

SOMERSET BOWLS ASSOCIATION

Ninth ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at Victoria Club (Street) on Saturday 10th November 2018 at 10.30am

MINUTES

Present: 58 delegates representing 58 clubs
35 officers and life members with voting rights
7 other members without voting rights

1. Appointment of Scrutineers

Barbara Cottier MBE and Peter Cast were appointed scrutineers.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Life Members: Dawn Barnaby, Dr Mike Martin, Mo Monkton, Mary Taylor, Barbara Vowles and David Wederell. Past Presidents: Don Bridges, Joan Rixson, Shirley Nicholls, Colin Westlake and Shirley Wederell.

The following Club Representatives: Pam Soper for Clevedon Promenade (Ladies), John Bartlett for Clevedon Promenade (Men), David Whithead for Frome Park, Christopher Day for Frys, Elaine White for Mark Moor, Ian Kendall for Merriott, Ed Moulder for Minehead, David Hole for Nailsea (Men), Carol Mears for Paulton, Jackie Ware for St Andrews, Mark Beech for Victoria Park (Bath) and Barbara Jones for Wessex (Ladies).

3. In Memoriam

A request had been sent out to all clubs asking for names in advance of their club members who had died during the last year. The meeting remembered:

Banwell: Tony Hide. Bath (Ladies): Betty Baker, Anne Jacob, Maureen Hatch. Burnham on Sea: Brenda Bowdler, Marion Williams. Castle Cary: Mo Fletcher, Sue Greathead, Brenda Hicks, Trevor Quick, Wyn Ranger, Sheila White. Chard: Ron Genge. Chew Stoke: Margaret Frackrell, John Taylor, Sheila Walker. Clarence: Alan Bidmead, John Hawkins, John Gillson. Clevedon Promenade (Men): Tony Burgoyne, Harry Jeffrey. Fosseway: Richard Andrews, Jim Cantello, Alec Parkin, Ray Soby, Gordon Wilcox. Ilminster: John Osborne, Dot Whelan. Isle of Wedmore: Tony Hamblin, Stan Newdick, Peter Bean. Mark Moor: Roger Bowden, John Inalls, Sam Petherton. North Petherton: Charles Furzeman. Portishead (Men): Maurice Howland. Portishead RBL (Men): Peter Dudley, David Haigh, Peter Nairne. Prattens: Keith Down, Paul Hanks, John Sims. Purnell: Graham Gullick, Dave Godfrey. Shepton Mallet: John Lewis. Somerton and District: Ken Reardon. Street: Ceri Chivers, Geoff Wrigley. Victoria Park (Bridgwater): Mick Holiday. Winscombe: Anne Cast, Margaret Smith. West Backwell: Iris Broom, Thomas Hegarty, Kate Horler, Steven Wright. Weston (Bath): Ray Stokes, Graham Luker. Wyrral Park: Mike Harrop. Yeovil: Eric Crate and for any others we had not been advised of.

4. Minutes

Minutes of the Eighth Annual General Meeting, 11th November 2017:

The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record of that meeting. Proposed by Barrie Davis (Keynsham) and seconded by Danny Kite (Alexandra).

5. Matters Arising

There were none.

6. Reports

The Board reports were circulated prior to the meeting and form part of these Minutes. Questions were invited from the floor:

7. Chairman

There were no questions.

8. General Secretary

There were no questions.

9. Treasurer

There were no questions.

Andrew Chappell reported a small loss on the recent Presentation Lunch which the Patrons Association had generously covered.

10. Championship/Competition Secretary

Brian Pocock further reported that competition entries were up for the first time in many years. In addition, he thanked the many Clubs for offering their greens for the later stages of competitions and appealed for one last green (preferably in the south of the County) on Sunday 26th May to hold the Two Wood competition.

There were questions:

- 1) Why had the Two Wood been moved from evenings to a Sunday? He explained this was at the request of many members who preferred the 'old format'.
- 2) Why had the printed Handbook been scrapped without a full consultation with the membership? He pointed out that the idea had first been floated at the Spring Communication Meeting and feedback sought. With little input from Clubs or members the Board and Council felt it was time to make the change, thus reducing the significant financial deficit (£4500) on competitions.
- 3) Where there to be changes to the Competition Rules? Yes. They were to be updated following an overhaul of the Bowls England Rules & Regulations and would be explained at the Spring Communication Meeting.
- 4) Was the suggested relaxation in the qualification for the Honorary Secretaries' competition taking effect in 2019? No. The position is still being monitored.
- 5) What happen to the suggested changes in the Fear Cup (reduce from 3 rinks to 2 rinks)? Despite asking for feedback from all Clubs the response had been very poor. The decision has been deferred until the Council next meet in April 2019. **Gen Sec** to diarise.

