

BOWLS DORSET

(THE UNIFIED GOVERNING BODY FOR THE SPORT OF FLAT GREEN BOWLS IN DORSET)

Administrator

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MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON
Saturday 31 July 2021
AT
DORCHESTER BOWLING CLUB OUTDOORS
COMMENCING at 10.00am

- E 017/21 **Welcome by Sue Maggs**
- E 018/21 **PRESENT-** Beverley Plympton, Shirley Bowley, Sue Maggs, Alexander Wilson, Bill Fox, Margaret Clapp, Ann Allman
- E 019/21 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE-** Harry Hovenden,
- E 020/21 **OBITUARIES:-** - Jackie Emerson-Reed (Shaftesbury); Gill Hunt (Bridport);
Mike Sabine (Broadstone Wessex); Syd Culpin (Gillingham life member); Mike Roberts (Sherborne);
Barry Smith (Wimborne)
- E 021/21 **MINUTES of MEETING HELD 6 April 2021**
Agreed proposed by Shirley Bowley and seconded by Margaret Clapp signed by
President Beverley Plympton
- E 022/21 **MATTERS ARISING from Minutes**
i) E 006/21.i) - **Nominations-** on agenda
ii) E 006/21 ii) - **County Competition Forms-** These would be discussed when the format for 2022
has been advised by Bowls England
iii) E 006/21 iii) - **Club Affiliation Forms-** some payments had been received for affiliations for
members joining after payments in May
iv) E 006/21 iv) - **Delegates Meetings-** These to be arranged in the autumn for both Ladies and Men's
sections
v) E 016/21 ii) - **Venues for ¼ and semi- finals and venues for one day competitions**
Much discussion on the subject of a possibility of a set fee being offered to clubs that are willing to accept
competition play off's and single day competitions at their clubs. The Administrator to circulate the clubs and
ascertain the fees charged for "hire" of the club for various events.
vi) E 016/21 iii) - **Handbook-** The new style Handbook had been well received and worked well in
conjunction with the information on the website. The Committee agreed that next year to add current County
Officers and consider uniformity of competition presentation.
- E 022/21 **CORRESPONDENCE**
All correspondence had been circulated and the Committee agreed unanimously that there was no need to
read.
- E 023/21 **TREASURERS REPORT**
Shirley confirmed that all payments had been made to date. The Committee confirmed that all qualifiers
going to Leamington would receive £50.00 expenses, and that the Presidents expenses for Leamington and
Committee members allowances would be paid as agreed in allowances agreed at AGM 2019
- E 024/21 **LADIES SECRETARY REPORT**
Nothing to report
- E 025/21 **LADIES MATCH SECRETARY REPORT**
Report attached
- E 026/21 **MEN'S SECRETARY REPORT**
Nothing to report
- E 027/21 **MEN'S MATCH SECRETARY REPORT**
Bill reported that the Men had won their first Balcombe Trophy match against Worcestershire, but then lost
to Cornwall; they lost in the first round in the Middleton Cup to Devon, which was played at two venues. All
the early friendlies had been cancelled, and the majority of those were away games, as a result of which
next year there will be a majority of away games. They had won the match against the ladies.

- E 028/21 LADIES COMPETITION SECRETARY-**
Further to the report attached the Men's and Ladies had decided that trophies and prizes be presented following each completed final.
- E 029/21 MEN'S COMPETITION SECRETARY**
In the absence of Harry, Alexander reported on Competitions. He had attended "drop in" sessions with Bowls England, during the early summer, at which it had been suggested that there may be regional finals prior to Leamington. The men had attempted to run the Leagues as normal, but that was thwarted by travel restrictions, so the leagues had been reformulated as an alternative for 2021 only, with no promotion or relegation and players allowed to move between teams. The final 2019 table positions would be retained for start of 2022 season.
- E 030/21 REPORT FROM YOUTH DEVELOPMENT OFFICER**
Report attached
- E 031/21 WEBSITE**
The Committee extended their gratitude to Alexander and Sue for the work to get the website operating this year and the information kept up to date and informative. Alexander explained that work is still being done to iron out some problems with pdf documents, league tables, competition and match displays. All this work is in hand and hopefully be concluded before next summer, in time for individual secretaries to take over their sections.
It was suggested that in the future Obituaries should appear on the website.
- E 032/21 PROPOSALS TO BE REVIEWED FOR AGM**
The Committee agreed unanimously that any proposals from this Committee for the AGM, would be considered following the AGM and dealt with as Bye-Laws
- E 033/21 REVIEW OF COUNTY OFFICER NOMINATION FORMS**
These were amended as appropriate and will be sent to club and ladies Secretaries, to be displayed together with the Privacy notice
- E 034/21 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**
- i) Letter from Tom Poore**
A letter received regarding the u25 squad was discussed and The Committee decided that no further action was necessary.
 - ii) Bowls England 2021 Nationals format** Where this appears to be working towards 3 sessions a day- the Committee felt this was prejudiced against the more mature, in age, players and may even deter members from entering competitions in the future
The Committee are aware of a great deal of discontent amongst members about the new format and propose to submit a proposal to B.E for their AGM as below
Proposal to go to B.E regarding National Championships formats-
Bowls Dorset propose that the 2021 format for National Championships be changed for future seasons to 4 wood singles – first to 21 shots, Two wood singles –21 ends , Pairs with 4 woods to minimum 18 ends, Triples with three woods minimum of 15 ends, Fours and senior fours with 2 woods minimum of 18 ends
 - iii) New club shirt design and colour-**
A request from Ferndown bowls Club was considered, to amend the design and colour of their shirt and jacket. The Committee approved this and clubs would be circulated to advise- although it will probably not be worn before 2022.
 - iv) Review of travelling expenses -**
The Committee discussed out of County travelling expenses and how they are currently paid- ie £25. per driver who has 3 players or match officials including themselves. For 6 rink matches this could equate to 9 cars and for two rink matches to 3 cars. The expected payments would be £225 and £75 respectively, which could be divided equally between drivers with passengers, and not determined by number of passengers.
Whatever is decided must be uniform for both Men and Ladies. This subject should be raised at delegate meetings.
 - v) AGM DATE**
The AGM will be held on 18 November 2021 at Dorchester Bowls Club at 6.30pm
- E 035/21 NEXT MEETING**
Date to be advised.

