

WELLINGTON (SOMERSET) BOWLING CLUB

**Executive Committee Meeting to be held at 9.30am on Friday 3rd May 2024
in the clubhouse.**

REPORT

1 MEMBERS:

Role	Name	Initials	Role	Name	Initials
President	Ann Cowling	AC	Admin Co-ordinator	Jay Merrell	JCM
Chair	Paul Kelly	PK	Bowls Co-ordinator	Graham Brown	GB
Treasurer	Phil Ellis	PE	Asset Co-ordinator	Alan Moore	AM
Asst. Treasurer	Derek Alford	DA			
Functions Co-ordinator	Steve Lovell	SL	Admin. Assistant	Vacant	

2 Apologies. Phil Ellis, Ann Cowling, Steve Lovell

3 Acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting held on 12th April 2024

4 Matters arising from the minutes (not included elsewhere on the agenda)- Nil

5 a) Chair's Report (Paul Kelly)- Met with the manager of the leisure centre to discuss the setting up of a WhatsApp group to include the Squash and Rugby clubs. This would be used to discuss issues affecting the four clubs.

b) Club President's Report (Ann Cowling)-

Opening of the Green- It was a perfect day in every respect – weather, attendance, the green, food and the welcoming of Madge Covey to open our green. Madge had a good time; she did not realise or know how big our club was – I sent her a letter to thank her for honouring us on the big day of our calendar. My thanks also go to all those “behind the scenes” who contributed to the smooth running of the event.

Once again, my charity Guide Dogs for the Blind was well supported raising approximately £90.00+. I greatly appreciate Steve Lovell's continual help personally.

6 Admin Coordinator's Report.

- a) Admin Assistant – There were no replies to the bulk email asking for volunteers.
- b) Club Sponsorship- Nothing more to report this month.
- c) Bowlr- In a change of strategy from that discussed at the last meeting it was decided to engage with Bowlr to discuss their new options. A MS Teams meeting was held on Friday 26th April. The Availability Module was demonstrated as well as the Competitions Module. Committee members at the meeting felt that, for the competitions module to be useful, it needed purchasing before May 1st. So, we have gone ahead and purchased the gold package which includes both the competitions and availability modules. At £70 per year this will work out cheaper in the short-term than buying the availability package as a standalone purchase.
- d) **Club Trustees-** The paperwork still needs signing.
- e) **Webmaster (Jay Merrell)-** Much engagement regarding Bowlr (see above).
- f) **Publicity Officer (Martin Speakman)- NTR**
- g) **Membership Secretary (Lynda Manning)-** Membership renewal was due yesterday, so saw Phil last night and collected the remainder of any Forms from his box.

The position is as follows;

Full Members	99
Outdoor Members	13

The total of 112 compares with a total of 136 when the September SBA form was submitted (not including Life Members)

- h) **Welfare Officer (Steve Lovell)**- Messages of sympathy have been passed to the family of Norman Snell.
- i) **Safeguarding Officer (Henry Richbell)- NTR**

7 Bowls Coordinator's Report

Subgroup members report the following month's activities.

Men's Captain (Eddie Dilley)- No report.

Ladies' Captain (Brenda Wilson)- Successful, if cold, Ladies Practice session held on Saturday 27 April attended by 20 members. Played 10 ends of Australian Pairs followed by a welcome hot drink, biscuits, and a chat.

Friendlies Captain (Ian Hollingsworth)- Friendly season going well with ongoing excellent support for availability. 4 matches played so far, 2 won, 2 lost and all played with a good atmosphere.

Indoor Secretary (Janet Moore)- Nothing to report.

Fixtures Secretary (Vacant)- Despite advertising the vacant position, we have not, so far, had anyone interested in filling this critical position. Can members please consider whether they are able to help. Support will be provided to familiarise the new postholder.

Competitions Secretary (Janet Moore)- Closing date for entries was 1 May. All competitions, except Ladies 2 Wood, have enough to proceed (minimum of 12). Members were emailed to encourage final numbers, especially ladies to partner several experienced men who do not have partners for the Amy Stanton (mixed handicapped pairs) .

Bowls Coordinator Graham Brown-

- a) The notice boards have been reorganised for this season. Ladies and Men's League team sheets will be posted in their respective changing rooms. Mixed (East of Exe) and WSLB Open Leagues will have single team sheets posted on the corridor notice board.
- b) An initial trial of emailing men's league teams selected has received positive feedback from many of those involved. This will not replace the manual system, which will continue to run in parallel, and members are still required to tick the notice board copy to reaffirm availability.

Coaches

- a) Several new bowlers are currently undergoing coaching. This is a trend which has continued throughout the winter and our coaches are to be congratulated on their support and high level of conversion to paid up members.
- b) The Wednesday morning sessions for last year's intake of new bowlers is going well.

