

SOMERSET BOWLS ASSOCIATION THIRTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at Prattens Social Club on Saturday 12th November 2022 at 10.30am

MINUTES

Present: 52 delegates representing 52 clubs
36 officers and life members with voting rights

1. Appointment of Scrutineers

Celia Soby (Fosseway) and Martin Patterson (Ashcombe Park) were appointed as scrutineers.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Alan Birch (Match Secretary), Sue Tassell (Incoming JVP).

Past Presidents: Joan Rixson, Lois Greeves, Shirley Nicholls, Dawn Barnaby, Sue Cooper, Paul Davies, David Wederell.

Life Members: Barbara Vowells.

Other Officers: Mike Scaggs.

The following Clubs: Banwell, Castle Cary, Chard, Clevedon Prom (Ladies), Mark Moor, Merriott, Minehead, North Petherton, Queen Camel, St Andrews WSM, Shepton Mallet, Street, Victoria Park Bridgwater.

3. In Memoriam

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

Alexandra: Sally Pestel, Ken Mitchell. Ashcombe Park: George Finnegan, John Hornet, Mary Snell. Bath: Derek Baker, John Stewart, Valarie Tanser, Malcolm Trotman. Bloomfield: Les Pring, Grahame Starr, John Wilton. Bridgwater: Frank Gregory, Gerry Gridley. City of Wells: Ben Barrett, John Green, Patricia Jones. Clarence: Pauline Burrough, Maurice Phillips, Christopher Read, David Thompson. Clevedon Promenade (Ladies): Sheana Walker. Clevedon Promenade (Men): Keith Watts, Bernard Carpenter, Arthur Coombes, Ray Elwin. Congresbury: John Freemantle. Crewkerne: Ron Cannons, Ray Drayton, Bruce Murdock, Kath Williams. Fosseway: Keith Ball, Sue Meadows. Frome Park: Leon Hanning, Hilda Lee. Frys: Hilary Greest, Charlie Marsh. Glastonbury (Wyrral Park): Peral Dyer, Nadine Goodman. Ilminster: David Pugh. Long Ashton: John Eaton. Mark Moor: John Coleman, Christopher Major. Nailsea (Men): Jim Reed, Graham White, Roy MacLaren, Peter Miller, Neil Edwards, John Nash. North Petherton: Gwyneth Phillip, Marlene Biddiscombe. Norwest: Bob Frampton, Jim Gouldie, Dennis Hancock. Paulton: Colin Curtis. Portishead (Men): Ron Piper, John Haberfield. Portishead RBL (Men): Derek Vowles, Charlie Marshall. Purnell: Diana Crouch. Severn Vale: Ken Holly, John Potter. Somerton and District: Tony Dyos, Valerie Martin, Molly Garland. Weston St Andrews: Mike Stoker. Victoria: Stanley Tynne. West Backwell: David Jones, Richard Lewis, Roy Stevens, Maurice Naylor, Jerry Ashmore. Weston Bath: Mike Gill, Eric Kelson. Winscombe: Colin Westlake. And for any others we had not been advised of.

4. Minutes

Minutes of the Twelfth Annual General Meeting, 13th November 2021:

The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record of that meeting. Proposed by Peter Mottram (South Petherton) and seconded by Barrie Davis (Keynsham).

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:

Chairman

There were no questions, but Carolle Skeates took the opportunity to publicly congratulate John Durston on receiving Life Membership of Bowls England.

General Secretary

There were no questions.

Treasurer

There were no questions.

Championship/Competition Secretary

There were no questions.

Performance Manager

Whilst there were initially no questions, Edna Bessell (MBE) appeal to all next season's performance squad members for more commitment, respect, support and passion. Particularly the juniors. This prompted a brief discussion about a growing apathy within society, not just bowls.

On a more positive note she congratulated all our successes at Leamington plus Somerset's contribution to the European Championships: Stef Branfield winning Gold in the Singles and Pairs plus the Team Gold. Laura Holden winning Silver in the Triples and Bronze in the Fours plus the Team Gold.

Stef couldn't be with us today as she was in New Zealand preparing for the World Champion of Champions. The floor wished her every success.

League Secretary

There was an impassioned plea from David Nicholls (Isle of Wedmore) regarding the declining lack of hospitality (food) by some Clubs after League games. He asked the League Secretary to take some action, but the Board felt the rules adequately covered the situation (5.f: Catering arrangements are to be agreed between the clubs before the day of the fixture.) and the matter should be sorted between individual Clubs.

Paul Chilvers (Bath) asked if late results and the results of postponed games could be circulated to Clubs. Also, could consideration be given to Leagues being on a Home & Away basis. Both matters are with our new League Secretary.

Merchandising Manager

There were no questions.

Match Secretary

With Alan Birch in Spain our Ladies Match Secretary, Jill Price took the stage.

She voiced a growing concern regarding the cost and length of travel to some of our far-flung opponents. Regular coach hire would place a severe financial burden on our affiliation fees unless funding could be found from elsewhere – sponsorship?

All clubs were asked to discuss with their members and bring thoughts/suggestions to the Spring Communication Meeting.

Member Without Portfolio

There were no questions and Ken said 'thank you and farewell' as he would be handing over the reins to Bob Dickie in a few minutes time.

County Coach

Whilst it is noted that we now have two Level 1 courses based at Ilminster in Somerset, Tony Martin (Glastonbury Wyrral Park) voiced a view that the Coach Bowls website gives insufficient detail about the course content to allow interested candidates to make an informed decision. He highlighted 1st 4Sport who provide a 16 page PDF document fully explaining what is involved in gaining a Level 1 coaching qualification.

