

MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE MEETING
HELD AT MID DEVON BOWLING CLUB ON 25TH MARCH 2024 AT 6.45 PM

There were 16 members noted on the attendance sheet.

1. President C Fenner opened the meeting at 6.45 pm.
2. 4 apologies: J Berry, G Heaven, G Hitching & K Phillips.
3. Obituaries: B Corps(?)
4. Minutes of previous meeting: Mr G Coxwell would be removing the 2nd sentence in item 9 which referred to the absence of a Web Master, Mr G Hitching taking on this role. The acceptance of the amended minutes was approved by Mr K Young and seconded by Mr M Al-Kordi.
5. There were no matters arising.
6. Secretary's report (to include statement on result of emergency meeting of 16th February 2024): copy on web page. The issue of Mr McKimm paying himself the honorarium of his office without permission had now been resolved.
7. Treasurer's report delivered by Mr K Brenchley (who has agreed to stay in post until September AGM): copy on web page. Mr I Turner, Immediate Past President, in place of Ken Brenchley.

A question was raised as to how much 9% from the resulting increase in capitation fees, proposed to be ring fenced for support of the Devon Colts, actually amounted to. Mr Brenchley advised c. £800.

8. Match Secretary's report: copy on web page.

Regarding the proposed unification with the DCLIBA, the ladies' AGM was being held on 12th April and Mr Beer would receive an update from Joan Herd following this. If amalgamation went ahead, the ladies would still retain their own section and control. He therefore suggested leaving funds in the Vice Presidents' account until the ladies had decided if they wished to bring in a mixed section.

9. At this point Mr Al-Kordi and Mr Turner were presented with their lifetime memberships.
10. Fixture Secretary's report: Jill Beer reported that the forthcoming fixtures were ongoing but nearing completion. The EIBA dates had caused slight issues but were now all in order.

11. Competitions Secretary's report: Mr Coxwell advised there would be nothing to report until after the Finals at Plymouth on the 6th April.

As to the Vice Presidents' funds, the situation regarding unification with the ladies was still uncertain. However, Mr Coxwell suggested any monies be passed to the Colts, leaving a sum of £10 in VP's to keep the account open for the future.

12. League Secretary's report: Mr A Davies reported all running well. He had asked the various clubs if next season they wanted to participate in both the Interclub and the Over 60's. Mr Coxwell said a problem had arisen this season due to Torquay United refusing to travel to Kingsley. All their games in the league had not therefore been played, leading to Torquay's results being expunged. It had been rumoured that Torquay United might want to play two teams next year. It was put to the vote, proposed by Mr Young and seconded by Mr Taylor, that Torquay's B team not be permitted to take part in the ICL next year.
13. Liberty Trophy & Over 60's Manager's Report: in Kevin Phillips' absence no report was forthcoming.

14. Devon Colts Manager's report: copy on web page. Heidi & Adam Fielder had revoked their decision to resign and had committed themselves to the Colts for a further three years, subject to being re-elected year on year.

The Fielders proposed changing the Under 21's singles final to the Under 30's for this competition alone due to dwindling numbers and all present were in agreement. Mr Fenner suggested all go back to their clubs to encourage the release of their juniors into the Colts.

15. Under 18s & Under 25s Manager's Report: copy on web page.

16. County Tour Report: Mr Beer advised next year's tour was not yet on the web site but accommodation would be at Botley Grange Spa near Southampton, with matches to be played at Atherley, Horsham, Palmerston & Taunton Bowls Clubs. The estimated cost would be £315 per person but Mr Beer was still waiting to hear regards the cost of food, rink fees etc.

17. Website Manager's Report: no report provided.

18. Appointments of Officers & Managers 2024/25:

President – Ray Sandercock, Torbay
Senior Vice President – Leighton Burston, Honiton
Junior Vice President – Roger Williams, Madeira
Immediate Past President – Chris Fenner, Plymouth
County Secretary – George Coxwell, Kingsley
County Treasurer – Ken Brenchley, Torquay United
Match Secretary – Chris Beer, Kingsley

Fixtures Secretary – Jill Beer, Kingsley
Competitions Secretary – George Coxwell, Kingsley
Inter Club Leagues Secretary – Anthony Davies, South Hams
Liberty Trophy Manager – Kevin Phillips, Exonia
Safeguarding Officer – Ian Turner, Mid-Devon
Devon Colts Managers – Adam & Heidi Fielder, Plymouth
Website Manager – Gary Hitchings, Torquay United
Over 60s Inter County – Stuart Evans, Glyn Lawrence, Kevin Phillips
Under 25s Managers – Adam & Heidi Fielder, Plymouth
County Tour Managers – Chris & Jill Beer, Kingsley
Under 18s Managers – Adam & Heidi Fielder, Plymouth
Regional Co-ordinators – Gary Osbourne, Brian Stubbington, Ian Turner, Chris Fenner
Auditor - Vacant

Mr Brenchley advised that Chris Maynard is no longer able to fill the role of Auditor. A new auditor would need to be found who should be a member of the County.

A vote on the Executive Officers' positions was proposed by Mr Young, seconded by Mr Al-Kordi and was unanimous.

19. Proposed Fees & Allowances for 2024/25

Membership Fee - £1 per club
Capitation Fee - £5.80 per member
Mileage allowance - £0.35 pence per mile

Allowances:

President - £1,000 aid in advance of season
All other allowances will be paid at March Executive Meeting
County Secretary - £700
Treasurer - £400
Match Secretary - £300
Fixtures Secretary - £300
Competitions Secretary - £300
League Secretary - £300
Website Manager - £50 per month (paid on a rolling basis each month) (under review)

Mr Brenchley explained re the capitation fee. If the membership fee was £1 per club, the capitation fee would work out at £5.80 per member.

Members were asked if they had any comments on the figures as read out by Mr Fenner and a query was raised as to why in 2021 the web management figure was £250 but had now currently risen to £600. Mr Coxwell stated that there had been a lot of alterations to the web pages which had been time consuming. Mr Beer said that at no time could he recall a proposal for this increase or a vote for such a large rise for the Web Master but agreed there was a lot of work that needed to be done to the website. This point would be

taken off the agenda for voting and the position reviewed. There was unanimous agreement to the other proposed fees.

Mr Brenchley confirmed that £190.69 had been received from Mr McKimm that afternoon (see point 6 above).

20. Revision of Constitution and Rules (? Sub Committee needed): the Constitution, Rules and Code of Conduct were on the website and had been checked but there would appear to be grey areas concerning disciplinary procedures. Mr Brenchley and Mr Coxwell would look into this and update members at the next meeting.

21. Any Other Business:

Any queries or disputes should be channelled through the officers concerned, ie money problems brought to Mr Brenchley's attention. The Company Secretary must know what is going on but only get involved if agreement cannot be reached between the specific officers.

Mr Coxwell advised that it had been brought to his attention that images, including of our youngsters, had been downloaded to various chat sites and possibly going to places we would not want. This had been nothing to do with our Web Master. Mr Coxwell had spoken to Hugo Fox asking that we be disconnected from these sites and this would be done within the next few weeks.

D Dain of South Hams requested an update on the circumstances surrounding Mr McKimm. Mr Fenner explained that an emergency meeting had been held under the Code of Conduct as Mr McKimm was in breach of cyber bullying. He was advised this had to stop or legal action would be taken. This had not ceased. His position as Treasurer had been revoked and he had resigned. Mr Beer said if any appropriate information was forthcoming from South Hams (in writing), this would be appreciated.

22. The next meeting would be the AGM at Plymouth on 26th September.

23. The President closed the meeting at 7.56 pm.

SA-K
27.03.24