

GLOUCESTERSHIRE BOWLS ASSOCIATION – MEN’S DIVISION

President: Dave Williams

Secretary: David Skeats

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Minutes of a Delegates’ Meeting held on Saturday 21 July at Cotswold IBC at 10:00

18/16 Apologies

The Secretary holds the apologies and signing lists for the meeting

18/17 In Memorium

A period of silence was to held to those who were no longer with us:

Reg Buston (Begbrook Green), George Davie (Bishops Cleeve), Ken Harris (BAC), Brian Pugh (Gloucester City), Ernie Squibbs (Cirencester), Graham Smith (Frampton on Severn), Bryan Fox (GB Britten), Chris Mulford (Coleford), John Adams (Coleford), Ian Tucker (Bishops Cleeve), Steven Green (Victory Park), George Gardiner (Cinderford)

18/18 Minutes of the last meeting (17 March 2018)

The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman

18/19 Matters Arising

- i) 18/03 Phil Beames has been appointed as the Middleton Cup Advisor for the Stroud Section. The Secretary noted the team of four advisors were beginning to work together and a period might be needed to fully establish the team and how it operates
- ii) 18/12 Secretary reported that most clubs seemed to have completed he necessary GDPR procedures and the outstanding ones would be gently chased
- iii) 18/13 The general view from clubs reporting directly to the meeting and from those who had notified the Secretary before was that the Team Manger should be an elected post. The Secretary will prepare the necessary Constitutional changes for the October meeting
- iv) 18/14 Again, the three proposed changes were generally approved with reservations expressed from some concerning continuity for the Chairman post. It was noted that once elected, this post (as for all other management posts) would not be subject to annual election unless someone was nominated to stand against them. Constitutional changes would be prepared for the October meeting. As part of the discussion concerning the Delegates’ Meeting structure, the provision of life-membership of the GBA for a person who had given exceptional service to their club was questioned. This was seen as the prerogative of the club and not a matter for the GBA. A proposal for the constitutional change would be prepared for the October meeting

18/20 Treasurer’s Report

Division Finances were looking fine at the moment

18/21 Fixture Secretary’s Report

The Middleton Cup games next year would be Devon (A), Warwickshire (H) and Dorset (H). The first Balcomb Trophy game would be at home against Hertfordshire

18/22 Competition Secretary's Report

The semi-finals in pairs, triples and fours were due tomorrow which would complete the picture of players going to Royal Leamington Spa for the National Finals

A letter has gone to clubs inviting them to host the later stages of the competitions in 2019

Thanks was given to all those who have contributed to competitions this year and to Reg Tibbles for his work on the website

There was a suggestion that competitions should run through to the semi-finals rather than quarter-finals as at present as the break caused a loss of momentum. Currently, there were insufficient weeks to allow this to happen but it would be kept under review

18/23 Middleton Cup Report

A full report was received from the Team Manager which the Secretary read to the meeting. Particular points of note were the success of the White Rose team (to semi-finals at Leamington) and the very tight lost to Devon in the Middleton Cup. The full report is available if required

It was suggested that there should be an additional trial prior to the Oxfordshire one, perhaps on a possible v probable basis so that more players could be seen before decisions were made. The Secretary would discuss with Team Manager and Fixture Secretary

The Team Manager was commended on his full report

18/24 Benevolent Fund Report

There have been no requests for assistance in recent months and no donations have been received. So, the current balance in the Fund stands at £6872.15 shared between Lloyds Bank £953 and the Trustee Savings Bank £5919.15 (happily unaffected by their computer problems).

It has been a sad blow to lose Bryant Fox, a dedicated Trustee for the Bristol Section for many years.

18/25 Date of Next Meeting

The next Management Committee will be on Saturday 22 September and the Delegates' Meeting on 6 October, both at 10:00 at Cotswold Bowls Club. These would feed and proposals for constitutional changes to the Joint Council meeting on Saturday 10 November and AGM on 12 January 2019

18/26 Any Other Business

i) The Secretary reported the intention of the Men's Division Treasurer – Keith Hawkes – not to stand next year. He praised Keith for the work he had done to bring the accounts into balance and indicated that he would be greatly missed for his financial expertise and leadership of the finance committee

This meant that there would be four posts for election at the October meeting – Chairman (subject to approval of the proposals), Secretary (only appointed to fill the remainder of the year), Men's Treasurer and Junior Vice-President. Clubs were urged to identify possible interested parties, especially in the case of the Treasurer so that an orderly hand-over could take place

ii) The Fixture Secretary agreed to review the pairing of sections for County match selections, perhaps rotating it on an annual basis