



Bowls Wellington

Annual General Meeting Minutes

14 September 2021

At Hutt Bowling Club, 6 Myrtle Street, Lower Hutt

Present

- Board: Sue Way (Chair), Dayle Jackson (President), Jason Puddick, and Sharman Buckle.
- Clubs: Eastbourne, Hutt, Island Bay, Johnsonville, Karori, Khandallah, Miramar, Naenae, Petone Central, Plimmerton, Seatoun, Silverstream, Stokes Valley, Tawa, Tawa Services, Upper Hutt, Victoria, Wainuiomata, and Whitby.
- In Attendance: Nigel Dixon (General Manager) and Angela Sheehan (Minutes).

The meeting commenced at 7.34 p.m.

1. Welcome and Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Gerry Macgregor (Board), Newtown, and Wilton.

2. Obituaries

The obituaries had been noted in the Delegates' meeting preceding the Annual General Meeting, and a minute's silence observed for Philippa McCullough, Dennis Bold, Kathleen Glen, and Noa Ringaio (all Miramar), Bruce Watt (Tawa Services), Allan 'Squid' Dudley (Petone Central), Loughie Prendergast (Past President Petone Central), Cindy Down (Plimmerton), Al Savelio (Whitby), Godfrey Moana (Titahi Bay), Russell Dean (Upper Hutt), Peter Reddaway (Eastbourne), and John Ogilvie (Hutt).

3. Confirmation of Minutes of 2020 Annual General Meeting

It was resolved that the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 25 August 2020 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting subject to adding the list of clubs present at the meeting.

**Plimmerton / Naenae
Action: General Manager**

There were no matters arising.

4. Presentation of Annual Report (2020-2021)

The President spoke to her report. She said that 2020/2021 had been an outstanding year for Bowls Wellington. She highlighted the following issues:

- The Champion of Champion concept had been an outstanding success – well done clubs for supporting it.
- Junior years 1 to 3 players would continue to pay no entry fee to Open events.
- The Senior selectors had named 40 players (20 ladies and 20 men) to participate in winter training at Naenae.
- Bowls Wellington had supported the two clubs that won the Wellington Interclub (Naenae women and Stokes Valley men) to travel to the National Interclub Finals in Christchurch, both winning bronze medals.
- The secondary school programme had increased, and was getting even bigger, with several clubs hosting competitions between local schools. It was critical that these young players had a good experience because they will be the bowlers of the future.
- It was pleasing that 85 bowlers from Wellington had attended the Bowls New Zealand Nationals in Central Otago, with much success. Nicole Toomey had won the National Singles and Laurie Guy and Sarah Taukamo the National Mixed Pairs. Leigh Griffin was recognised for winning five national titles, and she received her New Zealand Gold Star. Twenty-three Wellington players had reached the last 16. Congratulations to all.
- Players selected to represent the North Island – in a year when no international bowls were played – made the selections very important for the future opportunities. Congratulations to Seamus Curtin, Finbar McGuigan, Ray Martin, Clare Hendra, Nicole Toomey, and Dale Rayner.
- The Stokes Valley Bowls3Five Vipers, in a televised competition, gained the national title. Congratulations to all players.
- There had been increased participation from all clubs in Bowls Wellington Open Centre events. With more variety and options, there was now something for all bowlers.
- The employment of Ross Gillett as Competitions and Tournaments Manager had allowed the General Manager to focus on governance, growth, new programmes, and funding. Thank you both for the excellent communications going out to clubs.
- Clubs are the backbone of the sport, and congratulations to all clubs on playing their part this season. Keep up the good work, and continue to grow.

The Board Chair said she was proud to be the Board Chair and be part of Bowls Wellington. She thanked her fellow Board Members - Dayle, Gerry, Rod, Sharman, and Jason – for their work. Thank you also to the General Manager and the Competitions and Tournaments Manager for their work, and clubs for their support. She said that the Board had adopted a Strategic Plan for the next 10 years, which the General Manager will send out.

Action: General Manager

The Board Chair acknowledged the following people from Wellington who had received national awards: Lance Pascoe (Player of the Year Male), Nicole Toomey (Emerging Player of the Year Female), Finbar McGuigan (Emerging Player of the Year Male), Dayle Jackson (Umpire of the Year), and John Carter (Life Member of Bowls New Zealand). The meeting expressed their congratulations with applause.

