

# 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 23 October 2021**  
AT  
**DORCHESTER BOWLING CLUB**  
COMMENCING at 10.00am

- E 057/21**      **Welcome by Sue Maggs**
- E 058/21**      **PRESENT-** Beverley Plympton, Shirley Bowley, Sue Maggs, Alexander Wilson, Bill Fox, , Harry Hovenden, Marion Clements
- E 059/21**      **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE-** Margaret Clapp, Ann Allman,
- E 060/21**      **OBITUARIES:-** - Gloria Dendy Past president 2012 (Sherborne, Dorchester, Blandford), June Searle (Greenhill), Joan Eales (Poole Park0, Pam Fudge (Wellworthy), Bob Moore (Wellworthy)
- E 061/21**      **MINUTES of MEETING HELD 18 September 2021**  
Agreed proposed by Alexander Wilson and seconded by Harry Hovenden signed by President Beverley Plympton
- E 062/21**      **MATTERS ARISING from Minutes**  
i)      **E 055/21 - iii) *Items for delegates meetings*** - included in Secretaries reports
- E 063/21**      **CORRESPONDENCE**  
All correspondence had been circulated and the Committee agreed unanimously that there was no need to read.  
Included was  
(a) collection form for late affiliation payments- membership received by clubs since May 1<sup>st</sup>.  
(b) dates for rounds for the National intercounty events  
(c) details of the Big Bowls weekend 2022  
(d) an invitation to attend the Counties meeting 26/27 November  
(e ) a ballot with all necessary information for nomination of Director of Competitive Events and Director of Governance- Form completed and returned
- E 064/21**      **TREASURERS REPORT**  
Shirley reported that the Accounts were with the auditor, and competition fees were beginning to be received
- E 065/21**      **LADIES SECRETARY REPORT**  
Sue reported on the Ladies delegates meeting  
It had been 2 years with no county games or competitions played in 2020 and this year competitions having to be played with new formats to two separate finals days one in August to accommodate the qualifying restrictions for Leamington and the second one in September. Both were run jointly with the men. This will continue in 2022 with Finals days being July 23/24 and September 11/12  
The Johns reverted to a knockout and will remain so for the forthcoming season. B.D had requested of B.E in 2018 that it should revert to knockout, but was rejected,  
There was much confusion with the formats and which games, but I think everyone coped very well- and we shall endeavour to cope again next year.  
There will be some amendments necessary to Rules and Regulations and Constitution, some brought about by changes in B.E regulations, but these will be handled with Bye Laws when the full extent of changes is known- Not least of all is the change of affiliation payment date from October to April. Alexander and I will be working through these and should be able to sort before next season.  
The County had received representation from a gentleman who with his partner had moved to the county and were upset that there was no Dorset Evening League for the ladies, similar to the Men's County Monday league. The Ladies delegates discussed this at length and will consult their lady members if this is a league that could be supported in the future. At present the B & D association do run such a league, but it is mixed triples on a Tuesday. SDBA would look into the possibility of opening their evening league to clubs outside the present SDBA area.

Out of County travel expenses- discussed at length and consensus was that it should remain at £25 per driver with three players/officials in the car, including themselves

Set fees for hosting of events had been discussed, but no conclusion was reached as the result of the survey was inconclusive.

Presentation days -With the presentation of trophies with photographs taken at the time-delegates discussed the necessity for a presentation day- especially with the escalating costs and the fact that not all winners were available to attend. Delegates to consult their members and vote in the spring meeting.

Affiliation fees- The ladies were reminded about for the necessity for all club bowlers to be affiliated to Bowls Dorset and Bowls England according to the Rules & Regulations. This year the affiliation date was 31 March, and some members did not feel confident renewing their membership till later in the year. When these were renewed the affiliation was then due as it was for any new member joining throughout the year. The only exception was for any new bowler (who had never bowled before) that joined following the clubs registration and participation in the B.E. Big Bowls Weekend

With the necessity of keeping everyone informed and in order that the website can be updated the reporting of all results must be prior to 10pm on day of play

All ladies offices are filled, and there were 4 nominations for selection committee which will be voted on at the AGM- Margaret Crawford, Penny Cresswell, Diana Mogg and Sheena Willis

Arrangements had been mad for the collection of the ladies shirts for those who wished to have "Johns " and "Double Rink" strips put on

**E 066/21**

### **LADIES MATCH SECRETARY REPORT**

No Report

**E 067/21**

### **MEN'S SECRETARY REPORT**

Alexander reported on the Men's delegates meeting which was attended by 16 clubs with apologies from 3 clubs

The formats for the National Championships next year will be: Singles unchanged, Pairs 4 woods 18 ends, Triples 3 woods 18 ends, Fours and senior fours 2 wood 18 ends,

- Leamington will run from 25 August to 11 September 2022 with 48 qualifiers only, where the top 13 counties in each discipline receive two qualifiers and the remainder one.

