

SUSSEX COUNTY BOWLS (Men's Section)

(Members of Bowls England & the Home Counties Bowls Association)

Minutes of a Meeting of the General Purposes Committee held at Popes Mead B.C.

10.00 hours on Monday 13th February, 2017

Present: Ken Woodcock (KW) (Chairman), Derek Budd (DB) (President), David Ogle (DO) (Vice President), John Kinnard (JK) (Junior Vice. President), Terry Mitchell (TM) (Imm. Past President), Rod McBeth (RMc) (Hon. Secretary), John Abbott (JA) (Treasurer), Lindsay Bangs (LB) (Hon Assistant Secretary), Brian Henty (BH) (Hon. Match Secretary), Don Kent (DK) (Div. 1 Rep), Tony Sharman (TS) (Div. 2 Rep), Mike Bright (MB) (Div 3 Rep) and Lew Mockett (LM) (Div. 4 Rep).

The Meeting commenced with the Chairman welcoming all to the first meeting of the new year, especially the new members and he then wished the President and his team good luck for the season and invited the President to say a few words. The President also welcomed everyone and especially the new members. He stressed that his theme throughout the season would be on recruitment and that we should all be striving to get at least one new member in to bowling.

Members were notified that the RMc had been informed prior to the meeting that Past President and Secretary of the Association Alan Clemits had passed away last week and that funeral arrangements would be notified when known. TS was asked to place an entry on the County Website.

- | 1. Apologies. | Action |
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| a) There were no apologies as all were present. | |
| 2. Minutes of the GPC Meetings held on the 5th September, 2016. | |
| a) The Minutes of the last Meeting and Emergency Meeting were signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting. | |
| 3. Matters arising from the above Minutes. | |
| a) KW mentioned that the Competition Secretary had resigned and we would be discussing a replacement at item 11. | |
| Item 7 d) RMc noted that he had not included the provision of trophies for the new Competitions on the agenda and this was therefore discussed. DK confirmed that following donations from the Past Presidents a trophy for the winners of the Senior Fours had been purchased and that it was anticipated that they would also be able to provide a trophy for the Runners Up. RMc confirmed that two old trophies had been among the items handed to the Chairman on the resignation of the Competition Secretary and it was hoped these could be re designated for the Under 25 pairs. KW thanked the Past Presidents for providing the trophies. | |
| 4. Officers Report. | |
| a) Officers reports from the Secretary, Treasurer, Match Secretary and Assistant Secretary had been previously circulated and after one or two discussions on some minor points, all were accepted. The current bank balance was confirmed as £38704.01 as at 27 Jan. | |
| b) It was noted that the location for the fixture against Hertfordshire was still awaited. BH reported that it had been arranged for a Saturday following previous comments that we had no County games at weekends. | BH |
| b) KW reported that BE are having a 10 th Anniversary match in August and the County would be required to nominate two people. The New Junior Vice | |

President for BE is Hazel Marke from Hampshire. He further reported that we had been asked to vote for a selector for the South and of the three candidates it was considered that Andy Thompson was the outstanding nominee and is who we voted for.

Secretarys' Note: BE notified on 15 Feb 17, that Andy Thompson was elected as National Selector for the South Region.

5. Proposed Change to Men's Section Constitution to clarify the Designation of Officers.

- a) A paper as attached had been circulated and was unanimously agreed that this should be placed before the Executive Committee for approval. **RMc**

6. Proposed Change to Men's Section Rules re Draw for Rinks.

- a) RM reported that we had drawn up Rules based on information supplied by Bowls England and this had information had now been amended so it was necessary to amend our Rules. A paper as attached had been circulated and was unanimously agreed that this should be placed before the Executive Committee for approval. RMc was asked to ensure all clubs were notified and to prepare a notice for clubs to place on their notice Board. **RMc**

7. Review of Indoor Fixtures and Costs and Outdoor costs

- a) The location and costs of Indoor fixtures was discussed and it was considered whether or not we wished to continue with all of the games that we play each year. After considerable discussion it was agreed that we would continue with the games as arranged but that once the cost for any match was over £10 we would reconsider that fixture.
- b) It was agreed that when selecting teams for these indoor matches in future the aim would be to initially attempt to select six Delegates for each match and then continue with the priority arrangement as previously agreed (a. - Presidential Team, b. - Officers, c. - Past Presidents and Hon. Members and d. - other Committee Members). **LB & Vice Pres**
- b) It was noted that the meal costs that we agree to pay to clubs for outdoor games may need to be increased for 2018. **BH**

8. Appointment of Delegates to HCBA and SCIBA

- a) The appointment of Delegates to these organisations had not been actioned at the final GPC Meeting of 2016. RM reported that normally the Chairman and President were our two delegates to the HCBA with the Secretary being the delegate to SCIBA. These were agreed for 2017.

9. Proposed Changes to the Home Counties Constitution

- a) KW reported that papers had been circulated prior to discussion at the HCBA AGM for consideration of changes that were necessary as certain aspects were missing from the Constitution. He continued to report that whilst what was proposed was acceptable there were other aspects that needed discussion and it was agreed that our delegates should raise these issues at the Meeting. **KW & DB**
- b) RM sought clarification as to what determined which County a player could play Middleton Cup for, if that player was registered at a club in two different counties. KW & DK confirmed that the criteria was which county that player entered County/National Competitions through.
- c) It was noted that an additional fixture had been added to the County Fixture list this year as the Chairman of the HCBA is from this County – Ross Clifton. There was some doubt as to whether this was 6 or 7 rinks and how many guests would be able to attend as there was limited space for meals after the match. BH also reported that there may be a similar problem with the Oxfordshire Tourists match at Popes Mead and that the selection sheet may need to inform players that **BH**

there was a restriction on guests. BH to confirm whether 6/7 rinks and to ensure that and guest restriction is notified to the relevant people.

- d) DO noted that the HCBA website is out of date and asked that our delegates raise this issue at the meeting. **KW & DB**

10. Purchase of additional Stock

- a) It was agreed that RMc should purchase a further supply of 50 caps and a supply of 25 umbrellas as per the specimen shown to the meeting. **RMc**

11. Vacancies

- a) We currently have a vacancy for a Competition Secretary and two selectors for Division Three. The Competition Secretary vacancy was considered and after much discussion it was agreed that the Chairman, President and Secretary would take action, in accordance with the agreed wishes of the Committee. With regards to the selectors for Division Three no volunteers have come forward so MB as GPC representative for the Division, was asked to speak to certain people. **KW, DB & RMc**

RMc to write to all clubs in the Division, reminding them that unless we are able to obtain selectors for the division, players in that division will not be represented. **RMc**

- b) BH notified that it was his intention to stand down as Match Secretary at the end of this season and that the County should be seeking a replacement who could possibly work alongside of him. RMc to notify all clubs. **RMc**

12. Benevolent Fund

- a) Proposed changes to include mention of the Benevolent Fund in the County Competition was discussed at length – relevant papers are attached. It was agreed that a revised proposed insertion to the Constitution would be placed before the Executive Committee. **RMc**

13. Annual Luncheon – Provision of Facilities for Ladies Luncheon

- a) A request had been received by KW for the ladies to once again resume the making of the arrangements for their own luncheon. **RMc**

The matter was discussed and it was resolved that if this was what the ladies wished to do, then it would save the County Secretary from making these arrangements and agreed that in future any lady who wished to eat at the Hydro Hotel on the day of the Men's Section luncheon would once again be responsible for making their own arrangements.

It was however, also agreed and confirmed, that it is the County's responsibility to host both the BE Presidential attendee and his/her partner as we invite them both to attend. The question was raised as to whether, as we invite the male partner/husband of a lady BE Presidential attendee, into our luncheon, we should similarly invite a male BE attendees', female partner into the luncheon. This was discussed and put to the vote and rejected 11-2. **KW**

It was concluded that, if the Bowls England Presidential attendee was male and brought a female partner with him, then our County President wife/partner would be responsible for hosting the female partner in another dining area within the hotel and it would be entirely up to the President's wife/partner as to whether or not, she wished to invite any other ladies to eat with them. The County would pay for the meal of the BE attendees partner as both the BE attendee and his/her partner are invited guests of the county.

KW to reply to the letter received.

14. Any Other Business

- a) KW reported that the two new Competitions introduced by BE are in the first week of the Nationals and should we be requesting members of the Presidential team to attend and to stay overnight for two days.

After considerable discussion, it was agreed that as we have two County games during this period, that the President and the Immediate Past President should be authorised to attend for these three days therefore allowing the Vice and Junior Vice to be available to attend at the two County Games.

Finance Policy document to be updated together with the Presidential JD's.

RMc

- b)** KW reported that a request had been made to the Secretary, to submit a late entry to a Competition. The matter was discussed and it was agreed that Competition closing dates had been set and had passed and that it would be wrong to allow any late entries. RMc to reply to the query. **RMC**
- c)** KW reported that BH had arranged for all of the historical County Records to now be held at the County Archives at Brighton – archive number AMS 7204. TS explained how access was obtained.
- d)** KW reported on coaching being provided by Performance Bowls Coaching Limited and the connections with our Middleton Cup team. After considerable discussion it was agreed that contact would need to be made with the MC Manager to discuss the matter further. **KW**
- e)** BH notified that he had now obtained costs for a coach to Oxford for the one County game scheduled to be travel by coach. After discussion it was agreed that it was not cost effective to spend £550 on a coach and it was therefore agreed to amend this fixture to travel by car. **BH**
RMc
TS
- g)** LB reported that the teams for the final four indoor Executive matches would be sent out in the next couple of days.
- h)** RMc requested if he should approach Cranwell Wealth Solutions to ascertain if they were to continue with their sponsorship for 2017. It was agreed that he should do so. **RMc**

21. Date of Next Meeting.

- a)** The date of the next Meeting will be at 10.00 hours on Monday 24th April, 2017 at Adur IBC

There being no other business, the Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 12:30 hours.

Signed:

Ken Woodcock (Chairman)

Date: 24th April, 2017