

MINUTES of the BOWLS CENTRAL COAST MANAGEMENT MEETING of 15th May 2014 at Ourimbah-Lisarow RSL in the Wattle Room at 7.00 pm.



Chairman: President Max Le Guier (MLG)

Present: 32 delegates (representing 20 clubs and 11 Executive and Permanent Committee Representatives). Mr Greg Helm, CEO of the RNSWBA attended the meeting by invitation of the Executive Committee

Apologies: R. Penson (Umina), J. Swanson & F. Trounce (Toukley Dist).

Bereavements: R. Parry (Gosford).

New Delegates: Bob. Millington (The Entrance).

Appointments – Doug Rose, Geoff Graham and Guy Robbins have been appointed to the Match Committee. Peter Arnold has been granted leave as a Vice President for 2 months and as Assistant Secretary until the AGM. Tony Pearce has been appointed Assistant Secretary.

Confirmation of the Minutes of Management Meeting of 20th March 2014: Confirmed

Business Arising from the Minutes:

1. **Visit by Greg Helm.** MLG introduced the CEO of the RNSWBA Greg Helm who had been invited by the Executive Committee to visit this Zone. Greg then gave a formative presentation and spoke on the following points.-
 - a) The website is the primary source of Information from State to the Clubs and members.
 - b) All Clubs by now should have a password to download their Club Membership records from the website by going to "Export Members". If a Club doesn't have a password they can get in touch with the Bowls NSW Office
 - c) Bowlsbox supersedes sending out monthly information in hardcopy to the Clubs and it is OK to distribute all information received via BowlsBox to members. Clubs that do not have access to BowlsBox can contact the Bowls NSW Office or use the 'Forgot My Password' function on the login page. *(Note: A Club's BowlsBox password may be shared amongst Bowls Committee Members if necessary to allow access – however guidelines should be set to prevent items being deleted or unsolicited emails being sent from the account.)*
 - d) Another avenue for information is by Social Media. The RNSWBA maintains Facebook and Twitter pages. Facebook is used to interact directly with members, and is particularly effective for live scoring during events. A "Tweet", is also very effective for communication with the media.
 - e) Bowls NSW have invested in a National Data Base known as 'Bowls Connect' so that members from all States will go into the one database.
 - f) Clubs will eventually have access to the Bowls Connect system to be able to do their Annual Report and pay their fees on line instead of filling in the triplicate forms.
 - g) The magazine has also gone through some major changes and is now sent to the Clubs instead of mailing them to each member.
 - h) Registration cards cost between \$25 – \$30 K each year to produce. The new cards that are being proposed will be part of a reward programme and would last for 5 years (at no cost to the Association). Unfortunately the proposed supplier has encountered some unforeseen hurdles in establishing the program which has caused delay in producing cards to this point. If these are unable to be resolved, the Association will more than likely not invest in cards in the future.
 - i) Zone Boundaries are still being looked at and it is only a discussion paper at present, therefore there will be no changes for some considerable time. The Zones have to be sustainable and there will be another form, requesting feedback going out to Clubs in the near future.

- j) The question was asked "is the new magazine making money" the answer was that it is not losing as much as it used to.
- k) Membership fees have gone up by \$3. Bowls Australia have increased their fees by 10% each year but RNSWBA fees have not increased for the past two years, the RNSWBA has had to tighten its belt to do so and unfortunately could not continue to absorb costs and have had to increase the fees for the coming year.
- l) Concern was expressed by the meeting that the Zone is not involved in Clearances being approved when it is the Zone Match Committee that must enforce them. Greg said that if there is a dispute about any Clearance, the proper channel to follow is through the Zone to Bowls NSW who are always willing to talk about the issue or answer emails. A list of approved Club Clearances is available for download through the Online Membership Facility (updated weekly)
- m) MLG thanked Greg for taking the time to come to the Central Coast and talking to the Delegates.

The meeting was advised that due to lack of numbers Greg will not be presenting the training session planned for tomorrow on the IT services available from the RNSWBA

- a) **Constitution and Regulations.** Doug Rose advised that these documents are now finalised and have been sent out to all Clubs. We have had very little feedback about any concerns, so we are looking at having a Special General Meeting later, possibly at the end of June to have the members approve them. DR reminded the meeting that our Constitution and Regulations are based upon the RNSWBA documents and thanked Greg Helm for his help with our documents. Doug will still be talking about the Constitution tomorrow from 11.00 am with anybody who wishes to attend
- 3. **Presentation Night** Doug Rose spoke about having the Presentation night or a luncheon to be held at Ettalong. The lunch would possibly be \$20 & the night function would be about \$50. At the March Management Meeting Clubs were asked to give feedback on the issue. One Delegate of the meeting spoke and the feeling was that people would possibly not want to attend if they were not personally involved as it is a long way to go for some Clubs. Delegates were asked to go back to their Clubs and find out what interest there is and report back at the next Management meeting. The function would either be held in December or January.
- 4. **Strategic Plan** The Executive Committee attended a workshop conducted by Michael Beaumont which lasted for about 7 hours. SVP Col Bray has agreed to manage the completion and implementation of the Strategic Plan.
- 5. **Impact in the long term of diggers@ the entrance Appeal** - Unfortunately this situation could happen again. BCC has written to the RNSWBA suggesting that "unless special dispensation is sought" be added at the beginning of Clauses 4.16.1.1 and 2 to remind the reader that the State Match Committee (SMC) can vary the eligibility of a player despite these clauses. The RNSWBA responded immediately advising that Clause 4.16 in effect does state this. Doug Rose said that the SMC had the right to relax the rules Greg Helm corrected this advising that while the SMC under Clause 4.16 could approve a variation to a players eligibility it had to work within the parameters of the conditions of play only the RNSWBA Board could relax the rules.
- 6. **Wet Matches** The Zone Match Committee met this morning and decided that wet matches of Pennants should still be played on the Sunday of the next week Guy Robins (Match Committee member and delegate for Gosford City) spoke on the difficulties experienced with the pennants competition before wet matches were played on the Sunday week. There was general discussion on the matter by the Delegates and the situation will remain unchanged.

