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| Glouc Bowls Assoc  TRANSPARENT | **GLOUCESTERSHIRE BOWLS ASSOCIATION**  **A Member of Bowls England.** |

**G.B.A Joint Executive Committee**

**Minutes of meeting of Saturday 14 December 2019**

**Falcon B.C. : 10.00 a.m.**

**Members present**: Chair and Secretary - Lindsay Collin (County Administrator and WD BE Delegate) LC, Jane Hawkes (County Treasurer) JH, Myra Savage (GBA Match Secretary) MS, Avril Hole (Deputy County Treasurer) AH, David Rolls (MD Representative) DR, Keith Hawkes (Deputy County Treasurer) KH, Linda Bennett (WD Representative), Roger Harrison (GBA Deputy Match Secretary)

**Apologies :**  Anne Beaven (WD co-opted Delegate) AB

1. **Welcome** by Chair Noted that Craig Guthrie invited to attend, as otherwise no BE Men’s Delegate and also some matters will relate to BE Annual General Meeting in February.
2. **Executive Committee roles** Noted how these will change as from the first meeting after the Association’s AGM.
3. **Minutes of Joint Executive Meeting of Saturday 26 October 2019** Accepted as a correct record, and ratified.
4. **Matters arising**  **from minutes**

3.1 Bowls in Bristol (Item 3.1) Brief update from LC. Individual club meetings had been held last week with the clubs involved. No outcomes yet known. JH noted that Eastvillians & Whitehall BC had surprisingly submitted their affiliation numbers, but under a new club name; LC to investigate. [Action : LC]

3.2 Dates of meetings Dates agreed for 2020 JEC meetings : Thursday 13 February; Friday 3 April; Friday 17 July; Friday 2 October; Friday 11 December. LC would circulate a complete list of GBA meetings for the year, once the WD Management Meetings were agreed. [Action : LC]

1. **Notes on 6th GBA Joint Council Meeting, 9 November 2019**

Agreed that these were a suitable record, by those present at the meeting.

1. **Matters arising from those notes**
   1. Safeguarding in Bowls Need to emphasise the crucial importance of this to clubs. LC will be circulating reminders re the 14 November course at Cotswold and then also a detailed account of key points for clubs, arising from the JCM exchanges.

* Agreed that GBA should have another Safeguarding course available thus year; DR to book Cotswold on a Saturday in March (avoiding 21 March) and make arrangement with BE. [Action : DR]
* Documentation to go out shortly will include :

Introduction to Safeguarding

Documentation sources (guidance, templates, etc)

Things to be done by clubs

BDA/BE Policy [Action : LC]

* A ‘benchmarking’ of the current state of play in Gloucestershire clubs would be undertaken in early 2020. [Action : LC]
* Discussion of how far Associate Members needed to be involved in this process ? LC to investigate with BE. [Action : LC]
  1. County Coaching Development
* Based on Bowls England’s ‘Vision’ for coaching in counties. This had been introduced to clubs, and a number of speakers used to highlight the various aspects of what might be involved in the future for Gloucestershire.
* Discussion of potential costs for the County – the ‘budget’ referred to in the Vision. Felt that this would emerge as we determined and agreed with clubs just what would be involved. Otherwise difficult to predict at this point.
* Mixed views on whether to fund coaching of whatever kind was ultimately agreed, and should this be achieved through a levy on clubs, to ensure equal input.
* LC asked DR about the situation re Tutors and Assessors recommended by the Vision. We are okay at present, but might need to review in the future.
* Level 1 and Level 2 courses should be taught every year and every other year respectively.
* Lengthy consideration given to the Coaching Meeting that had already been mooted.
  + Felt that the meeting should be in February [Action : LC]
  + Who should be invited ?
    - Two divisional Team Managers
    - Representatives of all clubs with junior players. May need to identify interested people
    - Possible ‘role modes’ like Nathan, Lee and his two lads, Frankie
  + What should be considered ?
    - Our U-25 players. Look at practicability of inter-county fixtures; we would have to liaise ourselves with possible opponents. RH to investigate opportunities
    - Possible local inter-club league(s) for some age-groups
    - A Gloucestershire Youth Academy, to link with National Academy in 13-18 age-group
    - Coaching for younger, primary-aged children
    - Must not overlook coaching for all age groups in clubs, particularly including individual development
* Expenditure agreed by the committee on ‘soft’ bowls for youngest age group
  + Overlooked area
  + Finances to come equally from divisions. £1000 each suggested
  + Bowls cost circa £90 per set
  + Grants on the basis of matched funding, so County would retain an interest in the bowls
  + Grants to be offered to clubs that had a need for these and at least three players in that category, but they would have to share bowls with other clubs that wished to borrow
  + Thus need to ensure equality across the four GBA sections
  + Both storage and insurance would need to be considered
  1. Survey of GBA club needs (including publicity, recruitment & development)
* Very few responses from clubs, so arguably not the level of issue that had been suggested. And that was reinforced by the detailed nature of the 11 responses received. The person whose approach caused the instigation of this investigation had not replied to the last of the Chair’s long letters.
* But nevertheless acknowledged that there are aspects of publicity and recruitment which need addressing by the County, but through greater encouragement to clubs to engage with the nationally-available BDA/BE schemes, of which there are several. LB noted that retention of new players was an issue and down very much to the way in which they were welcomed at the club. [Action : LC]
  1. Unified GBA Competition Rules

