

WESTERN PROVINCE BOWLS

MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF WESTERN PROVINCE BOWLS HELD AT PINELANDS BOWLING CLUB ON SATURDAY 19TH AUGUST 2023 AT 09h30

PRESENT: G van Milligen (President), M Douglas (Vice President), J Griffiths (Treasurer)

Executive: M Kirsten, M Gibbs, N Solomon J Calvert & S Fourie

Administration: D Vermeulen & C Nurrish

Apologies: None

1. To read the Notice Convening the Meeting

The notice convening the meeting was read and the meeting opened at 09h30.

2. Welcome by the President to Life Members (None in the meeting), Past Executive Members, Council Delegates GvM welcomed life member Graeme Kemp

3. To call the roll of Delegates (recorded on arrival) 28 Clubs attended: Bellville, Bergvliet, Constantia, Durbanville, Edgemoed, Fish Hoek, Fresnaye, Glen CC, Goodwood, Gordon's Bay, Helderberg, Kraaifontein, Kuilsrivier, Malmesbury, Meadowridge, Milnerton, Mowbray, Oakdale, Old Oak, Parow, Pinelands, Plumstead, Pollsmoor, Somerset West, Stellenbosch, Strand, Sunningdale & WPCC

Also in attendance:

Representatives: D de Klerk (Men's Selector)

Nominees: all except Nico Taljaard

4. To receive apologies

No apologies – CT Military, Gardens, Helderberg Village, Rondebosch & Wheatfield

5. Record Obituaries for the year

The President stated that the list of members who had passed on during the period 1 July 2022 and June 2023 was included in the Annual Report – a moment of silence was held in honour of those who had passed.

6. Address by Mark Gibbs, Director of Personal Trust

Mark addressed the meeting and wished the WP Bowls Executive a good year along with all the bowlers. At Personal Trust appreciate the support they receive from bowlers, and they are looking forward to once again being able to assist WP Bowls. Mark thanked Fairtree for their new sponsorship and appealed for other sponsors to come aboard.

The President then thanked Personal Trust for their valued sponsorship which was most appreciated, and it was a privilege to have such a sponsor.

7. To read, consider and confirm the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting (20th August 2022)

The minutes of the 116th Annual General Meeting held on 20th August 2022 were taken as read.

Proposed & seconded by Malmesbury & Goodwood respectively

Matters arising: none

8. To consider, and if approved, adopt the Annual Report for the year 1st July 2021 to 30th June 2023.

Proposed & seconded by Edgemead & Malmesbury respectively. Roux Vermeulen expressed his club's appreciation to the Greenscare SC for their help during the year.

9. To consider, and if approved, adopt:

The audited WPB Financial Statements for the year 1st July 2022 – 30th June 2023

The Treasurer apologised for the late distribution of the audited AFS and explained the income statement. By containing expenses and not running some events we ended the year at a small profit. She explained the move to working from home and the consequent savings after some setup costs. Answering a question from the floor Jenny explained the Lotto money would be used for clothing, training etc.

Acceptance of the Annual Financial Statements was proposed by Meadowridge and seconded by Goodwood.

9.1 The 2023 – 2024 Budget

The Treasurer explained the structure of the budget and the need to increase our income. BSA fees and Wynberg & Littler Funds are "in and out amounts" and are recorded as such. Regarding WP fees the proposal was to increase membership fees by 6%. We need more sponsors for the District. Operational costs cover all the standing committees. Our biggest expense is the Inter-Districts – all costs have risen astronomically.

There was a query regarding staff salaries these were increased by 5% but the figures in the income statement reflect a large increase. This will be investigated by the financial staff.

The under 30s are setting a good example on fund raising.

The under 45s raised about R 36 000 for their recent ID in Oudtshoorn.

Roux Vermeulen (Malmesbury) suggested that all fund raising and sponsorship be funnelled through Mark Gibbs to maintain continuity. A circular will be sent to all clubs about this.

The modified Budget was approved – proposed and seconded by Meadowridge and Helderberg respectively

10. Motions for changes:

10.1 To be presented at BSA AGM:

7.1 By Bowls SA Executive (WP in favour)

To increase subscription fees payable to Bowls SA by 6% (Six percent) based on the last fee paid during January 2023.

