



**Bowls Scotland
(Company No. SC386410)**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minute of the Annual General Meeting of Bowls Scotland held at the Hampden Park, Letherby Drive, Glasgow, G42 9BA on Wednesday 27th November 2019 at 1300 hrs.

Register of Interest

- Sue Beatt – St Vincent Bowling Club
- Arlene Ewing – N/A
- Andrew Upton – Strathaven Bowling Club
- David Scouller - Lenzie Bowling Club
- Sheila Cowan – N/A
- Tom Hamilton – Woodend Bowling Club
- Bob Christie – Montrose Bowling Club, Vice President EBU, High Performance Para Bowls Coordinator
- James Laws – Raploch Bowling Club

Chair's Opening Remarks

Bowls Scotland Chair Sue Beatt welcomed everyone to the 2019 Annual General Meeting. She introduced the top table comprising the Board, CEO and including Andrew McNamara from Auditors BDO who was in attendance to support the meeting.

Sue Beatt then introduced CEO Alan McMillan who gave a comprehensive summary of the new Bowls Scotland Strategy that was being introduced for the four-year period 2019-2023.

Obituaries

Sue Beatt mentioned all those involved in bowling throughout Scotland who had sadly passed away over the past 12 months. She made special mention of Alan Davidson, Dorothy Freeburn and David Scaife – she commented their loss would be of special significance to many in the hall due to their enormous impact and support to Bowls Scotland. A minute of silence was then observed in respect.

Proposed	Name Duncan McLaren Edinburgh West End Bowling Club	
Vote	For	Against
	UNANIMOUS	

CEO Alan McMillan presented a short video summarising the Annual report of Bowls Scotland for the year 2019. He intimated the content of the Annual report was available to all members to view. The CEO made mention of several key points of interest within the Report.

- Bowls Scotland had received an increase in sportscotland funding and this was vital to the organisation. This funding was ringfenced and targeted for specific areas but would be of major benefit to clubs through provision of increased support from the Bowls Scotland office over a range of activities involved in the development of the sport throughout the country.
- Bowls Scotland are continually looking at new and novel ways to engage with assisting bowling clubs to thrive and develop including Try Bowls and the BowlsMark accreditation programmes.
- He implored delegates to engage fully with Bowls Scotland programmes – both existing and new initiatives – to increase participation in the sport in Scotland.
- He reaffirmed the Bowls Scotland thanks to all volunteers throughout the country – at all levels – for their unstinting and continued support to the game at all levels.

Chair Sue Beatt then took questions from the floor re the Annual Report:

Duncan McLaren (Edinburgh West End BC) thanked the CEO for the Strategy and Report but asked why Bowls Scotland had not filled the vacant position of Director of Competitions and Events?

Chair Sue Beatt replied that the Board position would hopefully be filled shortly, and members would be advised in due course.

Jim Dalziel (Dumbartonshire BA) requested that International Selectors provide support for the U25 Gents team through increased attendance at U25 League games in 2020. The request was noted.

Proposed	Name Eddie Nicholson Bridge of Earn Bowling Club	
Vote	For	Against
	UNANIMOUS	

Andrew McNamara from BDO presented an analysis of the Bowls Scotland Financial Statements for 2019.

Questions were invited from the floor.

Duncan McLaren (Edinburgh West End BC) thanked the Board for the financial statements and enquired how much profit was made from the National championships held at Northfield each year?

Director of Finance Sheila Cowan replied that the profit was in the region of £10,000.

There were no further questions.

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

Proposed	Name Sue Beatt Bowls Scotland	
Vote	For	Against
	UNANIMOUS	

Chair Sue Beatt advised that the position of accountant would go out to tender in 2020.

5. To appoint Margaret Halliday (Whitburn BC) as President of Bowls Scotland

Proposed	Name Kathleen Gordon Ellon Bowling Club	
Vote	For	Against
	UNANIMOUS	

Kathleen Gordon thanked Bowls Scotland for bestowing on her the honour of being Lady President during the preceding year. She had been proud to accept the role and thoroughly enjoyed her year in office, hoping she had done justice to the job. She thanked the many clubs and associations who she had met during her year and had provided her with wonderful hospitality at their various finals and county games. She further thanked her predecessor Margaret Bingham for her guidance during the year.

Kathleen was proud to propose Margaret Halliday as Lady President of Bowls Scotland for the year ahead.

7 To appoint Marella O'Neil (Dalry BC) as Vice-President of Bowls Scotland

Proposed	Name	Margaret Halliday	Whitburn Bowling Club
Vote	For	Against	
	UNANIMOUS		

Marella O'Neill was duly nominated and awarded the position of Lady Vice President of Bowls Scotland for the next 12 months. Unfortunately, Marella suffered an injury on the way to the meeting which prevented her attending.