11. Performance Manager

There were no questions.

Subsequent to her report Edna Bessell had received details of proposals to be placed before the Bowls England Counties Meeting later this month:

- 6.1 Bowls Dorset
The Amy Rose Bowl be amended to be a single Rink entry, with a maximum age of 25 years and only 2 entries per County.
- 6.2 Bowls Dorset
The Johns Trophy is played as a knockout Competition (to be considered in conjunction with Proposition from Middlesex Bowling Association – 6.3)
- 6.3 Middlesex Bowling Association
Johns Trophy is played as a knock-out competition, played to Group Final within Group, and, with the semi-final and final played during the National Championships at Royal Leamington Spa. All rounds of the competition to be played on Saturdays on dates specified by Bowls England, with the draw made in advance for two years.
- 6.4 Bowls Dorset
The Johns Trophy and Middleton Cup area for the West of the Country reverts to the following Counties: Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Somerset and Wiltshire.
- 6.5 Bowls Dorset
The Middleton Cup be scheduled for Sundays instead of Saturdays.

These were not universally popular and there would be a brief discussion of interested parties immediately after this meeting.

She also wanted to record her special thanks to:

All selectors (Middleton/Johns/Junior Boys and Girls.

All 3 Team Managers.

Joan Rixson - Acting John's Team Manager.

4 Match Secretaries.

All supporters attending Performance Team matches.

Mary Sutton - standing down from Junior Girls

Reg Birmingham - standing down as Middleton Cup Manager. Great ambassador to bowls and Somerset over many years and for his commitment and dedication to the Middleton Cup team.

Edna's wishes of a speedy recovery for Hilary May were echoed by all those attending.

12. Development Officer

Luke Townsend wasn't at the meeting which the Chairman thought a shame because he had some very interesting ideas on recruitment and the development of the game.

13. League secretary

There were no questions.

14. Marketing Manager

Peter Bissett was asked if he had looked to source clothing from within the UK? Yes, but cost and matching the design and colour of the existing kit had proved an obstacle.

There was also a suggestion that we should hold a stock of shirts and jackets to loan to those qualifying through to Leamington. He explained that the Board had considered and rejected this idea.

15. Match Secretary

There were no questions.

16. Member Without Portfolio

There were no questions.

The Chairman took the opportunity to seek feedback on the Presentation Lunch. There was a deafening chorus of 'Too Long'. During a short discussion it became clear that not everyone was of that opinion and it was agreed that the **Gen Sec** would place it on next Board Agenda for consideration.

17. County Coach

There were no questions.

18. Report from the Council

There were no questions.

19. Report from the Patrons

There were no questions.

20. Report from the Benevolent Fund

There were no questions.

21. Adoption of the Accounts

Proposed by Barbara Cottier (Queen Camel) and seconded by Don Dart (Purnell)

22. Presentation of Presidential Officers

- Two Immediate Past Presidents
- Presidents for 2019
- Senior Vice Presidents for 2019
- Elections of Junior Vice Presidents 2019

Hilary Leamon (Severalls Jubilee)
Paul Davies (Portishead RBL Mens)
Ailsa Midwinter (Purnell)
David Bishop (City of Wells)
Sue Cooper (Victoria Ladies)
David Byett (Congresbury)
Carolle Skeates (Wyrral Park)
Proposed by Wyrral Park
Seconded by Severalls Jubilee
Tony Whitmarsh (Chew Stoke)
Proposed by Chew Stoke
Seconded by City of Wells

23. Election of Executive Officers

Serving Officers:

- Chairman: John Durston (Clevedon)
- General Secretary: Ross Turnbull (Bloomfield)
- Treasurer: Andrew Chappell (Bath Mens)
- Championship/Competition Secretary: Brian Pocock (Victoria Mens)
- County Coach: Vacant
- Development Manager: Vacant
- League Secretary: David Bendall (Keynsham)
- Marketing Manager: Peter Bissett (Clevedon Promenade Mens)
- Match Secretary: Alan Gray (Portishead RBL Mens)
- Member Without Portfolio: Ken Leamon (Severalls Jubilee)
- Performance Manager: Edna Bessell MBE (Yeovil)

