

Southern Tasmanian Bowls Association Inc.

Trading as:

Bowls Tasmania South

PO Box 832,
Glenorchy.Tas. 7010

Ph/Fax. 6249 1124
Mob. 0409 703 073

Email: bowls.south@bigpond.com

Website: www.bowlstasmaniasouth.bowls.com.au

ABN 12 820 830 594

President: Peter Kirby

Secretary: Rob McQuire



MINUTES OF THE DELEGATES MEETING HELD AT THE BUCKINGHAM BOWLS CLUB COMMENCING AT 1.05 PM ON WEDNESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2017

Welcome: President Peter Kirby welcomed all delegates, Life Member Cath Smith and Simon Morrison from Bowls Australia. President Peter Kirby further advised that the CEO of Bowls Tasmania, Rebecca Van Asch, would also be joining the meeting.

Apologies: Apologies were received from Life Member Tony Fulton OAM and BTS Board Members Ken Copleman and Malcolm Salier. An apology was also received from Leigh McAdam from Glenorchy City.

Attendance: The meeting was attended by 38 delegates present representing 23 clubs (Beltana, Brighton, Bruny, Buckingham, Claremont, Cygnet, Derwent City, Dover RSL, Franklin, Geeveston, Glenorchy City, Glenorchy Rodman, Howrah, Huonville, Kingborough, New Norfolk, Orford, Rosny Park, Royal Hobart, Sandy Bay, Sorell, St. John's Park and Taroon). Nine interested men and women also attended the meeting.

Minutes: Moved Paul Hoddy Seconded Ailsa Milburn that the minutes of the previous Delegates meeting held on 20 March 2017 be confirmed. Carried

Business Arising:

Survey Friday Night Competition 2016-17:

The BTS Board agreed to conduct a survey of players and Clubs at the end of the Friday Night Super Pairs to review how the competition went, should it happen again in 2018 and if so to determine what improvements could be made for next season. A disappointing eight survey responses were received. The majority of respondents were interested in playing in a similar competition in 2018. It was inconclusive as to whether or not there should be additional separate competitions for A Grade, B Grade and Barefoot Bowlers. There was little support for the competition to include more players for example four players playing triples or five players playing fours, however, there was strong support for the games to be longer for example two sets of seven or nine ends. The BTS Board has agreed to run the Friday Night Super Pairs again in 2017-18. Draft Conditions of Play will be prepared in due course.

Bulk Discount on Club Insurances:

Bowling Clubs Insurance Brokers (BCIB) has not come back to Bowls Tasmania with a firm response and work has now commenced with BCIB and Bowls Australia for Bowls Australia to take on the accident insurance for every club in Australia which will result in a considerable saving to clubs. The difficulty with this that they are trying to work their way through is the different financial years and insurance renewals for each state and then each club within the state.

Love this bowls

Come and Try Day 1 October 2017:

At the last Delegates Meeting, Clubs agreed to support the Come and Try Day again in 2017 but that it would be better to hold it around the middle of October 2017 to incorporate the commencement of Club's Barefoot Bowls competitions. Bowls Tasmania has decided that it will happen each year on the weekend before pennant starts. The BTS Board expressed its concern at the lack of interest and involvement of Clubs in the Come and Try Day on 1 October 2017. Most Clubs are suffering with falling membership and difficulties in filling Pennant teams. Bowls Tasmania and BTS has tried to address this issue and has invested considerable dollars and resources into the annual Come and Try Day, however, in Southern Tasmania only twelve of twenty-eight Clubs have registered for the Come and Try Day and just four of those attended the Come and Try Ideas Meeting held on 11 September 2017.

