



WESTERN PROVINCE BOWLS

MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF WESTERN PROVINCE BOWLS HELD AT PINELANDS BOWLING CLUB ON SATURDAY 17 AUGUST 2024 AT 09h30

PRESENT: Gerrit van Milligen – President (GvM), Joy Calvert – Treasurer (JC)

Tony Harland - Vice President (TH) - attended virtually via Teams

Executive: Marianna Kirsten, Mark Gibbs, Danie de Klerk, Nico Taljaard, Grant Rightford

Administration: Debbie Phillips & Denise Vermeulen

Apologies: Barrie Eksteen (Competitions), Claire Cowan (DSC WP Players), Doreen de Power (HLM), Greg Nasson (Personal Trust), Janet Schmidt (Executive), Jenny Phillips (DSC TO), Len Steele (Milnerton), Riva Myers (HLM), Sergio Martinengo (HLM), Taz Bright (M&M), Trevor Wheeler (DSC Greens Care)

1. To read the Notice Convening the Meeting

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

2. Welcome by the President to Life Members, Past Executive Members, Council Delegates GvM welcomed life member Graeme Kemp.

3. To call the roll of Delegates (recorded on arrival) 27 Clubs attended: Bellville (2), Bergvliet (1), Constantia (1), Durbanville (2), Edgemoed (2), Fish Hoek (2), Glen CC (2), Goodwood (1), Gordon's Bay (2), Helderberg (1), Kraaifontein (2), Kuils River (2), Malmesbury (2), Meadowridge (2), Milnerton (2), Mowbray (2), Oakdale (1), Old Oak (2), Pinelands (1), Plumstead (2), Pollsmoor (1), Somerset West (2), Stellenbosch (2), Strand (2), Sunningdale (2), Wheatfield (2) & WPCC (2).

Also in attendance:

Honorary Life Members: Graeme Kemp

Representatives: Chris Nurrish (WP Admin), Eddie van der Heiden (Disability Bowls), Graham Ward (VI Bowls), Jenny Griffiths (DSC Coaches/DSC Youth Bowls), Paulina Dockendorff (Ladies' Selection)

Nominees: Danie de Klerk, Eddie Douglas, Grant Rightford, John Blight and Jonathan Cochrane, Marianna Kirsten, Mark Gibbs, Nico Taljaard

4. To receive apologies

No apologies – CT Military, Fresnaye, Gardens, Helderberg Village and Parow

5. Record Obituaries for the year

The President stated that the list of members who had passed on during the period 1 July 2023 and 30 June 2024 was included in the Annual Report. Anton van der Westhuizen and John McCaffrey from Gordon's Bay were added. 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. He mentioned that Personal Trust has been a sponsor of WP Bowls for quite a long time and have agreed to renew their sponsorship for next year, 2025 at R170 000. He said that it is a great privilege for Personal Trust to sponsor WP Bowls. It had been a long and rewarding journey for them

and they continue to thank and appreciate the support they receive from bowlers, and they are looking forward to more word-of-mouth referrals coming in so they can continue to assist WP Bowls. He remarked that he had been asked at a previous council meeting if there was not a conflict of interest being a sponsor and being on the Executive, but he does not feel that is so and if any conflict should arise, he would recuse himself. He also stated that there is also space for other players in the sponsorship space and Mark would be meeting with Lombard Barnard from Fairtree to work out common ground and how they can collaborate further. They have already worked together for the Inter Districts and will continue to look for ways to collaborate for the benefit of the sport and WP Bowls. Mark appealed for other sponsors to come aboard and help WP Bowls and grow the sport. He wished the WP Bowls Executive a good year along with all the bowlers.

The President then thanked Personal Trust for their continuous sponsorship which was most appreciated, and it was a privilege to have such a sponsor. He appealed to members to refer any possible clients to Personal Trust.

7. To read, consider and confirm the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting (19 August 2023)

The minutes of the 117th Annual General Meeting held on 19 August 2023 were taken as read. There were no objections from the floor.

8. To consider and adopt the Annual Report for the year 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

The President expressed his appreciation to all involved in the compilation of the Annual Report, especially Mark Douglas. Gordon's Bay congratulated the Executive on an excellent Annual report. The Annual Report was taken as read and there were no objections from the floor.

9. To present recommendations of the Executive:

9.1 WP Affiliation Fees

The Executive proposed an increase of 6%, which is in line with inflation. The President asked for the members' agreement and there were no objections from the floor. Gordon's Bay asked for confirmation of the exact amount of WP Affiliation fees and the Treasurer responded with R315.00.

