



Southern Tasmanian Bowls Association Inc

Trading as:

Bowls Tasmania South

PO Box 232, Rosny Park, Tas. 7018

ABN: 12 820 830 594

President: Peter Kirby 0400 914 818

Secretary: Paul Matthews 0409 703 073

(03) 6249 1124

Email: bowls.south@bigpond.com

Website: BowlsTasmaniaSouth.bowls.com.au

Minutes of the BTS Special Board Meeting held at 4.30pm held via Zoom on Sunday 16 January 2022

1. Welcome

President Peter Kirby opened the meeting at 4.05pm and thanked Board members for attending on a Sunday.

2. Attendance

Present: Peter Kirby (President), Deb Jeffrey (Treasurer), Paul Matthews (Secretary), Matthew Gregg (Board member), Michael Andersch (Officiating Panel Chair), Ross Bannister (Coaching Panel Chair/Match Committee Chair)

Apologies: Paul Hoddy (Exec. Assistant)

3. Confirm minutes of previous meeting

This being a special meeting of the Board, the minutes of the 10 January 2022 meeting were not reviewed/confirmed.

4. The business of this special meeting

The business of this special meeting is to discuss whether to

- recommence pennant and championship competition following a one-week hiatus called at the 10 January Board meeting, or
- extend the suspension of both for a further period of time.

4.1. Ross Bannister moved, and Deb Jeffrey seconded, that we recommence the pennant season immediately (that is, starting with the Midweek Round 13 games on 19 January).

CARRIED

4.2. As a result of the resolution at para 4.2, the President moved that we send the letter (Attachment 1) to all clubs that he provided to the Board before the meeting.

Seconded: Ross Bannister.

CARRIED

4.3. The Secretary asked about requests from clubs to provide more detail. The President undertook to answer requests of this nature as required.

ACTION: President

4.4. The Secretary asked about requests to clarify rules governing play. The meeting resolved to pass all such requests to the BTS Match Committee for an answer in the first instance.

ACTION:

Match Committee

5. Correspondence

The only correspondence considered at this special meeting was the vaccination policy (attachment 3) issued by Bowls Tasmania.

- 5.1. **COVID-19 and Vaccinations - Bowls Tasmania policy.** Ross Bannister moved, and Michael Andersch seconded, that we adopt the Bowls Tasmania policy as at 1 February 2022 for all events/competitions under the control of BTS. **CARRIED**
- 5.2. As a result of the resolution at para 5.1, the President moved that we send the letter (Attachment 2) to all clubs that he provided to the Board before the meeting. Seconded: Paul Matthews. **CARRIED**
- 5.3. The Board resolved to ask clubs to add a "Covid 19 Certificate" via BowlsLink for each of their members who provided the President/Secretary with proof of their vaccination status. The Board asked the Secretary to provide clubs with instructions on how to do this. **ACTION: Secretary**

6. General Business

- 8.1. **Resignations.** The President advised the Board that both Leonie Price and Geoff Price had tendered their resignation from the Board. They were both accepted with regret. The Secretary asked if a call for nominations to fill positions was required but it was left with the President until the next Board meeting. **ACTION: President**
- 8.2. **Confidentiality of meeting discussions.** Ross Bannister reminded all Board members that discussions at board meetings were confidential and should not be
- 8.3. **Facebook Group.** The Secretary noted the appalling comments posted to Facebook as a result of the post advising bowlers of the one-week hiatus. He suggested shutting down the group and starting again. The Board resolved to tighten the group's controls, enforce the Social Media Policy, and monitor future posts. **ACTION: Secretary**

Closure

The President declared the meeting closed at 5.00pm.

.....
Peter Kirby, President

Attachments

1. Letter to clubs – Pennant play and coronavirus
2. Letter to clubs – COVID-19 eligibility to play protocol
3. Email to regions from Bowls Tasmania - COVID-19 and Vaccinations

Attachment 1

Letter to clubs re season recommencement from President Peter Kirby

PENNANT PLAY AND CORONAVIRUS

The BTS Board met on Sunday afternoon, 16 January, at which time it was resolved to restart BTS Pennant competitions immediately, commencing with Round 13 of Wednesday Men's Pennant, on Wednesday 19 January, 2022.

Until such time as there is a directive from either State Health or Bowls Tasmania (or both) to suspend or cancel all BTS pennant competitions then all competitions will continue. Notwithstanding this, we must respect the right of individual players to assess personal risk and the right to refuse selection in pennant teams if, for any reason, the risk of exposure to Coronavirus is determined by the individual player as being too high. There should be no attempt to coerce a player to accept selection against her/his personal wish.

Each club is likely to experience difficulty in selecting its pennant teams for competition, due to depleted playing lists resulting from players who make themselves unavailable, or who are unavailable due to Coronavirus infection, in isolation as a close contact, or isolating awaiting results from a Coronavirus test.

Clubs should select their pennant teams from the list of players known to be available, commencing with their side in the highest division until all available players have been allocated a position. If there are any sides, commencing with the club's lowest side, that are incomplete then the club should advise the BTS Match Committee Chair, who will provide advice as to what further action is to be taken.

P. KIRBY
President
Bowls Tasmania South

16 January 2022

Attachment 2

Letter to clubs re double-vaccination from President Peter Kirby

COVID-19 ELIGIBILITY TO PLAY PROTOCOL

The BTS Board has resolved to endorse the recommendation of Bowls Tasmania to make it mandatory for all players to be fully vaccinated (double vaccinated) by 1 February, 2022, to be eligible to play in all bowls events under the control of BTS, including representing BTS in Bowls Tasmania's State Wide Challenge series.

Accordingly, from 1 February, 2022, all players 12 years of age and over must show proof of vaccination to be eligible for selection in pennant sides participating in BTS competitions. Players who have a medical exemption from COVID-19 vaccination must provide evidence of this to be eligible to participate in events for which BTS is the Controlling Body.

It will be the responsibility of clubs to ensure that all selected players conform to this protocol, and proof of vaccination, or exemption, is provided in all instances. Clubs should ensure the vaccination status of each member is noted in BowlsLink.

Breaches of this protocol will be dealt with under the "ineligible player" provisions of Law 39.2.1 of the Laws of Bowls (Crystal Mark Third Edition Version 3.2), and the side playing the ineligible player will forfeit the game to their opponents.

P. KIRBY
President
Bowls Tasmania South

16 January 2022

Attachment 3

Email to regions re double vaccination from Bowls Tasmania

COVID-19 and Vaccinations

Dear Regions and Clubs

At its meeting on 7 January 2022 the Bowls Tasmania Board determined that Bowls Tasmania needs to lead the way and provide direction to regions and clubs regarding compulsory COVID-19 vaccinations.

Accordingly it is now Bowls Tasmania policy that:

- Players would have to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 to be selected to play in future State teams.
- Players in future Bowls Tasmania championships must be fully vaccinated and must show proof of vaccination to be eligible to play.
- Players in Bowls Tasmania State Wide Challenge games played after 1 February 2022 must be fully vaccinated and must show proof of vaccination to be eligible to play.

The Bowls Tasmania Board further agreed to strongly recommend to regions and clubs that they follow the above Bowls Tasmania policy regarding all bowls under their jurisdictions.

Please feel free to contact me if you require any clarification on the above.

Kind regards

Rob McGuire | Chief Executive Officer

Bowls Tasmania | PO Box 191 | Sandy Bay 7006

M: 0447 722 128

E: exec@bowlstasmania.com.au | W: www.bowlstasmania.com.au