



MINUTES

TITLE OF MEETING: Executive Committee
DATE AND TIME: Wednesday 23rd October 2019 at 7.00pm
LOCATION: Exeter Golf and Country Club

1 Welcome

Chairman Alan opened the meeting and welcomed all present. This will be Avril's last appearance as Minute Secretary and Alan thanked her for her work on behalf of the County.

2 In Attendance

Presidents: Margaret Jones and Tony Howle

Executive Officers: Alan Mann (Chair), Harry Riley (Administrator), David Tucker (Treasurer), Ray Stringer (Assistant Treasurer), Ciss Jones (Ladies' Administrator), Kevin Phillips (Men's Administrator), Sue Trott (Ladies' Match Secretary), Edgar Melliush (Men's Match Secretary), Sue Silcox (Development Officer) and Avril Coyne (Minute Secretary).

Section Representatives: Tony Broom (Section 2), Christine Macaulay and Don Coyne (Section 3), Christine Marshall (Section 4), Charlotte Sliney and David Mercer (Section 5), Beryl Leach (Section 6), Paul Chudley (Section 7), Pat Adams and Martin Hobbs (Section 8).

In attendance, by invitation: Ruth Rogers (Assistant Ladies' Administrator (Competitions)).

3 Apologies

Martin Rowe (Section 1), Anita Lamey (Section 4) and Mike Birch (Section 6).

4 Declarations of Interest

None recorded

5 Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 24th April 2019

The Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 24th April 2019, were confirmed as a correct record and duly signed by the Chair. There were no matters arising.

6 Report of the Administrator:

The report, previously circulated, was approved.

Registration of Club shirts - Approval had been given to the design of Club shirts for Brixham and Dartmouth Bowling Clubs.

Correspondence - Letter from Paul Debnam explaining why he is unable to continue in his current roles.

County Luncheon - Although there is an increase in the numbers attending this year's event, it is noticeable that not all our competition winners will be present.

As there is no trophy for the runners up in the Ladies' Senior Rinks, Barbara Allen, Plymouth SFD BC, this year's runners up, has kindly donated a trophy.

Our Principal Guests this year are –

Bowls England Past President Adie accompanied by his wife

Bowls Cornwall President Jennie Maunder and her husband

Bowls Cornwall Administrator Christine Hore

Bowls Wiltshire President David Williams and his wife

Adam Brooks representing our Sponsors, St. James's Place Wealth Management.

Associate Membership - Reminders that Associate Membership renewal is due have been sent to our 14 Associate Members. Associate Membership is £5.

National Championships - Photographs celebrating our successes in the National Championships have been obtained and will be put on the web site.

7 Meeting of the Constitution and Rules Committee:

The Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 25th July 2019 had been previously circulated.

Amendments to Constitution and Rules

Rule 2.2.1 - Officers and delegates of a club must be affiliated members of Bowls Devon

Rule 2.2.2 - Players in Club, Section and County matches, including friendlies and Patrons matches, must be affiliated members of Bowls Devon

RESOLVED that the Annual General Meeting be asked to amend both Rules by adding, to both Rules, “and Bowls England”.

Amendments to Schedules

RESOLVED that Schedule 2 be amended to read “The Executive Committee may appoint the following officers and officials”.

RESOLVED that Schedule 5 Regulation 3.1 be amended to read “The dress code in all rounds of County Championships leading to the final stages of the National Championships shall be as stipulated by the County Association having regard to BE Regulation 50.5.1”.

RESOLVED that Schedule 5 Regulation 3.2 be amended by the addition of “Unless all members of the side or team wear the same, that side or team will not be allowed to play in that match”.

RESOLVED that Schedule 5 Regulation 3.3 be amended to read “Players wishing to wear shorts should note that only shorts bearing the Bowls England logo will be allowed in events under the jurisdiction of Bowls Devon and Bowls England. In team games, all players must wear the same colour below the waist”.

RESOLVED that Schedule 5 Regulation 3.6 be amended to read “Flat soled shoes will be worn on the green. Sandals shall not be permitted in events under the jurisdiction of Bowls Devon and Bowls England, except in medical circumstances where a doctor’s note has been provided”.

8 Meeting of the Executive Officers:

The notes of the meeting held on Wednesday 9th October 2019 had been previously circulated.

It had previously been agreed that, on Avril’s retirement, the duties of the Minute Secretary would be delegated to the Assistant County Administrator. However, as Paul is not seeking re-election the Officers recommend that the positions of Minute Secretary and Assistant County Administrator be not filled at the present time. It was **RESOLVED** accordingly.

The following RECOMMENDATIONS had been put forward by the Competition Committee following a meeting with the Sections.

Schedule 6

Rule 1.1 AMEND to read “All Sections are entitled to two representatives in each of the Major Competitions.”

