

Western Province Bowls

MINUTES - Executive Committee Meeting to be held at WPCC on
Tuesday, 14th December 2021 at 18h00

1	Welcome		Action
	1.1	Gerrit welcomed all present and especially Noel attending his first meeting.	
2	Attendance and Apologies		
	2.1	Present: Gerrit van Milligen (GvM), Mark Douglas (MD), Jenny Griffiths (JG), Jenny Phillips (JP), Mark Gibbs (MG), Ammie Carstens (AC), Noel Solomon (NS), Taz Bright (TB) and Chris Nurrish (CN) Apologies: Marianna Kirsten (MK)	
3	Visitors to meeting		
	3.1	None	
4	Upfront discussions		
	4.1 4.2	Acceptance of Minutes of 19 October (meeting of 8 November was abandoned through technical problems with MS Teams) Proposed MD, seconded JP. Minutes of meetings should be circulated within three working days of the meeting. Matters arising: JG will complete AGM & Council minutes and circulate. For future it was suggested we have 1 formal meeting per month and 1 informal meeting to cover any urgent or burning issues. Actions agreed between meetings must be ratified at meetings. The Management WhatsApp group (including CN) will be used between meetings. In future CN will ask for all SC reports in advance and include them in the minutes.	CN JG All CN
5	Confirmation of decisions between meetings		All
	5.1.	- See report under point 4.2 - The Executive confirmed the appointment of Lesley Smyth to the Technical Officials SC and Shannon Philip + Chris Nurrish to the Coaches' SC.	
6	Portfolios (Matters arising & feedback)		
	6.1	Finance	
	6.1.1	General - Sponsorship / fundraising - Lotto application has been submitted. - Almost all clubs have paid their fees and the Personal Trust sponsorship money has been received.	
	6.1.2	Income – financials to be distributed by JG	JG
	6.1.3	Expenditure – financials to be distributed by JG	JG
	6.2	Competitions	MD
	6.2.1	General - Feedback on Fours – There were too many people at clubs on the first day of the competition in terms of COVID capacity limits. We will need to watch out for this in Flag, Muter etc. It was also noticed that very few people wore masks inside the various clubhouses used. - NS suggested doing this via a YouTube video with a link on the WPB website. He will set up together with GvM and MD.	MD NS MD

		- At the meeting of the Competition SC it was agreed that the draws for Flag, Muter, Trips League, Midweek and Mixed Pairs will be published before the end of December. - Entries in competitions are down so we will contact clubs and chase additional entries.	TB MD
	6.2.2	All Cape - Entries are trickling in – to date 6 men’s and 3 ladies’ teams are in but shirt orders are good, indicating that the entries will start coming in soon. -	JP
	6.3	Selectors - Ladies’ and Men’s selectors are not working together to achieve a successful inter – districts. GvM wants a meeting between MD, GvM, Warren H & Sandy W to clear the air and plan forwards. We urgently need to make the existing structures work.	MG JG GvM
		District Squads - District teams – Ladies sides have been published. - Vaccinations for team members and managers – we must wait for instructions from BSA or Government on this. - WP – Boland practice – this went well apart from excessive numbers at Durbanville (see 6.2.1 above). WPB retained the Trophy. CN has drafted a letter of appreciation to Durbanville BC for their hosting of the day’s play. - Namibia – on hold for now.	CN
	6.4	Marketing, Membership & Transformation	MD
	6.4.1	General SC feedback -	
	6.4.2	Transformation - MD TB & AC to coordinate.	AC
	6.4.3	Communication - Newsletter is ready for distribution and a further newsletter will be published after League draws are available.	MD
	6.4.4	Marketing and Membership -	MD / TB
	6.5	Greens	MK
	6.5.1	General SC feedback <u>NIKKON AUTO DUMPY LEVELS</u> The importance of best achieved level Greens cannot be over stated and BSA have already contributed so much Nationally to promote level Greens. In 2009 a program was developed by Ron Cubitt, assisted by Vlam Basson and Bill McCarthy based on Excel work book format where level grids are arranged with dumpy levels (or alternatively by laser levelling) at 2meter centres and this data recorded on input sheet then transferred to the Excel input worksheet where the program will calculate, the total BSA level points scored at max deviations of 4mm or 3mm for National Tournaments. Good levels, good surfaces, good bowls. After more than 10 years we have still not achieved perfection and BSA keep on reminding districts of the merits of good level scores In WP our own Greens Care team are continually encouraging Clubs. We have held workshops in an endeavour to improve Levels and make the Auto Dumpies available at no cost to Clubs. The three Auto Dumpies are stored for safe keeping at Meadowridge (Bill McCarthy), Durbanville (Collyn de Witt) and Oakdale Bowling Club (Vernon Dryden)	JG

