

SOMERSET BOWLS ASSOCIATION TWELFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Held at Prattens Social Club on Saturday 13th November 2021 at 10.30am

MINUTES

Present: 49 delegates representing 49 clubs
33 officers and life members with voting rights
2 other members without voting rights

1. Appointment of Scrutineers

Celia Soby and Peter Cast were appointed scrutineers and completed voting cards were collected.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Dave Alder (Middleton Cup Manager), Dawn Barnaby (Life Member), Reg Birmingham (Life Member), Marilyn Gozna (Past President), Alan Gray (Life Member), Lois Greeves (Past President), Mike Groves (Council Member), Hilary Leamon (Past President), Shirley Nicholls (Past President), Charmain Pearce (Competitions Secretary), Joan Rixson (Past President), Barbara Vowles (Life Member), Colin Westlake (Past President), Ian Wilson (Council Member). Other Officers: Dave Harding.

The following Clubs: Castle Cary, Chard, Eastover Park, Mark Moor, Minehead, Nailsea (Men), North Petherton, Porlock & District, St Andrews WSM, St Annes Park, Severn Vale, Taunton Deane, Victoria Park Bath, Victoria Park Bridgwater, Victoria Park Bristol, Wellington, West Backwell, Yatton.

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:

Ashcombe Park: Barrie Webber, Val Webber. Bloomfield: Elizabeth Bull. Bridgwater: Norman Jones, Ken Peppin. Bristol: Iris Danford, Terry Lillington, Peter McCall. Burnham on Sea: Roger Elderfield. City of Wells: Joyce Merchant. Clevedon Promenade (Ladies): Joyce Avis, Bernice Quantrill, Moreen Sellars. Congresbury: Don Gosling, Sue Kimmings, Ann King, Anita Purnell. Frome Park: Michael Gallichan, Gordon Lee, Russell Milne. Frys: Stan Reed. Knowle: Peter Broome, Len Eade, Jean Evans, Ray Meacham, Derek Phibben, Terry Sheppard, Brian Simms, Barbara Whitelock. Mark Moor: Jack Moody-Smith. Purnell: Paul Bird, Mervyn Canning, John Matthews. Portishead RBL (Ladies): Margaret Southey. Portishead RBL (Men): Norman Castleton. Shepton Mallet: Peter O'Neill, Chris Vaughan. Somerton and District: Joyce Bird, Janet Dyer, Jim Forrest, Geoff Thompson. Stothert & Pitt: Brian Langley. Yatton: Dave Blundell, Nick Jones. And for any others we had not been advised of.

4. Minutes

Minutes of the Eleventh Annual General Meeting, 10th April 2021:

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 Sandra Every (Williton).

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 and John Durston thanked everyone for making the effort to attend at this difficult time.

General Secretary

Ross Turnbull took the opportunity to remind everyone that entries for the Ladies League were still being collected by Barbara Colby. There was an appeal from the floor that the League organisers

should circulate regular results and league tables to keep everyone informed. General Secretary to note.

Treasurer

Andrew Chappell reassured the meeting that, whilst our finances were tight, we remained solvent and the expected increase in affiliation fees next year should keep us on an even keel.

Championship/Competition Secretary

There were no questions.

Performance Manager

Edna Bessell (MBE) reiterated her congratulations to Stef Branfield and Somerset's Amy Rose team for their outstanding achievements at the National Finals and this raised a well deserved round of applause.

Development Officer

Brian Cracknell shared his positivity in the number of juniors now joining our ranks and highlighted his plans for a Junior Academy. This posed a question as to what age group this should cover (under 18's, under 25's ???).

League Secretary

David Bendall made a plea that all results and result cards should be emailed in future. Phone messages from a noisy clubhouse can be misheard and the printing & postage of result cards is an unnecessary cost in this electronic age.

Merchandising Manager

Peter Bissett explained that we were exploring a new supplier of shirts based in Weston-super-Mare. One local Club warned they had found the firm slow and unable to meet promised deadlines. This was not our experience with the recent order of 10 Amy Rose shirts, but the Board will need to be confident before committing to further orders.

There was a suggestion that we should return to the custom of providing our performance teams with a different (more flamboyant) shirt for their matches. In a period of tight budgetary constraints this would need funding from outside our normal budget – Edna Bessell (MBE) to explore.

Match Secretary

There were no questions.

Member Without Portfolio

Ken Leamon confirmed the Presentation Lunch had been an outstanding success and thanked Don Bridges for his usual excellent organisation of the event.