Meeting closed at 12.40am

SIGNED.....

Date.....

Report by Competition Secretary for Bowls Dorset Executive Meeting on 31st July 2021 County Competitions leading to Leamington

The competition programme is going well with the last quarter and semi-final taking place tomorrow. There have been a few withdrawals and quite a few substitutes, but I have almost completed each discipline. There has also been a lot of clarification on the rules and regulations this year.

We had one issue when one of our young people could not play the under 25's singles & pairs at finals weekend and after various discussions with the ladies Executive Committee the decision was made to play these rounds on another date, as a special circumstance and for this not to be a precedent. For the finals on 7th & 8th August there is a conflict with one person already qualified for 4 disciplines with still one Quarter & Semi to play, so there will be 3 disciplines played in a day. With consultation with the Men, the 4 wood singles for the ladies and men will be played at the same time all other competitions to fit in with any conflicts.

I am aware that a lot of the lady competitors across the county are unhappy with the new Bowls England format. The 2 wood triples is the most unpopular, the 15 ends for the fours and senior fours plus the fact that in disciplines apart from the singles, Dorset only has one representative. A lot of the ladies across the county have said that they will not enter next year which will be a loss. I expect that the format will stay for 2022 because of the Commonwealth Games, but I feel that at some point Dorset should make representations to Bowls England on behalf of our Dorset Competitors. The knockout in the Johns is also unpopular.

Other Dorset Competitions

Edna Paisley. After a slow start and some withdrawals, I allowed teams to rearrange matches during the season to suit their club and the teams remaining are enjoying their matches.

The other Dorset competitions are proceeding well with good entries. For the under 16s singles, in discussion with the Ladies Executive I have arranged to play the rounds /Final on finals weekend 11th/12th September to enable all the entrants to play.

Trophies

As we will have a winner and runner up in the under 25's pairs, I will need Trophies, so the Ladies Executive Committee have all contributed towards providing Trophies for this event, in memory of Hilda Stokes who sadly passed away recently. Hilda attended many county matches and competitions, so the Trophy will be named the 'Stokes Cup'.

The engraved glasses are all ordered and the glasses and trophies will be presented to winners and runners up at both finals weekend since the Ladies are not having a county lunch this year.

Thank you to all the Secretaries who have distributed competition information to their competitors.

The website is popular and I know competitors appreciate having results on the website promptly after each round. Thanks to Sue for doing this. Ann Allman

BD Ladies Match Secretary's report.

As you all know we only had two friendly matches this year one against our men which we lost. We still have B & D ladies to play (triples 18 ends) on August 25th at Meyrick Park. We were offered a hot meal at £10 per head which I have changed to tea and biscuits as both Clubs are in Dorset and a hot meal was unnecessary especially at that price!

This year we played Gloucester in the Johns Trophy but unfortunately lost by just 11 shots. In the Walker Cup we had a bye in the preliminary round and then played Cornwall in the first round winning by 9 shots which took us to the Regional Finals at Clevedon. We had to play a very strong Worcestershire side and unfortunately lost by 13 shots. Worcestershire then played Somerset who won. In both matches our girls played very well.

This year we changed our selection procedure slightly. We looked at players of all Dorset Clubs, selected two teams of ladies who played each other in a trial match from which we selected the final team. The selectors are having a short meeting next week to assess how we did etc. It was certainly an improvement on 2019 and well done to everyone.

Hopefully next year will be normal as I am sure that we have missed the SWC league etc.

Margaret Clapp

Youth Development Reprt

I have made visits to the junior section at Ferndown and twice to West Moors. Ferndown meet on a Sunday from 10.00am – 11.00am and have four young people and three coaches. They seem to be doing well and the standard of bowling since we were last there has improved. The coaches are finding it difficult as the people that run Ferndown club do not want to acknowledge that they have juniors that bowl. On our way out of the green, the Chairman, (who knew who I was) came and spoke to me. He informed us that their constitution needs to be changed for them to accept Ferndown has a junior section.

The children at that time were not affiliated. I asked if that could be done a.s.a.p. Both Ferndown and West Moors were short of size 00,0 and size 1 bowls. A request went out to all the outdoor clubs and also on the Bowls Dorset web site.

Almost as soon as it went out, we had phone calls and emails resulting in 3 sets being donated, and 3 sets costing a total of £85. Ferndown meanwhile had a kind benefactor who bought what was needed. West Moors have an excellent club. They meet mainly after school on Wednesday, but if some can't make Wednesday for any reason, they can go Tuesday. They have almost as many volunteer helpers as children and have two helpers to every rink. The children are very concentrated and have improved since last year. The club is an all year round club as they play short mat in the clubhouse in the winter. I was able to present 3 sets of small bowls for use at West Moors. One set is being used at Blandford. I have been encouraged by the fact that I believe we have 40+ youngsters playing in Dorset. Many of the older boys play in the men's league division 1, some girls are playing ladies league (when not at school) Nathan in the Middleton Cup and Reserve for the Balcombe Trophy. Millie and Catherine for the John's trophy. Here ends my report. Joy Steele