Report from the Council

There were no questions, but Mike Groves highlighted the benefit and impact of the Council. The recently booked coaching courses and a more central venue for future meeting were both as a result of

the Council and Board working together. The vacant post of Council Member for Region 8 (Weston-super-Mare) was advertised.

Report from the Patrons

Barrie Davis thanked David & Trudy Bishop for their help with the Patrons this summer. Also for the generous donations of bottles to the Patrons' raffle at the Presentation Luncheon.

Report from the Benevolent Fund

John Durston hadn't circulated a report as 'there was nothing to report'. He emphasised again that they have money to help with genuine applications.

7. Adoption of the Accounts

Proposed by Richard Doughty (Chew Stoke) and seconded by Barrie Davis (Keynsham). Carried.

8. Presentation of Presidential Officers

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| • Two Immediate Past Presidents | Carolle Skeates (City of Wells)
Barrie Dando (Prattens) |
| • Presidents for 2023 | Sandra Every (Williton) |
| • | Richard Soper (Clevedon Promenade Men) |
| • Senior Vice Presidents | Sandra Graham (Ilminster)
Dave Harding (Clevedon) |
| • Election of Junior Vice Presidents | Sue Tassell (Portishead Ladies)
Proposed by Portishead Ladies
Seconded by Portishead RBL Ladies |

Before our two new Board Members were elected, Chairman Carolle Skeates thanked the retiring David Bendall and Ken Leamon for their services over many years, There was a rousing ovation from the floor.

9. Election of Executive Officers

Board Members:

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| • General Secretary: | Ross Turnbull (Bloomfield) |
| • Treasurer: | Andrew Chappell (Bath Mens) |
| • Championship/Competition Secretary: | Charmian Pearce (Clevedon) |
| • County Coach: | Peter Bissett (Clevedon Promenade Mens) |
| • Development Manager: | Vacant |
| • League Secretary: | Richard Doughty (Chew Stoke) |
| • Merchandising Manager: | Peter Bissett (Clevedon Promenade Mens) |
| • Match Secretary: | Alan Birch (Isle of Wedmore) |
| • Member Without Portfolio: | Bob Dickie (Ilminster) |
| • Performance Manager: | Edna Bessell MBE (Yeovil) |

The Performance Manager has completed 5 years in office and the AGM was asked to allow her to continue for a further term.

Proposed en-bloc by Ian Wilson (West Backwell) and seconded by Paul Chilvers (Bath). Carried.

10. Election of Other Officers

Middleton Cup Selectors:

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| • Regions 1-4 | Pip Branfield (Clevedon) |
| Proposed by Clevedon and seconded by Bristol | |
| • Regions 5-8 | Vacant |

John's Trophy Selectors:

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| • 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 Victoria Park Bridgwater | |

Mens General Selectors:

- Regions 1 & 3
Proposed by Prattens and seconded by Purnell Barrie Dando (Prattens)
- Regions 2 & 4
Proposed by Portishead RBL Men and seconded by Yatton Lionel Slatter (Portishead RBL Men)
- Regions 5 & 6
Proposed by City of Wells and seconded by South Petherton David Bishop (City of Wells)
- Regions 7 & 8
Proposed by Burnham-on-Sea and seconded by Victoria Park Bridgwater Don Bridges (Burnham-on-Sea)

Ladies General Selectors:

- Regions 1 & 3
Proposed by Purnell and seconded by Prattens Ailsa Midwinter (Purnell)
- Regions 2 & 4
Proposed by Portishead Ladies and seconded by Portishead RBL Ladies Sue Tassell (Portishead Ladies)
- Regions 5 & 6
Proposed by City of Wells and seconded by South Petherton Carolle Skeates (City of Wells)
- Regions 7 & 8
Proposed by Isle of Wedmore and seconded by Bridgwater Shirley Wederell (Isle of Wedmore)

Members of Council:

- Region 1
Proposed by Alexandra and seconded by Bloomfield Danny Kite (Alexandra)
- Region 2
Proposed by Knowle and seconded by Imperial Mary Northcott (Knowle)
- Region 3
Proposed by Fosseway and seconded by Chew Stoke Celia Soby (Fosseway)
- Region 4
Proposed by West Backwell and seconded by Congresbury Ian Wilson (West Backwell)
- Region 5
Proposed by Wellington and seconded by Taunton Mike Groves (Wellington)
- Region 6
Proposed by Yeovil and seconded by Westlands Sports Derek Whitlock (Yeovil)
- Region 7
Proposed by Bridgwater and seconded by Victoria Park Bridgwater Jill Price (Bridgwater)
- Region 8
Vacant

Patrons Association:

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

Proposed en-bloc by David Bendall (Keynsham) and seconded by Celia Whitmarsh (Chew Stoke).
Carried.

11. Motion from Knowle BC and Seconded by Imperial BC:

That affiliated ladies be allowed to play in the lowest divisions, i.e., East 2, North 3 & South-West 2 leagues, if affiliated men in that club, are not available.
There was a vote and the motion carried.

12. Motion from the Board:

Frys and Keynsham be moved from East Region to Bath Region.
Region 1, Bath – Alexandra, Bath, Bloomfield, Stothert & Pitt, Victoria Park (Bath), Weston (Bath).
Region 3, East – Chew Stoke, Fosseway, Frome Park, Frome Selwood, Fry's, Keynsham, Norwest, Paulton, Prattens, Purnell.
There was a vote and the motion carried.

13. Appointment of Account Examiners

- Main Accounts TC Group of Accountants of Keynsham
Proposed by the Board and Seconded by Don Bridges (Burnham on Sea). Carried.
- Patrons Accounts Read and Co of Martock.
Proposed by the Board and Seconded by Bob Edge (Keynsham). Carried.

The meeting closed at 12.04pm

DRAFT