

West Somerset Bowls League
Minutes of AGM Friday 08 September 2017

Present

Don Bridges Vice Chairman (DB) Burnham on Sea
Alan Wood Secretary (AW) Taunton Deane
Mike Kennedy (MK) Taunton Deane
Duncan Stevens (DS) Minehead
Adrian Kunc (AD) Eastover
John Swayne (JS) North Petherton
Tony West (TW) Taunton
Paul Kelly (PK) Wellington

The Vice Chairman opened the meeting at 7.35pm deciding to delay the meeting slightly hoping for late arrivals in view of only 6 clubs being represented. He welcomed every one present and thanked North Petherton for kindly letting use use their excellent premises again.

Before proceeding with the Agenda he then asked the meeting to stand for a moment in silence to pay our respects to fellow bowlers who have passed away over the past year;

AGENDA

1. **Apologies** Derek Sully Roland Bath Chairman (last minute engagement)
Bob Toller Treasurer (Ill)
Post the meeting apologies from John Hill & Les Snow SOS's thought it was this week
2. **Minutes AGM Friday 09 September 2016**
Copies had been emailed and are available on the web site.
3. **Matters arising:** None
The minutes were approved as a correct record and duly signed by Don Bridges Vice Chairman
4. **Secretary's report**
Secretary's Report 2017
This season two extra teams joined the league, Wellington added a third team and Eastover a second team, bringing the total number of teams to 22, with 11 teams in each of the two divisions giving each team 10 matches. This extended the playing season by two extra weeks. An extra match for each team and a bye week. So in each division 5 matches were played each week over 11 weeks, a total of 110
Matches started on the last Thursday in May and ended on the first Thursday in August. Apart from a hiccup in the scheduled match between the two Eastover teams who failed to field enough players for the B team due to illness all other matches were played as scheduled.
The Eastover match was re-scheduled and played but the score was not allowed to stand and the match was settled in accordance with rule 15e. That is the A team who had 8 players and so sufficient players to field a team (Rule 15 d requires at least 7 players) were awarded 12pts and 10 shots.
The feed back the weekly comments and scorelines in many instances indicates that the WSBL is very competitive and played in a most sporting manner commensurate with the sport of bowls that we have become accustomed to.
That said I gather that there was a disagreement at one match in the interpretation of the

rules where there is a player short on a rink. To avoid such in the future players should familiarise themselves with the rules and a copy on hand in the club will avoid similar incidents. An updated copy is provided annually and is readily available on the website.

There is invariably an exciting finish to the season and this year was no exception. In Div 1 in the the final week 3 teams were in with a chance of the title, N Petherton A, T Deane A, Taunton A

A measure of how closely matched are the teams in Div 1 is illustrated by the final league table showing that 6 of the teams won only half of the 10 matches played. In a number of cases rink wins by the narrowest of margins determined in several matches who took home the match points. Very exciting finishes in many matches. Of the 55 matches only 11 were won 12- 0 and 3 of those were on the last week. Apart from North Petherton the rink points of every team in Div 1 accounted for half or nearly half of total points scored.

Congratulations to North Petherton A runners up last year and winners this year and to runners up Taunton Deane A. Commiserations to the two seaside teams who dive into Div 2 .

In Div 2 the final table shows a some what different picture between the top 5 and bottom 6 in that 30 points separate the 5th and 6th teams. The top 5 won at least 7 of their 10 matches whereas the bottom six most only managed to win 3. As long as the players in these teams are not discouraged, and I don't think they are, then playing in Div 2 gives inexperienced players the opportunity to engage in competitive match play.

Quote Paul Kelly. "Very enjoyable season, we have played a lot of new bowlers in their first league matches , the C team have propped up the league but they have to learn match play and this league is ideal."

Congratulations to Taunton Deane B who now join their A team in Div 1 and Eastover A, respectively winners and runners up in Div 2. A warm welcome awaits you both in Div 1

Many thanks for your emailed results mostly on Thursday evening shortly after the match thus enabling me to provide you with weekly progressive league tables each weekend. Any anecdotal or interesting detail much appreciated for my weekly summaries which I hope are worth my effort.

Regarding the web site everyone seems pleased with it and considers it worthwhile. Many thanks to Roland who suggested it and to Jay Merrell who set it up and helped me to understand it so as to be able to update it. Which I do as and when necessary.

Thank you gentlemen.