Chair and Secretary (both on the Working Group) briefly referred to the state of the process. Rules now pretty well completed – just two issues to be resolved. Rules needed for the two divisional yearbooks, of course. [Action : LC]

1. **Financial Report - JH**

7.1 Affiliations update Generally going very well. Only 8 clubs still to provide their data and three of them are imminent. The other five, which includes one of the very biggest cubs, will be approached again. [Action : JH, LC]

7.2 Consolidated accounts Should be completed later this week. [Action : JH]

7.3 Expenses for National Mixed Rink winners Agreed, after discussion, that the divisions would offer £50 to each competitor, with each division funding two players. This is not something that happens often, nor ever will. [Action : AH, KH]

7.4 Orders for BE Yearbooks stand at 120 so far. Orders for GBA handbooks probably need a reminder; numbers presently well down on last year. [Action : LC]

1. **Annual Presentation Luncheon - LC**

Feedback - went very well. Booked again for 25 October 2020. Cost slightly up - £24 per head.

**9. 9th Annual General Meeting, 11 January 2020**

Very straightforward agenda, with no proposals. So can allow an Open Forum for discussion of agreed topics. Possibility of complication of an SGM, but nothing received so far. Circulation has to be before next weekend (20th December).

1. **Bowls England matters**

10.1 Counties Meeting , 23 November 2019

* Administrator had pre-circulated the complete presentation for the meeting. Good meeting, with emphasis on information transmission. Included the following topics :
  + BDA update, on existing schemes, but also on the future
  + Commonwealth Games. Given by the Director of the Games
  + Commonwealth Games – implications for Bowls England
    - Changes in greens and facilities now under way
    - Implications for the 2022 National Championships include :
      * Delayed start – 3rd week in August
      * Only 3 weeks instead of 4. Probably mixing of women’s and men’s events
      * Possible triple daily sessions to cope with scheduling difficulties
      * Shortened game lengths – 18 ends for Fours, Pairs
      * Possible moving of some National Competitions to other Warwickshire locations
    - 2022 BIBC Championships (in July) looking for double-green alternative location – Gloucestershire club possible
  + Management, Audit & Review Committee update
  + County proposals for AGM considered in turn
  + County Support :
    - Greens maintenance
    - Coaching Services
    - Umpiring Services
    - Third Party Funding assistance
  1. Women’s Presentation Dinner, 23 November Noted that Gloucestershire had a trophy for Women’s Benevolent Triples, third place nationally : Sally Rolls, Pauline Gunn and Kay Gent

1. **AOB**

11.1 Difficulty with umpire payments through the EBUA still there, despite new Treasurer.

Meeting closed at 1.00 pm

**Date of next meeting : Thursday 13 February 2020 - 2.00 pm - Falcon B.C**