



Minutes of an Annual General Meeting of the Company Bowls England
(Company No. 06297656 England & Wales)
Held at 10am on Saturday 27th February 2021 via Zoom

1. Welcome by the Chair

The Chair welcomed all present to the meeting of the Company, Bowls England.

All were reminded that it was a formal Company Meeting and that only County Authorised Representatives and Life Members of the Company were invited to attend.

As the meeting was held via zoom, the Chair advised the meeting on the logistics of the meeting and introduced the Board, Presidential and Staff team that were present on the call.

There was no vote to be held at the meeting, so no official tellers were recorded.

Before the meeting started the Chair informed the meeting that there would be an amendment to item 10, which would be discussed at that time.

2. Notice convening the meeting – Chief Executive

The Chief Executive referred to the notice:

This is the 14th Annual General Meeting of the Company known as Bowls England whose company number is 06297656 which was convened by Notice dated 5th February 2021. This meeting has been called under Regulations of the Articles of Association. The Notice of Meeting will have provided you with the business that is to be dealt with on this occasion.

3. Apologies

There were no full member apologies received in advance of the meeting. Senior Vice President, Terri Keen and three life members had registered their apologies.

4. Minutes

It was **resolved** to approve the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Bowls England held at The Double Tree by Hilton Hotel, Coventry on 22nd February 2020, already circulated, as a true and correct record.

6. To receive the 2020 Annual Report

The 2020 Annual Report had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

The Chief Executive gave a brief presentation to those in attendance. The presentation highlighted the value of a National Governing Body during the pandemic; with leading the

Covid-19 response, providing support for clubs, in excess of £2.4m of funding support given to clubs and also the investment of £200k in preparations for the home Commonwealth Games.

It was highlighted that over the past year, we had adapted and taken opportunities to benefit the long term health of the organisation. The Let's Roll participation campaign, relationship building and consultation, online webinars and courses, maximising savings and the communications focus was just some of the opportunities highlighted.

The participation and perception surveys, that had been circulated to Counties following the County Meeting in November was discussed. The surveys had increased our knowledge of the audience and had clarified changes and objectives in shaping perceptions of our sport alongside highlighting the resources and culture required.

In closing the Chief Executive paid tribute to the hard work and commitment of the team, particularly in embracing significant change.

7. To receive any additional comments from the Board Chair

The Chair thanked the Chief Executive for the presentation, and opened the floor up for discussion or comment.

8. To receive the 2020 Directors Report and Audited Financial Statement

The 2020 Directors Report and Audited Financial Statement Annual Report had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

The Director of Finance had prepared a presentation to discuss certain areas of the accounts in more detail, which pulled out and highlighted some of the main differences between the income and expenditure of the 2019 and 2020 accounts.

Income had decreased during the period with £500K of affiliation fees returned to clubs and £140K of championships fees returned to the County Associations. The Director of Finance clarified the importance of diversifying the income stream, in the hope that future income will not be solely reliant on affiliation and competition fees.

Expenditure had also decreased during the season, with savings on hosting the National Finals and International Events. There had also been a review of overheads to streamline the expenditure which had evidenced the importance on learning to reduce expenditure in the future.

The Director of Finance clarified the new financial reporting process, with staff costs now allocated to budget areas. This enables the true cost of each activity to be known, allowing the effective allocation of resources and enables stakeholders to see where their money is spent.

Bowls England future expenses in relation to the Strategy was discussed, with the value of income and expenses in 2021 compared to the prediction values for 2026. The new strategic plan will see significant investment in our sport, funded from cash reserves and new sources of income with the balance sheet forecasted to remain strong. In closing the Director of finance hoped that the sport would embrace the strategic shift, so that we can all look forward to the future with confidence.

9. To ratify the following for 2022:

9.1 Membership Affiliation Fees (Status Quo - £5)
It was **resolved** that no change will be made to our Membership Affiliation Fees and they will remain at £5 per playing member. It was further **resolved** that the fee charged for our Associate Membership would remain at £30.

9.2 National Championship Entry Fees (Status Quo - £2.50)
It was **resolved** that no change would be made to our National Championship entry fees and that they would remain at £2.50 per head.

9.3 National Competition Entry Fees (Status Quo - £4.50)
It was **resolved** that no change would be made to our National Competition entry fees and they will remain as follows:

- National Competitions (individual/team events): £4.50 per person
- National Competitions (side events): £30
- National Champion of Champions: £6.50 per person
- Sutton Winson Tournament: £5 per person
- Johns Trophy: £70 per entry
- Amy Rose Bowl: £16 per entry
- Middleton Cup: £70 per entry
- White Rose Trophy: £30 per entry

10. To announce Electronic Ballot results and to formally ratify the following appointments

The Chair informed the membership, that it had been brought to the Board's attention the week prior to the AGM that there was a procedural oversight with the election for Director of Development. The Board had, therefore, **resolved** to re-run the ballot process and notifications would be sent to the County Associations following the AGM.

10.1 Bowls England Director – period 2021 to 2024

It was noted that Mal Evans had been elected unopposed for Director of Coaching.

11. To receive propositions, amendments or additions to the Rules and Regulations and Articles of Association of Bowls England

None

12. To approve Board Recommendations

12.1 The appointment of Bowls England Lawyers (Blythe Liggins)

It was **resolved** to appoint Blythe Liggins as the Bowls England Lawyer.

12.2 The appointment of Bowls England Accountants and Auditors (Dafferns)

It was **resolved** to appoint Dafferns as the Bowls England Accountants.

13. Chair's Closing Remarks

In the closing remarks, the Chair thanked everyone in attendance for their contribution over the last 12 months. He took the opportunity to pay tribute to the hard working volunteers at club and county level for their extraordinary work throughout the pandemic to keep our sport going, highlighting specific areas of achievement.

The Chair advised that after the meeting had officially closed there would be a pre-season planning meeting that would include the work undertaken on Covid-19 contingencies. Those Counties, whose administrators were not Authorised Representatives at the AGM had been

invited to join so that a collaborative discussion could take place on the structure of the 2020 season.

Finally, he wished those in attendance good health and an enjoyable 2021 season on the greens.

With no further business the meeting closed at 11.05

Signed:

Date: