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**Bowls Scotland**

**(Company No. SC386410)**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Minute of the Annual General Meeting of Bowls Scotland held at The Bothwell Bridge Hotel, 89 Main Street, Bothwell, Glasgow, G71 8EU on Saturday 26th November 2016 at 1300 hours.

**Register of Interest**

**Chair’s Opening Remarks**

Bowls Scotland Chairman Bill Knox gave opening remarks, welcomed those attending the 2016 AGM and introduced the top table Directors of Bowls Scotland and representatives from the Company Auditors and Lawyers.

**Obituaries**

A minutes silence was observed in respect for colleagues and Bowls Scotland members who sadly passed away during the previous year, including Margaret Hampton, Ernie Johnston, John B Halliday, John Grant and many members of clubs throughout Scotland.

**Apologies**

Apologies were received from:

District Secretaries:

Honorary Members:

Clubs:

Associations:

1. To receive the Annual Report of Bowls Scotland for 2016.

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| **Proposed** | **Name Bowls Scotland Bowling Club** |
| **Seconded** | **Name Lyn Wallace, Pollockshaws Bowling Club** |
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| **Vote** | **For** | **Against** |
| **Accepted Unanimously** |  |

Bowls Scotland Bill Knox presented the 2016 Annual Report. He gave a thorough review, succinctly summarising a number of key areas of activity undertaken throughout the year, encompassing Strategy, Directors Report, Staffing, Playing the Game, Development, High Performance, Marketing Branding & Communication, Partners. He indicated to those attending that Finance would be addressed by the Finance Director and Company Accountant.

1. To receive the Financial Statement and Examiners Report of Bowls Scotland for 2016.

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| **Proposed** | **Name Bowls Scotland Bowling Club** |
| **Seconded** | **Name Bowling Club** |
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| **Vote** | **For** | **Against** |
| **Passed Unanimously**  |  |

Craig McArthur, Bowls Scotland Finance Director, presented a thorough analysis of the Accounts. He guided delegates present through a detailed breakdown of the financial Statements and focussed on key areas including:

* Super Series – a full breakdown of the Super Series finances for the 2016 event.
* A Hamilton Trophy – a full breakdown of the AHT finances was highlighted
* Scottish Sports Council Funding – a detailed summary of the finding received by bowls Scotland from the Scottish Sports Council including the criteria for funding and financial rules and reporting Bowls Scotland must comply with once it is received.

Andrew Macnamara from Auditors BDO, explained the statutory elements of the accounts to the floor.

Questions relating to the accounts were then invited from the floor.

 Alex Alan (Bellview BC, Glasgow) queried a charge of £4k in relation to the AHT Cities & Counties Championship. Bowls Scotland Finance Director Craig McArthur gave a detailed response to the question outlining the Income and Expenditure relating to the A Hamilton Trophy.

1. To appoint BDO as accountant of Bowls Scotland for the forthcoming year.

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| **Proposed** | **Name Bowls Scotland Bowling Club** |
| **Seconded** | **Name Bowling Club** |
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| **Vote** | **For** | **Against** |
| **Passed Unanimously** |  |

1. Special Resolution

That the Bowls Scotland Competition named the Scottish Super Series be terminated with immediate effect as the competition is not financially viable or provides meaningful competition.

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| **Proposed** | **Name Edinburgh & Leith Bowling Association** |
| **Seconded** | **Name Fife Bowling Association** |
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| **Vote** | **For** | **Against** |
| **51** | **39** |

Colin Nicoll, ELBA, then asked to address the meeting. He announced that the Cities & Counties Group he was representing wished to withdraw resolutions 4 & 5 on the Agenda. Legal advice was then sought re this request and a discussion then took place about the legalities of the request. It was determined that as item 4 on the agenda was a Special Resolution it could not withdrawn at this stage and would have to be discussed and voted on by the meeting.

Special Resolution 4 was then addressed to the meeting by the Chair. There was a lengthy period of discussion with principle contributions from:

David Hamilton (Linlithgow BC) who wished a full analysis of the merits of the competition

Colin Nicoll (ELBA) who commented on various aspects of the Super Series

Anna Marshal, Director of Competitions and Events who gave a full and comprehensive explanation of the Super Series format, history and concept, clarifying it was a 2 year event followed by a full review. She intimated that Super Series, A Hamilton Trophy and Torrance Purvis events were loss leaders by Bowls Scotland but satisfied bowlers wishing to compete at a level higher than club bowling.