For Dorset to get 2 qualifiers in a discipline, the entry across the County would have to increase by around 50% which, bearing in mind other Counties may be trying the same, seems unlikely.

Counties 2 of 4 will not be told how many qualifiers until all entries are in to and been processed by Bowls England. So the County won't hear until March/April.

- As this year, there will be 2 County Finals Weekends, the first for Championships going to Leamington provisionally 23/24 July at Dorchester and the second for County Competitions 17/18 September at Blandford. Both will be joint with the Ladies

- Also as this year, County Trophies will be presented to winners and runners-up at the Finals Weekends.

- Photographs from this year's County Finals will be available in due course from the photographer and trophies available for loan once engraved.

- There was no County Presentation Lunch in 2020 and 2021. However there is a desire among Club delegates not to abandon County Lunches altogether with a request to look at the possibility of one with perhaps a suitable speaker as the attraction.

- Middleton and Johns will remain as knockout competitions for 2022. • Out of County expenses for inter-County matches are proposed to remain at £25 for 3 travelling together in a car.

- Post Match meals, principally for friendlies are proposed to remain.

- Bowls England is planning another "Big Bowls Weekend" at the end of May.

- There will be a Bowls England awards event to recognise contributions made by club members (instead of an AGM with trophy presentations) in February.

- Bowls England is doing a lot of work and consultation on the Future of Bowls,

- Commonwealth Games with bowling on the Leamington greens will run from 29 July to 6 August.

- County & Percy Baker Leagues should return to normal next year, with positions following on from final placings in the 2019 season.

- County Championships and Competitions should return to the more normal order however will have to be arranged to be ready for the July County Finals Weekend.

- There will be a requirement for all results – League and Championships to be photographed/scanned and emailed through to the relevant Secretary by 10pm on the day of play. There was a lot of late reporting this year that put an undue burden on County League and Competition Secretaries. For the leagues it may require a review of the reporting form.

- The County's youth players are being well provided for by the Dorset Youth Bowls Academy. However the majority of the youngsters are based in the East and Clubs in the West could encourage more.

- The qualifying rounds of the boys and girls U16 competitions will be played on the same day at the same venue to make it more of an event for the youngsters.

- While the County still has a number of post with no nominations, Alan Weech (Lyme Regis) has been nominated for Men's President for 2022.

- Out of County travel expenses- were discussed, but will remain as they are- £25.00 per driver with three players

**E 068/21**

**MEN'S MATCH SECRETARY REPORT**

Most of the friendlies have been agreed – Civil Service game still pending, Royal Household and Swindon and District may be mixed- subject to discussions with the ladies. No news on a possible Middleton /John trial game.

**E 069/21**

**LADIES COMPETITION SECRETARY-**

I do not have much to report since the last meetings but know that people are pleased with the revised BE format for County Competitions but not the 1 entry per county to play at Leamington.

County Competition Entries are slowly being returned and we are hoping for some extra entries in perhaps the Fours and Triples, but nothing will be decided until BE have all the entries.

I have drafted up the Competition Rounds & Q/S finals but until we receive the dates for the British Isles Championships, I cannot finalise the programme. I do know that it will be a tight schedule getting in all the competitions that go to Leamington before 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> July. I plan to run the other Dorset competitions after that date and before Leamington starts.

I am sorry but I will not be able to attend the BD AGM the main reason being is that by returning to UK by myself, if there are issues, it could mean that I will be caught in UK and Trevor in Cyprus, so I have booked flights for both of us to return mid-January when I will make arrangements to do the draw for the County & Dorset Competitions.

**E 070/21**

**MEN'S COMPETITION SECRETARY**

The Competition forms are coming in slowly.

**E 071/21**

**REVIEW LEAGUE ENTRY AND HANDBOOK ORDER FORM AND CLUB REGISTRATION FORM**

These were agreed with the addition of BACS details for league entry forms and the increase in entry fees

**E 072/21**

**WEBSITE**

Nothing to report

**E 073/21**

**PROPOSALS TO BE REVIEWED FOR AGM**

Nothing to propose at present

**E 074/21**

**REVIEW ALLOWANCES FOR APPROVAL AT AGM-**

The Committee agreed unanimously that these should remain as 2019 and 2020-

Chairperson £100; Treasurer £250; Administrator £400

Presidents £1000 each plus match fee free.