10. Finance

10.1 To consider, and if approved, adopt:

The audited WP Bowls Association's Financial Statements for the year 1 July 2022 – 30 June 2023

The President thanked the Treasurer for all the hard work put into managing the finances and getting the Financials to the auditor. He stated that we have a new auditor this year who is charging a more economical rate which assists in cost saving and that it was a pleasant experience working with him this year and the Financials came out sooner than last year.

The President asked if there were any comments on the Financials. Mowbray pointed out an error in allocation under Point 3 on page 18 referring to the Wynberg Bowling Club Legacy Fund. The Treasurer agreed that that was an error and that she had asked for it to be corrected. Edgemead pointed out a typo on the Statement of Comprehensive Income on page 10 under WP Competitions. The Treasurer noted that the figure had been cut off and that it would be corrected.

The Treasurer addressed the meeting. She pointed out an item on the Balance Sheet. Part of our Wynberg Fund was at Warwick, but we have closed that account and moved all funds over to Personal Trust.

The President asked for the members' agreement in approval of the Financial Statements and there were no objections from the floor.

10.2 The 2024 – 2025 Budget

The President asked the meeting if there were any questions or comments on the budget.

Responding to a question from Gordon's Bay enquiring about how many members WPBA had in the previous financial year, the Treasurer stated approximately 3200 and the President stated that it is listed in the Annual Report on page 54.

Old Oak noted that the Council had approved a 6% increase under Point 9.1, however the proposed budget is less than the previous year. The Treasurer confirmed that the budget is lower, but it was worked out on the number of WPBA current members as we will only have final membership figures in November 2024. She was hopeful that there will be a significant increase in membership numbers which will improve the situation.

Responding to a comment from the floor the President explained that the BSA membership of 3901 also includes all social and corporate bowlers on the BSA database.

The President thanked the Treasurer and the Finance Committee for reviewing the budget.

The President asked for the members' agreement in approval of the Budget and there were no objections from the floor.

11. Motions for approval and adoption:

11.1 To be presented at BSA AGM:

7.1 By Bowls South Africa Executive [WPBA Executive in favour of 6% increase]

To increase subscription fees payable to Bowls SA by 10% (ten percent) based on the last fees paid in January 2024.

MOTIVATION

The core objective of Bowls SA is to develop and promote the sport of bowls. With ongoing cost increases, and the depreciation of the rand versus major international currencies, it is the opinion of the Executive that to control our financial stability a modest increase of 10% (ten percent) is required.

7.2 By Associate Member – BDSA [WPBA Executive in favour]

To accept Bowls for the Disabled South Africa (BDSA), with Physically Disabled Bowlers South Africa (PDBSA) and Visually Impaired Bowlers South Africa (VIBSA) as its member organisations, as an Associate Member of Bowls SA.

MOTIVATION

Having BDSA as an Associate member of Bowls SA will allow for enhanced co-operation between Bowls SA and BDSA (including PDBSA and VIBSA). The enhanced co-operation is especially important as World Bowls moves cater for the visually impaired and physically disabled in World Bowls events i.e. World Championships and the World Cup. Bowls SA will also be able to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with BDSA to ensure proper co-ordination and collaboration between the two organisations.

Eddie van der Heiden (Disability Bowls) raised a point that BDSA is actually the Standing Committee and not an Association. He raised the concern that should PDBSA and VIBSA become associate members of BSA, that they would lose their ability to work independently as NPOs regarding their own bank account, applications for Lotto funding etc. Graham Ward added to this to say that BDSA was disbanded 10 years ago, and this is a complicated issue. He requested that the details of this motion be queried as PDBSA and VIBSA have not been satisfactorily engaged with.

The President stated that Graeme Kemp, President of WCPBA, would be able to raise this issue at the forthcoming BSA AGM. Graeme Kemp agreed to do so.

7.3 By Associate Member - Nomads South Africa [WPBA Executive in favour]

To accept the Nomads Southern Africa as an Associate Member of Bowls SA.

MOTIVATION

Having the Nomads Southern Africa as an Associate Member of Bowls SA will allow for the enhanced cooperation between Bowls SA and the Nomads Southern Africa. The enhanced co-operation is especially important as Bowls SA looks at ways of assisting smaller Clubs to not only enhance their membership but to also allow members from the smaller Clubs to be able to participate in National, Provincial (Regional) and/or District events. Bowls SA will also be able to enter into a Memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Nomads Southern Africa to ensure proper co-ordination and collaboration between the two organisations.

