

WORTHING INDOOR BOWLS CLUB AGM HELD ON TUESDAY 10th APRIL, 2018

1. **President Ray Potten in the Chair** welcomed 31 members.
A one minute silence was observed in memory of 11 members (9 men and 2 ladies) who had passed away since the last AGM.
President Ray Potten reported that the last year had been most successful for the Club, success earned from the efforts of Office Staff, Board, Club Officers and Committee and all members who supported the club in so many ways. He gave a particular welcome to Manager, Alan Messer, who had been ill in hospital in Portugal during the last week.
2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Messrs K. Buck, C. Graham, I Donaldson, M. Howard, L. Mann, J. Rose
3. **MINUTES OF AGM** held on Tues 11 April 2017 as displayed on notice board and made available attending members were accepted as a true record and duly signed.
4. **MATTERS ARISING - NONE**
5. **REPORTS:**
CAPTAIN George Youngs reported on a most enjoyable winter season. The results for the friendly matches were **P 69 W 48 L 20 D 1**. This involved 7 more matches than the previous year and recorded 5 more wins.. The commitment from members had once again been excellent, and whilst this was a real test for Selectors in being fair and providing strength, it was a most welcome challenge. The matches involved a wide mix of opposing clubs organized by Match Secretary Les Mann, which were all most enjoyable and followed by superb match meals at home, prepared and served by our excellent caterers. When matches were cancelled the green was used for Australian Pairs, Footbowl and matches for Newbies. George wished to pay tribute to his Vice-Captains Derek Ridley, our President-elect, and Chris Wood and Les Mann for arranging these events and also providing green space for Goring Manor, Marine Gardens and East Preston. Other thanks were to Dave Crockett, who took over as League Manager at short notice following the illness of Trevor Rowe. George congratulated our League Team managed by John Rose, who have gained promotion back to Division 1. Office Staff gave excellent support and guidance and he paid tribute to Ray Potten, retiring after 10 Years as Club President. A most rewarding and enjoyable season and thanks to all.

LEAGUE SECRETARY

Dave Crockett was thrust into this role in October 2017 owing to the poor health of Trevor Rowe, to whom Dave gave thanks for his previous good work. He immediately decided to introduce individual league identification by colour coding in an effort to reduce the high number of scorecard errors. Greater use was also made of the website to record and print results. Alan Messer is to be thanked for his work in the design of the new stationery, and in 2018 the system of recording results is to be simplified.

As a result of his observations and at the request of many, the rules regarding the Winter Domestic Leagues, the following changes will come into effect from the start of 2018/19 winter season, and these changes have been agreed by the Bowls Committee.

- a) A player may play 3 times for any particular league team before he becomes tied to that team.
- b) The order and system of play when a Fours or Triples team is missing 1 player will change and this will reduce walkovers, permit games to be played or continues which would otherwise have been abandoned, and help maintain green income. The details of the change will be widely circulated.
- c) Respotting of the jack to avoid a 'dead end' will be introduced by utilizing the 'T' position. This is a procedure adopted at some clubs with narrower rinks. The means of implementing this will be circulated

Dave's hope for the future is to continue to evolve the administration process and to introduce new formats such as 'Footbowl League', as season long events or temporary fill-ins and thus maintain and encourage members' interests. Dave was widely thanked for his initiatives and administration. A few questions were asked of Dave and the meeting gave full approval of his innovations. Brian Attwood, as League Secretary for the Summer 2018 season asked if these modifications could come into use as from 1 May. This is a matter for the summer committee to decide, but there would certainly be no objection if the summer players agreed on this.

COMPETITION SECRETARY

Chris Graham was unable to attend the meeting, but we are aware that all competitions are to semi-finals stage and Programme for Finals Day will be published at the beginning of the week leading up to the Final.