Correspondence:

From the list of correspondence there are two items the need to be addressed.

- 1. Letter received asking that we be involved in the under 25's challenge which we won last year. U25's Coordinator Brett George and the players are excited and we will be entering a team into the competition.
- 2. We had to cancel a game against Zone 6 on 15th June as we had the Zone Championship games being played on the same weekend. Apologies were extended to the Halekulani Club who had agreed to host the event.

The correspondence was accepted

Reports

1. President

MLG said there was nothing else to add to his report.

2. State Councillor

Kevin Dring stated that he had presented to the meeting the topics that he had been asked to bring up.

3. Publicity

- a. Kevin Dring said he is making some headway with the Express Advocate. The Sports Editor, Stephen Maher is keen to support Lawn Bowls. Kevin Dring has given him a report each week for the past 10 weeks and we have had a 70% response in the paper. Stephen has sent a photographer along on several occasions and he will be doing a report on Friday 30th May about the finals at Ettalong.
- b. There has been another run of the Zone History Books produced and are available at \$5.00 each for those who would like a hard copy.

4. Secretary

- a. Doug Rose mentioned that Geoff Graham is in hospital again having some further work done.
- b. Peter Arnold is on the sick list, he has been very busy with The Past Presidents Association Carnival and is simply washed out. On his doctor's recommendation he has asked to stand down as Vice President for 2 months and as Assistant Secretary until the AGM. It was agreed that he be given Leave of Absence until then. Tony Pearce has agreed to fill his position as Assistant Secretary during his absence.
- c. At Peter's request a small presentation was made to three people, Peter Freestone for his assistance and hard work for the carnival, as well as Kevin Dring and Doug Rose for their assistance on the Presentation Night.

5. Match – Doug Rose spoke on behalf of the Match Committee

- a. Match met this morning and did the draw for the Triples Championships, there were 48 entries and the draw will be published shortly.
- b. In future where a Club appeals against another Club the accused Club will be notified a.s.a.p. of the appeal and given details of the appeal so they may make representation on the matter. Where a Club appeals to a higher authority than the BCC Match Committee the BCC Match Committee members will be advised a.s.a.p.

6. Coaching

- a. Bowls Australia have commissioned La Trobe University to do a survey about why people leave their Club, the primary reasons they found were the selection process and the treatment of the players by other members of the Club. There is a pracey of the report on the Bowls Australia website under Club Assist then LaTrobe Uni.
- b. Anyone wanting to be a Selector should have gone through the Selection Process and the Club should have a Selection Policy for all members to see.
- c. Coaches have an important part in making new players feel comfortable when they join a club, there are only about 3 clubs that don't have their own Coach and we are trying to rectify that situation.

7. Selectors – Dick Love added to his report:

- a. We have the Seniors going to Lake Conjola next week to context the Senior Inter Zone Sides Championship and it is thought that they should do well.
- b. On the 5th May Chairman of Bowls Australia's Selectors Steve Glasson did a presentation to the Open and Emerging Squads and the Senior IZ Side at Terrigal Bowling Club. It was an excellent presentation and it was a pity that less than half the possible people attended. On investigation Dick discovered that the notice to the players had not been sent out. This was a reason why Dick would not be standing as Chairman of Selectors next year.

General Business

1. Club Delegates were advised that at future Management Meetings two Clubs would be asked to give a 5 minute talk on what their Club does that would be beneficial to other Clubs. The Clubs will be asked in alphabetical order and therefore at the July Management Meeting the delegates from Avoca Beach and Bateau Bay will be asked to speak.
2. Volunteers Day went off very well, 2 awards to Ray Toomey from Diggers and Peter Holterman from Mingara who were not there on the day were handed to Club representatives.
3. Conditions of Play have been discussed under correspondence.

4. Rep Team Accommodation expenses will be charged to Clubs for their players selected in the Senior IZ Sides Championships. If a player does not use the accommodation booked for them by the Zone they are responsible for their own accommodation and the Zone may still charge the Club for its share of the cost of the unused accommodation.
5. Ettalong Memorial has donated \$500 for U 18's accommodation expenses at the State Championships. The money will be given to the U18's based upon the number of events in which they are competing.
6. Meeting Starting Times was discussed and the Delegates were happy to start the meetings at 7.00 pm instead of 7.30 pm.
7. State Councillor Kevin Dring thanked Greg Helm for his attendance and presented him with a Zone white shirt.

Next meeting will be on 17th July starting at 7.00 pm and you will be advised later of the location.

The meeting closed at 9.07 pm.

Confirmed as Correct

M. Le Guier
17th July 2014