



Country Committee

Minutes of the Country Committee meeting held at Bowls WA on Monday 25th February 2019 commencing at 10.50am.

1. Open Meeting and Welcome

Ross Warburton (Chairman) opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance.

2. Present

Ross Warburton (Chairman), Bev Broom (SZ), Kevin Heberle (SZ), Bob Plater (SWZ), Darrel Hudson (EZ), Carolyn Bell (SWZ), Norm Skoglund (NZ), Sandra Trenowden (NZ)

In attendance

Kerry Andersen (President - part), Ken Pride (CEO), Lisa Featherby (Board)

3. Apologies

Dot Glass (EZ)

4. Conflict of Interest

Nil

5. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 21st September 2018 were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Moved: Darrel Hudson (EZ) **Seconded:** Kevin Heberle (SZ) **Agreed**

6. Business Arising

6.1 P&A training courses

Following on from the requests made to delegates at the September meeting, the CEO expressed his disappointment on the lack of action in seeking appropriate club coaches and umpires to undertake P&A training. The aim of having at least two P&As in each Zone of both disciplines with an end objective of having one in each League would allow Leagues to become self-sufficient in the supply of coaches and umpires, saving travel to the city to undertake courses.

To date the response has been as follows:

- Southern No requirements for more coaches/umpires
- Northern No response
- Eastern part completed with Umpires Course run
- South West Unable to find an appropriate date

The CEO noted that an extension of the DSR funding had been approved until 30th April, following which the grant may have to be returned – a significant embarrassment.

Kerry Andersen left the meeting.

6.2 Affiliation Fee communication

The CEO noted the new affiliation fee system that will commence this October. The CEO noted the key date for Leagues to have their fixtures loaded into the new *Bowls Link* system by 15th September, to enable affiliation calculations to be completed by 1st October. Training on the system will be completed in the months ahead and all delegates are urged to ensure club and league recorders are aware of the changes and key date in the weeks ahead.

The Board has approved a TOTAL AFFILIATION fee increase for the metropolitan area of 2% and the country 1%, noting that this is not an across the board club increase, but a total income received increase for each of the metro and country areas. Individual club increases (or decreases) will be determined by the number of pennant sides nominated and rounds to be played.

7. Correspondence

8. Matters for Discussion

8.1 Winning Drive training presentation

Aaron Delaporte gave a detailed explanation of the two year *Winning Drive* program. The program will cover several areas including club compliance, strategic planning and constitutional requirements as per the Act (by 30th June). Information on the program and the various courses was distributed.

It was noted that some of the venues would require significant travel and it was agreed that delegates and Aaron would review the venues/dates and run additional courses or change host towns as required.

Action: Each delegate to review the host venues set so far and contact Aaron Delaporte by early March if there are any issues that would affect success.

8.2 Bowls Link training

Aaron further detailed the proposed *Bowls Link* training sessions which will also be aided by the RBMs. This will be very important training as clubs/leagues will be required to use the system following the introduction of the competition management system in July this year.

The training and understanding of the system will be most important as it will determine the level of affiliation to be charged to each club following the inputting of pennant sides/fixtures.

8.3 Clubs changing Leagues – the process

Given recent dealings in the SWL and Blackwood League, the CEO again distributed the process that clubs must undertake to transfer Leagues, noting that the Country Committee has the final say on whether a club transfers or not. Hence delegates must be understanding of what is required.

Ross Warburton noted there was still a lack of agreement in the Donnybrook club about a transfer in Leagues, with the ladies happy to remain in the Blackwood League. The Blackwood League itself has yet to provide a clear answer as to their position despite numerous queries.

The matter needed to be resolved soon with a decision by this committee at the May meeting, if required. No further action is required at this time until further information is forthcoming.

8.4 Country Week composite teams

The CEO raised several questions regarding Country Week.

The first of which is the continuation of the policy of club sides only or composite teams upon application. It was noted by the CEO there were no hard and fast rules of which to judge composite entries, which if continued needed to be drawn up prior to the May meeting.

There was general discussion on whether the competition should be thrown open as per state events and there was support on both sides of the argument – however it was agreed that if composite sides were to be considered it must only be under special circumstances and that a firm policy was required.

The delegates are to take this issue back to their respective Zones for a position to be made for the May meeting.

Action: Delegates to discuss at the Zone level and return with a response at the May meeting.

8.5 Compulsory meals and costs

Initially the matter had been raised by Doubleview BC as to the difficulty of providing lunches for \$15 ph. The discussion broadened to the compulsory supply and payment for lunches for sectional play and whether this still was appropriate.

After discussion on the conduct of state events which did not have compulsory lunch payments, it was agreed this seemed a better system than the present, particularly for those that did not seek a club meal.

It was agreed that compulsory lunches be removed for 2019/20, but that host clubs be requested to provide opportunities for lunch purchase on an as required or pre-order basis. **NOTED.**

Action: The office to make the appropriate amendments to the Conditions of Play and host club requirements for 2019/20.

Action: Delegates to communicate this to clubs/leagues/zones as required.

8.6 Country Week prizemoney 2020

Lisa Featherby noted the Board had approved the budget for 2019/20 and within it substantial percentage increases for both country week and state championships. There will be no increase in entry fees for either events.

8.7 ILRR – Manning BC

Darrel Hudson reported that the hosting of the ILRR at Manning BC was a great success. It was not considered a permanent exercise, rather it occurred due to the inability of the CWL to host the event within their league.

Discussion moved to the hosting of the IZRR on a round-robin basis and the extra costs involved in attending when the event was in the far north or far south of the respective zones. Darrel believed it was preventing players from playing given the costs and the holding of country week with further cost a month or so later.

The CEO asked the committee to critically think about the IZRR and how it could be better structured, whether that be where it is played, when it is played, how it is funded and its proximity to country week. There would appear to be perhaps a better way to structure the country representative bowls if the committee thinks a little longer term.

Action: Delegates to start discussing other ways to host major country events with a view to the future.

8.8 ILRR/IZRR liaison person

The CEO requested the committee arrange for a liaison person to be appointed at each IZRR that would pass information/results onto BWA for inclusion on the BWA website and Facebook pages. **NOTED.**

9. Reports

Reports were tabled and noted by each of the Zones, with the Eastern Zone providing a verbal report on recent activities. **NOTED.**

10. General Business

10.1 ILRR / IZRR dates

The following dates were noted from the various Zone reports, with delegates requested to finalise these by the May meeting.

Eastern

ILRR (men)	3,4,5 January	Venue:
ILRR (pairs)	23,24 November	Venue: Corrigin
ILRR (fours)	1,2 February	Venue: Kalgoorlie

Southern

ILRR (men)		Venue:
ILRR (pairs)	23,24 November	Venue:
ILRR (fours)	7,8,9 February	Venue:

South West

ILRR (men)		Venue:
ILRR (pairs)		Venue:
ILRR (fours)		Venue:

Northern

ILRR (men)		Venue:
ILRR (pairs)		Venue:
ILRR (fours)		Venue:

10.2 IZRR hosting requirements

It was noted that the IZRR hosting requirements for the Zone was being updated. The CEO requested when complete this is forwarded so that the current document on the website can be amended as required. **NOTED.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.30pm

NEXT MEETING:

Friday 24th May at 11.00am – the day of the Annual Dinner & Awards Night.