The General Manager highlighted the following issues from his report:

- Thank you to all clubs for dealing with the uncertainty that the COVID-19 pandemic had brought and for having another successful season, with increased participation in most competitions.
- Thank you to Board Members for their support and their selfless commitment to good outcomes for bowls.
- Thank you to Ross Gillett, Competitions and Tournaments Manager, for the massive contribution he had made to the work of Bowls Wellington. They were lucky to have someone of Ross's calibre and work ethic.
- While bowls had been a sport in decline for 40 years, they were starting now to see increased participation numbers in most Centre tournaments. The way that people engaged in the sport today was different, so clubs needed to welcome and accept that.
- The Champion of Champion Finals weekend was proving to be a great concept, creating a fantastic atmosphere and showcasing the region through live streaming. Unfortunately, Bowls New Zealand was unable to stream the next event, so a high priority will be given to finding funding needed to pay for that.
- There was a renewed focus on youth. Bowls Wellington looked forward to continuing to work closely with schools and students to cultivate and foster an appreciation of and love for the sport, which will see them come back to clubs when the time is right.
- Bowls Wellington will continue to build on current initiatives and introduce new ones so as to keep the sport relevant in what was a saturated recreation market. Of particular note, there was the new Bowls3Five Premier Tournament, a modified Twilight Bowls3Five competition, and the launching of the Bowls Wellington Supporters' Club.

5. Presentation of Annual Financial Report 2020-2021

The General Manager said that Shayne O'Hagan of Small Business Accounting had reviewed the Annual Financial Statements.

For the second consecutive year the Financial Report reported a surplus for the year of \$30,735. An increase in income was due in part to increased participation and to not having to cancel many tournaments, and also to increased sponsorship and grants. However, Wellington City Council's sinking lid policy on new licences for pokie machines was a call to arms for sports organisations because they relied heavily on funding from grants.

Expenses had increased due mainly to the employment of the Competitions and Tournaments Manager but, despite that, they had still managed to return a healthy surplus. Bowls Wellington will continue working to ensure future growth in the game of bowls.

It was resolved that the Annual Report and Financial Statements for 2020-21 be accepted.

Sharman Buckle / Island Bay

6. Election of President and Vice-President

Miramar had nominated Dayle Jackson as President of Bowls Wellington. No other nominations had been received. Therefore, Dayle was re-elected unopposed.

Naenae had nominated Ralph Vulu as Vice-President of Bowls Wellington. No other nominations had been received. Therefore, Ralph was elected unopposed.

7. Appointment of Board Members

On the recommendation of the Selection Panel, **it was resolved** that Sue Way (Naenae) and Sharman Buckle (Miramar) be re-elected to the Board of Bowls Wellington.

8. Bowls Wellington Affiliation Fee

The Board Chair said that, after consideration, the Board had recommended that the capitation fee be increased by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) (1.5%) for the coming season.

It was resolved unanimously that the capitation fee be increased by the CPI (1.5%) for the coming 2021-22 season, based on membership fees as at 31 December 2018, and as per the affiliation model.

Island Bay / Sharman Buckle

Craig Walker (Khandallah) suggested that, in future, before recommending an increase in the affiliation fee the Board should do a budget of realistic revenue and expenditure projections. It was noted that a budget would not be indicative of a CPI increase due to uncertainty around funding and that a CPI increase is to smooth out increased operating costs. The board wished to avoid increasing the affiliation fee by more than CPI. The General Manager thanked Craig for his feedback and welcomed his expertise.

In reply to a suggestion from Anton Ferrari (Naenae), the General Manager said he will check with Bowls New Zealand when the current Bowls New Zealand affiliation model expires.

Action: General Manager

9. Appointment of Financial Reviewer

It was resolved that the services of Shayne O'Hagan of Small Business Accounting be retained as Financial Reviewer.

Sue Way / Petone Central

10. Appointment of Board Selection Panel

It was agreed that the Board appoint the Delegates' representative on the Board Selection Panel.

11. General Business

11.1 Thanks to Bowls Wellington

On behalf of her club, Cath Thomson (Plimmerton) thanked Bowls Wellington for sending the President to the club's opening day. Clubs appreciated that kind of support.

12. 2022 Annual General Meeting Date

The 2022 Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, 23 August.

The meeting concluded at 8.27 p.m.

Minutes confirmed as a true and correct record:

Chair

Date