Survey 21 or 25 Ends Saturday Pennant A Grade:

At the last Delegates meeting, Clubs recommended that a survey of Clubs with Saturday Pennant Premier Division and Divisions 1 and 2 teams be undertaken to determine their support or otherwise for a change to 25 ends next season. Responses were received from all twenty-two clubs who compete in Saturday "A" Grade Pennant to determine if they want to play 21 or 25 ends for Saturday "A" Grade Pennant in 2017-18. The results were inconclusive – split 50 / 50. It was reported to the BTS Board that many clubs – particularly the bigger ones – suffered a loss of revenue from bar sales and raffles etc. because many Premier Division clubs played through without having an afternoon tea break when playing 21 ends. Accordingly the BTS Board agreed to revert to 25 ends for Saturday Pennant A Grade in 2017-18.

Market Research – Reduction in number of registered bowlers:

At the last Delegates Meeting, Dennis Lourey from Howrah requested that the BTS Board consider undertaking market research to determine why the number of registered bowlers is dropping. The BTS Board considered this matter and agreed that this would be a very expensive exercise to undertake and this is not going to happen. However, it was agreed to ask Clubs to gather this information from members who no longer play with their clubs and to forward such information to BTS for collating. A request has since been sent to Clubs to gather this information.

Matters raised at Annual General Meeting

Equal Opportunity Tasmania and Thursday Pennant State Finals:

At the BTS Annual General Meeting the majority of votes from Clubs supported the BTS Board recommendation that BTS no longer participate in Bowls Tasmania Thursday State Pennant Finals. Equal Opportunity Tasmania (EOT) was advised accordingly and an agreement has been signed by BTS that BTS will no longer participate in Bowls Tasmania Thursday State Pennant Finals. It is interesting to note that Rod Pursell and the Saturday Pennant Action Group would not sign the Agreement but according to EOT this does not affect the enforceability of the agreement.

SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Match Committee:

Ross Bannister advised Clubs of the new round-robin format for BTS Singles Championships in 2017-18 which means players will be required to mark first round games instead of host Clubs having to find markers.

Love this bowls

Selection Committee:

Nothing to report.

Coaches Panel:

As per the attached report.

Officiating Panel:

As per the attached report.

MATTERS REFERRED FROM THE BTS BOARD:

Reasons for early start to Pennant 2017-18 (Kingborough):

Kingborough queried why Pennant will start so early in 2017-18. BTS can only draw up its calendar after Bowls Australia and Bowls Tasmania does theirs. Easter is early next year – Good Friday is 30 March 2018 and the Commonwealth Games follow Easter so all State Pennant Finals must be completed before Easter 2018 and BTS must finish its finals before then. A later start could have been achieved by playing double-headers but the BTS Board decided against this.

Bowls Connect pennant results system – abolish submission of results by facsimile in 2018-19:

The BTS Board has agreed that results should be either entered directly into the Bowls Connect system or be scanned and emailed to the BTS Statistician. Clubs have been advised that BTS intends to abolish faxed results after the 2017-18 season.

Clearance fees 2018-19 onwards:

The BTS Board intends to prepare a discussion paper on clearance fees for consideration by Clubs before further discussion at the next Delegates Meeting. Most other states charge significantly more than we do in Tasmania and the cost of a clearance increases after the start of a season.

Conditions of Play 2017-18:

Changes to the Conditions of Play were summarised by the Secretary. Printed copies of Conditions of Play were distributed to Clubs prior to the meeting.

Forms:

Pennant Results Forms, Initial Club Registration Forms, Register of Members and Championship Entry Forms have already been distributed to Clubs and are available on the BTS website. Pennant Cards were distributed to Clubs prior to the meeting. The BTS Secretary stressed that the DJ Motors score cards are to be used only for pennant and BTS events. They are not for use in Clubs' own domestic events.

Bowls Tasmania Handbook:

The Bowls Tasmania Handbook has only just gone to the printers and will not be available until the first week of October 2017. Clubs will be notified when it arrives - it will be available for collection from the Hobart Bowls Centre. Due to lack of advertising and increased printing costs, Bowls Tasmania has advised that it is unlikely that the Handbook will be produced in the future.

