

# BOWLS DORSET

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

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## MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON Thursday 3 July at 2.00pm AT DORCHESTER BOWLING CLUB

- E 095/23**      **PRESENT-** Ann Allman, Shirley Bowley, Bill Fox,  
Harry Hovenden, Sue Maggs, Janine Scola, Alexander Wilson
- E 096/23**      **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE-** Margaret Clapp
- E 097/23**      **OBITUARIES:** - Dorothy Davidson (Sherborne)
- E 098/23**      **MINUTES of MEETING HELD 25 May 2023**  
Agreed - proposed by Janine Scola seconded by Harry Hovenden signed by Alexander Wilson
- E 099/23**      **MATTERS ARISING from Minutes not already on the agenda**  
i) **E 080/23 ii) Sponsorship on website-** On going  
ii) **E 080/23 iv) National Competition Areas-** Deferred until October delegates meetings.  
iii) **E 080/23 vii) Championship Prizes and League winners' prizes-** These had now been ordered by Alexander- 101 mugs and 292 coasters, including the prospective winners of the Bowls Dorset DWBL competitions.  
iv) **E 080/23 viii) DWBL Singles and Pairs competitions-** The entry form had been sent to club secretaries with an entry fee of £3.00 per person.  
v) **E 080/23 ix) Dress code-** ongoing  
vi) **E 080/23 xii) Laws of the Sports 4<sup>th</sup> edition-** Alexander had ordered 30 copies of these, which will be distributed to each club, with a label – “TO BE DISPLAYED WITHIN THE CLUB , SUPPLIED WITH THE COMPLIMENTS OF BOWLS DORSET” . They will have a facility to be displayed by a string within clubs.  
vii) **E 091/23 Safeguarding-** It is the intention of the Committee to set up the course of 2 two 3 hour sessions if possible on one day within the County, and encourage Clubs to enrol . Alexander will endeavour to source a realistic price for these courses, bearing in mind that there will be a legal requirement from 2025, for every club to have their own safeguarding Officer
- E 100/23**      **CORRESPONDENCE**  
All that had been received for Bowls England had been circulated to Clubs and Officers as necessary- but their correspondence is generally available on their B.E. Website.  
Items received included-  
i) details of tickets for B.E.N.F. for volunteers and qualifiers and visitors. - Alexander will send a form for details of dates required and then the tickets will be allocated on the same basis as last year  
ii) Update from May drop in- Board update- Governance United are to undertake a board evaluation; affiliation numbers to be sent to counties; draws for National Finals (these are available through a link on the BD website); update on clothing available shortly; GDPR photography template available  
iii) details of the Para team selection  
iv) details of items on June drop in, including another update on clothing, update on Competitions working party, affiliation figures showing Dorset affiliations have increased by 2.7%  
v) a request for volunteers to man the Tournament Office during the BENF

- vi) Board minutes of 17 May
- vii) County update June

**E 101/23      TREASURERS REPORT**

We paid affiliation fees for 1649 members (1605:2022). We now have paid fees for an extra 51 members giving a total of 1700 (1792: 2022)  
We have paid £625 for the coach for the postponed/cancelled game at Congresbury. This will be put towards the coach to Sussex.  
Bank details will be needed after the Finals day for Leamington expenses – this year £75 per qualifier.  
The Bank balance is £18k and there is £31k in the e-savings account.  
The ladies have a profit of £5498, the men £6229 and there is a combined loss of £2925. So a total profit of £8801  
The allowances last year totalled £6150 and Leamington expenses for one qualifier in the disciplines was £1850.

**E 102/23      LADIES SECRETARY REPORT**

Nothing to report.

**E 103/23      LADIES MATCH SECRETARY REPORT**

The ladies have played 2 friendlies, winning against Hampshire and the Men; In the Walker Cup we played Worcester and came a close second; in the Johns we have had 2 good matches, close but no overall win, picking up rink points only; in the SWCL our Hereford tie was postponed as the coach broke down the night before taking us to Congresbury and it looks like it will not be re-arranged. However, we have had wins against Somerset and Worcester and look forward to finishing well.

**E 104/23      MEN'S SECRETARY REPORT**

Nothing to report.

**E 105/23      MEN'S MATCH SECRETARY REPORT**

The men have won 3 out of their 6 friendlies, one mixed friendly and both "celebration" matches. The Balcombe Trophy they won against Worcester and then lost to Devon, and the Middleton they have had close matches with rink wins but no overall wins.

**E 106/23      LADIES COMPETITION SECRETARY-  
County Competitions.**

All going as planned. There have been a lot of withdrawals in the 2-wood competition and a few walk overs in the other comps. One team had a bye in the prelim and then unfortunately had 2 walk overs taking them into the Quarter Final without playing a match.  
There has been the usual issue with winners not sending in the results until they get home often just before 10pm instead of them just messaging after the match and sending the score card later.