MOTIVATION

The last increase in subscription fees was implemented during January 2019. Subsequent to this the country experienced the Covid pandemic which placed financial burdens on Clubs, Districts and Provinces. Bowls SA was acutely aware of the financial stress caused by the pandemic and for this reason also sought to minimise financial costs to these institutions. Due to decreased activities such as capacity building and event participation Bowls SA was able to sustain itself without recourse to its members. This proposed increase is thus the first in Three years and it comes as normal activities are resumed. The proposed percentage increase is below current CPI which has always been the benchmark strived for when seeking revenue increases.

7.2 By Bowls South Africa Executive (WP not in favour).

The Executive wish to propose a change to the resolution taken by Council in 2015 that determined that the BSA Junior Nationals would be permanently held in Bloemfontein, with the SFS being the hosting District.

MOTIVATION

The Executive would like to bring the Junior Nationals in line with the other BSA National tournaments and give the youth the opportunity to travel to other Districts each year. This will give players the opportunity to have a home tournament when the tournament is allocated to their District and also afford them the opportunity of competing and experiencing other Clubs and Greens. The current system whereby each team that enters is given an equal amount to help with costs, depending on the budget will be revised. The idea being that there will be 3 scales –

- Closest to the Hosting District*
- Neighbouring Districts*
- Far away districts*

11. Presentation of Long Service Awards and certificates

There were no proposals for Long Service Awards

12. To elect Honorary Life Members

There were no proposals for Honorary Life membership.

13. To deal with any Correspondence

No correspondence was received.

14. To elect Executive Committee Members for the incoming season 2023 – 2024

The President explained to the meeting that there had been a misunderstanding regarding Ms Soekie Fourie's tenure on the committee and asked the meeting for permission to accept her late nomination which was unanimously accepted. The President gave special thanks to Ms Jenny Griffiths for her exceptional input to the Executive and wished her well in her role at BSA. He also thanks Mr Noel Solomon for his service and the way he has raised the awareness of bowls with his coverage of events on his You Tube channel. Noel responded that he will continue to do this for Bowls.

The following Executive members were unopposed in their nominations as members of the Executive:

President	Mr Gerrit van Milligen (Bellville)
Treasurer	Ms Joy Calvert
Executive members (going into their 2 nd year – so no election)	
	Ms Marianna Kirsten (Plumstead)
	Mr Mark Gibbs (WPCC)

After a vote was taken Mark Douglas was elected as Vice-President for a further two years and after a further vote Soekie Fourie, Janet Schmidt, Eugene Ferreira & Tony Harland were elected to the Executive Committee. Nico Taljaard was not elected to the Executive Committee.

Hence the full Executive Committee for the years 2023-2024 is:

President	Mr Gerrit van Milligen (Bellville)
Vice President	Mr Mark Douglas (Mowbray)
Treasurer	Ms Joy Calvert (Pollsmoor)
Executive members	
	Ms Marianna Kirsten (Plumstead)
	Mr Mark Gibbs (WPCC)
	Ms Susanna Fourie (Somerset West)
	Ms Janet Schmidt (Kraaifontein)
	Mr Eugene Ferreira (Goodwood)
	Mr Tony Harland (Durbanville)

The meeting agreed to destroy the ballot papers.

15. Any Other matters

WPCC stated that the Conditions of Play must stay the same for each tournament and not change between rounds as happened in the WP Fours.

Pollsmoor queried how the selectors and managers of Inter-District teams are selected and who they are. The Executive explained the nomination process and listed the selectors:

<u>Men</u>	<u>Ladies</u>
Danie de Klerk	Sandy Wehrli
Noel Solomon	Anita Groenewald
Mark Gibbs	Nina Painter
Tori Sabatti	Lynda Nurrish
Vacant	Paulina Dockendorff

Glen CC queried the rule regarding direction of play in practice before WP games and this will be added to the agenda for the CoP/Competitions meeting to be held.

Greenscare SC were queried whether they check that clubs move their rinks to different markers regularly.

Constantia queried affiliation fees: WP Bowls invoice clubs according to the number of registered players. We are surveying other Districts to see what they do but any change to our system will require substantial changes to the Constitution.

Nomads requested that their events be added to the WP Calendar.

Roux Vermeulen (Malmesbury) thanked the Executive Committee for all their work in the year.

The President thanked the Executive for all their hard work during the year and closed the meeting at 11h00.