7.4 By Associate Member - Professional Bowls Association South Africa [WPBA Executive in favour]

To accept the Professional Bowls Association South Africa (PBA South Africa) as an Associate Member of Bowls SA.

MOTIVATION

Having PBA South Africa as an Associate Member will enhance the co-operation between Bowls SA and the PBA South Africa. The enhanced co-operation between Bowls SA and PBA South Africa is especially important as Bowls SA looks at ways to enhance the prospects of all Bowlers in South Africa. The PBA South Africa as a member of the PBA International, presenters of the World Bowls Tour, gives South African bowlers additional possibilities of gaining experiences, not only on indoor bowling greens, but internationally. Bowls SA will also be able to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with PBA South Africa to ensure proper co-ordination and collaboration between the two organisations.

7.5 By the Eastern Cape Bowls Board [WPBA Executive not in favour]

The Eastern Cape Provincial Bowls Association would like to propose an amendment to clause 23.3.1 of the Bowls South Africa Constitution to read as follows:

Provincial Bowls Associations shall receive one vote for each R250, 000 (Two hundred and fifty thousand Rand) or part thereof fees paid to Bowls South Africa. Such value to be determined on the Rand contribution paid at the 1st January 2024.

MOTIVATION

With the recent changes to the Constitution whereby Districts and hence Provinces are encouraged to register all participants on their database, as there exists a potential for the numbers of 'casual' participants to inflate the voting strength of Provinces to the extent that the control of Bowls South Africa could be vested in a couple of provinces hence creating the scenario where participants of the so called 'smaller' Provinces could to all intents and purposes be of no value when voting takes place. The adoption of this proposal will result in Bowls South Africa being governed by Council in voting strength the same as that before the change in charging for contribution to Bowls South Africa.

Eastern Cape Provincial Bowls would like to place on record that it categorically believes that all Provincial bodies act with complete integrity when exercising their current voting rights but simply place this motion before Council in order to give recognition of the role so-called 'smaller' Provinces play in the governance of Bowls South Africa affairs.

7.6 By Mpumalanga Bowls Board [WPBA Executive not in favour]

To move Inter Districts Tournament to middle March.

MOTIVATION

The Mpumalanga Executive Committee respectfully requests the BSA to reschedule the Inter Districts Tournament to mid-March due to financial year-end commitments, making it challenging for players with businesses and managerial positions to prepare adequately.

11.2 Motion from Pollsmoor Bowling Club

I hereby propose to amend the constitution in the following manner.

Voting at any Council meeting is currently covered under clause 6.3.1 and says the following:

Each Club represented at any meeting of Council by its delegate, alternate delegate or approved substitute delegate shall be entitled to one vote, plus one additional vote for each completed fifty of its registered members, with a maximum of five votes.

My proposal is to replace it with the following:

Each Club represented at any meeting of Council by its delegate, alternate delegate or approved substitute delegate shall be entitled to only one vote.

MOTIVATION

As clarification, the clause pertaining to additional votes per number of registered members must be removed. This is to avoid bigger clubs to "overpower" smaller clubs with regards to decisions taken by councils etc. Clubs in WP are shrinking, therefore voting weights could have a negative impact on smaller clubs depending on the proposals voted for.

After a lengthy discussion where it was considered to take this motion to a sub-committee, the majority of Council were in favour of voting on the Motion.

The vote was carried out by a show of hands with three (3) indicating they were in favour of the motion. The Motion was not carried.

11.3 Motion from Milnerton Bowling Club

*That the **Tea Fee** (commonly referred to as Green Fee) be increased from R25 to R35.*

MOTIVATION

At Milnerton BC, as with other clubs, we believe in providing greens, when Flag, Muter and other WP matches are played, that are as close to perfect as possible. Beside this, we want to ensure that all competitors enjoy their experience by providing snacks/sandwiches which are tasty and of a high quality. We are, however, experiencing difficulty in meeting these standards because of the "fee" that is being paid when WP Competitions are being played.

As everyone is aware, costs are escalating as far as equipment, fertilisers and ingredients are concerned. This increase is, we believe, not exorbitant and would encourage clubs to be in a position to provide tasty teas and sandwiches.

The vote was carried out by a show of hands with nil (0) indicating they were not in favour of the motion. The Motion was carried.

