

SOMERSET BOWLS ASSOCIATION

Tenth ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at Victoria Club (Street) on Saturday 9th November 2019 at 10.30am

MINUTES

Present: 63 delegates representing 63 clubs
38 officers and life members with voting rights
4 other members without voting rights

1. Appointment of Scrutineers

Celia Soby and Peter Cast were appointed scrutineers.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from Life Members: Dawn Barnaby, Gerry Gridely, Mo Monkton, Grahame Starr, Mary Taylor and Barbara Vowles. Past Presidents: Joan Rixson, Lois Spratt, and Colin Westlake. Other Officers: Mike Scaggs and Richard Soper.

The following Clubs: Frys, Mark Moor, St Andrews, Severn Vale, Shepton Mallett, Victoria Park (Bath) Willmott Park and Wrington.

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: Jimmy Laurent. Bath (Ladies): Pauline Cox, Jean Trotman, Joan Warmsley. Bath (Men): Tony Shearing, Don Turner. Bloomfield: Ron Auton, Rycroft Hartley, Fred Reed, Roddy Watts. Bridgwater: William Upham. Castle Cary: Yvonne Cudlip, Ivan Hicks, Roy King, Myrtle Parsons, John Sealey, Jack Smale. Chew Stoke: David Shute, Keith Weaver. City of Wells: Peter Taylor. Clarence: Beryl Coleman, Barry Watkins. Clevedon: Clive Folland, Harold Fry, Peter Lagden, Clevedon Promenade (Ladies): Joan Cant, Iris Tune. Clevedon Promenade (Men): Tony Burgoyne, John Dally, Harry Jeffrey, Rex Kingston, George Sheppard. Crewkerne: Clifford Harris. Frome Park: Dave Willcox. Keynsham: John Mead, Don Rees. Knowle: Doug Burge, Pete Miccicche, Alan Rosling. Long Ashton: Peter Smith. Minehead: Sue Langdon, Hilary May, Dot Penfold. North Petherton: Stan Cornwell, Noel Hacklin. Norwest: Mike Briggs, John Doughty, Harold Stephens, Margaret Williams. Portishead RBL (Men): David Stuckes. Purnell: Grace Dury. Somerton and District: Peter Drain, Verdun Hayes, Gill McFarlane. Street: David Marshall. Taunton: Don Ormasher. Victoria Park (Bridgwater): Les Carver, Bill King, Mike Oliver, Gerry Southgate. Watchet: Frank Warren, Clayton Williams. Wellington: Bob Bowrah, Betty Hallett, Gordon White. West Backwell: Iris Broom, Audrey Curle, Graham Dodd, Kate Horler, Jill Ferguson. Winscombe: Tony Dudley, Martin Myland. Wyrall Park: Martin Altoft, John Gray, Mike Green, Joy Mullins, Harold Pattison. Yeovil: Fred Foxwell. And for any others we had not been advised of.

4. **Matt Hamilton (Ilminster)** gave a presentation describing a Bowls England pilot exercise being trialed in Somerset next year. It involves the use of Social Media to promote bowls to a wider audience. A transcript of that presentation is retained with these Minutes.

5. Minutes

Minutes of the Ninth Annual General Meeting, 10th November 2018:

The minutes were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record of that meeting. Proposed by Carolle Skeates (City of Wells) and Seconded by Barrie Davis (Keynsham).

6. Matters Arising

10.5) Changes to the Fear Cup – see item 12.

16. Speeches at the Presentation Lunch are too long. The Member Without Portfolio has produced a 'Guide for Speakers', which had helped improve the situation this year. But it was felt the meal took too long and suggestions were made that:

- The 'comfort break' should be earlier.
- Presentations could start while coffee was being served.

KL to note please.

7. 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.

General Secretary

There were no questions.

Treasurer

There were no questions.

Andrew Chappell emphasized that our Affiliation Fees were the lowest in the South West, despite the 50p increase for next year.

Championship/Competition Secretary

There were no questions.

Performance Manager

There were no questions.

Edna Bessell (MBE) further reported that Pip Branfield had retired as Senior International Men's Selector (South West) after 19 years in the role. This meeting formally acknowledges his contribution to the furtherment of bowls in the South West.

She advised that a 'Code of Conduct' for all players who participate in the Bowls England National Championships/Competitions, S.B.A. competitions and any representative matches was now available to view on the website.

She also took the opportunity to 'plea' for sponsors to help provide the Johns players with the new maroon trousers etc. (By the end of the meeting the required money had been raised) and confirmed she would also be looking to kit the Middleton players in due course.

Development Officer

There were no questions.

Brian Cracknell reaffirmed his and the Board's support for Matt's BE pilot exercise.

League secretary

There were no questions.

Marketing Manager

There were no questions.

Peter Bissett reiterated that the white county jackets were showerproof not waterproof.

Match Secretary

There were no questions.

Alan Gray implored Clubs (again) to advise their members that ANY AFFILIATED MEMBER can apply to play in County Matches. Also to spread the word about cheaper match fees and coach travel next year.

Member Without Portfolio

There were no questions.

Ken Leamon confirmed the Presentation Lunch photos would be on the website as soon as he had completed a pruning exercise.

County Coach

Peter Bissett was asked if there could be more Level 1 coaching courses in Somerset. **PB** to explore the options.

He then reminded all coaches that their annual subscriptions included Coach Bowls insurance cover. Those subscriptions were due at the end of October and, if not paid, coaches wouldn't be covered if a claim was made against them.