A vote on the motion was then taken but as the votes cast for the motion did not achieve the necessary 75% the motion fell.

Ian Pickavance (ELBA) queried the Proxy vote situation? This was addressed and clarified by the Bowls Scotland lawyers to the satisfaction of the floor.

* 1. Ordinary Resolution

 In accordance with the company's Articles of Association, and pursuant to section 168 of the Companies Act 2006, the company hereby resolves that Anna Marshall (Director of Competition & Events) be removed as a Director of the company.

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| **Proposed** | **Name Bowling Club** |
| **Seconded** | **Name Bowling Club** |
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| **Vote** | **For** | **Against** |
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Colin Nicoll, on behalf of the Cities and Counties Group who had raised the motion addressed the floor and withdrew Ordinary Resolution 5.1.

Ordinary Resolution

5.2 In accordance with the company's Articles of Association, and pursuant to section 168 of the Companies Act 2006, the company hereby resolves that Bob Christie (Director of Development) be removed as a Director of the company.

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| **Proposed** | **Name Bowling Club** |
| **Seconded** | **Name Bowling Club** |
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| **Vote** | **For** | **Against** |
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Colin Nicoll, on behalf of the Cities and Counties Group who had raised the motion addressed the floor and withdrew Ordinary Resolution 5.2.

Ordinary Resolution

5.3 In accordance with the company's Articles of Association, and pursuant to section 168 of the Companies Act 2006, the company hereby resolves that Sue Beatt (Director) be removed as a Director of the company.

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| **Proposed** | **Name Bowling Club** |
| **Seconded** | **Name Bowling Club** |
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| **Vote** | **For** | **Against** |
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Colin Nicoll, on behalf of the Cities and Counties Group who had raised the motion addressed the floor and withdrew Ordinary Resolution 5.3

Ordinary Resolution

5.4 In accordance with the company's Articles of Association, and pursuant to section 168 of the Companies Act 2006, the company hereby resolves that Tom Hamilton (Director of Marketing & Communications) be removed as a Director of the company.

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| **Proposed** | **Name Bowling Club** |
| **Seconded** | **Name Bowling Club** |
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| **Vote** | **For** | **Against** |
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Colin Nicoll, on behalf of the Cities and Counties Group who had raised the motion addressed the floor and withdrew Ordinary Resolution 5.4.

Bill Knox, Director and Chairman of Bowls Scotland then intimated that he would be retiring from his position. He gave a short speech to the meeting.

Sue Beat, Director thanked Bill Knox on behalf for his contribution to the board of Bowls Scotland during his period of tenure.

Ordinary Resolution

7. In accordance with the company's Articles of Association, and pursuant to section 168 of the Companies Act 2006, the company hereby resolves that Bill Knox (Chairman) be removed as a Director of the company.

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| **Proposed** | **Name Bowling Club** |
| **Seconded** | **Name Bowling Club** |
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| **Vote** | **For** | **Against** |
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Ordinary Resolution 7 was not necessary due to the retiral of Mr Knox from the Board of Bowls Scotland.

8. To appoint Lyn Wallace (Pollokshaws BC) as President of Bowls Scotland

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| **Proposed** | **Name Elizabeth Wallace, Bonnybridge Bowling Club** |
| **Seconded** | **Name Isabel Guthrie, Pollockshaws Bowling Club** |
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| **Vote** | **For** | **Against** |
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Lyn Wallace (Pollockshaws BC) was unanimously elected as President of Bowls Scotland.

Lyn Wallace thanked those present for bestowing the honour and added she was extremely proud to take on the post for the 2017 season.

Retiring President Elizabeth Wallace made a short speech to the meeting thanking the bowling fraternity of Scotland for her most enjoyable and proud year in post.

9. To appoint Eddie Nicholson (Bridge of Earn BC) as President of Bowls Scotland

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| **Proposed** | **Name Douglas Johnston, Partick Bowling Club** |
| **Seconded** | **Name George Laing, Bridge of Earn Bowling Club** |
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| **Vote** | **For** | **Against** |
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Eddie Nicholson (Bridge of Earn BC) was unanimously elected as President of Bowls Scotland

Eddie Nicholson thanked those present for bestowing the honour and added he was extremely proud to take on the post for the 2017 season.

Retiring President Douglas Johnston made a short speech to the meeting thanking those he had met throughout his year in office, adding he was extremely proud to have represented the bowlers of Scotland throughout 2016 .

