

# WELLINGTON (SOMERSET) BOWLING CLUB

**Executive Committee Meeting to be held at 9.30am on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024  
in the clubhouse.**

## **REPORT**

### **1 Members:**

Role	Name	Initials	Role	Name	Initials
President	Ann Cowling	AC	Admin Co-ordinator	Henry Richbell	HR
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, Derrick Alford

### **3 Acceptance of the minutes** of the previous meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> August 2024- Agreed.

### **4 Matters arising from the minutes** (not included elsewhere on the agenda). Nil.

### **5 a) Chair's Report (Paul Kelly)-** no report

**b) Club President's Report (Ann Cowling)-** My last year as President is slowly coming to an end – I have enjoyed every moment of this prestigious position within the club. Charities – with the help of Steve Lovell and the members last year we raised money for Reminiscence Learning and this year Guide Dogs for the Blind which I feel, and hope, will be a four-figure sum. To date we have raised over £600.00 – the “doggie” in the corner will be emptied by a representative from GDBA at approx. 2.30 pm on the 22nd September and between 3.30 and 3.45 pm the owner of a guide dog plus a manager will be joining us. Hopefully more fund raising during the course of the afternoon. After all moneys have been added up I will, together with Steve, present them with a big cheque. Which we hope a photo will go in the Wellington Weekly

### **CLUB COMPETITIONS**

All went smoothly which was down to the organisers, Janet and Graham, and the competitors for keeping to the timescale.

Congratulations to the winners:

Christine Willcocks – Ladies Handicap 4 woods singles and Ladies' Singles 2 woods 21 ends

Ian Stewart – Men's Handicap 4 woods singles 21 shots

Nick Channon – Open Championship 4 woods 21 shots

Lisa Dart – Ladies' Championship 4 woods 21 shots

Tony Gibson – Men's Championship 4 woods 21 shots

Phil Ellis – Men's 2 woods 21 ends

Will Smith – New Bowlers 4 woods 21 shots

Mike Groves & John Lane – Men's Pairs 4 woods 18 ends/2 hours

Marguerite & Pete Nichols – Amy Stanton Pairs 4 woods 18 ends/2 hours

John Lane, Lisa Dart and Ron Elston – Mixed Triples

Thank you to our Markers Lynda Manning, Janet Moore, Gill Groves, Graham Brown, Paul Kelly and Henry Richbell.

Marguerite Nichols asked me to put to the committee for next year's competitions that we have a pairs consisting of a new bowler and a more experienced one.

### **INCLEMENT WEATHER**

This concerns our ladies. You are all aware of the Fear Cup game played at Taunton Deane earlier in the season when the weather was atrocious, luckily no accidents. On the 5th September we went to Yeovil (back match Saturday League) to play at 11.30am, the day before and that morning there was a severe weather warning from the Met Office. We went on the green as Yeovil wanted to play and after 3 ends Angie Moore fell, the green was not playable – it flooded. Angie was checked out at Yeovil Hospital. We have not been able to rearrange the game. With regards to points we are still waiting to hear from SBA League Secretary.

As we all must wear flat sole shoes, no grip, we feel the SBA should look at these situations and give a bit more detail in the rules on inclement weather conditions. Not just for us but for all the clubs in the County.

At the next County meeting would it be possible for Mike Groves to raise this issue?

#### CHAIN OF OFFICE

This needs a new "name bar" could this be arranged please, say, for Mike and myself?

#### INDOOR SEASON

Wish everyone will Winter well and enjoy the various formats of the indoor games.

#### **6 Admin Coordinator's Report.(Henry Richbell)**

- a) **November AGM** – A nominations sheet is still on the noticeboard which includes a list of vacant non-Executive roles. Some vacancies still exist.
- b) **Club Trustees**- The deed of appointment document has been signed and witnessed and will be delivered to the solicitors...
- c) **Webmaster** (Jay Merrell)- NTR
- d) **Publicity Officer** (Martin Speakman)- NTR
- e) **Membership Secretary** (Lynda Manning)- Annual mop up of members has been submitted to county.
- f) **Welfare Officer** (Steve Lovell)- NTR
- g) **Safeguarding Officer** (Henry Richbell)- NTR.

#### **7 Bowls Coordinator's Report (Graham Brown)**

**Subgroup members report the following month's activities.**

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

**Ladies' Captain (Brenda Wilson)**- Ladies have been asked to support the President's Day which will entail a "fun" Ladies v Gents format. Availability sheets on the club notice board.

The Ladies will be holding a meeting at the club on Monday 30 September at 7pm, all lady members welcome.

**Friendlys Captain (Ian Hollingsworth)**

Mixed friendlys have continued apace and are well supported. Thanks to those who provided cover during my recent holiday absence.

Due to giving everyone who signs up a "fair crack of the whip," including many new bowlers, recent results have gone against us. In my opinion this is secondary as we should be inclusive, and it provides an opportunity to spot emerging talent.

The season concludes with two 6 rink triples against Wellington (Hereford) and Taunton Vivary.

**Indoor Secretary (Jay Merrell)**- Plans for indoor season progressing well. Notices on the indoor notice board. Some league teams are short and new members should contact the relevant indoor league secretary or roll up group contact should they wish to play. Contact Jay for details.

The men's evening league will use Bowlr this year, whilst the other 4 leagues will continue to use traditional methods. Indoor competitions will be on Bowlr. Deadline for entries to the men's singles and mixed pairs will be Friday 4 October, with a view to commencing on Saturday 12 October to enable them to be concluded by Christmas.

**Fixtures Secretary (Jay Merrell)**- Catering continues to be an issue for next season and two county fixtures have already been turned down. One due to a clash with a WSBL fixture and the second due to our inability to provide a hot meal. A cold option was offered which the county is considering if no alternative venue is forthcoming.

A suggestion that Tim Potter may be able to provide a ploughman's lunch at c £5 per head, but unknown if he could accommodate up to 60 covers.

The highest level of catering we can offer is urgently needed before next seasons fixtures can progress.

**Competitions Secretary (Janet Moore)**- Despite a challenge with the weather on the second finals day all competitions were successfully completed on time.

The trophies will now be engraved, and the Honours Board updated in preparation for Awards Night.

**Bowls Co Ordinator (Graham Brown)**- The competitive season has now been virtually completed, with only one rain delayed outstanding E of E fixture still to be played. It has been another encouraging season on all fronts, and I will provide a final summary in my report to the AGM.

I would like to thank both Jay, for stepping into the vacant Indoor Secretary role and Janet for running a smooth competition calendar this year. This was due to all competitors who upheld the competition rules to the letter.

Bowlr has continued to be an effective method of communicating league teams and has been well adopted by some of the league teams in particular. I will be requesting some minor software amendments from the developers before next season to see if it can fully match our own criteria.

**Coaches**- Our coaching team have continued to provide ongoing support to our new and less experienced bowlers for which I offer my thanks.

**Selection (Graham Brown)**- Selectors were able to conclude selection for the final league matches without too much difficulty and are grateful to those members who made themselves available throughout the season.

We have investigated the possibility of entering further teams in some of the Leagues, but despite a request for additional volunteers, numbers have fallen short of a sustainable level. The matter will be kept under review for subsequent years.

#### **8 Asset Coordinator's Report (Alan Moore)**

Just a couple of items to report. I am pleased to report that the Indoor Carpet has now been laid. Many thanks to Nick for his help with this. Hopefully, we are now set for the Indoor Season. Abel Alarms will be coming on the 23rd September to test the Alarms.

#### **9 Functions Coordinator's Report (Steve Lovell)**

It has been a busy month with Finals on 2 days which went very well, I would like to thank the members that helped with all the teas throughout the year, We have a final push this week and another season over. Bingo went well through the summer next one should be beginning of October,

Tour to Torquay went very well everyone enjoyed themselves the first game we played was at Abbots Park where we won on 2 rinks lost on 4, Day 2 saw us drive over to Paignton again winning on 2 Rinks, 3<sup>rd</sup> day we drove to Brixham it was a very windy day up on the hill of Brixham where we won on two rinks again. Last day we played Torquay just at the bottom of the hill where we were staying this time we managed to win 1 rink. But all in all, everyone had a great time. So much so I have temporary booking for the 8<sup>th</sup> September next year more details to follow, Closing of the green this year we will be providing Cream Teas for all that attends after the ladies V Men's match that is.

On another note Myself and Alan would like the Bar (The Running of) to come under its own and not be in with the Functions, and personally I think the Kitchen should be run separate from the Functions.

With some of the social monies we would like to make some changes behind the bar as we really did not spend much when we built it during covid there is plenty in the social account now. The work will be done after Xmas on the bar.

Tickets for our Christmas Party are now on sale behind the bar these are limited due to that members get first before friends and Family start buying,

#### **10 Greenkeeper's Report**

Feedback from bowlers during the season has been very positive the green has bowled at a good pace with consistency and with the bonus of the surface looking good as well. The best year since we started maintenance of the green internally, the purchase of the dedicated Verticutter has made a step change in achieving a fast surface to play on with a reduction in the work effort for the team. Grass cut height has been at 6mm all season which helps with grass recovery in dry periods. Thatch has been reduced as the verticutter removes far more as closer blades and brushes results in a very clean mow following use. A regular problem in the last four years is in getting top dressing delivered on site for the end of season renovation work. It is pleasing to be able to report top dressing has arrived in the week requested and two weeks before the winter work will use it. The contractor for top dressing has been booked and we will conclude the work before the end of September. The Maintenance team of Myself, Nick, David and Mike (Jayes) have agreed to continue for next season. It is very much a team effort in all that we do, working at multiple tasks within that critical time frame before play commences. Thank you also to those who get called in for the heavy work periods in supporting our work. The older mower needs some TLC and spares to make sure it is a reliable back up, that will be done during October.

#### **11 Matters requiring attention Oct/Nov**

a) Nil

#### **12 Any Other Business**

- a) The Exeter and District Men's Over 60s Triples Bowls League Division 3 trophy has now been found.
- b) Presentation evening. This will be a bring and share event and the club will be providing a free drink to each attendee.
- c) The club are looking at possibly subsidising the return match at Wellington Herefordshire next year
- d) A list will be prepared with contact details for all activities at the club both internal and external.

#### **13 Membership applications.** Two were received and signed off by the committee.

#### **14 Reserved Business**

- a) Treasurer's Report- In members area of website.
- b) Safeguarding – Safeguarding Officer- Nil
- c) Confidential matters- Nil

#### **15 Date of Next Executive Meeting Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2024**

