

WESTERN PROVINCE BOWLS

MINUTES OF THE ONE HUNDRED AND FIFTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF WESTERN PROVINCE BOWLS HELD ONLINE ON SATURDAY 14TH AUGUST 2021 AT 9h00

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

Executive: C Nurrish, M Douglas, J Phillips, M Kirsten, A Carstens, M Gibbs

Administration: D Vermeulen

1. To read the Notice Convening the Meeting

The notice convening the meeting was read and the meeting opened at 9h00.

The Vice President asked the meeting to allow delegates from clubs that had not yet been able to hold their AGM to be able to participate fully in the WP AGM. This was agreed to.

2. Welcome by the Vice President to Life Members (None in the meeting), Past Executive Members, Council Delegates and a special welcome to Greg Nassan of Personal Trust

3. To call the roll of Delegates (recorded on arrival)

32 Clubs attended: Bellville, Bergvliet, Cape Town Military, Constantia, Durbanville, Edgemoor, Fish Hoek, Fresnaye, Gardens, Glen CC, Goodwood, Gordon's Bay, Helderberg, Helderberg Village, Kraaifontein, Kuilsrivier, Malmesbury, Meadowridge, Milnerton, Mowbray, Oakdale, Old Oak, Parow, Pinelands, Plumstead, Pollsmoor, Rondebosch, SA Police, Somerset West, Stellenbosch, Strand, Sunningdale, Wheatfield, WPCC

Also in attendance:

Representatives: B Standen (Technical)

Sponsors: Personal Trust (Greg Nassan)

4. To receive apologies

Two apologies received from clubs: Goodwood, Helderberg,

No Clubs were absent without apologies

Other apologies: Life Members: None received

5. Record Obituaries for the year

The Vice President stated that there had been 50 affiliated members who had passed on during the period 1 July 2020 and 30th June 2021 from 24 clubs. This included one Life Member and one past executive member. Many, but not all were due to Covid-19. These were recorded in the Annual Report which the delegates were in receipt of, and Council stood for a minute's silence.

6. Address by Greg Nassan, Director of Personal Trust

Greg addressed the meeting and wished the WP Bowls Executive a good year along with all the bowlers. At Personal Trust they were very keen for clubs to open again, and they were looking forward to once again being able to assist WP Bowls.

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

After this address Gerrit appealed to the meeting to assist in helping the Executive to keep in line with the Constitution which is our guide. While we will address constitutional changes later in the meeting it was highlighted that Constitutions needed to change with the times, so that we are always relevant.

As we were meeting online, it would be necessary to depart from the normal procedure if a vote needed to be taken. This would be conducted online outside of the meeting, on Tuesday, to allow time to do the necessary setups online.

7. To read, consider and confirm the Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting (22nd August 2020)

The minutes of the 114th Annual General Meeting held on 22nd August 2020 were taken as read.

Proposed & seconded by Goodwood and Edgemoor respectively

Matters arising:

- Malmesbury questioned where we were on the yearbook app. Mark D reported that this was still being investigated. A few packages had been looked at, but it takes time. Any package we use will have to be customised and developed and costs will have to be taken into consideration.
- Malmesbury asked where the district was with the rental on the Pinelands office. Jenny G assured the meeting that negotiations were taking place – considerations needed to be given to the necessity for storage space even if staff worked from home, as well as a central collection point. There is every likelihood that from January we would be out of the office.

8. To consider, and if approved, adopt the Annual Report for the year 1st July 2020 to 30th June 2021.

Corrections to be made to the Annual Report:

- At the beginning of the report the President's position should be shown as Vacant and Gerrit van Milligen should be next to the Vice President.
- The list of Past Presidents needs to be put into chronological order.
- The resignations of both Graeme Kemp and Keith Hey need to be added to the president's report.

Proposed and seconded by Malmesbury and Rondebosch respectively

9. To present recommendations of the Executive:

- 9.1** WPB Affiliation Fees will not be increased and to remain at R190-00 for 2021 – 2022
- 9.2** BSA Affiliation fees will remain at R250-00 for 2021 – 2022 and will be ratified at the BSA AGM.
- 9.3** The announcement of the various Standing committees was postponed as names were still being submitted. Clubs were encouraged to get members involved on these committees as they are an important component to the running of the district. A circular will be sent out once they have been finalised for the 2021 – 2022 season.