Alan Wood

WSBL Secretary

5 Treasurer's Report and Statement of Accounts:

In the absence of Bob who is quite poorly and only recently out of hospital his report was read by Don Bridges, he suggested that we convey our best wishes to Bob and hoped for his speedy recovery, everyone agreed and Alan said he would get in touch with him.

Well the 2017 has been and gone and I think the weather was rather mixed with some hot spots early on and I am not sure about wet suits and with 11 teams in each division it must have made a very good season and for good bowling. With 22 teams entered in the league at £30 per team made a total income of £660.00. and the expenditure consists of paying the prize winners and the setting up of the West Somerset League website and the secretary's expenses, which included £10.95 engraving of Victoria's shield... I am pleased to report that our total assets in the bank is £1266.17 and will go forward to the 2018 season.

[Oh yes we made a profit...due to increased teams.](#)

Congratulations to all the winners and I would like to thank all clubs once again for their good response to my reminders I sent out at the end of February, and wish you all a very good bowling and a successful 2018 season.

I have been treasurer now since 2003 and quite willing to carry on if you so wish, I am sorry I cannot be with you this evening but I am suffering with breathing difficulties with the slightest exertion

5.

Statement of Accounts for the Outdoor Season at September 2017

Income	£	Expenditure	£
Opening balance from 2016 season	1240.52	Div 1 Winners N.Petherton A	300.00
Subscriptions from 11 Clubs entering total of 22 teams @ £30	660.00	Div 1 R.Up.Taunton Deane A	100.00
		Div 2 Winners Taunton Deane B	150.00
<u>Total Income 2017</u>	<u>1900.52</u>	Div 2 R.Up Eastover A	50.00
		Secretary`s expenses	25.95
		Total Expenditure 2017	634.35
		Total Income 2017	£1900.52.
		Total Expenditure 2017	£634,35
		<u>Total carried forward to 2018</u>	<u>£1266.17</u>

T. A. R. Toller
Treasurer
West Somerset Bowls League

6. Chairman's Report

Don thanked the Secretary for work during the season in particular the provision of the league tables each weekend also Jay Merrell for the web site set up and maintenance. It had proved to be a great success.

The season had been a successful one and the weather mostly kind. Bowling all round had been competitive and enjoyable,

Hearty congratulations to the winners North Petherton Div 1 champions, Taunton Deane's success in both Divisions and Eastover runners up in Div 2

7 Presentation of Tropies.

Divison 1 WINNERS	North Petherton A	Trophy and £300
Runners up	Taunton Deane A	Trophy and £100
Divison 2 WINNERS	Taunton Deane B	Trophy and £150
Runners up	Eastover A	***Trophy and £50

***Unfortunately Victoria had not returned the shield so it could not be presented but will be delivered by John Hill SAP to Eastover.

This year Bridgwater do not appear to have had the Champions shield engraved.

8. Election of Officers

Chairman
Vice Chairman
Treasurer
Secretary

Holder

Roland Bath
Don Bridges
Bob Toller
Alan Wood

All officers had indicated a willingness to serve at least one more term and were re-elected en bloc

8 Any Other Buisness

PK enquired if the same number of clubs were being entered again. AW said an email to all clubs will be sent shortly in time for the Men's meetings which take place at all clubs about this time. AW needed to know to enable the fixture list to be compiled by early November to be available for club fixture secretaries.

He understood membership at Eastover had been depleted and asked AK if they would be able to field 2 teams. He thought it might be a problem due holidays and low membership he would find out.

DB was also sceptical in the case of BOS last year and this year they had travelled to Minehead and some members had complained. Mainly it was wives who understandably worried about their husbands travelling late and in the dark, never a happy prospect these days.

AW apologised for the scheduling but it was not always possible to reverse the fixtures. He tried to do so but the teams changed with promotion and relegation. It wasn't straightforward unfortunately. MK asked whether matches could be arranged earlier. AW - if the teams could agree then yes OK but if members worked then not practical and Don said that traffic was a problem earlier. It could take up to half an hour to get thro Bridgwater at say 5pm.

(AW _ Just a thought but not mentioned at tonight;s meeting but there is a hiatus in the summer when due Middleton Cup matches no County league matches are played leaving a few Saturdays free. Perhaps any "long distance" matches could be rearranged – just a thought .)

DS had had trouble with AW email address the OO's in wOOD are zeros 00's i.e. w00d .
He is Ok now and another ALAN WOOD somewhere in the UK is now a penpal.

Don wound up the meeting thanking once more our hosts and the bar staff Louise and Keith Dewey for giving their time tonight and wished everyone a safe journey home,

Meeting Closed 9pm