

GLOUCESTERSHIRE BOWLS ASSOCIATION – MEN’S DIVISION

Chairman: Ken Manns

Secretary: George Thomas

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President: Martin Bevan

Treasurer: Les Hanley

GBA Men’s Divisional Delegates’ Meeting Meeting held on Saturday 26th March 2022 at 10:00 at Cotswold IBC

1. Attendance:

Delegates representing 32 Clubs attended.

2. Apologies:

Six Apologies were recorded.

A full list of attendance and Apologies is held by the Secretary.

3. In Memoriam:

19 names were recorded and a minutes silence held in their memory.

A full list is held by the Secretary.

Tony Sharkey’s funeral will be at Westerly Crematorium 11am 22nd April.

4. Minutes of Last Meeting:

The minutes of the last meeting (16th October 2021) were accepted as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

5. Matters arising:

21/13 Changes to the Constitution, Competition Rules and Schedules.

21/13 d. County Shirt

These items formed the basis of the Chairman’s report, or dealt with in the Meeting.

6. Chairman’s Report:

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and emphasized that the Men’s Division did not accept the rejection of the motions for the Annual General Meeting (AGM) by the Joint Executive Council (JEC). The Management Committee are committed to ensuring that the JEC act as custodians of the Constitution and not as arbiters of motions prepared by Clubs and Divisions for the AGM. The ultimate authority in the County lay with the Clubs, through the medium of the AGM.

The Chairman initiated a discussion on the implementation of the new style uniform, and the consensus of the meeting was that it should be introduced to all County Players. Difficulties were foreseen as to the cost to individuals, the outstanding stock of current uniform and the integration with the Ladies Section, especially at County Mixed matches. The Secretary was tasked with sending a Questionnaire to all Clubs to canvass the views of the Men who played

in County matches. There was criticism of the lack of communication in introducing the new style uniform, which would have resulted in wider discussion. Those involved in the JEC discussions were conscious that wider discussion would be a hindrance to implementation.

It was confirmed that payment for one shirt apiece to members of the County 'elite' squads (approx. £900) would come from the GBA 2010 finances.

The Secretary reminded the meeting that under Schedule D the JEC had responsibility for County uniform matters.

7. Secretary's Report:

The Secretary urged Delegates to collect their 2022 Yearbooks and also those for adjacent Clubs who had not attended. He thanked the Competition Secretary and the Fixture Secretary for their contributions to the Yearbook, and also, as this was the first Yearbook he had edited, the County Administrator, Lindsay Collin for her oversight and assistance in preparation and printing of the Yearbook.

In the absence of the Bowls England Representative the Secretary attended the Bowls England AGM in February. He updated the meeting on the proposed Pay & Play scheme and an introductory format for new bowlers. He advised Delegates to monitor the Bowls England website for updates on these schemes. The Secretary drew the attention of the Meeting to the absence of a Safe Guarding Officer for the Men's Division. He had discussed the matter with the Chairman and both were of the opinion that it would be better for the Association if there was one Safe Guarding Officer, to cover both Divisions, and to come under the direction, and answerable to the JEC. This would involve a change to the Constitution and he intended to raise it at the next JEC meeting. There was no dissent to this proposal.

8. Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer informed the meeting that there would be no increase in Fees for 2022. He gave details of the allowances to Officials, and in reply to a question of a car allowance to matches said that the Finance Sub Committee would explore the issue.

The Match Official asked for an allowance to compensate for storing County Match items and clothing at his home, but after a short debate, withdrew the request.

9. Fixture Secretary's Report:

The Meeting was updated on the 2022 County Fixtures programme which now included coaches to the Devon and Hampshire matches. He confirmed that the touring match against Bedfordshire at Tewkesbury was a full County Match. Details are on the website.

He requested any Club which had a significant anniversary in 2023 to contact him if they wished a Celebratory Match with the County.

10.Competition Secretary's Report:

Due to an error the Ken Griffin draw has had to be amended, the County Competition rules have been updated to bring them more in line with both Divisions. He outlined the two new Competitions for 2023 and requested Trophies for these and also two other runners up Trophies.

11.Team Manager's Report:

The dates for the Men's national competitions were confirmed. He updated the Delegates on the Bowls England decision to make the Junior Home Internationals mixed (ie 12 Men – 12 Ladies) In his opinion this deprived 12 very good juniors from experience at International level and was a backward step.

12.Bowls England Report:

All fees will remain unchanged for 2022. The three proposals at the Bowls England AGM (inter county competitions, badge presentation and presentation dinner) were all passed. At the 2022 Presentation Dinner Kingswood & Hanham won the Club of the Year award. Congratulations to them on this achievement. Kingswood & Hanham and Cotwold have been awarded Regional Finals Days, both on 17th July.

13.Benevolent Fund Report:

There have been no requests for assistance, nor donations in the current year. The Capital in the Fund stands at £6637.97 spread between Lloyds Bank and TSB.

14.Any Other Business:

There had been a poor response for nominations for Executive matches and the Secretary was asked to re-circulate the nomination forms.

14.Date of Next Meeting:

Saturday 15th October 2022

The meeting ended at 12.05pm