10. To consider, and if approved, adopt:

10.1 The 2021 – 2022 Budget

The budget was explained in full as to what each category was about.

The budget may look out of kilter to the previous year, but we have moved to putting income and expenses in on their own sides of the budget and they can either net each other off or show a loss or profit. It is a clearer way to do the accounting. Sponsorship is what is needed to balance our budget. We need assistance in finding sponsorship. A package was handed out to show all the possibilities broken down into smaller chunks and we are needing the membership's assistance in finding new sponsors.

Several questions were raised:

Salaries and the secretarial position – with our secretary having resigned we can now look at how we can spread the workload and / or restructure.

This will assist in the budget. We need to look at ensuring the resources we have are covered by the income deriving tasks they are performing.

The Treasurer explained where the BSA figure had been shown in previous years and the reason for the change and this was welcomed by all.

The increase in the coaching figure was due to an increase in assessments, district squad and coaches' courses being done compared to the last 2 years.

If sponsorship was not found, we would either need to find alternate ways of doing the activity or not do it.

The Executive was asked to look at what incentives we could provide to clubs to assist them with recruiting new members.

The question was asked as to why we are changing from Pastel, which we have used for several years. We are moving to a cloud-based package which has been sponsored and so there is no cost to the District. This means several people can work on it from different locations, backups are done automatically and working from home becomes easier.

Durbanville proposed that we treat the budget as a dynamic document that can be changed if circumstances change.

The Budget was approved – proposed and seconded by Old Oak and Malmesbury respectively

10.2 The audited WPB Financial Statements for the year 1st July 2021 – 30th June 2021

Malmesbury asked that in future the financials come out earlier, and if the audit process is a problem, we maybe consider changing our financial year end to accommodate.

The Treasurer made some general comments about the financials. Although we are showing a loss, we have in fact made a very small profit on operational costs. We have run a very tight ship this year keeping expenses in check in a very difficult financial climate. The large loss is due to the auditors writing off some assets such as trailers, lawn mowers, groomers. We have a healthy balance sheet and that is a positive.

We managed to get double the amount from DCAS from our previous year. We also thank our sponsors personal Trust for their contribution to our finances. We really appreciate all we get from them.

It was proposed that we give delegates time to peruse the financials and to send their questions by Friday 20th August and answers to be given via e-mail by 25th August after which the financials would be approved.

11. Motions for changes:

11.1 To be presented at BSA AGM:

7.1 By Gauteng North (WP in favour)

The National Technical Official Standing Committee to allow for all training courses to be streamed and to have only the practical sessions in person.

MOTIVATION

Players today do not have the time, nor do they want to spend four days at a club for courses also partly due to COVID-19. Once they have qualified, they will give time back on Club, District, Provincial or National levels voluntarily.

7.2 By Bowls SA Executive (WP in favour)

To develop and promote “Distance On-Line Learning” for Technical Officials, Coaches and Green Keepers through virtual presentations.

MOTIVATION

Discussions around Distance Learning were first initiated by the Executive around 2018 and continues to be a project that still requires realisation. It was accentuated during the lockdown of Covid-19 restrictions and remains an extremely significant move into our future. Further discussions have taken place with both the NSCC and the NSCTO, still to take place with NSCGK. It is therefore believed that online Virtual Meeting Courses, in the form of Presentations, be investigated by all Standing Committees who conduct these courses and specific action plans be submitted for approval. In 2020 Virtual Meetings took the place of physical meetings and have proven highly successful, less costly, more personal contact, total participation, systematic and disciplined. Parts of the Course can be presented through presentations (e.g., PowerPoint) virtual meetings with the candidates in their own homes with no risk associated with COVID, no travelling costs, no catering costs, accommodation costs and/or any other administrative costs. Candidates would have full participation, controlled by the facilitators, and can come from all over the country so would all receive the same standard of content and context and could all benefit from answers to questions offered. Of course, the “on the green” training

would have to be done by the local trainers. Completion of assessment and examination papers can all be controlled through online submissions. This motion avoids streaming.