Report from the Council

The Council's comments regarding the role of the Patrons Association and the use of its funds caused heated debate. The Chairman agreed to discuss this at the next Board Meeting. **RT** to diarise.

Report from Patrons

Following the earlier discussions there were no further questions, but David Wederell stated there would be no increase in match fees

He also launched a 'rebranding' campaign and Clubs were being encouraged to appoint a 'Patrons Secretary' to be a point of contact for all Patrons communications.

Report from the Benevolent Fund

There were no questions.

8. Adoption of the Accounts

Main Account

Proposed by Peter Mottram (South Petherton) and Seconded by Celia Whitmarsh (Chew Stoke).

Carried.

Tour Account

Proposed by Matt Hamilton (Ilminster) and Seconded by Barrie Davis (Keynsham). Carried.

Benevolent Fund Account

Proposed by Carolle Skeates (City of Wells) and Seconded by Jill Price (Bridgwater). Carried.

Patrons Account

Proposed by Hilary Leamon (Severalls Jubilee) and Seconded by Peter Mottram (South Petherton). Carried.

9. Presentation of Presidential Officers

- Two Immediate Past Presidents
Ailsa Midwinter (Purnell)
David Bishop (City of Wells)
- Presidents for 2020
Sue Cooper (Victoria Ladies)
- Tony Whitmarsh (Chew Stoke)
- Senior Vice Presidents for 2020
Carolle Skeates (City of Wells)
Barrie Dando (Prattens)
Proposed by Prattens
Seconded by City of Wells
- Election of Junior Vice Presidents 2020
Sandra Every (Williton)
Proposed by Williton
Seconded by Wyrall Park
Richard Soper (Clevedon Prom Men)
Proposed by Clevedon Prom Men
Seconded by Chew Stoke

10. Election of Executive Officers

Serving Officers:

- Chairman: John Durston (Clevedon)
- General Secretary: Ross Turnbull (Bloomfield)
- Treasurer: Andrew Chappell (Bath Mens)
- Championship/Competition Secretary: Vote
- County Coach: Peter Bissett (Clevedon Promenade Mens)
- Development Manager: Brian Cracknell (Taunton Deane)

- League Secretary: David Bendall (Keynsham)
- Marketing Manager: Peter Bissett (Clevedon Promenade Mens)
- Match Secretary: Alan Birch (Isle of Wedmore)
- Member Without Portfolio: Ken Leamon (Severalls Jubilee)
- Performance Manager; Edna Bessell MBE (Yeovil)

Proposed en-bloc by Peter Cast (Winscombe) and Seconded by Richard Doughty (Chew Stoke). Carried.

Championship/Competition Secretary: vote between Charmian Pearce (Portishead RBL Ladies) & Mike Edwards (Portishead RBL Men). Charmian Pearce was elected.

11. Election of Other Officers

Middleton Cup Selectors:

- Regions 1-4 Vacant
- 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 Taunton Deane

Mens General Selectors:

- Regions 1 & 3 Barrie Dando (Prattens)
Proposed by Prattens and Seconded by Purnell
- Regions 2 & 4 Lionel Slatter (Portishead RBL Men)
Proposed by Portishead RBL Men and Seconded by Yatton
- 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 Victoria Park Bridgwater

Ladies General Selectors:

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

Proposed en-bloc by Matt Hamilton (Ilminster) and Seconded by Julie Gardner (Portishead RBL Ladies). Carried.

Members of Council:

- Region 1 Vacant
- 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 Ian Wilson (West Backwell)
Proposed by West Backwell and Seconded by Congresbury
- 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 Victoria Men

Proposed en-bloc by Peter Mottram (South Petherton) and Seconded by Barrie Davis (Keynsham).
Carried.

Patrons Association:

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

Proposed en-bloc by Bob Edge (Keynsham) and Seconded by Kevin Hamilton (Ilminster). Carried.

12. Motion from Somerton & District and Seconded by Chew Stoke:

That the Ladies Fear Cup Competition be reduced from three rinks to two rinks forthwith, with the proviso that Clubs may enter two teams if they so wish. Motion defeated.

13. Motion from Knowle and Seconded by Imperial:

That up to three ladies per team be allowed to play in the lowest divisions in the East, North and South & West leagues. Motion defeated.

14. Motion from Knowle and Seconded by Imperial:

That any club competitions start at the beginning of May. Motion defeated.

15. Changes to the Constitution:

Interpretation. Executive Board. Amend Marketing Manager to read Merchandising Manager.
(Better describes the duties involved)

3(b) Delete 'shall be represented on the BE Council by' and replace with 'the two County authorised representatives shall be'. (The BE Council no longer exists)

4(f) Delete all after 'Yearbook'. (We no longer produce a Handbook)

7(b) Amend to read 'The ExB shall meet at least six times per year, in December, February, June, September and.....'. (Clarifies the current meetings programme)

9(d)(i) Add '....and Life Members of the former Men's and Ladies' Associations'. (Clarifies the voting rights of Life Members of the former Associations)

9(d)(ii) Add 'As representatives have been mandated by their Club as to how they should vote no discussion shall be allowed'. (Clarifies the current voting practice)

10 (a)(i) Replace Marketing Manager with Merchandising Manager. (As above)

16. Competition Rules

There have been cosmetic changes to the Competition Rules which can be seen on the website.

17. Appointment of Account Examiners

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

The meeting closed at 12.35pm