He thanked Ed Hopegood for taking over the vacant Archivist's role and announced that he and Hilary could be moving away in the not too distant future so was seeking an understudy to start learning the mysterious life of a MWP.

County Coach

Peter Bissett reported he had been in discussion with Coach Bowls and was hopeful of getting at least one Somerset based Level 1 Coaching Course in the New Year.

Report from the Council

There were no questions.

Report from the Patrons

Barrie Davis thanked David & Trudy Bishop for offering to help with Patrons matches next year.

Report from the Benevolent Fund

There were no questions.

7. Adoption of the Accounts

Main Account

Proposed by Peter Mottram (South Petherton) and seconded by Richard Soper (Clevedon Promenade Men). Carried.

Tour Account

Proposed by David Wederell (Isle of Wedmore) and seconded by Barrie Dando (Prattens). Carried.
Benevolent Fund Account

Proposed by Carolle Skeates (City of Wells) and seconded by Sandra Every (Williton). Carried.
Patrons Account

Proposed by David Bendall (Keynsham) and seconded by Barrie Davis (Keynsham). Carried.

8. Presentation of Presidential Officers

- Two Immediate Past Presidents Sue Cooper (Victoria)
Tony Whitmarsh (Chew Stoke)
- Presidents for 2022 Carolle Skeates (City of Wells)
- Barrie Dando (Prattens)
- Senior Vice Presidents Sandra Every (Williton)
Richard Soper (Clevedon Promenade Men)
- Election of Junior Vice Presidents Sandra Graham (Ilminster)
Proposed by Ilminster
Seconded by Westland Sports
Dave Harding (Clevedon)
Proposed by Clevedon
Seconded by Prattens

9. Election of Executive Officers

The General Secretary said a few words in recognition of John Durston's long and tireless service to the sport of bowls and to Somerset in particular. He presented John with an etched crystal vase and 'three cheers' echoed around the hall.

John then handed over the chair to

Carolle Skeates (City of Wells)

There was a spontaneous standing ovation from all those present.

Serving Officers:

- 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: 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)

The General Secretary, the Treasurer and the League Secretary had all completed 5 years in office and the AGM was asked to allow them to continue for a further term.

Proposed en-bloc by David Wederell (Isle of Wedmore) and seconded by Bob Edge (Keynsham).
Carried.

10. Election of Other Officers

Middleton Cup Selectors:

- Regions 1-4 Pip Branfield (Clevedon)
Proposed by Clevedon and seconded by Bristol
- 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 Victoria Park Bridgwater

Mens General Selectors:

- Regions 1 & 3
Proposed by Prattens and seconded by Purnell
- Regions 2 & 4
Proposed by Portishead RBL Men and seconded by Yatton
- Regions 5 & 6
Proposed by City of Wells and seconded by South Petherton
- Regions 7 & 8
Proposed by Burnham-on-Sea and seconded by Victoria Park Bridgwater

Ladies General Selectors:

- Regions 1 & 3
Proposed by Purnell and seconded by Prattens
 - Regions 2 & 4
Proposed by Portishead Ladies and seconded by Portishead RBL Ladies
 - Regions 5 & 6
Proposed by City of Wells and seconded by South Petherton
 - Regions 7 & 8
Proposed by Isle of Wedmore and seconded by Bridgwater
- Proposed en-bloc by Barrie Davis (Keynsham) and seconded by Sandra Every (Williton). Carried.

Members of Council:

- Region 1 (there was a vote for this appointment) Danny Kite
Proposed by Alexandra and seconded by Bloomfield
- Region 2
Proposed by Knowle and seconded by Imperial
- Region 3
Proposed by Fosseway and seconded by Chew Stoke
- Region 4
Proposed by West Backwell and seconded by Congresbury
- Region 5
Proposed by Wellington and seconded by Taunton
- Region 6
Proposed by Yeovil and seconded by Westlands Sports
- Region 7
Proposed by Bridgwater and seconded by Victoria Park Bridgwater
- Region 8
Proposed by Banwell and seconded by Burnham on Sea

Proposed en-bloc by Tony Whitmarsh (Chew Stoke) and seconded by Shirley Wederell (Isle of Wedmore). Carried.

Patrons Association:

- Chairman Barrie Davis (Keynsham)
- Secretary Vacant
- Treasurer David Wederell (Isle of Wedmore)

Proposed en-bloc by Bob Edge (Keynsham) and seconded by Sandra Graham (Ilminster). Carried.

11. 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.

12. 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 11.47am