in place to grade visually impaired bowlers. Administrator Carol had directed a query she had received regarding visual impaired bowler to Bowls England.

Miss Sharon Parnell (Section 7) asked how diaries would be distributed, when received. Administrator Carol advised that arrangements had been made for distribution.

Mr Gordon Thomas (Men's Patrons Secretary) confirmed everything was in hand for the men's patrons' games. He had received a report from Mrs Terri Day (Ladies Patrons Secretary) that all her arrangements were underway. The cost of the Patrons weekend 25th/26th February 2011 at Trecarn Hotel, Torquay would be £75 per person. The New Years trip to Weston Super Mare was underway, with more details at a later date. Terri also wanted it reported that Patrons Days were open to both ladies and men and requested that delegates prompt members regarding dates and venues.

Mr Martin Rowe (Section 1) queried whether a non-affiliated player could play in Patrons matches. A full discussion took place regarding the implication of non-affiliated bowlers not being insured. The discussion also raised the question of whether Life Membership of the Patrons Association should be linked to affiliation to a club. Chairman Alan requested Gordon to refer this question to the full Patrons committee for their views.

13. Any Other Business Mr Ron Robinson (Section 2) raised the question as to whether it was appropriate for the new Association to overturn a decision made by either of the previous Associations. There was a general feeling that perhaps this could result in grievances from many years ago being raised. The web-site was still under development. Many sections had requested that competition draws were included and this had resulted in much more work than had previously been anticipated. It was hoped that the web-site would be completed within the next month.	

There being no other business Chairman Alan confirmed the date of the next meeting as being Wednesday 3rd November 2010.

The meeting closed at 08.20pm.

Chairman…….. Date……..