8. To appoint Ron McArthur (Zetland BC) as Vice-President of Bowls Scotland

Proposed	Name	John Anderson	Townholm Bowling Club
Vote	For	Against	
	UNANIMOUS		

Ron McArthur was duly nominated and awarded the position of Gents Vice President of Bowls Scotland for the next 12 months.

Proposed	Name Bowls Scotland Board	
Vote	For	Against
	UNANIMOUS	

Kathleen Gordon was duly appointed as an honorary member of Bowls Scotland.

Proposed	Name Bowls Scotland Board	
Vote	For	Against
	UNANIMOUS	

John Halliday was duly appointed as an honorary member of Bowls Scotland.

Proposed	Name Bowls Scotland Board	
Vote	For	Against
	UNANIMOUS	

George Barr was duly appointed as an honorary member of Bowls Scotland.

AOCB

1. Elections to the Board
Chair Sue Beatt intimated that in the elections to the Board that had been statutorily required both Sue Beatt and Tom Hamilton had been appointed as Directors of Bowls Scotland for the succeeding term of office. Sue Beatt clarified her position as Chair, she will automatically step down as Director in 2021. Tom Hamilton will automatically step down in 2022
2. District Secretary Appointments
New District Secretaries were appointed as follows:
Gents District 3 – David Shaw
Ladies District 7 – Morag Robertson
Gents District 9 – Bryan Stillie
Gents District 14 – Graeme Swan
Gents District 16 – Colin Cook
Ladies District 17 – Margaret Thomson
Gents District 24 – Alan Bell
Gents District 26 – David Palmer
Gents District 32 – Ian McWhirter
3. Rosslyn Bowling Club requested that Coaching Courses be held nationwide. Craig Bolan, Head of Coach and Volunteer Development replied that these are already held throughout Scotland, however if there was enough demand in specific areas then Bowls Scotland would look into running specific courses for that area.
4. George McWilliam of Ardgowan BC enquired whether the Agenda for the meeting had been distributed to all clubs in advance of the AGM. CEO Alan McMillan replied that the Agenda and accompanying paperwork had indeed been sent out to all club and association contacts provided in the preceding capitation returns.
5. Duncan McLaren of Edinburgh West End BC enquired whether there might be scope to introduce a new competition for Ladies? CEO Alan McMillan replied that the C&E Group were working on the programme for the future and would announce outcomes in due course.
6. Valerie Stewart Stirling County East enquired if there was any update on potential Smoking Bans on the green as this had been brought up at last year's AGM. Claire Johnston Competition & Events Manager replied that there would indeed be a ban on smoking and Vaping on the greens at the National Championships in July.
7. Helen Mason from Bothwell BC enquired about no county ties being played in her district at nights or weekends. She wished to know why they were still played during the day. Claire Johnstone Competition & Events Manager replied that unfortunately Associations ran their own competitions and were not under the auspices of Bowls Scotland, therefore they decided when the ties should be played.
8. Andy Wyness – District 18 Secretary asked if there was any feedback on players from the runner-up county in the 2019 Andrew Hamilton Trophy competition refusing to take part in the awards ceremony and receive their medals? Tom Weir from C&E replied that the issue had been taken up with the Association concerned, however there is nothing prohibiting counties from not taking part in the prize giving ceremony.
9. John Thorburn from Liberton BC enquired whether the no Smoking Rule being implemented at the 2020 National Championships would be a Competition Rule or a Venue Rule. Claire Johnston Competitions & Events Manager replied that as Bowls Scotland can only effectively control the venue of Northfield it would only pertain to Stage 2 of the National Championships and any other Bowls Scotland events held at the Northfield complex.
10. David Palmer – District 26 Secretary enquired about an incident that had occurred on the green during his Stage 1 championships in 2019 and how should District Secretaries deal with issues of ill-discipline? After a lengthy period of discussion on the matter from the floor Andrew Upton asked that the issue be left to the Board to give clarification to all member and clubs prior to the 2020 season beginning.
11. Duncan McLaren from Edinburgh West End BC, acting as BIBC Secretary, enquired about an incident at the recent BIBC Junior Internationals. John Halliday from C&E replied that an email had been sent to the CEO, the board would deal with it in the appropriate manner in due course.

12. Duncan McLaren from Edinburgh West End BC stated he felt it important that in issues of ill-discipline District Secretaries must have an input and surely should not be referring everything to the board. Andrew Upton advised and reiterated that the matter would be brought to the next meeting of District Secretaries for full clarification.
13. David Todd from Haddington BC enquired whether there was any likelihood of bowls becoming an Olympic sport in the future? Chair Sue Beatt replied that she would personally like to see it happen and that World Bowls were indeed looking into achieving Olympic status, but the cost appeared to be prohibitive. However, she understood World bowls would look at it again in the future.

There was no further business raised from the floor of the meeting.

The meeting closed at: 14.40pm