



Bowls Scotland
(Company No. SC386410)

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minute of the Annual General Meeting of Bowls Scotland held at the Dewars Centre, Glover Street, Perth PH2 0TH on Saturday 24th November 2018 at 1300 hrs.

Register of Interest

David Scouller – Lenzie Bowling Club
Sue Beatt – St Vincent Bowling Club
Andrew Upton – Strathaven Bowling Club
Tom Hamilton – Woodend Bowling Club
Robert Christie – Parkview Bowling Club, Director (European Bowls Union), Regional Coach (Bowls Scotland), Coach (Scottish Disability Sport)
Scott Meechan – Kirkintilloch Bowling Club

Chair's Opening Remarks

Chair Sue Beatt welcomed those present to the Bowls Scotland AGM 2018. She introduced the top table: Bob Christie (Director of Development), Tom Hamilton (Director of Marketing, Branding & Communications), David Scouller (Director of Governance), Alan McMillan (CEO), Scott Meechan (Strategic Competitions & Events), Andrew Upton (Director), Andrew McNamara (Accountants BDO), Fiona Lilley (Sports Scotland).

Sue Beatt announced that Craig Macarthur (Director of Finance) had resigned from the Board
Sue Beatt gave full clarification of the proxy voting procedure to be used for the AGM.

Obituaries

Sue Beatt asked for a minutes silence in respect for all those from the wider Scottish bowling community who had passed away in the prior year. She made special mention of the sad loss of Linda Brennan who had contributed so much to the game and was a friend of many present.

Apologies

Apologies were received from:

District Secretaries:

Val O'Neill
Andrew Wyness
Rae Graham
Denise Connell
Ann Ross
Alec MacDonald
Douglas Smith
Stuart MacFarlane
Douglas Heggie
George Barr
Ian Allan
Alison Shaw
Alan Davidson

Clubs:

Berwick B C
 Cromarty B C
 Dunblane B C
 Fraser Park B C
 Garrowhill B C
 Glengarnock Iron Works B C
 Invergowrie B C
 Kirkcaldy B C
 Monifieth B C
 Monquhitter B C
 Queen's Park B C
 Stenton B C
 Strathmiglo B C
 Thornhill B C
 Wardie B C

Associations:

Johnstone & District WBA

1 - To receive the Annual Report of Bowls Scotland for 2018.

CEO Alan McMillan presented the Annual Report for 2018 to the meeting, giving a brief outline of the contents. In particular he noted that Bowls Scotland was still losing members annually but the rate was leveling off. He stressed that the organisation was working hard to encourage new players into the sport through a number of initiatives. He also thanked all Partners who had worked with Bowls Scotland throughout the year. David Gourlay received an MBE and HP Coach of the Year, Alex Marshall received a Lifetime Achievement Award and Caroline Brown was named Female Athlete of the Year.

Comments were invited from delegates present:

It was pointed out from the floor that Hawick had been the Scotland representatives at the BIBC Championships at Leamington Spa in June and not Upper Cowal as was printed in the Annual Report. CEO advised this would be amended for the published report on the website.

Proposed by Betty Aitken - Victoria (Coatbridge) Bowling Club
 Seconded by Eddie Nicholson – Bridge of Earn Bowling Club

Passed by delegates in attendance.

2 - To receive the Financial Statement of Bowls Scotland for 2018.

Andrew McNamara (Accountants BDO) gave full presentation of Financial Statements & Accounts.

CEO Alan McMillan commented that Bowls Scotland continues to work closely with sportscotland. He added it had been a challenge for sportscotland due to central government funding being cut and sportscotland had to fund 52 different sporting bodies including Bowls Scotland. Bowls Scotland currently sit in the 'middle bracket' for funding which is a challenge but with a new 4 year funding application submitted he was hopeful of a positive result for the organisation. He further added that Bowls Scotland were continually looking to increase commercial activity.

Proposed by Frazer Muirhead - Uphall Station Club
 Seconded by Keith Fender - East Linton Bowling Club

Passed by delegates in attendance.

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

Proposed by Margaret Halliday – Whitburn Bowling Club
 Seconded by Betty Aitken – Victoria (Coatbridge) Bowling Club

Unanimously passed.

