

**GOSPORT BOWLING CLUB**  
**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**1000 – 7<sup>th</sup> December – 2024**

**1. The Chairperson opened the Meeting** and hands over to the president for his welcome and asked the assembled members to observe a minutes

silence to remember those members who we had sadly lost over the last year.

The minutes silence was honoured and respected by all present.

**2. Attendance/Apologies**

The Club Secretary (Mandy Wilde) advised that the 2024 Summer Membership numbers were:

Total Membership entitled to vote at AGM = 118

Quorum required = 25% of members entitled to vote = 30

Numbers attending = 54

Apologies = 13

With the required number for a quorum present the AGM has the authorisation to proceed, this is in accordance with the constitution. See attached sheets of attendees.

**3. Acceptance of the Minutes of 2023 AGM**

The Club Secretary proposed acceptance of the 2023 AGM Minutes.

NB- Minutes were correct at the time of printing, however 2 positions have subsequently changed, that of Assistant treasurer and Catering manager

Proposer – Chris Hall

Seconder – Tom Start

**Those present voted unanimously in favour of the proposal.**

**4. Matters arising**

No matters arising

**5. Presidents Report (Barry Sykes)**

NTR – sent in apologies

**6. Secretary's Report**

It's been a busy year to say the least, we closed the books on Summer with 118 members and Winter currently sits at 149 members a growth in both season year on year.

I dread to count the sent items in my outbox, but it's a big number.

I would like to thank my fellow man com colleagues for their support with their high level of involvement in driving the club forward. I would also like to thank the members who have helped throughout the year never underestimate how helping in a small way can make a difference.

G&F, there is a plea from the G&F to encourage more to enter competitions, so please when you see these sheets displayed, please support our local association and enter if you have time, the revenue from these comps means if supported fully then they can continue to offer the runners up trophies and not just the winners, something I am grateful for after losing in the final. Competition fees will remain at £2.50, however the league teams fees have increased from £20 per team to £22.

P&D, the ladies comps are displayed in the changing rooms so please complete these asap. The men's P&D are always shared a little later in the season. (don't worry I have not forgotten you)

BH will be introducing an Online portal for Affiliation fees and county competitions so this will be a new way of working as of Feb 2024 and with anything new processes require bedding in, and we will encounter teething problems. It does mean that you will require an individual logon, especially those who enter county competitions and friendlies as this is how you will submit your scores from 2024, as my role as Year Book secretary for BH, I am 1 of 3 county members who will have full access to the portal, so if the need arises I will be here to support you all with your individual requirements. I have seen the demo and I think it's relatively easy.....

Affiliation fees to BE have increased to £7.10, these have maintained for BH, but they will increase next year. County comps have increased to £5 pppc

County comps deadline is end January, so please ensure you complete these entry forms as soon as possible, no later than 15<sup>th</sup> January.

Next year is going to be one to remember and to ensure all of you are fully in the loop of what's happening and when, I will ensure that the font size used in the club handbook is large enough for us all to read and phone numbers will be legible! That's a promise!!!!

I would like to close by wishing you all a Happy Christmas and thanks you one more time for your invaluable support over the year.

## **7.Treasurer's Report (Graham Olden)**

I am sure that you will all be pleased to know that my report this year will be short and sweet. In summary, 2024 was a good year in respect of our club's finances. As you will see there was an increase in all our main income streams, due undoubtedly to our increasing levels of membership and their support for both our bowling and social activities. Yes, expenditure also increased this year as you would probably have expected, but it remained under control and did not present the club with any financial difficulties. Overall, the net worth of the club increased by a little over £3,150 to a total of £40,226. This does not include of course an additional £55,673 reserved in club accounts towards future replacement of the AWG carpet.

This year Debbie Batten and Kim Martin volunteered their services as club examiners, and I would like to thank them for performing a very detailed and professional review of the accounts I am presenting to you this morning. About the only check they did not do was to turn me upside down to ensure that I was not concealing any club loose change in my pockets. Thank you, Debbie and Kim, for a job very well done.

