



## MINUTES

**TITLE OF MEETING:** Board Meeting  
**DATE AND TIME:** Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> August 2020  
**LOCATION:** Virtual Meeting

- |  | Action | Target   |
|--|--------|----------|
| <b>1. Welcome and apologies</b><br>The Chair welcomed all present to the meeting.<br><br>Board Chair: David Tucker (Chair)<br>Director of Competitive Events: Margaret Docherty (COM)<br>Director of Coaching: Mal Evans (COA)<br>Director of Development: Adam Tanner (DEV)<br>Director of Governance: Foster Johnson (GOV)<br>Director of Finance: Stephen Hemsley (FIN)<br>Independent Director: Dr Anna Molony (IND)<br>Independent Director – Marketing & Communications: Harry Nijjar (MAR)<br>Bowls England 2020 President – Paul Robson (PRE)<br>Chief Executive: Jon Cockcroft (CE)<br>Operational Services Manager: Alistair Hollis (OSM)<br>Executive Assistant: Helen Slimm (EA) |        |          |
| <b>2. Previous minutes – accuracy/matters arising</b><br>It was RESOLVED:<br>a) The minutes of the Board Meeting held on Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> July 2020 be signed as a true and correct record.<br>b) The minutes of the Board Meeting held on Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> July 2020 be signed as a true and correct record.  | CHAIR  | 26.08.20 |
| <b>3. Declarations of Interest</b><br>None declared  |        |          |
| <b>4. Operational Report</b><br>The CE had circulated his operational report in advance of the meeting to provide all board members with an overview of activity being delivered by both board and staff members since the previous meeting. Following discussion these key items were noted:<br><br>a) <u>International Sport</u><br>The outcome of the BIWBC AGM held on 30 <sup>th</sup> July 2020 was presented to the Board. It was noted that with the planned unification of the BIBC and the BIWBC, there is an opportunity to fully review the purpose and governance of these events in order to create a structure that is fit for purpose.                                       |        |          |

- b) Sport England CWG funding outcome  
It was noted that Sport England had confirmed the outcome of the assessment on Bowls England's submission. The assessment is subject to a resubmission based on their feedback.
- c) Performance Planning  
A High Performance Squad kick-off weekend is being planned, details of which will be announced in due course. This will provide an opportunity to generate media content.
- d) Victoria Park Greens  
Following comment from IND in regards to the current status of the greens, the CE updated the board on the Warwick District Council schedule of work at Victoria Park which sees all the greens being ready for the 2021 season.
- e) World Events  
It was noted that the World Championships have been delayed to September 2021, and that the 2021 and 2022 World Singles Champion of Champions hosting rights have been awarded to Naenae Bowling Club in New Zealand.
- f) Governance  
GOV updated the board on the positive level of interest in the interview process. It was noted that interviews for the governance working party are scheduled to take place on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September.
- g) European Bowls Union CE **26.09.20**  
The proposals for the SGM of the EBU were discussed by the board. Following discussion by the Chair, COM, IND, GOV and FIN, it was resolved that the CE collates the feedback and discusses the proposals with the other nations.
- h) Marketing and Communications  
It was noted that 305 clubs have currently signed up to the Let's Roll Campaign, with the original post reaching 15,300 people – one of the highest engagement posts through social media to date. Results will be reported back at a later date.
- DEV informed the board that nine podcasts have been produced and released, with positive feedback. MAR gave an update on the future content and structure of the podcasts, with a focus on seeking greater engagement with those from outside the sport.
- i) Development  
It was noted that Lisa Graham has been appointed as Managing Director for the Bowls Development Alliance and that the British Crown Green Bowls Association will re-join the BDA shortly.

Discussions between CE and DEV are ongoing in relation to the annual national bowls weekend concept, with more details being presented to the Board at a later date.

DEV gave an update on the positive feedback for the recent webinars, with more planned to continue on a regular basis although moving towards a pre-recorded session.

j) Coaching

COA provided an update on the new business plan for Coach Bowls, which will focus on the priorities of support and benefits for new members.

k) Commercial

The CE updated the Board on recent discussions that had taken place with some of Bowls England's commercial partners. Following discussion, it was resolved to change the competition regulations in regard to the wearing of Bowls England branded shorts in order to allow clubs and counties to wear their own branded shorts, providing they conform to the uniform regulations. The regulations will be updated in the coming weeks.

**5. Strategy Discussion**

In advance of a scheduled strategy day on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2020, the board looked at some of the initial findings and information received so far. This included a discussion on the vision, mission and objectives for Bowls England.

A series of county discussion meetings are planned and there has been positive levels of response to the participants' survey, all of which will be considered as part of the strategy development.

**6. Any other notified business**

With no other notified business the meeting closed at 7pm.