

WELLINGTON (SOMERSET) BOWLING CLUB

**Executive Committee Meeting to be held at 9.30am on Friday 9th August 2024
in the clubhouse.**

REPORT

1 Members:

Role	Name	Initials	Role	Name	Initials
President	Ann Cowling	AC	Admin Co-ordinator	Jay Merrell	JCM
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, Alan Moore, Ann Cowling, Steve Lovell

3 Acceptance of the minutes of the previous meeting held on 12th July 2024- Agreed.

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

5 a) Chair's Report (Paul Kelly)- Henry Richbell has agreed to take over from Jay as Admin Coordinator with immediate effect. This will allow Jay to continue as Fixture Secretary and take on the Indoor Secretary role. The indoors honours board is progressing however there are quite a few blanks that need filling in as we do not appear to have a full record of our indoor winners.

b) Club President's Report (Ann Cowling)- Nil

6 Admin Coordinator's Report.(Jay Merrell)

- a) **November AGM** – A nominations sheet has been posted on the noticeboard which includes a list of vacant non-Executive roles. So far Ann has volunteered to fill the Admin Assistant vacancy from November when her term of office as Club President ends, and Tracey has offered to become the new club safeguarding officer in November when Henry stands down. Should there be another volunteer Tracey will stand down though it should be noted Tracey has safeguarding qualifications which might not be the case with other volunteers, also it is a legal requirement from 2025 that each bowls club has a suitably qualified safeguarding officer.
- b) **Club Sponsorship**- Easyfunding website has raised £210.68 so far.
Sheppy's have offered to sponsor the club. A banner has been purchased from Somerset Sign and Print, hopefully the banner will be on display by the time of the meeting.
In AOB we will review the packages we have on offer with a view to asking CarlyPress to design and print some promotional leaflets for us.
- c) **Club Trustees**- The deed of appointment document is being signed and witnessed.
- d) **Admin coordinator**- As things stand, I will not be able to attend the October and November Execs due to work commitments. Note- We agreed last year that the November Execs meeting would be on Friday 1st November to give some breathing space ahead of the AGM. Should I be re-elected to the post at the AGM I will also not be able to attend the December meeting.
- e) **Sports Psychologist**- We were visited by George Horne who is the grandson of Vic Horne and a recently qualified Sport Psychologist. He offered to conduct some workshops but unfortunately there has not been enough interest to make it worthwhile for him.
- f) **Webmaster** (Jay Merrell)- NTR
- g) **Publicity Officer** (Martin Speakman)- NTR
- h) **Membership Secretary** (Lynda Manning)- NTR
- i) **Welfare Officer** (Steve Lovell)- NTR
- j) **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)- After a successful run in the Fear Plate our ladies lost to a strong Clevedon team in the semifinal which included two England International bowlers. They are to be congratulated on a wonderful run which underlines a much stronger season for them this year and augers well for 2025.

Friendlies Captain (Ian Hollingsworth)- East of Exe team have had a great season and currently lie in second place with several catch-up matches to play. It has been encouraging that despite some notable clashes with league and competition dates the club has still been able to field full teams for friendlies on the same day. Members are thanked for their support.

Indoor Secretary (Vacant)- Following Janet's decision last month to resign Jay Merrell will take on the post once he has handed over Admin Coordinator responsibilities to Henry. Jay will immediately commence work planning for the next indoor season.

Fixtures Secretary (Jay Merrell)- Jay has agreed to continue in this role once he has handed the Admin Coordinator role over to Henry.

Competitions Secretary (Janet Moore)- Competitions progressing well, approaching semifinal stage with some interesting matches on the horizon. The use of the competition module on Bowlr has been a useful innovation to enable remote access to the updated results. Members are thanked for their compliance with play by dates.

Bowls Co Ordinator (Graham Brown)- The trial of emailing most league teams selected has continued to work well and has been extended to encompass a men's friendly and competitors for the club mixed open triples on August Bank Holiday Monday.