Nominations for Men's Midweek Divisions 3 and 4, Women's Division 5 and Saturday Division 7:

Delegates were reminded that nominations for these Divisions close on Sunday 1 October 2017. Rosters for these Divisions will be sent to Clubs by Friday 6 October 2017. If Clubs have a shortage of players and are unable to field its bottom side in Midweek, Thursday or Saturday Pennant or alternatively if they have additional players but not enough to enter another team into the competition, they were requested to advise the BTS Secretary as there may be another club close to you in a similar situation – and together you may be able to field a composite team.

Capitation Fees:

Delegates were reminded that Capitation Fees are due on 1 October 2017 and must be paid prior to the first Pennant game.

Ensure all players are registered and cleared (if necessary) to play in 2017-18:

Clubs were reminded that it is their responsibility to ensure that all players playing pennant have been registered to play with BTS and, if necessary, have been cleared. Playing unregistered players or players without a clearance will result in a loss of the match or matches.

An updated list of clearances received by Bowls Tasmania South for the coming season to date has been sent to all Clubs and will continue to be updated and sent out weekly.

If a player has transferred to your Club and their clearance is not listed on the list, it has not yet been received by Bowls Tasmania South and they cannot play in pennant until the clearance is received by Bowls Tasmania South.

Interstate clearances must be approved by the individual players former State Association before they can play pennant in Tasmania.

A list of clearances received to date will be sent to Clubs and placed on the BTS Facebook page on a regular basis.

Reasons for introduction of CoP 3.20 (a) (iv) that determines that once a player has played 12 games in higher divisions they cannot play any further games in lower divisions:

Condition of Play 3.20 (a) (iv) prohibits a player dropping to a lower Division after they have played twelve games in higher Divisions. This Condition was introduced in an attempt to restrict Clubs from dropping players to lower Divisions to strengthen their finals hopes or to save a lower Division from relegation. Previously Clubs had to make decisions after week three of the last six weeks of pennant – that is week 15 but now it is week 12. It is up to Clubs to manage their players to avoid contravening this Condition – as they do now with the three weeks in the last six rule.

Future of Pennant:

The BTS Board advised that it will be preparing a discussion paper on the future of pennant for consideration by Clubs before further discussion at the next Delegates Meeting. Concerns have been raised at the current length of pennant – should BTS look at reducing division to eight teams, should BTS split the current pennant into two shorter pennants, should Wednesday and Thursday Pennant move to non-gender specific as Clubs are having difficulties filling their teams.

Dover RSL commented that it was about time that all three regions got together with a unified set of Conditions of Play and rules.



Flat Fee Affiliation Fee:

President Peter Kirby advised that a proposal submitted by Royal Hobart for a flat fee based on the number of pennant teams entered rather than a fee per registered member was submitted to the recent Bowls Tasmania Regional Consultative Committee meeting, however, Bowls Tasmania advised that it would not be going down that path at present.

Bowling Arm Committee:

President Peter Kirby spoke of the formation of this Bowls Tasmania Committee and advised of a coaches clinic and coaching for bowlers with bowling arms which will be conducted at Howrah on 23 October 2017.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Presentations:

Rebecca Van Asch, Bowls Tasmania's CEO, presented State Pennant Finals winners plaques to Dover RSL who won the Thursday Pennant Division 2 Final and Geeveston who won the Saturday Pennant Division 1 Final. She also presented a cheque to Huonville from the ANZ Bank for referring a home loan to the bank.

Regional Bowls Manager Tasmania:

Simon Morrison, Regional Bowls Manager Tasmania for Bowls Australia, addressed the meeting reminding clubs of the Bowls Connect training sessions at Rosny Park on 28 September 2017, the Come and Try Day on 1 October 2017, the success of the recent Tasmanian qualifying sections of the Bowls Premier League with 39 teams competing in Tasmania and the future of the game.

Huonville Dispensation:

Brenda Perrett from Huonville advised the meeting that the BTS Board has rejected Huonville's request for dispensation to play men in its Thursday Women's Pennant Division 2 team. There was wide spread support at the meeting from other clubs that dispensation should be given to Huonville in accordance with the dispensation clauses of Conditions of Play. The meeting was advised that the BTS Board would re-consider this matter – and Huonville has already asked for this.