At last year's AGM I warned members that the club may be liable for corporation tax, based on the interest received from our business bond and bank accounts. This year I can confirm that after extensive communications with HMRC the club is now fully compliant with its tax returns

and fully paid up until 31st October last year. The 2014 tax return is not due until July of next year.

As most of you will know by now, the club has applied to HMRC to be registered as a Community Amateur Sports Club, or CASC for short, the main benefit of which will be to exempt the club from future corporation tax liabilities. Following the club's special general meeting on the 25th of October, and at the request of HMRC, I sent them a copy of the club's updated constitution hoping that I would receive their final decision on our CASC application in time for this meeting. Sadly, approx. 6 weeks later, and as confirmed by telephone earlier this week, it has not yet progressed beyond an in-basket!

Finally, I trust that these accounts will meet with your approval. Please remember that should you ever have any questions or concerns about the club's finances I would be happy to discuss them with you.

Thank you for your attention and a happy Christmas to one and all.

### **8. Mens Captain's Report (Jim Oswell)**

As we come to the close of 2024 we can reflect on another successful and enjoyable bowling. The year is different now as with the ongoing success of the lower green the winter season continues seamlessly where the summer finishes.

The Summer season P&D and G&F leagues in the most part was kind to Gosport with the following final positions being attained

#### **P&D**

Combination finishing 3rd in Div 3 winning 11 out of 18 games

MWT Gosport Red 2nd Winning 8 out of 12 games

I have kept the First team to last as is the way we like to keep the suspense going to the end and took it to the second leg of the play offs to retain Div 2 status winning over Star & Crescent by 5 shots (we await the P&D AGM to see if the structure of the league will change)

Well done to all the captains of the teams who despite weather and player availability fulfilled all league requirements.

#### **G&F**

A really good year for Gosport overall

Gosport Blue coming top of Div 1

Gosport White promoted to Div 1

Gosport Silver Promoted to Div 3

Unfortunately, Gosport Amber were relegated to Div 4 this I am sure only being for one season and they will bounce back

Once more well done to all the captains

## **Friendlies**

The number of friendlies throughout the year was well supported and once again nothing but good comments were received from the visitors even managing to convert Mayfield to playing on artificial. We also renewed our friendship with Arundel who are keen to come to us next year. Banister Park took place and again it would be nice to get this back as a regular home/away as it had suffered for a number of years of being cancelled. Unfortunately, a number of games were cancelled due to weather or lack of numbers (not from our side)

Notably the game against Old Green having had the pleasure of bowling against them both home and away I hope this game can be rekindled in the future. Well done and thanks to the players for all the above but also great thanks to those members who supported in the kitchen and behind the bar and all who made all visitors welcome here. The winter season brings its own friendlies and gain have been well supported but unfortunately, we could not end the year with a win against Portchester

Opens were well supported both Summer and winter and another planned for the spring next year. Again thanks to the organisers and supporters.

The Big winter news so far is the return of the Dales Cup to Gosport.

Well done to all Bowlers for their efforts in all games be it team, individual, internal external you all help to make Gosport Bowling Club the best club on the peninsula next year is my 38th year in the club so I might stay now.

As we look forward to 2025 we have a full year it's our Centenary and with that are a number of games against E.B.A ,Bowls Hampshire, Men and Ladies P&D games and a game against The Friends of bowls. In addition to 7 friendlies' as well as the leagues and other Club commitments we are hosting a Hampshire County game.

Can I take this opportunity to thank the rest of the Man Com for their continued commitment to the behind the scenes work that keeps the club running. To Bob and his Bar staff and all the catering teams. Also, all those who help with table moving cleaning and a hundred and one other things that keep the club to the standard it is.

I understand Richard Frazer is stepping down from running the Sunday Morning triples can I take this opportunity to thank him for all his efforts of that front but hope I can count on him to keep the Curry coming for RN v RM

Finally, if I have missed anyone I apologies but always remember what makes Gosport Bowling Club the place it is, is the members so thank you all and Happy Christmas

## **9. Ladies Captain Report (Carol De Neuville)**

The ladies team has had a very successful season coming within one point of promotion to the next league. I have always maintained that a happy team is a successful team and this, generally, has been the case with the ladies. Obviously, we have had one or two upsets, any group of people cannot hope to get on with everyone all the time. We had many successes in competitions generally and five of us gained our county badge. A great achievement.

My grateful thanks go to my vice-captain, Sue, and to everyone who has given me help throughout the season especially notifying results and indeed buying nice and different choccy biscuits, and being available for matches when selected. I feel a mention of our team member, Janet, here is a must. She will be sadly missed, especially as a good and successful lead.

It has been difficult at times to select a team. Whilst I was in the enviable position of having more than ten people to include, I didn't have enough players for two teams. I did my best to include my new ladies, and I hope they feel they had a "fair crack of the whip" so to speak. I do hope the new Captain will have sufficient players to for a second team.

Good support is an important part of a captain's role, and I hope my ladies felt they had my support as and when needed. However, I feel it is important to say than an occasion arose where I did not have the support that I felt should have been forthcoming. It is perhaps worth mentioning that the previous ladies captain, (Chris Goodchild) had much the same experience and both she and I feel quite aggrieved that this should have happened. An unfortunate result from Chris's experience was that she could no longer play for Gosport and consequently left the club. I sincerely hope that the new ladies captain will not have the same experience.

I feel it is important to end my report on a positive note. Generally speaking, all my ladies were great during the season, we got on well and helped each other with support both mentally and physically. Having had previous experience with the A league it appeared that some ladies did not really want to go up again. It was rather surreal, however, that before our last match it was mentioned to me that if we could win on one rink and lose on the other, we would not have to go up to the next league. This was precisely what happened (much to my disappointment) though it was then put to me by some ladies that it would have been rather nice to get promotion. Oh well, you can't win them all!!

I wish you all a happy Christmas and New Year. Thankyou.

## **10. Safeguarding Officers Report (Andrew Sherwen)**

It is good to see that safeguarding has finally moved forward at a pace within our area, at a meeting a month ago with the P&D Safeguarding Officer Paul Todd he was able to report that there was only one club in the P&D league that has not yet appointed an Officer. It has been noted that Gosport Club was well ahead of the game on this important issue and has been able to provide constructive advice to others. Just as a reminder we are now only four months away from having a trained Safeguarding Officer becomes a mandatory condition of affiliation to Bowls England.

At our G&F AGM which I attended last weekend Safeguarding issues formed a significant part of the discussion that took place. Whilst Issues have been raised within our club as potential Safeguarding over the past year, some did need very careful consideration, but none required any action under the Safeguarding Regulations. Having said that, I am happy to receive 20 potential Safeguarding reports which end up being dealt with as non-safeguarding issues, rather than receive nothing and

have that one issue which does fall under Safeguarding slip through the net. So many thanks to individuals who do feel that they were able to raise concerns. If anyone feels that they would like to discuss safeguarding or simply wishes to have more information, please feel free to contact me any time.

### **11. Social Secretary's Report (Jason Wilde)**

As the year ends, it's wonderful to reflect on the social events we've successfully run. These gatherings have played a vital role in keeping our members engaged and active, both during the summer and throughout the winter season.

We were delighted to see the return of Tai Chi for the winter season. It's been fantastic to have this activity back, providing a great opportunity for members to stay active during the colder months.

We also celebrated our second year of the Cribbage league, which has been a resounding success. A huge thank you goes to Carol Turner, Ged Evans, and all the players for making this happen.

Our quizzes have been well attended, thanks to the hard work and creativity of our quiz masters. These events are no small task to organise, and we deeply appreciate the effort that goes into making them so enjoyable.

Special thanks to Pete, who stepped up to run Whist afternoons on Mondays, and for his supporting role in bingo, along with the star Bingo caller Richard and not forgetting Paul on bar.

These regular activities are so important for our members, offering them a chance to socialise, stay active, and feel connected.

A huge thank you also goes to the new members who have stepped forward to support our social events—you've brought fresh energy and ideas, and we're thrilled to have you on board.

As we look ahead, we're excited for the upcoming Christmas Draw. Tickets are still on sale, and we look forward to this festive celebration. Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

### **12. Maintenance Managers Report (Paul Tansley)**

Over the year we have managed to complete the redecoration of the club with the help of a few members. The cost was minimal due to the fact that the paint was donated by Dulux.

Andrew has constructed the new bowls bag rack in the gents changing room.

Thanks again for The All-Weather maintenance teams we managed to recruit new members during the year.

Dales carried out maintenance work on the AWG they were impressed with the condition of the green which was a credit to the maintenance team's hard work

I would like to say thank you to the ladies who have taken over the cleaning of the ladies' toilets and changing room. We still need some volunteer for the gent's toilets and changing room and general cleaning of the club.

The club central heating boiler is now 20 years old so in the new year it is proposed to get quotes for a more efficient boilers to supply heating and hot water.

### **13. Proposals**

#### **a. Membership fees (Graham Olden)**

Graham proposed that the Full members fee for 2025 would remain at £87.50, Associate members fee would remain at £14 and proposed that the Junior fee remain at £10 to cover affiliation fees. Winter membership unchanged GBC £39

Seconder Jason Wilde

**Those present voted unanimously in favour of the proposal.**

#### **b. HLM proposal (TS)**

Tom proposed Paul Tansley to be awarded HLM for his continued commitment to GBC

Seconder Bob Hart

**Those present voted unanimously in favour of the proposal.**

#### **c. Election of Officers - Club Secretary**

The following officers were duly elected for 2025

PRESIDENT JIM OSWELL

VICE PRESIDENT SUE HILLARY

CHAIRPERSON SUE HILLARY

SECRETARY MANDY WILDE

TREASURER GRAHAM OLDEN

ASSISTANT TREASURER DEBBIE BATTEN

BAR MANAGER BOB HART

ASSISTANT BAR MANAGER DERAL PUTT

CATERING MANAGER JASON WILDE

MAINTENANCE MANAGER PAUL TANSLEY

FIXTURES SECRETARY ANDREW SHERWEN

COMPETITION SECRETARY ANDREW SHERWEN

ASSISTANT COMP' SEC' DI O'CONNOR

GREENS COM IAN HOMEYARD ANDREW SHERWEN GEORGE NEWTON

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER ANDREW SHERWEN

G&F BLUE TEAM CAPTAIN TONY HORNE

G&F WHITE TEAM CAPTAIN MANDY WILDE

G&F SILVER TEAM CAPTAIN JASON WILDE

G&F AMBER TEAM CAPTAIN SUE HILLARY

G&F GOLD TEAM CAPTAIN \*\*IAN HOMEYARD

MENS CAPTAIN CORDELL BATTEN

G&F CO-ORDINATOR IAN HOMEYARD

MENS A CAPTAIN IAN HOMEYARD

MENS B CAPTAIN PAUL TANSLEY

LADIES CAPTAIN WENDY HONEYARD

LADIES VICE CAPTAIN CAROL TURNER

MENS MWT RED TEAM CAPT JASON WILDE

MENS MWT GREEN TEAM CAPT PAUL TANSLEY

WINTER COMPS SECRETARY ANDREW SHERWEN

LADIES SEC / ASST CLUB SEC' MANDY WILDE

SOCIAL COMM' SECRETARY JASON WILDE

#### **SOCIAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

PAUL TANSLEY

MANDY WILDE

CAROL DE NEUVILLE

RICHARD FRAZER

CAROL TURNER

CATHI LUND

#### **CLUB TRUSTEES**

JIM OSWELL

JANET COWAN

\*\*\*Before agreeing the date for the 2025 AGM

- There was a trophy presentation for "Member of the year". Richard Frazer was awarded this as acknowledgement of his continued support.

#### **d. DATE OF 2025 AGM – Club Secretary**

The Secretary proposed Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December as the date for the 2025 AGM.

Seconder Tom Start

**Those present voted unanimously in favour of the proposal.**

Meeting was closed at 10.50am