Selection (Graham Brown)-

- a) Selectors are continuing to meet on a weekly basis. Availability for most leagues is encouraging, but more players are needed for the Saturday Somerset League teams, when we need to field A and B teams, each with 3 rinks (24 players) to cover unavailability from time to time. This is a good opportunity for some of our newer bowlers to experience competitive bowling in a supported environment.
- b) Providing sufficient players are available for the league teams it is the intention to select and notify teams a week before each match.

8 Asset Coordinator's Report- Alan Moore

Not too much to report this Month.

- a) The Security Alarm, Fire Alarms and Smoke Detectors were checked by Abel Alarms on the 23rd April, and all are in working order.
- b) There has also been some painting on the outside of the Indoor Rink by Ernie Windsor. I hope to get more people involved next week weather permitting.

9 Functions Coordinator's Report- Steve Lovell

- a) Opening of the green went very well lots of food from members who brought to the bring and share, Madge (Pearly Queen) enjoyed her day with us after opening the green, the spider was won by Alan Moore.
- b) Getting a few negative vibes regarding food prices people think because we are a club we can do things cheaper, unfortunately we still must pay the same price as anyone outside.
- c) Dishwasher it has been suggested we purchase a 16-place domestic one which the kitchen ladies have said would be ok, cost between £500 / £1000. But unsure how Derrek has got on acquiring

parts.

- d) We have purchased a purple allergen chopping board also a purple probe for allergen food stuffs, these are required by law, also a new rack for all the boards to sit in.
- e) We have also introduced a new book in the kitchen which should be signed and dated daily when members have been in the kitchen to do teas. I will send an email out to all members as this has to be done each time the kitchen is used.
- f) Everyone has now paid their deposits for 9th September to go to Torquay for outside bowling at different Venues
- g) Angie and Marg are already for the May Day celebrations at the park with a Tombola, Paul has his crew showing people how to play bowls and try to promote for new members. Unfortunately, quite a few of us are playing at Taunton Deane so cannot make it to the May day.
- h) Not many functions at the moment just a Quiz on the 9th June this has been done by Chris Williams but I shall be presenting it.
 - i) I have paid all the monies over to the guide dog for the blind so just over £600 there is a card with receipts on the social board in the corridor, she offered us a large dog to go beside the bar which I excepted so any wrong bias this year it is a pound in the dog.

10 Greenkeeper's Report (Paul Kelly)-

- a) The greenkeeping team would like to register their thanks to members for taking care of the green while it was soft during April.
- b) Delivery of the verticutter is expected soon.

11 Matters requiring attention March/April

- a) Nil

12 Any Other Business

- a) Cost of teas, in particular tea and biscuits which several members have queried. What margin do we achieve on meals as it is felt that current costs are dissuading members from signing up for as many matches as they would like- The Executive discussed this issue and agreed it was to remain delegated to the Functions coordinator. It was felt that it might be worth explaining to members that the cost of home teas includes paying for their opposite number from the opposition.
- b) Disability bowlers. Apparently, we had a partially sighted bowler in a visiting team recently and there were no strings available to facilitate his play. If the club does not possess some, can we purchase some and review the need for something like a Drakes Pride bowling arm, which we apparently had but has gone missing. We have now found some string. We decided not to proceed with the purchase of a bowler arm.
- c) Now that selectors are moving to a more digital approach for notifying members of play dates it would be advantageous to upgrade the current rather dated laptop and printer. It has not proved possible to link the Chromebook to a printer or find a standalone printer which is compatible for the Chromebook. We are grateful to new social member, Anthony Waite, who has donated an old laptop and printer. It was agreed the club would purchase a new laptop and printer if this one does not prove satisfactory.
- d) Club policy on children in the clubhouse and around the green- A policy will be drafted for the rules and constitution to be voted on at the next AGM stating it is not acceptable for parents to leave young children in the clubhouse while they play on the green.
- e) Dishwasher- A new commercial dishwasher has been ordered. Derrick and Steve are organising this.
- f) Indoor Honours Board- An indoor honours board will be introduced during the autumn when the outdoor honours board is updated with the 2024 winners.
- g) Grants- A decision on the Persimmon Homes grant application for £1000 is still pending.
- h) Club Sponsorship- Anything else beyond admin coordinator's report- Wilkie May & Tuckwood Estate Agents have been approached to see if they would like to partner us.
- i) Club Open Day 26th May plans- Graham, Paul and the coaches will be meeting potential new members on the green. Steve and Alan are organising refreshments in the clubhouse. Jay will be publicising the event on social media.
- j) Win and Ann did the first tea duty of the season all went well - mixed biscuit selection very good.
- k) From Ann- For 2025 could we please keep in mind Win Courtney to open the green. This will be considered in conjunction with the next President.
- l) Several members have mentioned to Paul that they would like to see more Bingo nights during the summer. Paul to discuss with Steve.

m) The next Q&A session will be on Tuesday June 25th at 7pm.

14 Membership applications- Nil

15 Reserved Business

- a) Treasurer's Report- A summary is published in the website members area.
- b) Safeguarding – Safeguarding Officer- Nil
- c) Confidential matters- Nil

16 Date of Next Executive Meeting Friday 14th June 2024