

Exeter & District Over 60's Triples Bowling League

Minutes of a Management Committee meeting held at Ottery St Mary Bowling Club
At 2.30pm on Wednesday 6th October 2021

1. Opening by the Secretary

In view of the death of our President/Chairman earlier this year, Tony Broughton; secretary; took the chair and opened the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

2. Thanks

Tony offered thanks to the members of Ottery Bowling Club for the use of their club house and for setting everything up so well.

3. In Memory

Tony asked those present to stand for a minutes silence and thought for the loss of our President & Chairman; Ken Bastin and for long serving member of the Management; Committee Sam Sherwood of Morchard Bishop and Honiton.

4. Apologies

David Harris (Axminster); Lloyd Daniels (Tiverton Borough); John Heppell (Belmont); Tony Tooley (Honiton); John Elliott (Chagford; Guests; Roger Wooland (Seaton); David Mansell; (Madeira).

5. Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on the 11th March 2020 having been circulated in March 2020 were accepted as a true record was signed by the Secretary.

6. Matters Arising

There was a question of a reserve bank balance this will be discussed in the treasurer's report.

7. Reports

7.1 Secretary

7.1.1 Tony reported that due to the most extraordinary last 18 months the main item of work for him had been the setting up of the new website; hosted by WIX; and with the help of the other 2 executive members deciding on what course of action to take regarding play from day to day.

Maurice and I have now become joint managers of the site and so far I believe the response has proved very positive.

The cost for setting up the site was £32.40 for the domain name (Exeterbowls.com) and £151.20 to take the site live. Both these costs are for a three year period.

7.2 Fixtures Secretary

7.2.1 Last Year (2020) was straightforward with Lockdown forced upon us there was no other choice but to cancel the whole season.

This year (2021) was a little more challenging; constant monitoring of the Covid situation eventually bringing the executive committee to a decision that we would play just the second half of the season.

It was decided that matches could be and were cancelled without the normal repercussions of affecting other teams.

A total of 25 Matches were not played after cancellation.

Hopefully next year (2022) will be more straightforward and we can get back to normal play.

7.2.2 Match Results Form (Internet)

The new form was only made possible when Tony chose the new website provider and installed this form of returning match scores.

After a few modifications by me we now have a simple, easy way to submit scores within minutes of the match finishing.

First response from the members is very good and a proposal has been made by the executive committee that this, online form become the standard way to submit results in the future.

This proposal was discussed and accepted by the members.

However; I am looking to make three changes for next year:

- a) Remove Home Captain's Name title and replace with Name & Telephone Number of person completing the form.
- b) Put a small free-format notes box at the bottom of the form.
- c) I've been asked to put match points scores on the form. I don't need it; but it may be of interest to some people when completing the form.
- d) Also a space to state if a match is cancelled or postponed and re-arranged.

7.2.3 Weekly Match Results Chart

This year we have posted a weekly Match Results Card to the website.

I generate this automatically when doing the League Tables and thought it would be of interest to members and could be used as a check of result by those interested.

7.2.4 2022 Fixtures

Currently we're planning for a full normal season for 2022; although I've got a few days away coming up, I'll try and get the fixtures published by the end of October

As in previous years, please let me know if you have any particular requests for the fixtures and I'll try and accommodate them – no firm promises though!

Hopefully there will be no teams drop out of the league before the start of the 2022 season. As long as that stays the same Division 8 will have seven teams giving 14 full matches as opposed to the 18 the other divisions have.

7.2.5 Last thing

- a) Thanks for your patience, support and for bearing with us during the challenging two years that we've just experienced.
- b) Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any queries over the fixtures, matches and results etc. My email and Telephone Number is on the front page of the website
- c) Here's to a full and successful 2022!

7.3 Treasurers Report

7.3.1 John presented his end of season Accounts Sheet which showed a final Bank balance of £2,605.50

There were still a couple of small outstanding expenditures which including payment for the use of the Ottery Bowling Club.

7.3.2 There ensued a great deal of discussion regarding a proposal from Richard Whitworth of Seaton made in March 2020 as to whether the League should have a reserve fund in their account under which we would try not to fall.

Then after expenses had been taken each year the resulting balance would dictate the entry fees for the following year; a decision to be ratified at the AGM.

Three proposals were put forward.

- 1) We fix the reserve at £1500 today.
- 2) Based on the balance we now have; take 2 years free from fees.
- 3) Have 1 Year free and discuss further at our next meeting in March. Giving the treasurer time to come up with more precise figures

The meeting accepted number 3 to be ratified at the following meeting.

8. On Line Scorecard

A proposal to make the online results card the only accepted means of reporting the match results was accepted by all members.

9. What constituted a complete season

Maurice put forward that following on from the last 18 months we had just gone through, did we think we should put a clause in our rules stating what constitutes a completed season.

His original start point was 14 completed rounds.

After a great deal of discussion a proposal was put forward based on what has happened over the last year; that is that the executive committee have managed very well the situation thrust upon them and if a situation arose when for whatever reason the season was curtailed the executive committee would make the decision if the season was completed or not and what would occur regarding any promotions and demotions.

The meeting agreed that this seemed fair and this would mean an inclusion in the Rules to cover such conditions.

Tony to write up for approval at the next meeting.

10. 2022 Promotions for Division 6 & 7

Maurice stated that as long as there were no more teams leaving the league he was proposing to make up Division 6 by promoting one from 7 and Division 7 by taking one from Division 8.

The meeting accepted this proposal.

11. Future Payments of an entry fees

John put forward that in future payment of all entry fees be made by BAC (Online Banking)

In as much there will be no payments required until March 2023 the secretary agreed to issue all the bank details required in good time for that date.

12. Engraving and return of trophies

The trophies were engraved for the winners of the 2019 season and handed out at the 2020 March meeting.

It was proposed that because there was no play in 2020 and only half a season in 2021 there be no promotions or demotions and no engraving so the clubs currently holding them do so until the 2022 October AGM.

The secretary is to ensure a positive request for their return goes out at that time.

13. Possible returns of Covid restrictions

Not discussed.

14. Applications to join the League

14.1 The secretary reported that there had been four applications for additional teams into the league; Tiverton Park; Tiverton Borough; Wellington and Seaton, as required by our Rules; all four were accepted.

15. Any other business

15.1 Alan Thomas (Pinces Garden) raised the problem of parking at Madeira.

Mainly; the lack of club parking; the difficulty of finding public parking during the busy summer months and the cost when found.

David Mansell (Madeira), apologised for the lack of parking and sympathised with the cost problems.

He explained that this was also a great problem for the Madeira members who are forced to pay £50 each for parking, and the short answer is that they can do nothing about this.

He suggested that when players are coming to Madeira they are advised to arrive early to try to find free parking or a place in the local pay parking.

The secretary and fixture secretary will arrange that a warning to this affect goes out to all members next year.

16. Next Meeting

Wednesday 9th March 2022 starting at 2.00pm or 2.30pm. Venue not yet decided

17. Closing the meeting

Be no further business the chairman closed the meeting at 3.50pm.

Signed: _____ *Chairman.*

Date: _____