

**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**  
**Monday 4 September 10.00am**  
**AT**  
**DORCHESTER BOWLING CLUB**

- E 112/23**      **PRESENT-** Ann Allman, Shirley Bowley, Bill Fox,  
Harry Hovenden, Sue Maggs, Alexander Wilson, Bobbie Cover SVP by invitation.
- E 113/23**      **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE-** Margaret Clapp, Janine Scola
- E 114/23**      **OBITUARIES:** - Cynthea Reed (Dorchester)
- E 115/23**      **MINUTES of MEETING HELD 3 July 2023**  
All agreed - proposed by Bill Fox seconded by Harry Hovenden signed by Alexander Wilson
- E 116/23**      **MATTERS ARISING from Minutes not already on the agenda**
- i) **E 100/23 (i) Sponsorship on website-** On going
  - ii) **E 100/23 (ii) National Competition Areas-** Deferred until October delegates meetings.
  - iii) **E 100/23 (v) Dress code-** ongoing
  - iv) **E 100/23 (vi) 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.
  - v) **E 100/23 (vii) Safeguarding** – The Committee agreed unanimously that Bowls Dorset will fund 1 person from each club- obligatory- to attend a 2 session course in April 2024. The sessions will comprise a basic course of 2hrs and a more substantial course look at safeguarding of 4 hours. Each club will be required to send at least one nominated person to attend, and any extra members will be at a cost of £50. This subject to B.D. negotiating for a day course to be arranged through Bowls England. The indication from Bowls England is that any club without a safeguarding Officer, may not be eligible to affiliate in 2025. Safeguarding Officers to be added to website details for clubs.
  - vi) **E110/23 (d) Finals Days 2024-** These to be joint finals days, at Dorchester 20/21 July and Branksome Park 14/15 September. The 2<sup>nd</sup> date has had to be put back a week, due to National finals at Leamington being put back 1 week. Dates to be advised to all Clubs.
  - vii) **E109/23 Inclement Weather-** Alexander will provide a Paraphrasing of the guidance set out by Bowls England in 2022, for the website for 2024
- E 117/23**      **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) Board minutes from 18 July 2023
  - ii) Ticket allocation for National Finals- Our thanks got to Alexander for handling these
  - iii) Notes from July “Drop in “ including a farewell to Varsh Rogoobarsing and Helen Slimm.
- Other correspondence included a change of Officers at Shaftesbury, an enquire about changing number of ends in Edna Paisley, and dress code- both of which were directed to Appendix A for proposals. Also an enquiry regarding travel expenses which will be discussed for next season.

**E 118/23**

**TREASURERS REPORT**

I have transferred £8000 to the E-Savings Account. The current account is now £3.8k and the E-Savings £38-8K.

We are waiting for the coach refund of £625.

We are also due to pay the extra affiliation fees to Bowls England for 109 bowlers of £545.

The money for the Benevolent Triples, is yet to be confirmed- entry fees less expenses

There will be a few other expenses to come. ie engraving of trophies.

We have had a provision for the last 2 years of £2000 for any website extras.

At the moment we have an overall profit of £2765.16, includes a payment from DWBL £1673.11

**E 119/23**

**LADIES SECRETARY REPORT**

Nothing to report- a meeting of the Ladies Code to be held later today -4 September.

The Ladies delegates meeting will be 10.00am on 19 October

**E 120/23**

**LADIES MATCH SECRETARY REPORT**

Sue reported on behalf of Margaret- That the ladies had won the SWCL trophy for the first time in over 10 years. They had secured the win by 1 point from Wiltshire, despite forfeiting 12 points when the coach broke down for the Hereford game. Dorset won all their matches. Well done to all those ladies who contributed to this fine achievement.

In the friendlies – all matches had been won including against the men. 1 game was not played due to inclement weather- Sussex

The Johns Trophy- we had some very close matches, including losing by just 7 shots to Wiltshire, but alas no wins.

The Walker Cup – alas we did not manage to overcome Worcestershire, despite being ahead most of the match, and losing by 6 shots. We were very proud of those that played.

The Amy Rose Trophy, we had a walkover and then lost to Warwickshire.

Hereford will not be in the SWCL next year- favouring the Midland league in future.

We already have games booked for next year, and for SWCL, will be attempting to cut down on the time and expense of a 2 course post-match meal. By suggesting a jacket potato with basic fillings like coronation chicken, tuna mayo, cheese & beans – no salad and no desert

**E 121/23**

**MEN'S SECRETARY REPORT**

Alexander had attended a meeting at Leamington dealing with the Competitions working party They had identified what they considered to be the important Competitions as 4 wood singles, pairs, triples and fours, and all the others would be reviewed as their relevance to the National finals or change to regional finals. There may be a review of the age eligibility for senior competitions especially the fours as the same competitors seem to play in both. There was still no "guarantee" of number of qualifiers. B.E will put a Presentation forward to the Counties meeting on 25 November to be voted on at AGM in February.

He had drawn various items to the attention of the National Finals organisers, including the live scoring which did not work after 9.30 in the morning.

The Men's delegates meeting will be on the evening of the ladies- 19 October

**E 122/23**

**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 123/23**

**LADIES COMPETITION SECRETARY-  
Attached**

**E 124/23**

**MEN'S COMPETITION SECRETARY-**

All competitions went well, but another year of problems receiving results by the appointed time. This was ever more a problem with the League results. The delegates would discuss methods of dealing with the situation.

**E 125/23**

**WEBSITE-**

On going

E 126/23      **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**  
none

E 127/23      **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**  
Date of the next meeting of the Executive Board. 12 October 2.00pm

Meeting closed 1.55pm

SIGNED.....