Rule 1.2 DELETE

Rule 1.2a becomes 1.2

Rule 1.3 AMEND to read “The draw for the Major Competitions shall be an “open draw” for all eight Sections in order to create the “A” and “B” Groups.”

Rule 1.4 DELETE

Schedule 5

Rule 6.8 AMEND first sentence to read “In all (non-team) Bowls Devon Competitions using play by dates, the Challenger shall offer three dates to their opponent, one of which will be a weekend.

Rule 9.1 AMEND second paragraph to read “All Sections shall put forward one qualifier.” The remainder of the paragraph “Those Sections having 75% and above of their member clubs entering the competition shall be entitled to put forward two qualifiers” to be DELETED.

Rule 9.1 AMEND third paragraph to read “Following play in the Sections, remaining matches shall be played on nominated greens as determined by the Competition Committee. In the event of a tie from the round of 8 onwards the challenger shall nominate one designated rink number to play an extra end, before the draw is made for rinks. The extra end shall be played by the nominated rink after play has been complete.”

Rule 9.2 AMEND first sentence of fourth paragraph to read "Rounds of last 8 to be allocated play-on dates....."

Rule 9.2 AMEND fifth sentence to read "The Semi Final and Final shall be played on a nominated green as determined by the Competition Committee. In the event of a tie in the Semi Final or Final the challenger shall nominate one designated rink number to play an extra end, before the draw is made for rinks. The extra end shall be played by the nominated rink after play has been complete."

Rule 9.3 REPLACE second paragraph to read "In the event of a tie from the round of 8 onwards the challenger shall nominate one designated rink number to play an extra end, before the draw is made for rinks. The extra end shall be played by the nominated rink after play has been complete."

RESOLVED that the recommendations of the Competition Committee be approved.

9 Schedule 9 - Dress Code

Proposed amendments to the Dress Code, previously circulated, were discussed following which it was **RESOLVED** that Schedule 9 be replaced with the amendments as circulated.

10 Bowls England Ballots

Bowls England had received the following applications for the recently advertised positions and ballot forms had been received by our two Authorised Representatives:

Bowls England Chair

Mark Cohen - Nominated by Essex Bowling Association

Jonathan Doust - Nominated by Sussex County Bowls

Anna Molony - Nominated by Worcestershire Bowling Association

David Tucker - Nominated by Bowls Devon

Stephen Watson - Nominated by Bowls Hampshire

Junior Vice President

Michael Morris - Nominated by Bowls Oxfordshire

Deepak Tanna - Nominated by Bowls Leicestershire

Stewart Wright - Nominated by The Royal County of Berkshire Bowling Association

RESOLVED that Bowls Devon votes be registered for David Tucker and Deepak Tanna.

11 Reports

Finance and General Purposes Committee

Treasurer David gave a verbal report on the proceedings of the earlier meeting at which he had circulated his draft annual account.

Whilst affiliation numbers are down, Devon compares favourably against other Counties. There was an increase in competition entry fees and a donation of £2,500 had been received from the Patrons Association (£2,000 in 2018).

Overall, there is a surplus net income of £4,318.

A recommendation that the Officers and Presidential allowances be increased by 2% was agreed.

It was noted that Bowls England recommends that all Club accounts should bear the name of the Club and have at least two signatories.

Tony Broom had raised the question of charges that Clubs are allowed to make when their greens are used by the County and for competitions. It had been agreed that the Treasurer and Tony, together with the two Match Secretaries would meet and prepare a paper for discussion at the next meeting.

Bowls Development Officer

The report on Bowls Development had previously been circulated.

Recruitment packages continue to attract new members although uptake of this benefit is still limited. It was noted that the Bowls Development Alliance would retain responsibility for recruitment and continue to facilitate Club Development Programmes to attract new bowlers.

Sue asked the Sections to encourage their Clubs to participate in the packages.

Sue reported that the County had held two coaching qualification courses at Level 1 and the next course will be at Honiton BC on the 7th March 2020. There was no further news of a new Level 3 Coaching Course for elite/International players.

Sue also reported that she would be asking Clubs to provide the names of their Welfare Officers. Whilst Bowls Devon is committed to promoting a safe environment in which children and vulnerable adults can enjoy the sport of bowls it is, at present, not mandatory for Welfare Officers to attend a Safeguarding Course.

The Executive Committee considered that it should be mandatory for all clubs to appoint a Welfare Officer but noted that one such officer can be shared by a number of clubs local to one another.

RESOLVED that Rule 16 be amended by the addition of "All Clubs shall appoint a Welfare Officer, who may be shared by clubs local to one another. All Welfare Officers are required to attend a BDA Safeguarding Course". This amendment to Rule 16 will be included on the Agenda for the Annual General Meeting.

