



Bowls Scotland

National Centre for Bowling Northfield, Hunters Avenue, Ayr, KA8 9AL

Tel 01292 294 623

Bowls Scotland Board Meeting

Wednesday 18th of January 2017, 1630 hrs

Harper Macleod Offices, The Ca'd'oro, 45 Gordon St, Glasgow G1 3PE

Present:

Sue Beatt - Chair(SB), Craig McArthur (CM), Tom Hamilton (TH), Bob Christie (BC), Andrew Upton (AU), David Scoullar (DC)

In Attendance: Alan McMillan CEO (AMcM), Eddie Nicholson (EN), Lynn Wallace (LW), Bill Knox (BK), Margaret Ann Fleming - Scottish Volleyball Association (SVA) CEO and Commonwealth Games Scotland Director (MAF).

1. Apologies: Fiona Fagan (FF) sportscotland, Margaret Bingham (MB) Anna Marshall (AM)
2. Chairs Opening Remarks- SB welcomed all to the meeting. SB emphasised the requirement for confidentiality at all times regarding the Board discussions.
She welcomed MAF to the meeting as part of the reciprocal arrangement with the SVA to share good practice for the Board and CEO.

SB thanked AU for hosting the meeting and providing the catering.

3. Declarations of Interest- There were no declarations other than those captured in December 2016 as part of the overall Director declarations of interest register
4. Previous Minutes – 7th of December 2016- Approved by DS and seconded by AU
5. Matters arising/Action Points.- Presidential Selection Process- The Board agreed to take this action off the register and review at the situation in the lead up to the 2017 AGM. It was deemed as a low priority at present.
All other actions were either completed or updated
6. **Proposals**
 - 6.1.1. Finance Update- The board fully approved the agreement with Thomas Taylor Bowls to continue the current partnership.
CM gave an overview of the notes from the Finance group meeting. The board unanimously approved the finance update.
 - 6.1.2. Authorisation of Payments-
There were no payments to be approved.
 - 6.1.3. Financial Procedure manual:- CM briefed the board on the document which was unanimously approved

6.1.4. Competitions and Events papers

- A lengthy discussion took place regarding the decision making process and what the Board should do or is required to decide from the Competitions and Events group. The Board agreed that there requires to be a review of how the C&E group operate and how the Board can support the area of C&E. AMcM suggested that there could be two groups in C&E one which is operational and solely delivers competitions and the other being more strategic, involved in budgeting and planning and having different people supporting each. SB agreed to meet with AM on her return to discuss and get a clearer picture of the challenges being faced by the C&E group.
- C&E Committee reps papers- the board approved the positions to allow work to progress but requested further information on the following-
 - confirmation on the duration of tenure for each group,
 - clarification on what each group's remit will be,
 - clarification on the BIBC group
 - why there isn't a BIWBC group,
 - why are only certain volunteers involved and not club members with skills
 - what are the skill sets of the individuals put forward
- Competitions Proposal 2017 V1.2- The paper was split into three sections-
 - Super Series- this competition was unanimously approved taking into consideration that sponsorship had now reached a certain level. The Board still wished a cut off date to make sure that if entries didn't reach the required minimum for the competition to break even, then as per the request at the AGM, the board had the right to cancel this event. This option should be made aware to all regional organisers to make sure that clubs realised this when agreeing to take on the regional qualifiers. The Board also agreed that there would be one main success criteria established:-The event must reach the bare minimum of entries to break even.
 - U-25 Ladies pairs competition- after discussion the Board requested that the C&E group discuss ladies bowls competition in totality. It was suggested that AM set up a "think tank" or equivalent to review the ladies competition structure in Scotland for this season with implementation phased in over the next three years.
 - Increased usage of the greens at the National Centre. This was fully agreed.
- AHT 2018 proposals –The Board approved that the C&E group could go out to consultation regarding the new format. C&E would then come back with tighter proposals to then be ultimately approved by the Board. AM would be asked to report to the Board how the new proposal met the Bowls Scotland strategic plan as mentioned in the proposal document
- C&E Appeal- This had already been dealt with as per the discussions around the decision making within the C&E group. It was agreed electronically by the Board that the entry fee for all National competitions be set to increase by £1.

6.1.5. Disciplinary Rules – AU gave an overview of the rules drafted. The Board thanked him for all his hard work and the following was agreed. The paper was approved in principle with amendments to certain words. Once completed the rules should be put in the Bye-laws and sent to all clubs with a covering letter explaining the step by step process for how the rules would be implemented.

TH expressed great concern where individuals representing Scotland, were viewed wearing an International top and holding a glass of alcohol. AMcM will bring this up with all in control of this area. AU would be sent the latest International and HP player agreement to make sure that this situation is highlighted as unacceptable practice

EN, LW and BK left the meeting and were thanked for their attendance.

6.2. Discussions

6.2.1. Equality- Dates for the next LGBTI seminars had been distributed to the Board. DS and BC are both attending. All Directors were encouraged to attend.

A discussion took place regarding the current increased awareness on historic Child abuse cases. Both AM and BC as part of the former SBA and SWBA Boards were asked prior to the meeting if there had been any accusations put forward previously alleging child abuse or similar within lawn bowls. Both had confirmed that there hadn't been. The following actions came from this discussion

- That Child Protection should be a standing item on the Board agenda's
- The development team look at the expectations of child protection regulations on clubs.- eg what are minimum standards and can we make this a pre-requisite of being a member?
- The development team are to be asked, how can we provide more "Safe guarding children in sport" courses for clubs and coaches.

Operational information Papers

CEO report-

HP report-

Marketing and Branding report- the board were shown some screen captures of the new web-site.

AOCB

SB will conduct Director appraisals with all of the Board in the third quarter.

TH outlined the thinking behind introducing an awards system other than the current honorary member, which was in the main only open to District Secretaries. There were two main aspects to consider:-

- ❖ The introduction of a volunteer award for 25 and 50 years service and
- ❖ Those put forward for the queens awards

Mtg closed at 2015 hrs