	Merado This serves as an update on equipment owned by WPB consisting of the Merado ST 63 Hollow Tine Coring machine, purchased through Nanturf in November 2015 The motivation behind the purchase of the Merado was to assist WP DISTRICT Clubs with relieving compaction on Greens. During our dry summer months, it is important to have a good root system and to make sure the water and air is moving through the soil profile. A lot of research has been done on reasons for causing compaction on bowling greens and the biggest cause is PLAYER TRAFFIC. This means that the compaction will only be around the top 30-50mm of the soil profile and it is important to aerate this area to help with root development. We did Trials with the Merado prior to purchase and received good results which confirmed that the purchase of a corer machine by WPB would contribute to welcome savings for Clubs and also improve Greens quality. Hiring hollow tine equipment has dramatically increased in Costs where contractors now charge about R3500 per Green, admittedly a deeper core hole, the fee from WPB for Clubs to hire the Merado is R500 per Green When not in use the Merado machine and trailer is safely stored at Meadowridge Bowling Club and with Terry Drew's assistance the Machine and trailer for transport is checked on a regular basis, Terry also manages the booking list and Invoicing for Denise Vermeulen to action. The Merado has now been in use by clubs for about 6 years and to our knowledge we have the following record regarding maintenance and costs so far 1. Replaced Tines and shaft in 2018 cost R34 000 executed by Nanturf in Mossel Bay 2. September 2021 excessive vibration noted on Tines attachment. We disengaged the Tine head unit and couriered the unit to Nanturf Mossel Bay where the shaft and bearings were replaced at a cost of R11 000 3. On the 8th November 2021 while the unit was used by Edgemead it was reported that the Tine head attachment kept disengaging. Bobby Black GKP from Parow agreed to pick up the unit from Edgemead and transport it to Parow on 15/11/21. While using the Merado at Parow the same problem experienced at Edgemead repeated itself and diagnosed as worn bearings and main bush on support main side plate. The side plates support the tine head unit to the drive unit and for engaging tine head unit. To avoid Courier costs of the unit back to Nanturf Mossel Bay we have located a mower repair shop locally (TONY MASJIENE) who is confident of success with servicing and repairs. They have assessed the latest problem on the Merado and estimate the repair to cost about R9 000. The Merado is in fairly high demand right now and we have instructed Tony Masjiene to proceed When in operation the Merado tines, when penetrating into the soil surface create a high level of vibration, depending on compactness and after some period the bearings and bush will fail.	
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		The Merado is a fairly sophisticated piece of machinery and takes a lot of wear and tear and one of the main headaches is that we do not have a dedicated operator and the Green Staff at the various clubs have to operate the Merado. We acknowledge that the maintenance costs for the Merado is high and that WPB have to contribute from the district budget to maintain the machine in good working order. The WPB executive may wish to consider these options. A. Continue to charge Clubs the present fee of R500 per Green or increase the charge to R750 per green to accumulate funds for maintenance expense. B. When Merado is serviced or repaired and no funds in the Merado “Kitty” then call for a special levy from Clubs. After some discussion the Exco agreed that we should charge clubs R500 per green at the point of booking the Merado – for example a 2 green club will be charged R1000, rather than the flat R500 we currently charge.	
	6.6	Coaches	JG
	6.6.1	General SC feedback -	
	6.7	Technical Officials	JP
	6.7.1	General SC feedback -	
	6.8	Junior Bowls (Under 18’s and Under 30’s)	
	6.8.1	General SC feedback - A meeting is required – TB, JG etc.	TB
	6.8.2	U18’s Competitions - Trials for Inter districts - “Z-Squad” for juniors	JG
	6.7.3	U30’s -	
	6.9	Under 45’s	
	6.9.1	- Committee – what is the updated status -	GvM GvM / TB
	6.10	Disas – Players Association	GvM
	6.10.1	General - Make up of committee -	
	6.11	Disability Bowls	TB
	6.11.1	General SC feedback -	
7		Other Important Business	JG
	7.1	- HR - salaries	
	7.2	General:	

		AC - We need a set of rules covering the issue and wearing of WP clothing. GvM will think about this over the holiday break and the Executive will decide on a way forward at the next exco meeting. JG recommended that the WP Caps be numbered and that the Cap be the all-important district symbol and not the shirt. Capping occurs historically on the third Thursday of February.	
		The next meeting is scheduled for Monday 10th January 2022.	

Gerrit van Milligen

PRESIDENT

10 January 2022

DATE

Chris Nurrish

DISTRICT SECRETARY