



Bowls Hampshire Executive Meeting Minutes

23rd March 2017

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from 13 members, 27 members were in attendance.

2. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th November 2016 were approved on a proposition by Ken Graham, seconded by Hazel Marke.

3. Matters Arising

The Secretary confirmed that a letter had been sent to County Administrators in our Group informing them that Hampshire players would no longer be expected to stay for meals after Johns Trophy and Walker Cup matches. The nomination of Paul Robson for JVP of Bowls England had been submitted and the Chief Executive had confirmed its receipt. All other matters arising was covered by Agenda items.

4. Finance and Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer received approval for payments to Atherley and Banister Park for use of their facilities in 2017 and for an increase in the county match fee from £7 to £8 to help alleviate the large losses now being incurred on these matches. The Executive also considered the support to be given to juniors. It agreed to pay for one night's accommodation for the Amy Rose team, whilst at the National Championships, but felt that Amy Rose team should pay for their shirts and jackets, as happens with the White Rose team. The Treasurer then presented the 5 Year Plan drawing attention to the fact that by 2021 reserves would have reduced from £90k to £30k and that with losses running by then at £8k per annum the County would soon after 2021 have eliminated the reserves it had built up over many years. The Executive, in approving the Plan on a proposition by Julie Greenwood seconded by Peter Bown, noted the Treasurer's comments and agreed that, in drawing up future plans, we should be looking to ensure a better balance each year between income and expenditure so as to ensure the County will always have a sensible and acceptable level of reserves.

5. Safeguarding

Introducing paper BH Exec 2017(1), the Secretary explained that he had redrafted the County's Safeguarding Policies and Procedures to take account of latest guidance from the BDA and BE. Most changes were minor but he drew attention to the introduction of a Policy to cover "Adults at Risk".

The Executive, on a proposition by Ian Mulholland, seconded by Paula Haynes:

- Agreed to adopt the revised Policies and Procedures.
- Agreed that the documentation should be displayed on the website.
- Agreed the Secretary should email clubs drawing their attention to the changes.

- Noted that Maxeen Fletcher and Derek Collins, the BH Welfare Officers, had both obtained Enhanced DBS clearance.

6. Award Scheme for Outstanding Service

Introducing BH Exec 2017(2), the Secretary explained that the intention was to introduce an awards scheme that would recognise outstanding service by individuals who, under the BH Constitution, would not be eligible for Life Vice Presidency. He said that in drawing up the scheme he had drawn extensively on the BE documentation for the Certificate of Merit. The Management Committee needed to do more work in deciding what form the award should take but he felt there was sufficient information available for the Executive to decide whether a scheme should be introduced. Following discussion, the Executive, on a proposition by Ian Mulholland, seconded by Rosemary Corney, agreed the scheme should be introduced for 2017 and that the Secretary should inform clubs accordingly. The documentation was approved and it was agreed that the Management Committee should have authority to invite onto the Awards Panel an independent member drawn from Energise Me.

7. Changes to Selection Regulations

Introducing BH Exec 2016(3), the Secretary stated that the Management Committee had discussed at length whether players qualifying for Leamington in the National Championships should receive a County badge, current rules do not allow badges to be given for age related events. The Committee had concluded that all competitors qualifying in National Championships, (as well as those qualifying in the Mixed Pairs, Mixed Fours and Champion of Champions) should be awarded their badge. The Executive endorsed this conclusion, agreed the change should have immediate effect and invited the Secretary to make the necessary changes to Selection Regulation Paragraph 3c.

8. Hampshire Bowls Coaching Association (HBCA)

Julie Greenwood, as Secretary of the HBCA, explained the progress being made in establishing a functioning Hampshire Coaching Association to which Clubs could look for coaching support and advice. She drew particular attention to the excellent website that had been set up by Ruth Bown.

9. BH Centenary

The Secretary reported that the Management Committee has established a sub-committee to look at how the County should celebrate its 100th anniversary. The sub-committee has yet to meet but at its last meeting the Management Committee identified a number of possible events

- A game versus the founder clubs (believed to be 12 still in existence)
- Games versus District Associations
- A match versus Bowls England
- A formal celebration Dinner

The sub-committee will look at these proposals in detail but, in parallel, decisions need to be taken as to the year in which the celebration should occur. BH has no records going back that far but based on material obtained from Clubs and BE it appears that the HBCA was formed in October 1920, in which case the celebrations should take place in 2021.

10. BH Luncheon Arrangements 2017

The Assistant Secretary reported that the 2017 Lunch had been booked for 22nd October 2017. The venue will again be Fleming Park BC and the price will be the same as 2016. The menu will be Leek and Potato Soup, Roast Beef and Profiteroles.

11. Bowls England Matters

The Secretary reported:

- The BE Board had changed its decision that the Presidential team should wear dark suits. Blue Blazers are back!
- The BE AGM had voted heavily in favour of the Oxfordshire proposal that all last round of group games must start at 1.30pm (Johns) or 2.00pm (Middleton).
- Warwickshire's proposition, that a County should unilaterally be allowed to call off a dead rubber game in the Middleton/Johns, was not discussed at the AGM as Warwickshire failed to attend.
- Over the next few weeks BE will be holding a series of Regional Meetings – ours is on 4th April.

He said that he is unable to attend the Regional meeting and that, although an Agenda has been issued, it is far from clear where Bowls England will be coming from in some areas. He drew particular attention to the following issues in which our representatives will have an interest:

- Coach Bowls – it is understood that from 2019 the management of the scheme will no longer be with the BDA but with the two NGBs. This will have resource implications for BE.
- EBUA – there is likely to be a discussion about the arrangements whereby Counties pay a levy to the EBUA in return for the provision of Umpires for County Finals etc. BE are also concerned about how to arrest the decline in Umpires numbers.
- National Championships and Competitions – discussion is likely to centre around changes that might need to be made. BH wrote at length to BE on this subject in 2015.
- Membership Scheme – BE and the BDA naturally want to be provided with details that enable them to expose to sponsors and Sport England details of members by age, by ethnicity etc. Such details are essential to persuade sponsors to provide support. The issue is likely to be how the necessary information can be obtained whilst respecting the wishes of Clubs and individuals to protect personal details.

12. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be at Banister Park at 1.30 pm on September 28th 2017.