



Founded in 1905

Southern Tasmanian BOWLS Association Inc

Trading as	Bowls Tasmania South	ABN: 12 820 830 594
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President	Peter Kirby	0400 914 818
Vice-President	Kerrie Lane	
Secretary	Paul Matthews	0409 703 073

Minutes of the BTS Board Meeting held on Tuesday 20 June 2023 at 5.00pm via Zoom

Welcome

1. President Peter Kirby opened the meeting at 5.00pm, with a quorum, and welcomed Kerrie, John and Brad to the Board.

Attendance

Present: Peter Kirby (President), Kerrie Lane (Vice-President), Paul Matthews (Secretary), Paul Hoddy (Exec. Assistant), Barbara Rankin, John Scott, Brad Johns, Ross Bannister (Chair Match Committee), Michael Andersch (Chair Officiating Committee)

Apologies: Deb Jeffrey (Treasurer), Crystal Brooks, Anne Mullavey (BTAS Director), Bernard Knight (BTAS President)

Confirm minutes of previous meeting

2. The Secretary moved that the minutes of the meeting held on 16 May 2023 be confirmed. Seconded Ross Bannister **CARRIED**

Business arising from previous minutes

3. The Secretary advised the Board that the following matters had been actioned:
 - Appeals Panel recommendations published to the BTS website
 - Affiliation Fees distributed to clubs
 - Association Annual Return submitted
4. **Representative uniforms.** The President advised of no action had been taken as yet and recent SWC developments require further consideration of uniform.
5. **BowlsLink issues.** The Statistician advised the following matters regarding BowlsLink are still ongoing but should be fixed once the next update is released:
 - BowlsLink washout game not counted as draw
 - BowlsLink allowing entries after closing date
6. **Expired Business Name.** The Secretary reported that Registry Australia has advised that our business name has expired. His attempts to renew the registration via the ASIC portal have failed. He will work with the Treasurer to resolve matters.

ACTION: Treasurer

7. **Conditions of Play changes.** The COP Committee met and agreed on changes to the Conditions of Play for 2023-24.
8. **Pennant Review Working Group EOI.** Deferred to General Business.
9. **BTS Weather Policy.** The proposed *BTS Extreme Weather and Natural Disasters Policy* was circulated to Board members. Paul Matthews noted that it did not cover cold weather, but this could be added later (if required) as it does not (generally) impact the playing season that BTS is the controlling body for. Barbara Rankin asked about indoor centre temperature guidelines but it was agreed the policy was broad enough to apply to all greens. Paul Matthews moved, and John Scott seconded, that we endorse this policy and distribute it to clubs with emphasis on the responsibilities of the Side Captains.

CARRIED
ACTION: Secretary

Correspondence

10. The Secretary reported that 227 emails were received and 182 emails were sent between 15 May and 18 June 2023. Moved Ross Bannister, seconded Barbara Rankin, that outwards correspondence be endorsed and inwards correspondence be accepted.

CARRIED
11. The Board noted the following:
 - Vacant Board positions filled – John Scott, Brad Johns
 - COVID Risk Level now at MODERATE
 - Paying wages? – What You Need to Know from July 2023
 - ABC Radio Hobart's Breakfast show interview request
 - Glenorchy City – Geoff Munro status for BTAS events (resolved)
 - Sandy Bay – new Office Bearers
 - Oatlands – Change of email address
12. The Board noted the following correspondence from **Bowls Australia**:
 - Hall of Fame nominations
 - Participation data request
13. The Board noted the following correspondence from **Bowls Tasmania**:
 - Notice of Bowls Tasmania's 2023 AGM
 - Disability Bowls Classifications
 - Draft Calendars 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26
 - Inclusion and Diversity in Sport Forums
 - Markers for BTAS Bowling Arm Singles Events
 - Minutes of BTAS Board Meeting 24 April 2023
 - Minutes of BTAS Board Meetings 22 May 2023
 - Minutes of Bowling Arm Tasmania 24 May 2023
 - Statewide Challenge arrangements 2023-24
 - BTS Weather Policy under development
 - Bowls Tasmania Officiating Offerings - June 2023
14. **COVID Risk Level now at MODERATE.** The Secretary noted the upgrade from LOW on the BTS website and the BTS Facebook page. The BTS position will be reviewed prior to the start of the season.

15. **ABC Radio Hobart's Breakfast.** Peter advised that he spoke on ABC Hobart Breakfast Radio at 7.20am, Monday 12 June. Barbara heard the interview and said it sounded good although it was light on detail due to the interviewer's lack of interest.
16. **New BTAS calendar for 2023-24.** This was updated today and includes the Peet Kay tour. It involves a trip to NSW in August for the first round, and then games in Southern Tasmania in February 2024. Also, the new Junior championship was added.
17. **J. Carroll Promotions - BTS score cards.** The Secretary asked how many we would need based on having 5 boxes on hand. The decision was left with the Secretary based on last year's requirements **ACTION: Secretary**
18. **Draft Pennant/Championship calendar for 2023-24.** Ross reported that it was almost ready to publish but changes will be required following the updated BTAS calendar just received.