Draws have been done for A & B

**Dorset Mixed Fours**

One team only played 18 ends, I did speak to both teams, and they realised later that it should have been 21 ends but since both teams signed the card the result stayed.

**LUST**

I have had 16 entries for the LUST trophy.

**Cobern**

I have had 21 entries for the Cobern Trophy

**Rules**

Some issue about 2 players who are registered at 2 clubs, playing EP out of one club and County Comps from the other club – current rules do not say you cannot do this.

**E 107/23      MEN'S COMPETITION SECRETARY-**

All competitions progressing well.

**E 108/23      WEBSITE-**

On going- although an Invoice for renewal of the Hosting registration has been received and paid

**E 109/23**

**INCLEMENT WEATHER**

Alexander will provide a Paraphrasing of the guidance set out by Bowls England in 2022, for the website.

**E 110/23**

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- a) Letter received from a Bowls Dorset member – will be replied to by the Chairman.
- b) Restocking the County clothing- this will be done for the 2024 season- taking due notice of lead in time.
- c) An enquiry for clarification of rules regarding league teams and competitions- was discussed at length- and the Board agreed that the rules do at present appear to allow players to play league games from one club and competitions from another club. The Committee will review these rules for next year.
- d) Dates for 2024-
  - Ladies Presidents day at Branksome Park Sunday 7 July
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Finals Days at Dorchester 20/21 July with wet weather fall back 27/28 July
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Finals days at Branksome Park 7/8 September

**E 111/23**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

**Date of the next meeting of the Executive Board. 24 August 10.00.am**

**Meeting closed 12.25am**

**SIGNED.....**

**Date.....**

**TO:** World Bowls Board, MNAs, WB Laws Advisory Group  
**FROM:** Neil Dalrymple, Chief Executive Officer  
**DATE:** Thursday May 25, 2023  
**RE:** World Bowls Laws Advisory Group decision on Laws 37.1.3 and 37.1.5.3

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In August 2022 the above two new laws were introduced to the Laws of the Sport Crystal Mark Fourth Edition. They were designed to penalise a player who deliberately displaced their own teams bowl on its original course or lifted a bowl at rest to allow one of their own team's bowls to pass.

Despite a clarification document published on the World Bowls Website in September 2022, it has become very clear from communications that the two laws have caused a great deal of confusion and have resulted in games being forfeited incorrectly following players innocently stopping bowls from entering the ditch.

Furthermore, the management of a side game and the resulting penalty after a team has been disqualified has also caused a great deal of confusion with MNAs and domestic Controlling Bodies.

Concern has been around the severe penalty of forfeiting the game and clarity in the wording of the law itself. Recommendations have been received to reduce the severity of the forfeit to penalising with shot deductions. This approach would be inconsistent with any other law and was not felt to be a suitable solution. Penalties have always existed for the displacement of a bowl by its own team players but at the time of the 2021 Laws review these penalties were not felt to be severe enough for what is considered an act of "cheating".

Having considered several options to improve the intent of these two laws, the World Bowls Laws Advisory Group have concluded and recommended to the Board of World Bowls to rescind them. The numbering of Law 37.1.4 will remain untouched until the next review of the Laws.

The changes to the Laws are summarised as follows:

~~37.1.3 If a bowl in its original course is deliberately displaced or stopped by a member of the team that delivered the bowl, the defaulting team will forfeit the game to their opponent.~~

37.1.4 Displacement of a bowl in motion.

37.1.4.1 If a bowl in motion is displaced by a player and it has not disturbed the head after it is displaced, the opposing skip or the opponent in Singles must choose whether to:

- 37.1.4.1.1 place the bowl where the player believes it would have come to rest; or
- 37.1.4.1.2 declare the end dead.

37.1.4.2 If a bowl in motion is displaced by a player and it has disturbed the head after it is displaced, the opposing skip or the opponent in Singles must choose whether to:

- 37.1.4.2.1 place the bowl where the player believes it would have come to rest and replace any part of the head disturbed after the displacement; or
- 37.1.4.2.2 declare the end dead.

37.1.5 Displacement of a bowl at rest.

37.1.5.1 If a bowl at rest or a toucher in the ditch is displaced by a player and it has not disturbed the head after it is displaced, the opponent must put the bowl back to its former position.

37.1.5.2 If a bowl at rest or a toucher in the ditch is displaced by a player and it has disturbed the head after it is displaced, the opponent must put the bowl back to its former position and replace any part of the head disturbed after the displacement.

~~37.1.5.3 If a player lifts a bowl at rest on their rink to allow their team's bowl in its original course to pass, the defaulting team will forfeit the game to their opponent.~~

**The World Bowls Board, following a recommendation from the World Bowls Laws Advisory Group, have agreed to rescind Laws 37.1.3 and 37.1.5.3 with immediate effect.**

**World Bowls will post this advice on our website and social media platforms in the next 24 hours but I encourage all MNAs to share this advice with all relevant members within your Association/Federation.**