BDO were re-appointed as Accountants to Bowls Scotland for the forthcoming year

4 - To appoint Kathleen Gordon (Ellon BC) as President of Bowls Scotland

Retiring President Margaret Bingham proposed Kathleen Gordon (Ellon BC) as new President of Bowls Scotland. She commented that she had enjoyed a fantastic year in office and wished Kathleen every success for the year to come.

Ellen Butler (Ellon BC) gave a short personal statement re Kathleen Gordon's succession to the post of President and highlighted her pride that Kathleen's long-term commitment to the sport had been recognized with such an honour.

Kathleen Gordon then addressed the meeting. She intimated her joy and pride in accepting the honour. She further thanked Margaret Bingham for her guidance during the previous year as her Vice President and promised to do everything in her power to act as an ambassador for the organisation as President.

Proposed by Margaret Bingham – Cumnock Bowling Club
 Seconded by Ellen Butler – Ellon Bowling Club

Passed by delegates in attendance.

Flowers were then presented by Sue Beatt on behalf of the Board to Kath Gordon and Margaret Bingham.

5 - To appoint Jock Halliday (Dalkeith BC) as President of Bowls Scotland

Retiring President Bill Knox proposed Jock Halliday (Dalkeith BC) as new President of Bowls Scotland. He commented on his enjoyment that the previous year as President had given him and wished Jock every success for the next 12 months on the post.

Derek Gowrie (Dalkeith BC) then gave a glowing personal statement of Jock Halliday and made clear that Dalkeith BC were proud that they had a member of such outstanding stature that he had become President of the organisation.

Proposed by Bill Knox – Gourrock Bowling Club
 Seconded by Derek Gowrie – Dalkeith Bowling Club

Passed by delegates in attendance.

Jock Halliday then gave a short speech thanking Bowls Scotland for bestowing on him the honour of President. He thanked Bill Knox for his advice during the previous year as Vice President. He intimated he was overcome and overjoyed to accept the position. He promised he would uphold the position with respect and do everything he could to promote the sport the length and breadth of the country and beyond for the next 12 months.

6 - To appoint Margaret Halliday (Whitburn BC) as Vice-President of Bowls Scotland

Proposed by Kathleen Gordon – Ellon Bowling Club
Seconded by Ian McGill – West Lothian Bowling Association

Passed by delegates in attendance.

7 - To appoint John Anderson (Townholm BC) as Vice-President of Bowls Scotland

Proposed by Jock Halliday – Dalkeith Bowling Club
Seconded by Margaret Bingham – Cumnock Bowling Club

Passed by delegates in attendance.

8 – To appoint Margaret Bingham (Cumnock BC) as honorary member of Bowls Scotland

Proposed by Kathleen Gordon – Ellon Bowling Club
Seconded by Betty Aitken – Victoria (Coatbridge) Bowling Club

Passed by delegates in attendance

9 - To appoint Bill Knox (Gourock BC) as honorary member of Bowls Scotland

Proposed by Jock Halliday – Dalkeith Bowling Club
Seconded by George McWilliam – Ardgowan Bowling

Jock stated that Bill has worked hard for over 23 years with the Governing Body of bowls and George commented that Bill is a stalwart of bowls for 40 years and this was a well-deserved honour.

10 - To appoint Anna Marshall (Bonnybridge BC) as honorary member of Bowls Scotland

Sue Beatt gave a resume of Anna's career in bowls – she was nominated as a Director when the unification happened and was Finance and then C & E Director as well as working before that for SWBA. She was part of the unification committee and has been ever present at National Finals. She was a delegate for BIWBC and Sue also thanked Anna personally for all of her work. The Board were pleased to therefore nominate Anna for this honour.

Proposed by the Board of Bowls Scotland
Seconded by Liz Wallace – Bonnybridge Bowling Club

Passed by delegates in attendance

Anna gave her thanks and commented this was her 20th AGM. She thanked Eleanor Allan of SWBA for her help over the years, all the District Secretaries who have worked with her and the staff for their exceptional work. She said unification didn't happen overnight – it took 9 long years. She thanked the committees and clubs and their members.

11 – To appoint Ronnie Duncan (Bonnyrigg BC) as honorary member of Bowls Scotland

Proposed by the Board of Bowls Scotland
Seconded by Margaret Bingham – Cumnock Bowling Club

Unanimously passed.