10. To appoint Margaret Bingham (Cumnock BC) as Vice-President of Bowls Scotland

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| **Proposed** | **Name Lyn Wallace, Pollockshaws Bowling Club** |
| **Seconded** | **Name Marion McBride, Cumnock Bowling Club** |
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| **Vote** | **For** | **Against** |
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Margaret Bingham (Cumnock BC) was unanimously elected as Vice-President of Bowls Scotland.

11. To appoint Bill Knox (Gourock BC) as Vice-President of Bowls Scotland

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| **Proposed** | **Name Eddie Nicholson, Bridge of Earn Bowling Club** |
| **Seconded** | **Name Kerr Livingston, Gourock Bowling Club** |
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| **Vote** | **For** | **Against** |
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Bill Knox (Gourock BC) was unanimously elected as Vice-President of Bowls Scotland.

12. To appoint Elizabeth Wallace (Bonnybridge BC) as honorary member of Bowls Scotland

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| **Proposed** | **Name Bowling Club** |
| **Seconded** | **Name Bowling Club** |
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| **Vote** | **For** | **Against** |
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Unanimously passed by the floor.

Sue Beatt thanked Elizabeth on behalf of Bowls Scotland

13. To appoint Douglas Johnston (Partick BC) as honorary member of Bowls Scotland

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| **Proposed** | **Name Bowling Club** |
| **Seconded** | **Name Bowling Club** |
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| **Vote** | **For** | **Against** |
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Unanimously passed by the floor.

Sue Beatt thanked Douglas on behalf of Bowls Scotland

AOCB

There was then a lengthy period allocated to AOCB with the floor being opened to those present who wished to raise competent matters.

* The announcement of results of Election of Board Members.

351 sets of voting papers returned.

8 sets of papers spoiled.

Sue Beatt was duly elected as Chair of Bowls Scotland Board of Directors

Anna Marshall was duly re-elected as Director of Competitions & Events

Robert Christie was duly re-elected as Director of Development

Sue Beat then Chaired the AOCB session:

* John Thorburn (Liberton BC) queried the issue of proxy votes and asked it be resolved for future meetings. The Bowls Scotland lawyer replied and explained the issue. A general discussion on the issue of Proxy Votes then took place.
* Willie Stewart (Anstruther BC) asked whether Bowls Scotland had a view on the issue of the ‘Bowls Eye’, a new measuring device. Sue Beatt replied Bowls Scotland would advise on this in due course.
* Jacqueline Forsyth (Bellshill & Mossend) queried whether all the costs were accrued for the Super series event? Finance Director Craig McArthur replied with a detailed breakdown of all costs and expenditure.
* Ian Cameron (Kennoway BASC) spoke and raised the hope that all parties who had been involved on all sides of the recent issues of discord might come together with a positive outcome for the future of the sport of bowls in Scotland.
* Alan McMillan, CEO, replied to a question about the issue of the potential of inclusion of Bowls in the Olympics.
* Stewart Meikle, (Top 10 Association), made a length, wide-ranging speech covering a number of issues. There was no discussion on his contribution. Sue Beatt however replied from the Board highlighting the positive strides taken by the CEO and Bowls Scotland since unification. .
* Brendan Handling (Wigtonshire BA) asked for comment on the Age Limits for Senior competitions. Anna Marshall, Director of Competitions & Events clarified it was determined by BIBC.
* George Rennie (Kinross BC) asked that Bowls Scotland contact the education authorities throughout Scotland to get Bowls included on the school curriculum. Colin Hutchison, Development Manager, replied that there were many clubs throughout the country already involved in this activity working alongside local authorities. He urged clubs to modernise and grasp the development assistance available to them.
* Evelyn Dickie, (WOSBA), asked whether Bowls Scotland made a contribution to the Scottish Blind Bowlers Association. Sue Beatt replied that Bowls Scotland had in the past and will do so in the future.
* Robert Donaldson, (E&L), commented that he was worried about the future of the A Hamilton Trophy. Anna Marshall replied from Competitions and Events that she believed it was a very good competition had a very good future.
* Alex Allan (Belvedere BC) queried the CV submission policy for trial selection introduced in 2016. Anne Dunwoodie replied that this policy has been in place for many years with the ladies International team.
* Colin Nicoll , (ELBA), queried gents under 25 selection procedures.
* David Hamilton (Linlithgow BC) made comment about the High Performance Squad selection policy for the upcoming World Championships in New Zealand.

There being no further competent business raised from the floor, Chair Sue Beatt thanks all those who had attended a fruitful and progressive AGM and wished everyone a safe journey home.

The meeting closed at: 3.15 PM