Bowls Tasmania Handbook Deadlines:

Kim Spencer from Taroona asked if the Bowls Tasmania Handbook is not produced in future years, will that mean that current deadlines of June can be moved to September each year. It was agreed that this would be done.

Unified Conditions of Play Statewide:

At the Annual General Meeting in May 2016, a motion from Geeveston that Bowls Tasmania set the competition rules so that all regions in the State are under the same format was approved. Ike Smith from Buckingham asked what progress had been made in regard to this matter - Bowls Tasmania had been working on a state wide Conditions of Play for local pennants, however, it does not have the authority to implement same without approval of all three regions.

Equal Opportunity and Bowlers in Wheel Chairs:

Stephen Lockey from Brighton advised the meeting that the BTS Board had rejected a request from Brighton that if Clubs do not have suitable bathroom facilities for wheelchair bowlers, Brighton requested BTS to relocate pennant games to a neutral club with compliant facilities. As the BTS Secretary did not have the relevant information on hand to fully explain the reasons for the BTS Board's decision, it was agreed that the BTS Board will revisit this matter and advise Clubs of the outcome.

As there was no further business the President closed the meeting at 3.15 pm, thanked all delegates for their attendance and participation and thanked the Buckingham Bowls Club for making its facilities available for the meeting.

Date of Next Meeting: February / March 2018 – date and venue to be advised.



BOWLS TASMANIA SOUTH COACHES PANEL

Delegates Coaches Report for September 2017

On the first Sunday of each month in May, June, July, August and September 2017, the Bowls Tasmania South Coaches Panel held coaching sessions at the new Howrah Indoor Centre.

The session was from 12 noon to 3 pm and the cost of the centre was covered by Bowls South. These sessions were open to new bowlers through to Premier bowlers. We covering everything from line and length to what shot to play and how to play that shot.

On Friday 15th September there was a coaching clinic held at the Geeveston bowls club for their members

If your club would like to organise a coaching day for your members please fill free to give Ross Bannister a call on 0439 629 831 and we can organise a day to come to your club and run a session.

In 2016 and 2017 there were forty coaches that had their coaching accreditations expire and most of these coaches has not renewed there accreditations. It is a simple process to reaccredit and all information was sent to club secretaries and was asked to be passed on the coaches in their club. It was also sent out to club coaches but some coaches' emails details were wrong, if you would like more information please talk to Ross Bannister

Ross Bannister
President
Bowls Tasmania South Coaches Panel

Love this bowls



Bowls Tasmania South **Officiating Panel**

Report September 2017

The Bowls South Officiating Panel welcome two new members for the coming season. Geoff Price from the Kingborough Bowls Club and Lee Cowie from the St Johns Park Bowls Club, both have extensive understanding of the Laws of Bowls and experience at officiating.

The 'Side Captains Guidelines' have been updated and distributed to clubs.

Once again there is a need to emphasise the Conditions of Play requirement that if there is not a currently accredited umpire at the host club that a visiting currently accredited umpire must be used.

Measurers are also available for clubs to utilise when needed but these officials are not to be used to make decisions regarding the Laws.

Clubs also need to be aware when appointing Tournament Managers for BTS Championship events that the Laws of the Sport of Bowls are paramount, followed by the BTS Conditions of Play and cannot be over ridden.

Ross Bannister has continued with the work of Presenter and Assessor and Panel member Helen Ducker is compiling an up to date list of umpires and measures. This list will be available on the Bowls South website or from the Panel if requested.

Helen has also represented the Panel on the Bowls South Conditions of Play working group .The CoP has been sent to clubs and is also available on the website.

Forums for Umpires and Measurers will be held in the South, North and Eastern areas of the South and are currently being organised. Clubs will be asked to send qualified and other interested bowlers to the forum in their area.

Leonie Price
BTS Officiating Panel