



Bowls Scotland

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

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Bowls Scotland Board Meeting

Wednesday 20th April 2022, 1730 hrs

Zoom Meeting

Present:

Sue Beatt - Chair (SB), Alan McMillan – CEO (AM), David Scouller (DC), Kim McAully (KM) Fiona Lilley (FL) Tom Hamilton (TH) Arlene Ewing (AE) Michael Cavanagh (MC) Margaret Halliday (MH) Ron McArthur (RM) Marella O'Neil (MO)

1. **Apologies:** Andrew Upton (AU), John Anderson (JA), Sarah Pryde-Smith (SPS)
2. **Chairs Opening Remarks-** SB expressed her delight at Victoria, Australia being the venue for the Commonwealth Games in 2026. SB let the board know she will be attending a seminar workshop in Edinburgh about Women Leaders.
3. **Declarations of Interest-** There were no declarations of interest.
4. **Approval of Previous Minutes-**The board unanimously approved the previous minutes.
5. **Proposals**
 - 5.1. **Finance Report**

KM explained how there is still uncertainty around what the final finance outcome will look like but at this moment the focus is on getting the money in. KM did indicate there is a slight decrease in affiliation numbers and National Championship numbers than what was projected in the budget therefore income is lower than expected. The board unanimously approved the report.
 - 5.2. **Finance e-mail approvals**

AM confirmed there was a unanimous approval for the travel and accommodation for the U25 Internationals in Belfast later in the year.
 - 5.3. **Equality Policy**

DS delayed this topic until SPS is back at work and can provide an update. Topic to be deferred until next board meeting.

5.4 Approval of Director of Development

SB explained, herself, TH and DS interviewed four people for this post and provided feedback on all interviewees to the board prior to the meeting. SB clarified how she would like to appoint both of the outstanding candidates from the interviews to be appointed onto the board. One as the Director of Development and the other as a general Director due to his extensive knowledge within bowls. The board discussed and proposed that both come onto the board now. The board approved for SB to offer the Director of Development position and to have a further discussion with the other candidate about being appointed to the Board.

5.5. Nomination of World Bowls Directors

SB declared a conflict of interest and did not take part in this discussion.

AM asked board for the approval to support Daryl Clout for Chair and Gary Collins as European Director. The board unanimously approved.

5.6. Erskine support for ex-military service personnel approval as Charity Partner

Following the circulation of the proposal paper, AM outlined that he has been in discussions with Erskine over the last few months. AM explained there was a lot of synergies between the charity and Bowls Scotland values and gave an overview of what the partnership might look like. The board unanimously approved Erskine as Bowls Scotland's new charity partner for the next three years.

The Presidents then left the meeting

6. Discussions

6.1 Competitions & Events Director

Discussions were had on whether there is a need for a Competition & Events Director. It was agreed to have further discussions around Director roles and titles at the Board away day.

6.2 Board Away Day

SB to ask the two new Directors if they were available for dates of the evening of the 17th into the 18th at Stirling Court but if not, the board to discuss other potential dates.

6.3 Staffing Update

- Ellison Nwaejike is the new Finance Manager

6.4 Membership Update

AM gave an overview of the membership data for 2022 stating the following:

- There has been a decline in the number of clubs who affiliate with Bowls Scotland (12-15 clubs who have been contacted and are financially struggling but all are looking to join again in 2023)
- Junior membership has fallen significantly.
- Adult membership has also fallen

- AM confirms other nations who are also spending larger amounts of money on club membership are also losing members. This would indicate that there is a fundamental issue with the game and the nature of bowls at a world level.
- National Championship entries are lower than previous years
- AM confirmed there is no penalty if a club does not affiliate to Bowls Scotland but plays in county games.

6.5 Competition & Events Update

- Bowls Europe Championships at Ayr will have 16 male teams and 14 women teams from all over Europe participating
- Bowls Scotland will be taking Para players and some European selected players down to the England test event in June

7. AOCB

The meeting finished at 1945