



# *Devon County Indoor Bowls Association*

**PRESIDENT 2021/2022 MR. MOUSA-AL-KORDI**

## **MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT EXONIA BOWLING CLUB ON TUESDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER 2021**

PRESIDENT MOUSA-AL-KORDI OPENED THE MEETING AT 13-55.

Apologies for absence were received from Ted Powell, Kevan Davey, Larry Croxford, Graham Warren, Mike Sampson, Adam and Heidi Fielder, John Berry, Sidmouth IBC.

A Period of respectful silence was held in memory of George Mabon, Mike Collins and all of the bowlers we have lost during the past season.

The minutes of the previous virtual email Annual General Meeting in 2021 because of Covid restrictions, having been previously circulated were approved and signed off.

There had been no motions received from clubs within the time limits of the constitution.

The County Treasurer submitted his report and accounts to the meeting and explained the figures, having asked the clubs for only a nominal fee of £70-00 for the 2019/2020 season. He also explained the possible consequences of the loss of fees paid by the withdrawal of Axminster IBC and North Devon IBC, both due to circumstances outside their control. The DCIBA hope for a significant renewal of membership throughout the clubs in order to maintain our progress. The motion for acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Chris Beer and seconded by Keith Young. The motion was approved unanimously.

The President led a discussion on falling membership levels with the loss of Axminster and North Devon. He urged clubs to reach into their collective imaginations to try and improve take-up of new membership. Chris Beer told the meeting of the upcoming Open Day that they were having at Kingsley and would report to the County on its impact at a later date. All club delegates appreciated the pressure they were under and general agreement was to redouble efforts.

The County Secretary presented a report of the Vice Presidents Association activities and a financial statement. There followed a discussion on the need for more clubs to support the arranged fixtures. This produced an immediate effect and will probably result in a full programme of those matches.

The County Secretary then read the 48th Report on the activities of the County Association. A copy of this report is attached to these minutes. An error of omission occurred in this report by not referring to the Inter Club League. He was pleased to rectify that omission by confirming that Division One was won by Exonia and Division Two was won by Torbay-B with Mid Devon also promoted as runners-up.

The secretary also used this opportunity to remind the delegates that he had still not received acknowledgement of the request for confirmation from each club that it had improved or installed a ventilation system that conformed with Government and EIBA regulations.

Ray Sandercock read a statement from his own club Torbay which had installed the correct system, and also asked the question of what would happen if clubs could not visit another club because that club was not in possession of the necessary ventilation required. The League Secretary stated that in that scenario, the league position of each team would be based on average points won per match played. This was agreed by the meeting.

David Butterworth then introduced the proposal for the revised Code of Conduct. A copy of this proposal for inclusion in the DCIBA Constitution is attached to these minutes. David proceeded to read parts of the report which are of great import to the Association and to the clubs, especially as one major change is the application of this code to officers and administrators, managers, volunteers and others. The code and its requirements would also be used in conjunction with the statements of DCIBA job descriptions in order to produce DCIBA risk assessments that are required by our insurance providers Zurich Assurance. He urged acceptance of this proposal, and also that each club should have a similar policy and code. To this end, the DCIBA is amenable to the principles and wording of this code (where applicable to Clubs), if approved, to be used by Clubs under their own name.

The motion was proposed by David Butterworth and seconded by George Taylor. The motion for the new code of conduct was approved unanimously.

The list of grants, allowances and fees for 2021/2022 having been previously circulated was approved unanimously by the meeting.

The election of County Officers and executive appointments having been previously circulated were unanimously approved en-bloc. The County Secretary announced the appointment of Heidi and Adam Fielder as managers as a good one for the DCIBA. We look forward to continued success under their stewardship.

The former manager Nick Oliver no longer has any connection or ties with the DCIBA, having resigned the position with Devon Colts.

Ian Turner proposed a vote of thanks to the President and his Officers for all their hard work and looked forward to working with Mousa and the team as Vice President this year.

The President closed the official business part of the AGM at 14-55. As the County had not had an Executive Meeting for a period of time due to COVID interruptions, some important things had been discussed within the main AGM. Extraordinarily, it is also prudent to record within this document the remaining important items discussed under the Open Forum part of the meeting.

On behalf of Larry Croxford the County Tour Organiser, President Mousa distributed additional copies of the details of the 2022 County Tour. Larry really does need names urgently to take advantage of the hotel rates negotiated. At recent tours, ladies who came on tour with husbands and partners have played in arranged matches. We can see no reason why this cannot

continue. This was agreed by all and we now look forward to March 4th and being on our way to Gloucester.

Keith Weeks, after a discussion, proposed that Presidents and Vice Presidents matches be played in greys during the 2021/2022 season. This was appreciated and agreed by all. Subsequently, it was further agreed that County matches and competition matches would still be played in whites for the semifinals and finals. League matches will be played in greys, with the exception of the Over-60s League Final which will be played in whites. The matches between the Indoor and Outdoor Associations and against the Ladies Association would be played in whites; of course this must be agreed by both parties and resolved with common sense.

Following on from the discussion in the official part of the meeting Ray Sandercock read a report from Torbay IBC regarding minimum ventilation standards, and also the willingness of his club to stage County and National matches and events as a venue if asked.

There then followed a discussion on the future viability of the Vice Presidents Association continuing as a separate organisation within the DCIBA, or merging its activities to form one organisation. It was felt overall at this meeting that it was not acceptable to merge, but to continue as at present, with increased efforts from the clubs to ensure more solid support for the VPs and for Presidents matches to create a larger pool of players to choose teams from.

The meeting was then closed with further thanks to our President and to Exonia for their welcome and hospitality.

**Mousa-al-Kordi**  
**PRESIDENT**

**Ken Brenchley**  
**DCIBA COUNTY SECRETARY.**

**7th September 2021**