11.4 Motion from Durbanville Bowling Club

Dual Membership

We would like to propose that members who have dual membership at a club be required to select which club they will play at for ALL WP competitions for the upcoming season at the beginning of each season (affiliated club or dual club). It does not need to be their affiliated club - it could be their dual club, should they so choose.

MOTIVATION

This will prevent players from hopping back and forth between dual clubs as it pleases them, simplify competition administration and promote loyalty and commitment for at least one season to a club. This will also assist club selectors in their duties.

The vote was carried out by a show of hands with four (4) indicating they were in favour of the motion. The Motion was not carried.

12. Presentation of Long Service Awards and certificates

There were no proposals for Long Service Awards

13. To elect Honorary Life Members

The President announced the Executive proposal of 4 members for Honorary Life Membership, and he asked Debbie Phillips to read the motivations.

MOTIVATION

Alan Lofthouse

It is difficult to say when Alan Lofthouse started bowls as his dad had him on the greens when he was a teenager, but in 1977/78 Alan retired from baseball and football and started bowls fulltime. Over the decades Alan has contributed greatly to the sport of bowls. He was awarded his Protea colours in 1994 and his international accolades include the gold medal in the fours at the 1994 Commonwealth Games in Victoria. He also has innumerable District and National titles. He has devoted a lot of time to WP Bowls, always being available to assist when needed. He was recently elected as Chairman of the Professional Bowls Association of South Africa and, as in the past, will be spending more energy on contributing to the success of the PBA and Western Province Bowls. He serves as a respected bowls commentator on the bowls live streaming channels and is also involved in mentoring upcoming bowlers at his club and across the district. We firmly believe that his service to the sport of bowls is such that Alan is entitled to be recognised by WP Bowls as an Honorary Life Member.

Kevin Campbell

Kevin Campbell started playing bowls in 1968 and has contributed immensely to our sport over the decades that he has been a part of the sport. His international accolades include:

- World Championships - Campbell came to prominence in 1976 when he won the triples, fours and team gold medals at the 1976 World Outdoor Bowls Championship in Johannesburg. Sixteen years later he won the triples silver medal and fours bronze medal at the 1992 World Outdoor Bowls Championship in Worthing followed by another bronze at the 1996 World Outdoor Bowls Championship in Adelaide. Kevin played in three World Bowls Championships, winning medals in all three.*
- Commonwealth Games - Represented South Africa at three Commonwealth Games in 1994, 2002 and 2006. Won the Silver medal at the 2002 Commonwealth Games in Manchester in fours.*
- National - Campbell became the youngest ever Springbok international aged 24 and has innumerable District and National titles.*
- Awarded his Springbok Colours in 1976 and his Protea Colours in 1992.*

He has devoted a lot of time to our sport of bowls and to WP Bowls, always being available to assist when needed. He continues to spend time and energy in Western Province, entering WP competitions and serving as a coach at his club. We firmly believe that his service to the sport of bowls is such that Kevin is entitled to be recognised by WP Bowls as an Honorary Life Member.

Neil Burkett

Neil Burkett started his bowls career in 1968 and has arguably done more for our sport than most other individuals. His international accolades include 2 World Bowls Championships medals and 4 Commonwealth Games medals. He was awarded his Springbok colours in 1983, his Protea colours in 1992 and has represented South Africa over 500 times. He has 14 National and innumerable District titles. He has devoted a lot of time and effort to WP Bowls, always being available to assist when needed and identifying and coaching countless talented players over the years. He recently stepped down as a National Selector and will be spending more energy on Western Province and Eastern Cape bowls. We firmly believe that his service to the sport of bowls is such that Neil is entitled to be recognised by WP Bowls as an Honorary Life Member.

Trish Young (nee Steyn)

Trish Young (nee Steyn) started bowls in 1986 and has contributed greatly to our sport over the years, especially in the women's game in South Africa. She was awarded her Protea colours in 1997. Her international accolades include winning the gold medal in the women's fours at the 1998 Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur. The following year in 1999, she won the fours gold medal at the Atlantic Bowls Championships. Five years later she won another gold medal in the Women's triples at the 2004 World Outdoor Bowls Championship in Leamington Spa. She has also won innumerable National and District titles. She has made many valuable contributions to our sport through the years that she has been involved in bowls and continues to do so. She currently holds the position of Ladies Selector on the National Selection Committee for Bowls South Africa and serves as a respected bowls commentator on the bowls live streaming channels. We firmly believe that her service to the sport of bowls is such that Trish is entitled to be recognised by WP Bowls as an Honorary Life Member.