Patron's Association

A report from the Secretary had previously been circulated.

Treasurer David stated that the donation of £2,500 was much appreciated.

12 Reports from the Sections

Most of the Sections had either had or were shortly to have their Annual General meetings.

Section 1 reported an increase in competition entries and the competition draws had been made.

Section 3 Men's draws had been made.

Section 4 reported that all offices had been filled. Competition entries were down.

Section 5 reported that all offices had been filled and that the Section had revised their Rules for the Sections County Trophy competition.

Section 8 men's competition entries were up. Work at Central Park had still not been completed

13 Officers to be appointed for 2020 at the Annual General Meeting

The following Officers were nominated en bloc:

Chair - Alan Mann. Alan has given notice that, if re-elected, 2020 will be his last year as Chairman

Administrator - Harry Riley

Treasurer - David Tucker. David has given notice that, if re-elected, 2020 will be his last as Treasurer

Assistant Treasurer - Ray Stringer

Ladies' Administrator - Ciss Jones

Men's Administrator - Kevin Phillips

Ladies' Match Secretary - Sue Trott

Men's Match Secretary - Edgar Melliush

Development Officer - Sue Silcox

14 Appointments for 2020

The following Committee members were appointed:

Life Membership Committee

The two Immediate Past Presidents, Chair, Administrator and one Honorary or Life Member -

David Tucker re-appointed

Constitution & Rules Committee

Chair, Administrator, Treasurer and other members - Kay Page, Sue Silcox and Tony Broom re-appointed

Competition Committee

Men's and Ladies' Administrators, Men's and Ladies' Match Secretaries and two other members - Ruth

Rogers and David Counter re-appointed

Men's and Ladies' General Selection Committees

Men's or Ladies' President as appropriate (Chair non-voting), Men's or Ladies' Administrator (non-voting) as appropriate and the Men's or Ladies' Selector as appropriate appointed by Sections.

Middleton Cup

Three members, to hold office for three years - one to retire each year - together with the Men's Administrator (non-voting). Current members in retiring order are Alan Mann, Alan Horwell (2020) and David Tucker (2021). Alan Mann re-appointed.

John's Trophy

Three members, to hold office for three years - one to retire each year - together with the Ladies' Administrator (non-voting). Current members in retiring order are Liz Healy (2020) and Sue Silcox (2021). Kay Page appointed.

Ladies' Junior Side Selection

Three members, to hold office for three years - one to retire each year - together with the Ladies' Administrator (non-voting). Current members are Sue Trott (2020) and Carol Horgan (2021). Natalie Chestney appointed.

Men's Junior Side Selection

Three members, to hold office for three years - one to retire each year - together with the Men's Administrator (non-voting). Current members are Peter Churchman (2020) and Kevin Phillips (2021). John Berry appointed.

Patrons Association

Current officers are Administrator Vicky Hingston, Treasurer/Fixture Secretary John Hogger, together with Committee members appointed by the Association and approved by this Committee.

15 To appoint Officers for 2020 as defined in Schedule 2

Minute Secretary - no appointment for 2020

Assistant County Administrator - no appointment for 2020

Assistant Ladies' Administrator (Competitions) - Ruth Rogers re-appointed

16 To appoint the following Officials as defined in Schedule 2

Welfare Officer - Bill Smith

Diary Secretary - Brian Baker

Coach Co-ordinator - Gill Ainsley

Web Site Information Co-ordinator - David Mercer

Web Site Manager - Bob Smith

Co-ordinator of Ladies' President's Matches - Charlotte Sliney

Co-ordinator of Men's President's Matches - Edgar Melliush

Co-ordinator of Mixed Matches - Vicky Hingston nominated

17 Bowls Devon Merit Award

The recommendation of the Life Membership Committee that Brian Vernon of Okehampton, Simmons Bowling Club be awarded the Bowls Devon Merit Award was noted. The award will be presented at the Annual General Meeting.

18 Annual General Meeting

Following discussion and in accordance with the Constitution and Rules, the Agenda for the Annual General Meeting, previously circulated, was approved.

It was agreed that, in the Open Forum at the conclusion of the meeting, David would advise members of the revised greens maintenance advisory service which will be implemented from the 1st December 2019.

19 Web Site

It was agreed that David Mercer, Ciss Jones, Ruth Rogers and Kevin Phillips should meet with the Web Site Manager in order that arrangements for inputting information on the web site can be discussed. David, as Web Site Co-ordinator to arrange the meeting.

20 Schedules

Whilst all the Schedules have a heading, it was agreed that Harry would introduce a "Contents" page, similar to the Constitution and Rules Contents page, to make them easier to negotiate.

21 Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be held on Wednesday 22nd April 2020 at the Exeter Golf and Country Club commencing at 7.00pm.

Signed Chairman 22nd April 2020