



# Bowls Scotland

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

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## **Bowls Scotland Board Meeting**

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2021, 1730 hrs**

### **Zoom Meeting**

#### **Present:**

Sue Beatt - Chair (SB), Alan McMillan – CEO (AM), David Scouller (DC), George McCartney (GM) Kim McAully (KM) Fiona Lilley(FL) Marella O'Neil (MO) Ron McArthur (RM) Andrew Upton (AU) Sarah Pryde-Smith (SPS) Tom Hamilton (TH) John Anderson (JA) Arlene Ewing (AE) Margaret Halliday (MH)

1. **Apologies:** James Law (JL)
2. **Chairs Opening Remarks-** SB welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished them a Happy New Year. SB announced Colin Hutchinson, who was the first Bowls Scotland Development Manager and former U-25 Internationalist has been appointed as the new Chief Executive for Athletics. SB and the Board sends him their best wishes.
3. **Declarations of Interest** – There were no declarations of interest.
4. **Approval of Previous Minutes** – KM asked for further information regarding the Club Crisis Fund (point 11) fund review. SPS explained, Bowls Scotland will wait until capitation has been fully received to identify if the clubs who received the funding have re-affiliated with Bowls Scotland in 2021. SPS explained more information needs to be summarised from previous meetings with clubs with NDOs. Previous minutes were approved unanimously by board.
5. **Proposals**

#### **5.1 Governance Advisory Group**

SPS gave an overview to a tabled paper formalising the formation of a governance advisory group. The main aim initially is to focus on improving and updating the articles. The group will consist of Alan McMillan, Sarah Pryde-Smith, David Scouller and Andrew Upton. Unanimously approved by board.

## 6. Discussion Points

### **6.1 World Bowls Competition Review**

AM outlined the recent World Bowls Competition Review meeting involving GM, Claire Johnston, John Bell(President of World Bowls), Hazel Wilson(Board Member), Gary Collins(European Director for World Bowls) and Gary Smith(CEO of World Bowls).The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and advise changes to the World Bowls competition structure.

### **6.2 Capitation Update**

SPS updated board members explaining the process went live Monday 18<sup>th</sup> January with 3 new ways to send the capitation paperwork back to Bowls Scotland. These are:-

- CRM online system,
- interactive PDF or
- paperwork printed and sent to clubs who did not have an email address.

22 clubs have reaffiliated with Bowls Scotland at this current moment. SPS confirmed Gillian Boyce will do an analysis of this year compared to previous years in drop in returns etc.

### **6.3 COVID Update**

SPS explained:

- Bowls Scotland sent out communications to clubs providing information on preparation for the seasons ahead.
- COVID guidance is currently being worked on to provide to clubs in February to give clubs a month to prepare.
- Training will be provided for clubs to implement COVID officers. SPS explained it will mandatory for clubs to have a designated COVID officer
- 3 Club feedback sessions are scheduled in February- 39 members have signed up for this
- Coaching training sessions have scheduled for March, getting coaches prepared for getting back on the green- 66 club members signed up so far
- COVID officer training has already started and 100 club members have been on it so far.
- Scenario planning has started for all competitions

### **6.4 EWiB Survey Results**

AE discussed the findings from the survey. Key figures found:

- Out of the 177 respondents, 46% were between the ages of 35 to 54 years old.
- 73% of the respondents were fully employed and 96% were able boded
- 67% of the respondents were already involved in sport
- The perception of playing bowls- the largest percentage of respondents answered “played by older/retired people” with the second largest being “male dominant”
- Flexible membership was one of the common answers when asked what would encourage someone to play bowls

SPS thanked FL for Sport Scotland’s helped with analysing the survey. SPS to further develop the findings from the survey results.

Presidents and Vice Presidents leave meeting.

## **6.5 Finance Meeting**

KM gave an overview of the discussions at the finance group meeting.

### **6.6.1 Budget against spend**

- Actual vs Forecast- as things become clearer in the next few months in relation to capitation and competitions, this will allow better assessment of the figures. Membership projection is set at 10% lower than last year. Full review following the capitation process to be worked on and presented at April Board Meeting.
- We would expect that World Bowls Capitation would again be lower than usual
- SPS working on the contracts with phones, IT etc. Already potential to reduce costs with phone contracts

### **6.7 BIWBC Meeting**

AM explained BIWBC had a meeting where the whole group unanimously agreed to cancel both events for 2021.

### **6.8 BIBC**

AM explained BIBC meeting has still to take place however it is more likely they will also cancel all events. AM further discussed if International series is cancelled, EBU and the Worlds, then we must consider carefully about the National Championships. C&E have been looking at different scenarios of holding events, with or without spectators. AM suggest Bowls Scotland focus on getting clubs internal competitions back and events out with that will be considered a bonus. Other sports have cancelled a number of events already.

## **7. Proposals Part 2**

AMcM gave an overview of current discussion with a variety of potential partners.

### **8. Disciplinary Matters**

There was a full discussion by the whole Board regarding current and on-going disciplinary matters.

### **9. AOCB**

SB confirmed to the board members Ross Robertson will be leaving Bowls Scotland as the Marketing Officer. The Board wished Ross well in his new job.

The meeting finished at 1945