Date.....

### Notes from Zoom 26.7.23

- **Bowls' Big Weekend** – average of 31 attendees per event; 4.6 out of 5 attendee satisfaction score; significant media coverage.
  - ACTION – Jas to send more details to Counties and also include membership conversion in 2024 data capture exercise.
  - SAVE THE DATE – Fri 24 – Sun 27 May 2024
- **Club Zone at the Aviva National Finals 2023** – we are running sessions for affiliated clubs to learn about various areas of club management and discuss topics with their peers. Appreciate this is quite late in the day, but if you could help promote to people they will get a couple of tickets for the Nationals so they can watch some bowls before/after the seminars. The email, attached, went to clubs and the link for booking on the events is exclusive to them.
- **Champion of Champions validation** - it was agreed that Bowls England would consider eligibility for this event as part of the Competitions Working Party review.
- **Aviva National Finals 2024** – number of qualifiers will stay the same as 2023; SAVE THE DATE – 15 August to 1 September 2024; consultation with counties to happen over coming months.
- **British Isles 2024** – to be agreed with other nations but England will host the British Isles Championships and International Series in 2024 at Royal Leamington Spa. The dates are Wednesday 26 and Thursday 27 June (Championships) and Friday 28 to Sunday 30 June inclusive (Internationals).
- **Draft Bowls England Events Calendar 2024** – to aid your planning, please see the first iteration of the 2024 events calendar.
- **Performance Strategy** – we have engaged Jon Austin, ex-Performance Director of Badminton England, to help us with this work.
- **Affiliation Numbers** – the figures compared to this time last year show a 1.4% growth.
- **Facilities** – agreed that this is an issue and we need to spend some time as a collective on it.
- **Positions** – Bowls England Junior Vice President – please start thinking about potential MALE nominees, and Jon would be happy to have an exploratory conversation with them. Also, EBACT is looking for a Treasurer. If interested, suggest contacting Jesse Clark.
- **Bowls England departures** – as mentioned, we will be saying farewell to Varsha and to Helen (October) and both will be missed. We will be advertising these roles imminently.

## **Report by Ann Allman – Competition Secretary for Bowls Dorset Executive on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023. County Competitions 2024**

All the county competition entry forms for 2024 have been sent out to the clubs with a closing date of 31.10.23. I plan to do the draw on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> December 10.30am at Dorchester.

### **Leamington**

Overall the ladies did not have the best of success at Leamington with players either losing in the first or second game, **however Donna Rock** played consistently well and made her way to the Final of the Champion of Champion which unfortunately she lost, but well done Donna. **Rebecca Cresswell** had a good run in the 2 wood singles narrowly losing to Rebecca Willgress in an exciting match in Round 3. All enjoyed the experience especially those players who qualified for Leamington for the first time

### **County Finals weekend**

Leamington County finals weekends went well with Trophies & Mugs being presented and photos taken. The same format is proposed for the Dorset Finals weekend. DWBL League winners and runners up Trophies will be presented during the weekend.

### **DWBL Competitions – this was only for 2023 club finalists.**

**DWBL – Club Drawn Pairs Competition** was played on 29.8.23 at Lyme Regis BC with complimentary rinks. 8 entries received (but 1 team withdrew the night before due to illness). Although this did not meet the criteria we set of a minimum of 12 entrants, it only seemed fair to the 8 pairs who had entered to go ahead with the competition. 18 ends were played to get the 2 rounds played down to the 2 finalists who will play at Dorset Finals weekend..

**DWBL – Singles Competition** was played on 30.9.23 at Blandford BC with complimentary rinks. 14 entries were received 21 shots played. This went well with some players playing 3 games to get down to the 2 finalists who will play at Dorset finals Weekend. Thanks to Blandford BC for supplying the markers and to all the supporters who came to Blandford.

All the competitors in both the Pairs and Singles Competitions enjoyed the competitions which were all played in good spirit.

### **Edna Paisley**

It has been a difficult season running the EP this year, particularly the West with teams rearranging games, then not being able to play on the rearranged date due to availability of players or due to the weather.

The East matches are all completed, with 1 team where I had to impose the penalty rules and another team where the matches had been rearranged twice and still could not play due to the weather on 2 occasions, so neither team gained any points. Poole Park have won the East Division

The West matches still have 1 week of matches to play, again with 1 team where penalty points had to be imposed but Portland BO are top of the league and have won the West Division. The final will be played at Dorset finals weekend. Because of the amount of work involved in running the Edna Paisley this year alongside running the County Comps and the DWBL comps both Marion and myself feel it is time for the Edna Paisley to be a separate post (like the Men's Percy Baker) and we will not be available to run the EP in 2024.

There were 10 teams entered in the EP West this year and it might be a suggestion for 2024 if there are a similar number of entries to split into 2 divisions with a break between a batch of fixtures so that if there are matches to be rearranged there should be availability as it was rather fraught at times with clubs trying to rearrange matches.

Broadstone Wessex BC have sent both myself and Sue Maggs a proposal that the Edna Paisley is reduced to 15 ends, due to the amount of bowls required to be bowled as opposed to the DWBL

### **Engraving**

Due to the distance to travel to Blandford to get the Trophies/Cups engraved I had used Darren Nutman R & B Trophies, Weymouth this year. Cost £10 for first trophy then £8 per trophy thereafter as opposed to £7.50 per trophy at Blandford.

Ann Allman  
Ladies Competition Secretary

2.9.23