



Bowls Scotland

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

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Bowls Scotland Board Meeting

Wednesday 16th June 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) Sarah Pryde-Smith (SPS) Tom Hamilton (TH) Arlene Ewing (AE) Margaret Halliday (MH) Ron McArthur (RM) Marella O'Neil (MO)

1. Apologies: Andrew Upton (AU) John Anderson (JA)
2. Chairs Opening Remarks- SB welcomed all to the meeting.
3. Declarations of Interest- There were no declarations of interest.
4. Approval of Previous Minutes- AM confirmed the nomination for TH to sit on the International Disability Bowls board has been accepted by the group. Previous minutes unanimously approved by board.
5. Discussion Points

6.1 Skills Matrix

SB thanked the board for completing the skills matrix. SB explained that there were gaps identified within the high knowledge category in some areas. The board agreed more focus needs to be put on:

- Sustainability/environmental impact of bowls and the company.
- Generic training for board members. FL confirmed **sportscotland** have the opportunities for specific training for board members or/and staff.
- TH expressed importance of refilling the role of development director (position previously held by Bob Christie)

6.2 Capitation Update

SPS provided an update on the capitation performance report, stating:

- 833 Clubs had now reaffiliated
- 51,062 members (decrease of 7.86%)
- Data collect from **sportscotland** shows around 10.2% decrease from other outdoor sports and 24.7% decrease from indoor sports.
- SPS will create a report to send to district coordinators with a breakdown of their district stats. This report will include information on which clubs did and didn't affiliate

6.3 COVID Update

SPS also detailed the key COVID updates:

- COVID guidance is up to date and clubs are back on the green
- 11 clubs out of 833 have not provided details on their COVID Officer
- Meeting was held with staff to find out how they are feeling around COVID and returning back to the workplace and a survey will be issued soon to gather further information.

6.4 Risk Register

SB, AM, DS, AE & KM met to discuss the risk register agreeing the main outcomes were:

- Risk register is put on every agenda to discuss at least twice a year but preferably quarterly
- A top-level strategic risk register to be created, which will cascade down into operational risks
- The risk register will be looked at on a quarterly basis by a group consisting of, SB, AM, DS and SPS.
- Any proposals put forward to the Board must have a risk factor created at the bottom of the proposal paper.

6.6 EWiB Update

AM explained Bowls Scotland have received findings from **sportscotland** which was gathered from the survey targeted at women who played bowls. AM explained there was a synergy between the survey aimed at women who played bowls and the survey aimed at women who didn't play bowls. SPS stated the survey had been shared with the Quality and Diversity group. Data found from the survey was:

- Common perception of bowls is played by older or retired people (45%)
- 14% perceived bowls to be a male dominated sport
- Top 3 reasons people don't play bowls was: time consuming, lack of advertising & belief that participation is generally restricted to older people
- Flexible membership and a safe and welcoming environment could potentially increase participation

AM discussed how a more in-depth look needs to be undertaken on the common themes. The common themes discussed were:

- Sport for older people
- More awareness of bowling
- Welcoming and safe environment
- Time commitment

AM confirmed himself, SPS & AE will look further into the key recommendations and gather more information. AM explained the focus on what Bowls Scotland need to do but also from a club aspect on what they need to do. AE suggested looking at the board, staffing and volunteer structure from a female point of view in more depth. SPS confirmed the equality action plan will hopefully be signed off in August and **sportscotland** will provide us with a detailed report on Wednesday 23rd June.

TH suggested a short video to be created on the work Bowls Scotland have been doing on EWiB to get our strategy out there at the AGM.

6.7 Commonwealth Games 2022 Group

AM informed the board, he has created a Commonwealth Games working group which is being led by Ash Cousins and other members include, Darren Weir, Eve Wallace and Sue Beatt. The group will look at how Bowls Scotland can work with Commonwealth Games Scotland on promoting players, information re bowls to our members and how we make the most out of this opportunity.

Presidents Leave the meeting

6.8 Financial Update

KM provided an update on the financial report.

KM also provide an update on the draft budget.

The Board thanked KM for her report and approved financial report.

FL left the meeting

6.12 Board/Staff Planning Day

AM explained that Bowls Scotland staff and board members have been offered free use of the facilities at Inverclyde in January 2022 to discuss strategic direction and the current challenges facing bowls in Scotland. These days would help Bowls Scotland look at:

- The current strategy
- Looking at the future into our next 4- 8-year strategy
- Where we are as a sport

6. AOCB

AM explained to the board that he had received a letter regarding misconduct of an individual from a Bowling Club. The matter will be dealt with by AU.

The meeting finished at 2000 hrs

The next meeting will be on the 18th of August