The President asked the meeting to vote on each of the nominations and the outcome was as follows:

Alan Lofthouse – unanimous agreement

Kevin Campbell – unanimous agreement

Neil Burkett – unanimous agreement

Trish Young – unanimous agreement

The President thanked the meeting and stated that the Honorary Life Membership awards will be presented to the individuals in due course and mentioned that it is a great honour to have these members as Honorary Life Members of WPBA.

The President then awarded the Executive Trophy for the Ladies' Section Club of the Year to Durbanville Bowling Club and the John Edwards Trophy for the Men's Section Club of the Year to Goodwood Bowling Club.

14. To deal with any Correspondence

No correspondence was received.

15. To elect Executive Committee Members for the incoming season 2024 – 2026

The President introduced the election by confirming that he is in his second year of his term and that this would be his last year on the Executive. He stated that the WPBA Constitution states that no member of the Executive may serve for longer than 12 years and that this would be his 12th year and that he would sure to make it a very good one.

He went on to cover Vice President, where he expressed a great deal of gratitude Mark Douglas who resigned during the year due to personal reasons. He added that the Executive and the President personally owe Mark a huge debt of gratitude for the incredible amount of hard work he has put in. He further noted that Tony Harland was then co-opted as Vice President and in unopposed as Vice President in the election. He confirmed that Joy Calvert has another year of her term as Treasurer left. He also explained that due to Eugene Ferreira and Soekie Fourie's resignations during the year, that there were 3 vacancies that the Executive filled by co-opting Danie de Klerk, Grant Rightford and Nico Taljaard. He gave special thanks to Janet Schmidt, who had decided not to stand due to personal reasons, for her exceptional input to the Executive and especially all the work on the new kit and he wished her well going forward.

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

President Mr Gerrit van Milligen (Bellville)

Vice President Mr Tony Harland (Durbanville)

Treasurer Ms Joy Calvert (Pollsmoor)

The President explained to the meeting that according to Clause 7.1.2 of the WPBA Constitution which states that at least two of the members shall be of the opposite gender and no Club shall have more than two members on the Executive, Marianna Kirsten will accordingly be elected to the Executive.

He then invited the 3 new nominees to introduce themselves to the meeting and John Blight, Jonathan Cochrane and Eddie Douglas spoke briefly about their background and the contributions they could offer as part of the Executive.

After a vote was taken Danie de Klerk, Eddie Douglas, Grant Rightford, Mark Gibbs and Nico Taljaard were elected to the Executive Committee.

John Blight and Jonathan Cochrane were not elected to the Executive Committee.

Hence the full Executive Committee for the years 2024-2026 was announced as:

President Mr Gerrit van Milligen (Bellville) - in second year of term

Vice-President Mr Tony Harland (Durbanville) – unopposed as Vice-President

Treasurer Ms Joy Calvert (Pollsmoor) - in second year of term

Executive Members Ms Marianna Kirsten (Plumstead) – appointed in terms of clause 7.1.2

Mr Danie de Klerk (Bellville)

Mr Eddie Douglas (Constantia)

Mr Grant Rightford (Glen)

Mark Gibbs (WPCC)

Mr Nico Taljaard (Somerset West)

The meeting agreed to destroy the ballot papers.

16. Any Other matters

The President thanked Barrie Eksteen in his absence for the years of hard work and dedication to the role of WP Competition Secretary.

Eddie van den Heiden requested that club submit the names of all disabled players to WP Bowls so that their status can be updated on the BSA database. This will assist the DSC Disability Bowls to identify and assist physically disabled and visually impaired bowlers going forward with classification and coaching.

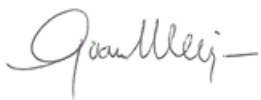
Goodwood asked for clarity on the status of social bowlers. The President explained that social bowler status is determined by the clubs, and they determine when that person may bowl at their club. He elaborated by saying that from a WPBA point of view a non-affiliated bowler may not enter a WP Competition.

Helderberg thanked M&M for the poster that came out promoting bowling events and requested some changes and clarification. Grant Rightford stated he would be following up on this with Taz Bright.

Meadowridge thanked the Executive for their hard work for the District.

The President formally thanked Chris Nurrish for his years of service and presented Debbie Phillips with the WPBA Secretariat badge.

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



Gerrit van Milligen

WP Bowls Executive President



Debbie Phillips

WP Bowls District Administrator

23 August 2024

Date

23 August 2024

Date