



Country Committee

Minutes of the Country Committee meeting held at Bowls WA on Friday 25th May 2018 commencing at 11.00am.

1. Open Meeting and Welcome

Ross Warburton (Chairman) opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance.

2. Present

Ross Warburton (Chairman), Dot Glass (EZ), Norm Skoglund (NZ), Bev Broom (SZ), Kevin Heberle (SZ), Bob Plater (SWZ), Sandra Trenowden (NZ), Doug Kelly (EZ), Carolyn Bell (SWZ)

In attendance

Ken Pride (CEO), Jenni Bunce (EZ)

3. Apologies

4. Conflict of Interest

Nil

5. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 23rd February 2018 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Moved: Bob Plater (SWZ) **Seconded:** Norm Skoglund (NZ) **Agreed**

6. Business Arising

6.1 Country Coaching Enhancement Scheme (CCES)

Ken Pride enquired if there were any issues outstanding in relation to the CCES. There did not appear to be, with a continued request to ensure Denise McMillan in the office was across all details. It was pointed out that the previous Minutes showed a return date of 30th April for prospective attendees to inform the respective Zone.

It was also requested of the EZ, SZ and SWZ if they continued to support the NZ withdrawing from the CCES, in favour of their own coaching clinics, run by member Kathy Gobbart. Each of the Zones would receive the same funding irrespective of which model was undertaken. The three Zones confirmed their continued acceptance of this arrangement for the NZ. **NOTED.**

6.2 General Condition – Clause 8 Player Protection

Ken Pride noted the discussion at Board level earlier in the day in relation to the Murray League and SW League ignoring the General Condition 8 – Player Protection as voted at their respective AGMs. The Board was most unhappy about affiliated Leagues taking such action on an ad hoc basis and requested the CEO write to the Leagues informing them of this concern. Any further action considered would be determined upon the receipt of the League's ongoing position in the matter. Noted by the SW Zone representatives who would pass that information back to the Leagues in question.

6.3 ILRR EZ – change of date and venue

The EZ noted that the ILRR had been moved a week earlier to the 4,5,6 January and would be hosted by the Manning Memorial BC. The change of date was for holiday purposes later in January and the venue due to the inability of the respective League to host the event. It was believed to be a one-off occurrence.

6.4 Country Week – survey of players

The outcome of the various questions was noted. Doug Kelly requested input into further survey's of this type with a number of additional questions considered appropriate. The same questions would be asked again to form a base for any changing attitudes. In all questions a "no change" position was taken by respondents.

6.5 Affiliation Fee Review Model

Ken Pride led the committee through the current workings of the Review Committee and responded to queries raised – there was general acceptance this was a Model that was heading in the right direction, but it was noted that there were a number of playing anomalies, particularly for the smaller clubs/leagues that needed to be considered.

Norm Skoglund urged committee members to consider any such anomalies with pennant play in the country and to inform himself of such so that it could be brought to the Review Committee's attention.

Action: Country Committee members as required.

7. Correspondence

Nil

8. Matters for Discussion

8.1 Multiple Game forfeits

The issue of multiple game forfeits in sectional play was clarified.

8.2 Zone / League uniforms

The wearing of Zone and League uniforms and what constituted a uniform for those events was not a strategic matter for the Country Committee, but one for the respective Zone and/or League to consider and rule upon. **NOTED.**

8.3 ILRR and IZRR dates and venues

The following updates to the ILRR and IZRR venues/dates were noted.

	Northern	Eastern	Southern	South West
Men's IZRR (fours)			2-3 February Emu Point	
Men's ILRR (fours)	11-13 January Dalwallinu	4,5,6 January Manning Memorial	11-13 January Esperance	12-13 January Donnybrook
Women IZRR (fours)				9-10 March Dunsborough
Women IZRR (pairs)		16-17 February Beverley		
Women ILRR (fours)	1-3 February Moore League	2-3 February Kellerberrin	8-10 February Emu Point	6-7 February Murray League
Women ILRR (pairs)	23-25 November Wonthella	24-25 November Merredin	24-25 November Mt Barker Golf	21-22 November SW League

9. Reports

Reports were provided by each of the Zone delegates, which were noted and accepted.

10. General Business

10.1 Bowls Australia meetings

Ken Pride provided information on recent Bowls Australia meetings that he and President Kerry had attended in Darwin during the Sides Series.

Of most interest was the delay in bringing in the updated *Bowls Link* system to replace the current *Bowls Connect* system. It was likely that this would not be introduced into WA until the end of the 2018/19 pennant season and only after extensive training is provided for clubs state wide.

In addition a number of changes were planned at a High Performance event level by Bowls Australia and although not confirmed, it was likely that all BA run events, apart from the AO, would be held as a *Festival of Bowls* over a two week period at the beginning of October, commencing in 2019. As a result it would likely mean the demise of the Round Robin format for longer term venue tendered contracts. Further information would be supplied as it came to hand.

10.2 RBM support

The EZ noted the support provided by Clive Adams in his country visits in recent weeks.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.50pm.

NEXT MEETING

September meeting date to be confirmed, with the Country Committee enquiring if an annual joint meeting could be held with the Board. NOTED.