



Bowls Scotland

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

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Bowls Scotland Board Meeting

Wednesday 19th of August 2020, 1730 hrs

Zoom meeting

Present:

Sue Beatt - Chair (SB), Alan McMillan – CEO (AM), Bob Christie (BC), Andrew Upton (AU), David Scouller (DC), James Laws (JL), Margaret Halliday (MH), John Anderson (JA), Tom Hamilton (TH), George McCartney (GM)

1. **Apologies:** Arlene Ewing (AE), Marella O'Neill (MO)
2. **Chairs Opening Remarks-** SB opened the meeting by thanking the staff for their continued hard work. SB welcomed GM to the Board.
3. **Declarations of Interest** – There were no declarations of interest.
4. **Previous Minutes** – Approved
5. **Proposals**

5.1. Actions from last meeting

SB asked AM whether there were any updates on actions from the previous minutes.

AM advised the following:

- data from the second wellbeing survey is currently being collated.
- TH club has been added to the business grant spreadsheet.
- AU provided a couple of letters for issue to clubs.
- Budget proposals will be discussed as part of the agenda.

5.2. COVID-19 Report Update

- 5.2.1. Business Support Grant - £6,065,000 awarded to date.
- 5.2.2. 3rd Sector Grant - £239,043 awarded to date.
- 5.2.3. Bowls Scotland Grant - AM advised that some clubs had applied for this grant however they were subsequently awarded the Business Grant fund following appeal and withdrew their application for this fund.
- 5.2.4. Refunds - 803 club refunds made to date. The majority of affiliates / associations have received refunds to date.
- 5.2.5. Clubs Opening - AM shared information on the number of clubs that had opened during the various phases.
- 5.2.6. Frontline Workers Campaign - AM advised that 23 clubs have responded so far. AM asked the Board to encourage clubs to sign up. Data will be gathered on the number of new members joining clubs as a result of this initiative.. AM advised that some clubs have indicated their intention to stay open longer possibly to the middle of October.
- 5.2.7. Development Update:
 - Second COVID-19 club survey has been issued.
 - Fantastic Fanatics – new partnership to help clubs fund raise.
 - Online PVG – well attended additional sessions will be arranged.
 - District Secretaries 'catch up' good feedback received.
 - Coach and Volunteer Manager post advertised.
 - A number of clubs have not been complying with rules / regulations e.g. fours competition on when it should not have been, and photos taken and shared on Facebook showing no social distancing. There have also been some complaints made to police regarding clubs not complying. Guidance continues to be updated / emailed / shared on social media.
- 5.2.8. Wellbeing Survey – will be available by Friday 21st August to SB and AM.
- 5.2.9. Working from home / office survey issued to staff. Survey closes on Friday 21st August.
- 5.2.10. CRM – 2 District Secretary sessions have taken place so far. Capitation testing is underway. Staff will be updated at the All Staff Meeting.

JA asked whether it would be beneficial for the District Secretaries to know when clubs within their area are not complying with the current COVID-19 rules. JA advised that one of the clubs in his District arranged a pairs competition and received a letter from Bowls Scotland and contacted him. The competition was cancelled so JA feels that the District Secretaries should be informed. AM advised that this was a valid point and will happen in future.

JL asked whether it would be worthwhile undertaking an exercise to validate the amount of grant funding. It is possible that some clubs have not informed Bowls Scotland that they have been successful in securing grant funding. This could be done by including a question in the surveys that are being issued to clubs.

5.3. Budget 2021

SB advised that AM still had to submit information to Companies House.

5.3.1. Crisis Fund – this will continue over the winter months.

5.3.2. Budget 2021:

AM shared the budget paper and discussed proposals.

AU asked for the timescale for decisions that have to go to the AGM for approval. AM advised that September is the timescale for initial discussion. Agenda for AGM will be discussed in October, second opportunity to decide on something different then not long after that the paperwork will be issued for AGM. AM will speak to Craig McKerracher from Harper MacLeod regarding timescales. AM advised that the AGM is likely to be virtual.

sportscotland need to understand the deficit that governing bodies face. FL asked AM to update the spreadsheet that was issued previously.

5.4. Mentor Programme for District Secretaries

Proposal to appoint 4 mentors covering all 32 Districts. Each area will have a mentor for additional support for any ongoing issues. This will benefit mostly new District Secretaries. This is part of the new support packages for the DS which includes job description, roles and responsibilities, District Secretaries by-laws and updated handbook.

Kathleen Gordon will mentor Districts 1-9

Keith Fender will mentor Districts 10 – 17

Tom Weir will mentor Districts 18 - 25

Margaret Bingham will mentor Districts 26 - 32

Board approved the proposal.

5.5. Smoking / Vaping (COVID19)

Directive to clubs in Scotland that there is no smoking and vaping on the greens. JL advised that this may be enforceable for Bowls Scotland competitions however not for club competitions, these are private clubs. Board

agreed that this should be a recommendation for health and safety given COVID-19. AM suggested that this is something that the C&E group discuss and look at BS comps, Licenced comps, club comps.

5.6. BIWBC format

AGM Senior Ladies Internationals will now be a Top Ten format. Two teams coming from Scotland, England, Ireland, Wales and a team of ten coming from Jersey. This can be used in a Commonwealth year for selection purposes and testing it will be done at Leamington next year. The ultimate goal is to bring BIBC and BIWBC together. This could be approved in January 2022.

Part of the proposal is that we would be involved with Jersey and Wales in an over 55s ladies international. This sits well with Empowering Women in bowls strategy this will be self-funded. England and Ireland don't want to be part of this.

U25 will be discussed next week.

5.7. Virtual AGM

Further conversations required about proxy voting, timescales etc. Emergency legislation may be extended which would mean that there would be no concern about the articles.

General discussion regarding the benefits and process of a virtual AGM.

Board approved virtual AGM.

The Presidents left the meeting at this point.

5.8. Safeguarding Case

AU advised that the Disciplinary Committee will reconvene to decide what the next steps are.

AU advised that in relation to the press the comments would be that there are ongoing disciplinary proceedings and Bowls Scotland do not comment on ongoing disciplinary matters.

6. A.O.C.B.

7. Next meeting Wednesday 30th September 2020.