Reports

19. **Finance.** Paul Matthews moved, and Brad Johns seconded, that the financial reports for May 2023 be accepted as presented to the Board (see summary at Appendix 1).
CARRIED
20. **Match Committee.** Ross Bannister noted the following:

Calendar. We are very constrained for available dates for pennant, finals, and championships this season given the packed Bowls Tasmania calendar. He reported the constraints during his advice to the Board. He particularly noted that, in the June version of the Bowls Tasmania calendar, the dates of the Nationals had changed, the Peet Kay tour had been added, and the Junior championships had been moved.

Pennant rosters. He also advised that clubs must report pennant sides by 1 September and the plan is to release the final pennant draws in late September.

Scheduling issues/ideas. Barbara suggested allowing SAT Divisions 2-6 to play on their "normal" days but have SAT Premier/Div 1 playing on a different day as they will be the players affected by SWC, State Championships, etc (more so than the other divisions). Kerrie suggested playing affected Premier/Div 1 games on Thur/Fri nights at the two indoor centres. Ross advised that we cannot do this easily due to lack of indoor rinks. Paul H suggested moving the 10 Feb games (incorrectly scheduled) to the 27 Jan to fix this error but SWC on 28 Jan will be in the North-West. Ross took all suggestions under advisement and will work through the various options with the BTS Match Committee.
21. **Officiating Panel.** Michael Andersch had nothing to report (from his ITO duties at the Australian Open in Queensland).
22. **Coaches Panel.** Ross advised there will be a coaching clinic on Sunday at the Howrah Indoor Centre. John Nichols is now an accredited coach, and 5 others are currently undertaking training. Rob McGuire is still to advise P&A accreditation for Ross.
23. **SWC/State Selection.** Peter Kirby advised that members of the Open sides travelling to WA for the Nationals will not be required to make a co-payment for travel – travel will be paid for by Bowls Australia.

Ongoing Matters

24. **BTS Strategic Plan 2019-23.** The President expressed his desire to (a) review the BTS Strategic Plan and (b) assign “portfolios” to Board members to ensure items were tracked and (eventually) achieved. The Board was asked to advise the Secretary of available dates for a Sunday afternoon brainstorming session.

ACTION: All Board members

25. **Policy and Governance review.** A new *BTS Extreme Weather and Natural Disasters Policy* was created – see paragraph 9 above.
26. **Knowledge Gaps.** Nothing to report.
27. **Conditions of Play.** The COP meeting have met and discussed/agreed most changes. Before proceeding further, Ross asked:

Southern League. Ross asked if we should reinstate Division 7 with a proviso that clubs can have more than one side in the lowest 2 divisions. This would remove the incorrect view that the Southern League was a “social competition”. The Board agreed to this suggestion and the COP Committee will meeting and work out the details before the July Board meeting.

ACTION: COP Committee

Geeveston feedback. The Board agreed to refer this feedback, along with other submissions received at the end of the season, to the Working Group, however, we would **not** be supporting an “Open Gender” Ladies pennant.

28. **RCC Meetings.** Peter Kirby advised the following:

Weather Policy. He will move that the weather policy, for Bowls Tasmania events, should state that the host region’s policy should apply.

Statewide Challenge. The SWC arrangements for 2023-24 has the Senior sides playing all games in the North only. Peter expressed his disappointment with this decision. He noted:

- The “logic” for this decision (less travel) was not sound as one trip to the North and one trip to the North-West was 200km less than three trips to the North.
- The model “requires” BTS to send a second side to one of the three rounds.
- The model “requires” BTS to send an umpire to each of the three rounds.
- We will be required to send a second side and umpire to the 27 February round.
- It is unclear what will happen if we do not provide a second side or umpires.
- If this is a “requirement” of the competition, then the cost should be covered by Bowls Tasmania and not by the South or North-West.
- Not fielding a side – by way of protest – was not an option as State sides are selected from participants in the Statewide Challenge.

The Board resolved to have the President/Secretary write to Bowls Tasmania (again) expressing our dismay at this decision.