7.3 By Bowls SA Executive (WP in favour)

That affiliation fees due to Bowls SA for each member from 1 January 2022 – 31 December 2022, remain at the current level of R250-00 p.a. VAT inclusive.

MOTIVATION

The effects of the COVID pandemic have impacted on the financial stability of many individuals and clubs. The Executive consider that no increase in affiliation fees should be implemented. The cancellation of National events and Capacity building initiatives have resulted in the Federation being able to meet its Fixed cost obligations out of current funding.

7.4 By Bowls SA Executive (WP in favour)

To appoint the hosting venues of the following national events taking place during 2022 at the approved 2021 venues:

- The Open, B and Veteran Inter-District Championships.
- The Under 15 and Under 20 National Championships.
- The Under 30 Inter-District Championships.

MOTIVATION

With the cancellation of the above mentioned 2021 National Championships and in line with the state of National Disaster owing to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Epidemic, the Executive believe, that the venues of the 2021 events should be retained for 2022. The revenue from these events should still be enjoyed by the Districts in terms of the original hosting allocations.

7.5 By Bowls SA Executive (WP not in favour)

In line with a request from Council that approval be given to the proposal that in the event of a District being unable to fulfil their obligation to field fully representative teams at the inter-District they be afforded the opportunity of sourcing players from other Districts.

MOTIVATION

At the 2020 Annual General Meeting a request was made to the Executive to gain opinion and suggestion from Districts on the above motivation and having completed and attained input and shared the outcome with Council it remains for Council to consider and adopt or reject this proposal.

7.6 By Bowls SA Executive (WP in favour)

To change the current Pairs discipline at the National Championships from a four-bowls event over 15 ends with a three-bowl event over 18 ends.

MOTIVATION

Following consultation with prominent players it appears that Bowls SA should align our competitions with World Bowls and Commonwealth Games events. Furthermore, fewer bowls will be played during the round robin play which will remove some of the strain to finish the days play.

11.2 WP Proposed Constitution Changes (As per email of 29th June 2021)

Section A	Approved
Section B	Pollsmoor and Rondebosch proposed that we go to a vote – this will be done online on Tuesday 17 th August 2021.
Section C - 1	Approved
Section C - 2	Approved
Clause C - 3	Approved
Clause C - 4	Approved
Clause C - 5	Approved
Clause C - 6	need to add word “not” on the 5 th line Approved
Clause C - 7	Approved
Clause C - 8	Approved
Clause C - 9	Approved
Clause C - 10	Approved
Clause C - 11	Approved
Clause C – 12	Approved

12. Presentation of Long Service Awards and certificates

- 12.1** Presentation made to Paul Cohen for his many years serving on both the Juniors and Marketing Standing committee. His plaque will be presented to him at Helderberg’s AGM.
- 12.2** Presentation made to Walter Oosthuizen for his over 40 years as a Technical Official. His merit badge for outstanding service to bowls will be presented to him at the season opening of Durbanville Club.

13. To elect Honorary Life Members

- 13.1** WP Bowls Executive propose that Mr Graeme Kemp be made an Honorary Life member for his service to bowls in the District. This was unanimously agreed on.

14. To deal with any Correspondence

- 14.1** No correspondence was received.

15. To elect Executive Committee Members for the incoming season 2021 – 2023

Before the election, Gerrit van Milligen thanked Chris Nurrish for his years of service on the Executive. Chris has decided to step down from the Executive.

Barrie Eksteen will be taking over from Chris as the Competition Secretary.

The following nominees were elected to fill the following positions:

President	Mr Gerrit van Milligen (Bellville)
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Vice President Mr Mark Douglas (Mowbray)

Treasurer Ms Jenny Griffiths (Meadowridge)

Executive members (going into their 2nd year – so no election)

Ms Marianna Kirsten (Plumstead)

Ms Jenny Phillips (WPCC)

Mr Mark Gibbs (WPCC)

Mr Ammie Carstens (Gordon's Bay)

There are still 2 vacant seats, and a circular calling for nominations will be distributed.

16. Any Other matters

16.1 Competition format and Flag changes

Clubs were asked to send in their input regarding the format within a week. An email needs to go to all clubs asking clubs to give their final input on this to take to the next Executive meeting.

The meeting was closed at 11h11.