

HERTFORDSHIRE BOWLS

Minutes 20230202

To the Executive

MINUTES of THURSDAY 2 FEBRUARY 23

1. **Chair: A Sayers** welcomed the attendees (11); **MD Dunstone, A O'Hare, S Parkhouse, T Phipps, S Kilford, M Duke, H Wright, R Evans, A Hudson, D Brown** (11 attendees)
2. **Apologies (5): G Marriner, R Varney, N Chalcraft, M Hendry**
3. **Not Present (1): H Robinson**
4. **Minutes of Executive Meeting** held 15 December 2022

AS welcomed everybody and reminded everyone about confidentiality over the matters discussed.

Accepted: Proposed...**H Wright**...Seconded **T Phipps** Passed unanimously

5. **Matters Arising** from the Minutes:
 - a. **AS-(5b)** Asked for an update regarding Bowlr. MDD said this was still ongoing.
 - b. (12) Men's County Tour – TP said provisionally arranged to go to Jersey from 17th to 24th June, with 4 games. Cost of £928 was inclusive of B&B, evening meal, single/twin rooms, & flight from Luton with coach to and from Luton and in Jersey. Notice to be sent out to all club secretaries for circulation to their members asking for a response within 14 days and deposit of £100.
6. **AGM** –Held on Saturday 7 January 23 at Hatfield BC starting at 10am. It was agreed venue worked well.

Council Meetings & Presidential Team –AS had circulated discussion document in respect of future of October Council meeting and reduction to Presidential team. Feedback received from various people after AGM was quite positive. Proposed that this is looked at in depth at March meeting (to be added to agenda).

Proposal that County minutes be circulated to members once agreed with any redactions that maybe required.

Circulate amended draft AGM minutes so these can be agreed at next meeting.

7. **The Financial Report** had been circulated by Treasurer **MD**. No questions on the figures provided.

8. **Secretaries' Reports**

a) **Hon. Executive Secretary:** Marcia D Dunstone

BE

- i. On the Friday before the AGM BE are organising a Bowls Bash Taster session for anyone to attend to see what is about – It will be at Leicester IBC 2-4 on Friday 24th Feb. Anyone can attend and judging by the response at the recent Administrators' zoom not many take-ups yet – 3 had registered interest in attendance by Sun 5th Feb.
- ii. Counties Drop in session 25th Jan: Affiliation going up from £5 to £7 in 2024.
- iii. Regulation 9 is being updated and will be issued in September 23.
- iv. The programme has been issued for the Internationals – Top Club Format. There will be no trials for Senior team players. The Regional selectors will keep eyes & ears open for info about potential players.
- v. Warwick district are considering the closure of Riverside House. BE have been very comfortable there but there are only 50 council staff there so they are looking for solutions
- vi. Presidential Team will no longer have blue blazers – can't get the material (I got that story in 2014/5) so the new Junior won't have a blazer and they think it is time to move on.

HERTFORDSHIRE BOWLS

They are also removing the IPP from the Presidential Team and spreading the £15,000 allowance over 3 years.

- vii. Crystal Mark 4 will be issued once World Bowls have approved the BE additional local rules for the back of the book.
- viii. *CONFIDENTIAL*
- ix. CWG bid from Hamilton doesn't include bowls. Could be a big negative for our sport.

County.

- i. Lunch I have 97 names – limit is 120 so we are close. Next year we can choose any date in October and most of November for our joint lunch and get it in the same year as the comps etc. It was agreed to return to Oct/Nov 2023, provisional date of Sunday 19 Nov 23 at Homestead Court Hotel in Welwyn (12.30pm for 1pm).
- ii. Competitions
- iii. I hope to get them finished next week and appreciated Harry's time 2 weeks ago. SP to look at position re numbers qualifying from 4 divisions.
- iv. Christmas Gifts - I received several appreciative thanks from recipients. Sadly one of the Hemel men died shortly after receiving his gift but was well enough at the time to say how pleased he was.
- v. Disciplinaries–*Panel* holding a hearing on 17 February. Need to arrange a scribe for this.
- vi. Further letter received from club member making a complaint. Passed to AS to review.

b) Hon. Ladies' County Secretary - (Natalie Chalcraft)

No report provided.

c) Hon. Men's County Secretary (Steve Kilford)

SK said all invitations sent out for County Luncheon to ECBA President, Beds President and Cambs representative along with partners. All have accepted.

Nomination sheets sent to all clubs for County Friendlies. Also sent to Exec, Past Presidents & Life members along with nominations for Match Officers, ECBA & ECL (Exec rink).

Nominations for Middleton Cup and ECL will be issued by Team Manager Roger Evans.

Email received from John Ottaway regarding Senior International nominations copied to Roger as M Cup manager. He will contact John to discuss and put forward 2 *players*. As for Juniors Nomination forms will be sent out in due course. With regard to Women, SK will ring Alistair Hollis to see what the process will be. At the same time, he will ask for details of where they obtained the Middleton Cup medals as we require an additional 3.

