

Bowls Wellington (Inc.)
Delegates Meeting Minutes
16/3/21
at Pelorus Trust Sports House



Present

Board: Sue Way (Chair), Dayle Jackson (President), Gerry Macgregor (Vice Chair)
Life Members: Don McMurray, Gerry Macgregor
In Attendance: Nigel Dixon (General Manager)
Clubs Present: Hutt, Island Bay, Johnsonville, Khandallah, Lyall Bay, Massey Ave, Miramar, Naenae, Petone Central, Plimmerton, Silverstream, Tawa, Upper Hutt, Victoria, Whitby
Clubs not present: Eastbourne, Karori, Newtown, Seatoun, Stokes Valley, Tawa Services, Titahi Bay, Wainuiomata, Wilton

Welcome

7:30pm. The Chair welcomed everyone and thanked them for coming, noting the attendance of Life Members Gerry Macgregor and Don McMurray.

Apologies

Lorraine Brennan (Newtown), Barry Jordan (Wilton), John Sommerville (Tawa Services), Jan Larsen (Karori), Dennis Davidson (Eastbourne) and John Harvey (Life Member)

Obituaries

A moments silence was observed for Wayne Henshaw (Upper Hutt/ BW Board Member), Bryan Gibson (Tawa/ BW Selector), Lynn Fenwick, Jack Miller, Max Burgess, Enid Turner, Mike Spring (Tawa), Colin Edgington (Lyall Bay/ The Park), Peter Pritchard (Petone Central), Albert Francis, Dave Child, Norm Dalgety (Upper Hutt), Richard Carroll (Island Bay).

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting on November 3rd, 2021 were accepted as true and accurate.

Umpire's Association update

Paul Hassall (PH), President of Bowls Wellington Umpire's Association (UA), discussed the potential shortage of umpires in coming years. Currently, there are around 70 registered umpires, of which 46 are considered

'active' with 26 having been involved this season. With a number of umpires expected to step away at the end of the season, PH requested clubs to go out to their membership to encourage more members to become umpires and asked for any feedback on what some of the barrier's members faced when becoming an umpire.

PH reiterated that becoming an umpire need not be onerous and didn't prevent people from playing bowls, instead noting how a knowledge of the rules can really benefit their own game.

A Laws Course is coming up and will be delivered through zoom May 17- July 17. A flyer will be distributed in the near future.

General discussion was had around the evaluation of umpires. While the evaluation is not 'open book' it often involves a conversation and does not specifically require umpires reciting conditions and laws word for word. A question was raised around the process for making changes to the Bowls Laws and while anyone is welcome to suggest law changes to World Bowls, submitting them through the UA and NZ Umpires Association would give some weight to any submission.

Greenkeeper's Association update

Don McMurray (DM) spoke about today's Field Day and how disappointing it was that only 7 clubs took part. This was an opportunity for greenkeepers and those interested in greens to learn and share knowledge for the betterment of clubs and greens around the region. DM also spoke to the importance for clubs to have a succession plan for when the greenkeeper does step away. Sharing knowledge now is key to managing such future transition.

Season Review

Bowls Wellington is again holding a season review and is welcoming submissions from individuals and clubs. ND explained the process of the review including timeline and requirement for submission to be well considered, justified, on the appropriate submission form and with any supporting documentation. Any submissions which are similar to those made in previous season need to justify why such proposal needs to be revisited. Timeline is as follows;

Late March – Submission information and forms go out to clubs

April 1st -23rd – Submissions accepted

April 24th -29th – Submissions collated and reviewed by Review Committee

April 30th – Submissions sent to clubs for discussion

May 25th – Submissions to be voted on at Delegate's Meeting

May 26th – Voting goes to BW Board for ratification (where necessary).

Michael Crooke (Hutt BC) took the opportunity to canvass opinions on a number of things including cancellations. General consensus was that the current condition of clubs making their own decisions about green closures was good but clubs had a duty of care to ensure that the health and safety of players was at the forefront of any decision re-closure of greens. Some clubs spoke of their process the day before to touch base with the opposition and have a contingency should the weather force a green closure.

Decals on Bowls

Alison Stewart (Island Bay) noted that, of all the major bowls manufacturers, Hunter Bowls were the only ones who specifically state that the use of decals could void the warranty on a set of bowls should it result in the paint coming off. General discussion around decals and when they are required. SW clarified that, unless in a representative situation, decals are not required and an 'all on/all off' approach is used.

Club Workshops

ND reminded clubs of the next planned workshop on April 13th at 7pm entitled 'Better Participant Experiences'. There are 2 workshops remaining after this one, after which, pending demand, BW will look to organise further opportunities.

Meeting Closed 8:48pm