GREEN MANAGER

Alan Keen has experienced a few steward problems because of non-availability and illness of some of the stewards. Weekends have been a particular problem which he has tried to cover himself. He particularly wished to thank Ray Baker, David Mann, Ray Bancroft and Janet McMorris for taking on extra responsibilities when he was desperate. He would welcome more volunteers if only on an occasional basis.

MATCH SECRETARY

Les Mann had apologised for being unable to attend the meeting but submitted his report. The fixture list was fairly similar to the 2016/17 season, but he felt that this season had been successful in that there were many less vacant dates compared to the previous year. This was thanks to the introduction of events such as Australian Pairs, Footbowl, which were played when the green would otherwise have been empty. Goring Manor BC have once again given good support by using the green for their own internal matches as well as continuing their fixtures against our club. Marine Gardens BC have also rented the green on a number of occasions.

Farnborough Civil Service have cancelled future fixtures as they did not believe that their members would be able to travel in the future. Their Match Sec. on behalf of their club asked Les to convey their thanks for the hospitality extended to their club and players over many years and sent his best wishes.

Most fixtures have been confirmed for 2018/19, including the County League 1 matches following our promotion. We will play against 45 clubs and associations, which is considerable more than last year with new fixtures against many outdoor clubs: Middleton, Steyning, Henfield, Southwick, Worthing Grasshoppers and Southwick Park. West Sussex Tourists have taken a 2nd (triples) fixture and Derek King has put together a Ferring Village team which will play us twice next season.

Summer 2018 has gained popularity and 22 matches have been confirmed for this summer.

TEAM MANAGER

John Rose sent apologies for his absence but was delighted to report that the team finished the season with consecutive 11 –nil wins and this gave us automatic promotion back to Div 1. He wished to thank the players for their continued support and 100% co-operation when unforeseen changes had to be made. There was no progress in any of the regional or National Competitions.

The Denny Cup saw a defeat against Chawton Park in the first round and whilst we had wins in the first games of the Denny Plate and Over 60's Double Rink we were eliminated in the next round in each event. The London & Southern Counties Shield first round match against neighbours Worthing Pavilion saw us eliminated at an early stage. John wished to thank also the assistance of Dave Crockett in managing some of the games and always helping and also the Office Staff in helping with arrangements for the National and Regional Competitions.

SCIBA DELEGATE

Don Nice had assumed responsibility for the Patrons' matches whilst National Team Manager, Iain Donaldson, had handled the selection of County and HCL and Liberty matches. We have had good representation at all matches and also supported the County 1 day events.

TOURNAMENT SECRETARY

Don Nice reported that whilst entries were no worse than previous years, it was becoming increasingly difficult to run the tournament to schedule and had lost one of the sponsors.. Consideration may be given to only running the Wednesday Triples in the future, but this is a matter for the new Committee.

COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT REPORT:

Graham Stewart thanked the members of the Bowls committee for their work during the past year. Whereas 2016/17 had been a challenging year for the Board, this last year had seen many good things happen.

- a) Membership had been at its highest for 5 years, thanks to the meticulous work in the Office in organising a successful Open Day last September. A similar event is organized for Sat 18 August.
- b) The increased membership gave rise to increased green fee revenue, bar income and better support for all bowls and social events. There had been less expenditure on Repairs & Maintenance and we will have a better operating profit this year.
- c) Office was successful in recruiting Alan Messer for the vacant Manager's position. Alan has brought the much needed IT knowledge to the club, which has improved communication and streamlined some

practices. The Office is now staffed with a team of experience and ability enabling us to continue to move forward. The updated Business Plan created by Alan and John Schools is succinct and an essential working tool for the business.