Received an email from a *player* who has recently moved to Sawbridgeworth from Essex where he was a badged player. He would like to play for Hertfordshire. What is Herts procedure in respect of this. Advised to contact Essex Secretary to ascertain standard of player, any achievements obtained. Then up to Selection Committee to decide number of points allocated.

d) Hon. Match Secretary (Ann O'Hare & Martin Duke)

Mens

Thanks to the divisional secretaries and clubs, all the competition venues are now filled, and all the men's fixtures have greens, although I have not heard back from Hunts about the White Rose. I have arranged greens for three mixed Presidential matches and the two galas. For clarity, Ann is dealing with the women's matches and the women's Presidential matches.

Attached are the alterations to the programme that is on the website. Your views on whether we should include the performance programme? It was agreed not to include these. Is there any

HERTFORDSHIRE BOWLS

problem with our having fixed dates that clash with internationals? It was decided to play this by ear and decide then if any clash arises. I will let Tony have these when the final few pieces are in place. Should we now decide that the match on the 7th May is against the Past Presidents, or do we hold on for a SVP? Agreed this would be Past Presidents.

It has been suggested that the Eastern Counties League fixtures are set up on a grid and played before the Middleton Cup starts and that this could be discussed at their April meeting. With only six in the league this becomes possible unless the other counties make a different use of these Saturdays. SK said this was suggested by MD and not by County delegates or discussed by Exec to put forward. Understood Trevor Hackett may bring this forward at April meeting. Also this would need to be agreed at AGM. SK added this would also cause a problem in that you are asking players to commit to 9 consecutive Saturdays. RE agreed this wasn't viable. The only 2023 ECL fixture with food after the match is the away game against Essex.

Riverain and Hatfield have dropped out of the Club Championship and Team 10, whilst Aston is no longer in the Club Championship. Surely an example of smaller clubs not having the numbers required for some of the competitions. Should we consider allowing clubs to make a combined entry for these competitions, which could involve more players and greater competition? I also see it as a potential way of clubs eventually combining and growing, rather than gradually dying. As an executive we could propose possible teams, which would eliminate one club possibly feeling threatened by a takeover.

The current rules for the Team 10 competition give all the entry fees away as prizes, unlike the other team competitions. Should we change this for 2024?

With BE looking at competitions for 2024, should we also consider our situation once the outcome is known this spring, perhaps setting up a working party to report back in time for the September divisional meetings?

Following the AGM, I was at two of the divisional meetings where I outlined the help I required for the Leamington coach trip. I asked the North and the East if they would clarify the role at their meetings. Did anybody come forward from the North or East? Neither had any volunteer.

Womens

All fixtures now complete. Awaiting a venue for one Johns match.

9. BDO Report.(Graham Marriner) (as circulated)

MD had spoken with GM as this will be the last course he will tutor. No other tutors in Herts. MDD will contact out County buddy Mal Evans about the lack of response from ASP in respect of centre of excellence.

Discussion held over Young Bowlers Paper submitted by Eddie Plume. RE will review and send his observations and will report back.

Proposed that £1 discount off affiliation fees be extended from 18 to 25. Collate info of all juniors.

MDD asked to follow up the loss of Sutton Winson from Leamington and why they are not going back to last 32 since they have removed Regional Finals.

HERTFORDSHIRE BOWLS

10. Reports from Divisional AGM's

- North** Committee Chairman Vacant
Gender Secretaries – Men S Kilford, Women H Robinson
Delegates – Men: M Parsons, Women: S Page
Informed of County/BE matters.
- East** Same Committee. Informed of County/BE matters.
- South** Chairman J Loudon
Gender Secretaries – Men S Parkhouse, Women A O'Hare
No need for delegates
- West** Chairman – K Mileham
Gender Secretaries – Men D Brown, Women M Hendry
Delegates – Men Vacant – Women L Brown
Informed of County/BE matters.
Garston agreed to host Club Championship Finals.

11. AOB

AS Change of rules to agree members of Selection Committees. These were selected as follows;

- Men** Gender Secretary S Kilford
Officers S Parkhouse, A Sayers & T Phipps
Divisional Delegates
North – M Parsons
East – R Evans, A Spicer
South – J Loudon
West – D Brown, K Mileham
Chair – S Kilford
- Women** Gender Secretary – N Chalcraft
Officers – A O'Hare, A Hudson, M Hendry
Divisional Delegates
North - S Page
East – H Chandler, M Smedley
South – No Delegates
West – L Brown
Chair – N Chalcraft

HW – Agreed to run raffle at County Luncheon. Ask for donations of Wine, Whiskey & Chocolate.

DB – Asked for a list of Club Secretaries. Will be sent once collated.

AOH – County friendly nominations form to be circulated along with Presidents matches.

MDD – Only 13 people nominated for BE Celebration matches.

Meeting ended at 9.29pm

Next meeting 16 March at 7pm

D Brown tendered his apologies for this meeting.

Signed

Date