12 - To appoint Derek Oliver (Cockenzie & Port Seton BC) as honorary member of Bowls Scotland

Proposed by the Board of Bowls Scotland
Seconded by Margaret Bingham – Cumnock Bowling Club

Ronnie and Derek were unable to attend the AGM due to playing commitments however Jock Halliday was going to present their awards after their game.

They won 2 gold medals each at Commonwealth Games and have contributed to team and to High Performance and their dedication was thanked and this was thoroughly deserved

AOCB

Sue Beatt (Chair) announced that following the statutory election process Scott Meechan had been unopposed as Strategic Director of Competition & Events and was reelected to the Board.

Three new District secretaries were announced;

Gail Notman is the new Ladies District Secretary for District 19.
Alison Shaw is the new Ladies District Secretary for District 11.
Lyn Ronald is the new Ladies District Secretary for District 2.

1 - John Thorburn (Liberton BC)
Has Board ever considered making an introductory offer for new clubs to join Bowls Scotland?

Duncan Caithness (National Development Manager) replied that Bowls Scotland were currently working on new schemes to encourage membership and wished to encourage new members and clubs into the sport.

2 - Ian McGill (WLBA President)
Can year be put onto Andrew Hamilton Trophy medals for winners and runners-up?

Scott Meechan (C&E) replied that he would ensure tis happened for future years.

3 - Keith Hyndland (Willowbrae BC)
Could prospective Board Member CV's be given to clubs prior to elections and why don't Bowls Scotland co-opt onto the Board a member with a disability?

Sue Beatt (Chair) replied firstly that recent Board elections were co-opts onto the Board and secondly that the Board would look to this point in the future but they are a skills-based Board.
Mr Hyndland replied that he sincerely hoped that a disability would be no barrier to any future Board members.

4 - Sheila Beedie (Blairgowrie BC)
A Mixed Pairs team had been stopped from playing because it was felt they had broken the dress code in the National championships. Could this be clarified?

Jock Halliday (C&E) replied that players have to wear the same clothing in stage 2 of the National championships.

5 - Janice Grant (Kirkintilloch BC)
Will the board be appointing a new Director of C&E (Operational)?

Scott Meechan (C&E) replied that this was not imminent but the situation was under review by the Board.

6 - Robert Donaldson (Parkside BC)
Will Bowls Scotland ban smoking at the National Championships?

Jock Halliday (C&E) replied that no player should be smoking on the green. He also commented that South Ayrshire Council would be asked to give Bowls Scotland a policy decision for the National Championships.

7 - George Rennie (Nethertown & Kinross BC's)

Why is there a lack of schools involvement in development?

Duncan Caithness (Development Manager) replied that there are many clubs participating with schools in development work throughout the country and Bowls Scotland have a team dedicated to this area,

8 - George Rennie (Nethertown & Kinross BC's)

What assistance is there for clubs re increases in rates, utilities etc from Bowls Scotland?

Duncan Caithness replied that there was a range of advice available and a team dedicated to assisting clubs with this. He urged clubs to contact the Bowls Scotland office for information.

9 - Eddie Nicholson (Bridge of Earn BC)

How many clubs are currently members of Bowls Scotland and how many playing the game?

Alan McMillan (CEO) replied that the latest figures (with the capitation returns due in the February 2019) were 859 clubs with 59,000 playing members.

10 - John Yuill (Northern BC)

Can Bowls Scotland put the District Results on the website?

Alan McMillan (CEO) replied that he would look to develop this in 2019.

11 - John Yuill (Northern BC)

Will there be a repeat of players having to play multiple games in the final stages of the National Championships in 2019?

Jock Halliday (C&E) replied that 2018 was a learning curve. There had of course been a thorough review by the C&E team as usual and 2019 would see a full week of activities and would be well publicised within the entry forms early in the new year. Tom Weir (C&E) added that there would be changes to Restrictions of Movement during play that would hopefully alleviate some of the problems that occurred in 2018.

12 - Isla Duncan (Guardbridge BC)

Will Bowls Scotland look to introduce more competitions for the 26-54 years age group?

Scott Meechan (C&E) replied that he appreciated this was an area worthy of consideration, discussions have taken place re a range of different competitions for players and they would be introduced once they had been fully developed.

Chair Sue Beatt closed the meeting, thanking everyone for their attendance and wished them a safe journey home.

The meeting closed at: 14:15.