Proposed en-bloc by Celia Whitmarsh (Chew Stoke) and Seconded by Carolle Skeates (Wyrall Park)

24. Election of Other Officers

Middleton Cup Selectors:

- Regions 1-4 Paul Davies (Portishead RBL Mens)
Proposed by Portishead RBL Mens and Seconded by Portishead Mens
- Regions 5-8 Mark Denslow (Ilminster)
Proposed by Ilminster and Seconded by Watchet

John's Trophy Selectors:

- Regions 1-4 Celia Soby (Fosseway)
Proposed by Fosseway and Seconded by Chew Stoke
- Region 5-8 Nova Edwards (Bridgwater)
Proposed by Bridgwater and Seconded by Somerton and District

Mens General Selectors:

- Regions 1 & 3 Barrie Dando (Prattens)
Proposed by Prattens and Seconded by Purnell
- Regions 2 & 4 Lionel Slatter (Portishead RBL Mens)
Proposed by Portishead RBL Mens and Seconded by Portishead Mens
- Regions 5 & 6 David Bishop (City of Wells)
Proposed by City of Wells and Seconded by South Petherton
- Regions 7 & 8 Don Bridges (Burnham-on-Sea)
Proposed by Burnham-on-Sea and Seconded by Isle of Wedmore

Ladies General Selectors:

- Regions 1 & 3 Ailsa Midwinter (Purnell)
Proposed by Purnell and Seconded by Prattens
- Regions 2 & 4 Marilyn Gozna (Portishead RBL Ladies)
Proposed by Portishead RBL Ladies and Seconded by West Backwell
- Regions 5 & 6 Carolle Skeates (Wyrall Park)
Proposed by Wyrall Park and Seconded by Severalls Jubilee
- Regions 7 & 8 Shirley Wederell (Isle of Wedmore)
Proposed by Isle of Wedmore and Seconded by Ashcombe Park

Members of Council:

- Region 1 Grahame Starr (Bloomfield)
Proposed by Bloomfield and Seconded by Bath Mens
- Region 2 Mary Northcott (Knowle)
Proposed by Knowle and Seconded by Imperial
- Region 3 Celia Soby (Fosseway)
Proposed by Fosseway and Seconded by Chew Stoke
- Region 4 David Byett (Congresbury)

- Proposed by Congresbury and Seconded by West Backwell
- Region 5 Mike Groves (Wellington)
Proposed by Wellington and Seconded by Taunton
- Region 6 Derek Whitlock (Yeovil)
Proposed by Yeovil and Seconded by Westlands Sports
- Region 7 Jill Price (Bridgwater)
- Proposed by Bridgwater and Seconded by Victoria Park Bridgwater
- Region 8 Chris Wilson (Banwell)
Proposed by Banwell and Seconded by Ashcombe Park

Patrons Association:

- Chairman Barrie Davis (Keynsham)
- Secretary Carolle Skeates (Wyrall Park)
- Treasurer David Wederell (Isle of Wedmore)

Life Members:

- Reg Birmingham (Congresbury) – In recognition of his work with the men's performance teams at both junior & senior level.
Proposed by the Congresbury and Seconded by Bristol

25. Changes to the League Rules

These have been approved by the Board and are for information purposes only (new wording in green):

Rule 4 (d): When a team has three games, or fewer left to play in a season, **it can field up to two players who have already played more often for any one higher team in the club so long as they have played at least once for the lower team. These players shall not play skip, nor shall they play on the same rink.....**

Rule 8 (b):**Where cards are being posted, they should be sent to the appropriate Regional Secretary within 24 hours of the end of the match.** Alternatively result cards.....

26. Motion from Congresbury BC and seconded by Portishead BC Ladies

David Byett (Congresbury BC) withdrew this motion prior to the start of the meeting.

27. Appointment of Account Examiners

- Main Accounts Trevor Goodship & Associates of Keynsham
Proposed by the Board and Seconded by Peter Mottram (South Petherton)
- Patrons Accounts Read and Co of Martock.
Proposed by the Board and Seconded by Barrie Davis (Keynsham)

The meeting closed at 12.06pm