- d) The Office is supported by the Committees and a team of Volunteers for the 470 playing members who have a club open for 360 days per year

CLUB MANAGER

Alan Messer reported how his first 6 months in the position had enabled him to see how the club works, and to appreciate the many positives about our club. He sees his role as having to ensure that these positives such as ;-regular social activities, a great playing surface and a thriving group who want to play on it, brilliant staff in the kitchen all work in harmony. The playing side has promotion back to League 1 and the Ladies section retained their top division status. There has been improved green occupancy- the spoons and aggregates cater for varying ability and the Leagues are nearly all fully subscribed. The challenge now is to create a system that allows the competitive bowlers to have rink space without conflict with the established sessions. This is people challenges, which are the most rewarding when resolved. Ageing premises require tender love and care and efforts are being made here. There has been revamping of the stewards area, redesigned visitors changing room and improvements to audio and visual entertainment. Future planned work is the redesign of office and furniture and freshening up of paintwork. Longer term projects are improvements to lighting, carpet and air conditioning .These will all involve a lot of expense but come under the banner of long term savings, and the

Open Day produced many new members who have all integrated and the challenge is now to include these newbies into our playing and friendship groups to ensure that they all stay and introduce their friends. Another Open Day will take place this August and it may be that we introduce some kind of mentoring system to enable these first and second year bowlers to thrive and get the most benefit from WIBC.

GDPR (Data Protection) legislation comes into force in late May and this will affect the way that we use and store information. The membership will be kept abreast of any changes.

In all our Manager is confident that an efficient service is being provided to our members and that over time this will improve.

Manager was thanked for his significant contribution to club affairs since being recruited last October.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

No elections were necessary as all nominations were unopposed and will serve for season 2018//19:-

OFFICERS ELECTED:-

PRESIDENT – Derek Ridley.	CAPTAIN – George Youngs.	SEN. VICE CAPT. – Derek Ridley
JUN. VICE. CAP. – Chris Wood	MATCH SEC. – Les Mann	LEAGUE SEC. – Dave Crockett
COMP. SEC. –Chris Graham	GREEN MANAGER - Alan Keen	SCIBA Delegate Ray Baker TEAM
MANAGER – John Rose		

COMMITTEE: John Cox , Mick Howard, Mike Muncey and Ray Potten were elected and President thanked the outgoing committee for their work..

7. NO PROPOSALS IN WRITING were received before the meeting. The committee had, however, drafted a proposal regarding Summer Play for submission to the Meeting

Nominations for Summer Officers will be posted in WIBC by 1 January each year with nominations to close on 31 January at 10 am

A Summer Committee will be formed in the first week of February each year and will meet monthly until September The Summer Committee Officers list to comprise; Chairman, Captain, Vice-Captain, Match Sec. League Secretary and Competition Secretary.

The Summer Committee will comprise of these Officers plus 3 other members of the WIBC Annually Elected Committee.

A Summer Friendly Selection Committee will meet on club premises. This Selection Committee to consist of Captain, Vice-Captain and 1 other. Selection for matches will be equitable, fair and balanced

This proposal was explained to the Meeting that the growth of Summer Bowling now necessitated the need for more

formalization of the process for more efficiency and fairness. The proposal was accepted by all at the Meeting.

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ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Outgoing President Ray Potten wished to thank members, Committees and Management Committee for their work and help over his 10 years of Presidency. The Club has moved forward, reacting to changes such as Summer Bowls, Mixed play in a positive way. The Open Day had provided the start of a growth in membership and he looked forward to still being an active playing member for some time and meeting new faces. He was also delighted to serve as a member of next year's committee under the new Presidency of Derek Ridley, and he wished Derek much success and happiness in the role.

Chairman of the Management Committee wished to pay tribute to Ray for his 10 years as President. Ray had not just been President for 10 years , his relationship with the club spanned over 50 years. He rejoined the club in 1972, but had formerly been a member at the previous premises opposite Worthing Station. During his career he won Club Championship, Championship Pairs with son Steve, several County Championships, many English National appearances and was a member of the Worthing team to win the Denny Cup. His reign as Team Manager for the Sussex County League included many League Championships and he had served on Committees for countless years . His wife Betty had been an active player for many years he had been a most active member as well as serving for 2 years as Lady President. On behalf of the club he wished them both some well deserved relaxation.

There bring no further business the meeting closed at 3.15 pm with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

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