Thanks to members who have continued to confirm availability online, which helps the selectors make any necessary late changes asap. As previously stated, we will continue to run the manual system in parallel, and members are still required to tick the notice board copy to reaffirm availability. Unfortunately, we have had some instances where members have not advised selectors or captain when they are subsequently not available, and I remind all members that it is not acceptable to merely cross their name off and hope someone notices!

The prospective new members from the Open Days are progressing through coaching, thanks to Janet, Angie and Richard for their ongoing support.

Coaches- A steady stream of potential new bowlers continues to contact the club. Thanks to our coaches for their ongoing support in providing the taster sessions.

Selection (Graham Brown)- Selectors have continued to meet on a weekly basis and have published teams well in advance of matches as requested by members. Availability for leagues has improved and full teams have been able to be selected without too many problems. As we near the closing part of the season we are well placed for promotion in several of the leagues we partake in and hope current form can be maintained. Ongoing thanks to all members who have supported the club.

8 Asset Coordinator's Report (Alan Moore)

The only item to report is the Indoor Carpet. Chris from Greengage took up the carpet and underlay for us to check the condition of the floor. I am pleased to report that there was no damage to the floorboards. We screwed down the boards further, which we hope will alleviate the movement of the floor. Thanks to Paul for dealing with this in my absence. When Chris returned last Friday, it was found that the underlay was rippling. I have been in touch with Greengage and the underlay is to be replaced. We await a date for this work to be done.

9 Functions Coordinator's Report (Steve Lovell)

At last, after many months of Buying Sheppey's Cider I have managed to get a small sponsorship from them, (our First One of Many I hope).

Not a great deal else to report on Functions; we held one quiz night which went very well thanks to Chris Williams who produces the Questions and Answers.

Apologies for a few things now re arranged such as the Bingo and the next quiz due to Health reasons I could not do them.

We have events planned for the next couple of months,

During this time, I shall be making Tickets to sell for our Christmas Party.

10 Greenkeeper's Report

A quote for removing the hedge has been received this was approved by the Executive Committee. Avoncrop Amenity Products Ltd will visit soon to conduct some test on the quality of our green. This year we will be purchasing our top dressing from Pitchcare Ltd who, hopefully, will prove more dependable than previous suppliers. Once the hedge is removed, we will look at replacing the double gate at the corner of the green. We will consider increasing its size to allow vehicular access for our maintenance teams.

11 Matters requiring attention July/Aug

a) Nil

12 Any Other Business

- a) The loss of the Exeter and District Men's Over 60s Triples Bowls League Division 3 trophy hugely embarrassing for the club. Division three has been running for over 30 years. The trophy needs to be returned at the October AGM on

Wednesday 2nd of October 2024. One final push to find it was approved in a bulk email to all members, should this prove unsuccessful I will contact the league secretary to find out how they would like us to deal with this. Most likely we purchase a suitable replacement and have it engraved with the list of winners, which are now listed on the league website.

- b) We received a request from the SBA on whether we support Ilminster entering an E team into the Somerset County League. If admitted, they will enter SW2 next season but play all their home games at 10.30am on Saturday morning. We concluded that, while Ilminster should be congratulated on building their club to such a level where an E team could be supported, we cannot support their application for a 5th team with matches starting at 1030am on a Saturday morning for the following reasons-
 - 1. We have several members who work on Saturday mornings. These members would be precluded from playing in matches commencing at 10.30am.
 - 2. Our Ladies thoroughly enjoy playing in the Somerset Ladies League which starts at 10.30am on Saturdays. There is a feeling that 10.30am on Saturdays is their time and should not be shared with the men.
 - 3. Despite having almost 100 men members we have found it difficult at times this season to field a B team. Starting a match at 10.30am is likely to make fielding a team more difficult, given the early start.
- c) Club Sponsorship- We reviewed the sponsorship packages that we offer. We are now going to ask Carly Press to design and print some promotional leaflets.
- d) Next Q&A session- Tuesday 20th Aug 7.00pm-

13 Membership applications. Three 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 Friday 13th September 2024