



NORTH YORKSHIRE BOWLS LEAGUE

MINUTES OF THE 89th AGM OF THE ABOVE LEAGUE HELD ON SUNDAY DECEMBER 7th, 2025, AT MARSKE B.C.

The Chairman L. Oakley welcomed all present and congratulated Middlesbrough B.C. for winning the league and Brotton B.C. for being the runners-up in 2025 and chaired the meeting. All Clubs who took part in the 2025 season were present.

Obituaries since the March 2025 meeting included the following;

B. Hannaford (Middlesbrough); T. Evans & T. Dutta (Nunthorpe); G. Tucker & A. Duffy (KGV); B. Murrish & T. Cook (Jack Hatfield) and T. Addison (Smith's Dock) a past President of the NYBL.

The customary one minutes silence was observed for the above mentioned deceased players. Minutes of the previous AGM for 2024, which took place in November 2024 were proposed by L. Russell and D. Wood. There were no matters arising.

The Honorary Secretary indicated that his report for the meeting would be short as most of his comments regarding the 2025 season had been documented in the minutes of the previous Management Meeting in October 2025 which all Clubs had been issued with prior to the AGM. He expressed that he was most disappointed in the lack of information over a long period of time from Bowls England and the YBA concerning the suspension of a player mentioned in detail in the AGM 2024 minutes which he eventually was informed of in late March 2025 after it had been cancelled in September 2024! He then went on to thank all the Clubs who hosted the NYBL Competitions and in particular Jack Hatfield for their excellent hosting of both the Champ of Champs and Finals Day events.in June and August.

The Treasurer S. Forrest then gave his report regarding the finances over the past year by referring to the accounts spreadsheet provided at the meeting and pointed out that a slight profit was made and around £1300 was in the bank at the present time prior to the paying of the Honoraria. As a result the Membership Fee for Clubs will remain at £20 for 2026 and the entry fee / person in the Competitions will remain at £2. He thanked Rose McNulty for once again auditing the accounts prior to the meeting.

The following Officers were elected:

Chairman: Les Oakley (K.G.V.)
Hon. Secretary: Malcolm McNulty (Hutton Rudby)
Asst. Secretary: John Selley (Borough Park)
Treasurer: Stuart Forrest (Middlesbrough)
Auditor: Mrs R A McNulty; CPO: situation vacant at present
Fixtures & Results Secretary, Press Officer and & Web site Organiser, J. Selley (Borough Park) was also re-elected.

Election of Management Committee:

Re-elected were: F. Williams (Marske); D. Wood (Skelton);
L. Russell (Nunthorpe); R. Walker (Brotton), W. Peirson (Middlesbrough);
J. Selley (Borough Park).

Suggested dates for meetings / events in 2026 were proposed and accepted with the usual caveats regarding weather etc. The Secretary pointed out that the Competition dates this year would be affected by the YBA holding some Triples and Rinks rounds on a number of Tuesdays and Fridays in June hence a later date for Finals Day which would not clash with the YBA. He thanked the Clubs who volunteered their services for all the scheduled events in 2026 including the AGM. A revised Dates sheet will be sent to each Club along with a copy of these minutes.

Members of Marske B.C. helped sell Raffle tickets prior to the start and £67 was collected for the League. Thank you to all Marske members present for their participation in this. Before the voting for proposals submitted for the AGM took place drinks of tea / coffee and bacon sandwiches were offered to all present at the meeting and this was much appreciated.
Committee Proposals:

The 1st proposal that in future AGM's each Club would have a single vote only on any proposal put forward was carried unanimously. Thus from 2026 onwards Committee Members, past Presidents or Life Members no longer have a vote!

The second proposal that the NYBL should no longer be affiliated to 'Bowls England' was also carried unanimously.

Club Proposals:

The proposal that League games should be played as Triples, as in 2025, instead of 3 rinks of 4 players was carried by 12 votes to 11.

The proposal that the NYBL should have a Team Tournament ('Top 12 Competition) after playing each Team only once at the start of the season was rejected by 14 votes to 9. Thus as in 2025 there will be a full season of Home & Away matches between the Clubs in the League.

The other 2 proposals: 3 (a) That bowlers from any Club not playing League fixtures cannot play in the knockout competitions and (b) Any proposal by a Club to change the League format and then does not compete in the League fixtures, that proposal becomes null and void and the proposal is withdrawn, were both carried unanimously.

Under A.O.B. The Secretary of Northallerton B.C. indicated that they may field 2 teams in the 2026 season, and this was welcomed by all present. A decision on this by the Club members was to be discussed just after the AGM and I am pleased to announce that the Club Secretary has informed me that this has been agreed by their members.

Discussion regarding a Club having 2 Teams indicated that they should have 2 votes at an AGM particularly if they both pay an affiliation fee. It was pointed out that for this to happen a proposal to this effect should be made at the 2026 AGM

Before the meeting was closed the Secretary congratulated Middlesbrough B.C. on their success in 2025 in winning the League and presented the Trophy and pennant to representatives of the Club. He then presented Brotton B.C. with the League Runners up Trophy and pennant for 2025. The Douglass Cup for the most improved team in 2025 was also presented to Middlesbrough B.C. Finally he and the Chairman thanked the members of Marske B.C. for their efforts in hosting the event including those who prepared the drinks and bacon butties for us to enjoy during the meeting.

The meeting was closed at around 12.20pm and the Chairman thanked all those for attending and wished all present a Happy Xmas and New Year.

Malcolm McNulty Hon. Secretary December 14th, 2025