Expenses for Leamington attendance would be considered up to £50 per day.

Executive Officers :- Secretaries £250.; Match Secretaries £250 plus match fee free;  
Competition Secretaries £300

Assistant Competition Secretary £100 Assistant Secretary/Match Secretary £250

**Allowance for County Competition Finalists attending the National Championships at Leamington.**

An allowance of £50.00 per person be paid in place of the B.E. allowance.

**E 075/21**

**AGREE AGENDAS FOR AGM'S**

Reports to be sent prior to the AGM, and additions /updates can be read on the day

Masks are to be worn this year, except when standing and speaking, and 2 delegates only from each club.

**E 076/21**

**REVIEW SURVEY REPLIES**

Not many replies – out of the 9 that were received 2 had not got facilities to offer, 7 were prepared to offer at least one County Match at no cost, 5 offered to host events at no cost and 1 offered to host events for a charge of £25.00.

**E 077/21**

**LETTER RECEIVED FROM DWBL**

A letter received from Dorset Women's Bowling League, advising that a proposal put forward to their upcoming AGM, is for their association to seek amalgamation with Bowls Dorset

B.D has previously accepted such a move and suggested a joint Committee be set up to work towards integration.

**E 078/21**

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**i) Amy Rose Fund -**

A letter received from Joy Steele and Penny Cresswell requesting the fund be released for the purchase of an Amy Rose Kit and seek registration of green shorts/trousers as an option for Dorset players.

Whilst the Committee are extremely proud that our young ladies are now playing in this prestigious event, the fund was originally set up to help pay for travel and accommodation for the team.

The Committee are prepared to release money for extra travel expenses over and above the travel expenses already agreed. However, Uniform is a county issue and not just Amy Rose and this would need to be a much wider discussion – even if it was just a junior kit owned by the county

**ii) Review of Leamington Championships 2021**

President Beverley's review attached- The Committee felt that this should be forwarded to Bowls England for their own review

**E 079/21 NEXT MEETING  
To be confirmed after AGM**

**Meeting closed at 1.00pm**

**SIGNED..... Date.....**

**Leamington Feedback**

Winners (Young and not so young) of the County Championship Competitions in Dorset went to Royal Leamington Spa in 2021 to compete against winners from other counties.

They were helped, supported and cheered on by County Officials, Past Presidents, family and friends. It would be wonderful to have many more supporters shouting encouragement.

Note:- These winners are representing YOUR clubs.

Everyone appreciated that the National Bowls Championships at Leamington was able to take place in 2021 albeit in a different way to accommodate certain restrictions.

We were complimented on our "smart" dress Code and greeted by many who would say "Morning Dorset"

**CHANGES:-**

1. At the Entry gate Competitors received an envelope containing their badge and details of where and when they will be playing and who they had been drawn against. Previously they had these presented to them by the Presidential team and a photograph was taken.
2. Only 1 access point as all others were closed ( a long walk to get there and then a long walk to the allocated green. Difficult for those less agile)
3. No Friends of Bowls England Marque. This caused much consternation and discussion as they are very supportive with funds....
4. Luncheon for key guests on certain days in the Spa Room meant it was closed to competitors and the public. This meant food and drink outlets had long queues and competitors had no time to get food before playing the next round.
5. Having media coverage (cameras, podcast etc) was a new innovation and was well received - did it reach the masses???

**PRESIDENTIAL PRESENTATIONS**

These were made on A Green whilst other teams were still playing (one at a crucial point in their game). Much spectator feeling that this was not appropriate and many voiced their disapproval.

**UMPIRES AND MARKERS**

Spectators and Players expected a professional performance from those Marking and Umpiring. (We are aware many are volunteers and thank them for their support)

1. An Umpire - poor use of string to determine if a Jack was in or out.....
2. A marker dropped his measure on the green and did not hear/register repeated calls telling him (someone actually went on the green to inform him)
3. Markers messing up the scorecards.
4. Markers who were hard of hearing and relaying wrong answers to questions from competitors. - No trust in his information meant they had to visit the head to determine the situation.....

The Presidential Team were friendly, well attired, greeted players and spectators, were available for photographs if requested BUT ... It would have been lovely to see them watching games on Greens B C D and E and not just waiting to present Trophies on Green A.

ALL our Competitors were pleased to have our support and I was proud to watch their performance on some difficult rinks. Each day's events with relevant times, Green, and rink are posted on the windows of the Office. Difficult to view because of narrow walkway and numerous people at peak times, reflections on the glass, set too high for short people and could benefit from print being larger.