ACTION: Secretary/President

Markers for BTAS Bowling Arm Singles Events. It was put to the last RCC meeting that some players could not also mark and therefore markers would need to be provided. Bowls North responded with “if you can’t mark, don’t enter”. The BTAS Bowling Arm Singles will be played in September in Devonport this season. Michael moved that the controlling regional body provide markers for Bowling Arm and Disability singles events. Seconded Brad Johns. **CARRIED**

General Business

29. **Social players.** Peter put to the meeting that the “5 Game” player should be reserved for new bowlers (that is, barefoot bowlers), and social playing members of clubs, who have previously played pennant as full playing members, should be a different category of membership. Paul Matthews noted that a different category of membership would require playing rights in BowlsLink. The Board resolved that, as long as players are selected on merit, the one “5 Game” category is all we need from an administrative point of view.
30. **Pennant Review Working Group EOI.** Two proposed wordings for the EOI into forming a Pennant Review Working Group were circulated to Board members. Michael liked the timeframes approach of the second draft but liked the detailed scope of the first draft. The Working Group will run the review and the Board will be “hands off” until recommendations are received. The Working Group should ideally have members from various clubs, different divisions, and both genders. Paul Matthews moved, and Michael Andersch seconded that we distribute/advertise the 2a version (at Appendix 2) with a closing date for nominations of 15 July.

Next Meeting

31. The next meeting will be on 18 July 2023 at 5.00pm via Zoom.

Closure

32. The President declared the meeting closed at 7.25pm.

Paul Matthews
BTS Secretary

Appendices

1. Financial Report – May 2023
2. Pennant Review Working Group EOI

Appendix 1 – Financial Report

Reports for May 2023 -

1. Bank transactions
2. Profit & Loss - MONTH ONLY showing actual v last year
3. Profit & Loss – YTD showing actual v last year

SUMMARY as of 31 May23

Current Assets

1-1100 Bank Accounts	\$94,372.77	\$116,552.60	(\$22,179.83) ↓
1-1200 Accounts Receivable	69.35	(36.30)	105.65 ↑
Total Current Assets	\$94,442.12	\$116,516.30	(\$22,074.18) ↓

Current Liabilities

2-1140 Accounts Payable	6,560.08	308.00	6,252.08 ↑
2-1300 GST Liabilities	(\$124.02)	(\$189.93)	\$65.91 ↑
2-1500 Provisions & Accrued Expenses	\$1,525.00	\$4,295.00	(\$2,770.00) ↓
Total Current Liabilities	\$7,961.06	\$4,413.07	\$3,547.99 ↑

Profit & Loss report

1-31 May 2023

	Actual	Budget	Variance \$	Variance %
4-0000 Income	\$18.18	\$0.00	\$18.18 ↑	-
Gross Profit	\$18.18	\$0.00	\$18.18 ↑	-
6-0000 Expenses	\$1,167.02	\$358.00	\$809.02 ↑	226 ↑
Operating Profit	(\$1,148.84)	(\$358.00)	(\$790.84) ↓	-220.9 ↓
Net Profit	(\$1,148.84)	(\$358.00)	(\$790.84) ↓	-220.9 ↓

Deb Jeffrey
BTS Treasurer

20 June 2023

Appendix 2 - Pennant Review Working Group EOI

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST BTS PENNANT STRUCTURE REVIEW WORKING GROUP

In response to the amount of “chatter” on social media and elsewhere over the 2022-23 season the BTS Board has decided to conduct a “club-led” review of current BTS Pennant structures. A proposal was circulated to clubs for discussion at the Delegates Meeting in April of this year. The proposal was approved in principle by the voting members present.

A working group will be formed from **Full Playing Members** of the Association. The group will be about 8-10 people and as close to a male/female balance as possible. It will be tasked with investigating all three pennant competitions with a focus on:

- Length of season
- Number of sides per division
- Number of rinks per division
- Number of competing events in the bowls calendar

Meetings of the working group will be held at a time suitable to all members of the group, and most likely via Zoom. The proposed schedule of activity is:

- Phase 1 – develop a range of questions to form a survey for members on the range of matters that the working group wants to investigate further. To be completed by early October 2023.
- Phase 2 – survey bowlers during the early part of the 2023-24 season. To be completed by early November 2023.
- Phase 3 – analyse the information collected from the player survey. To be completed by mid-January 2024.
- Phase 4 – write a summary of the group’s findings (including preliminary recommendations) for distribution to clubs. To be completed by end-January 2024.
 - Each club will be asked to arrange a meeting of its members to consider and provide feedback on the draft recommendations. The club response will be required by end-February 2024.
- Phase 5 – consider/correlate club feedback and prepare a final report, with recommendations, for the BTS Board. To be completed by mid-March 2024.

The final phase of the process will be to present the recommendations of the working group’s report to a General Meeting of the Association in April 2024 called to consider the matter. With agreement from this meeting, the BTS Board will:

- Amend BTS Conditions of Play as required.
- Implement agreed changes to BTS’ Pennant competition/s for the 2024-25 season.

The BTS Board invites **Full Playing Members** to submit an expression of interest in being involved in the review process. Please state your name, club, division/s you normally play, and a short statement with the reason/s for your interest.

Forward your expression of interest to the BTS Secretary at bowls.south@bigpond.com by **15 July 2023**.