



Country Committee

Minutes of the Country Committee meeting held at Bowls WA on Monday 23rd September 2019 commencing at 10.50am.

1. Open Meeting and Welcome

Ross Warburton (Chairman) opened the meeting and welcomed all in attendance, in particular Board Members President Kerry Andersen, Deputy President Larry Bandy, Lisa Featherby and Marc Abonnel.

2. Present

Ross Warburton (Chairman), Jill Fotheringhams (SZ), Kevin Heberle (SZ), Bob Plater (SWZ), Anne Whyatt (SWZ), Darrel Hudson (EZ), Sandra Trenowden (NZ), Jenni Bunce (EZ)

In attendance

Greg Carter (SZ), Ken Pride (CEO)

3. Apologies

Norm Skoglund (NZ)

4. Conflict of Interest

Nil

5. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 24th May 2019 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 Donnybrook entry into SWBL

Ross Warburton reported that this had gone ahead with no great issues thus far.

6.2 Country vs Metropolitan

General discussion on this annual match, noting that it would revert to a Country vs Metropolitan format in 2020, given the changes to the national calendar. Further discussion on how the main country events could be improved (IZRR, Country AllStars, Country Week) occurred however it would require a submission to be made by a Zone if this matter could be considered in detail.

Delegates had already been asked for the matter to be considered by their Zone in the February meeting and any comments brought forward; it was taken that this had not occurred.

6.3 CEO Report

The CEO noted a number of operational priorities that the staff were working towards this year. One of these was the successful introduction of the Bowls Link program. Training in country and metro areas had commenced some weeks prior and was continuing this current week in the northern and eastern zone.

Kevin Heberle had attended a training course in the southern zone and encouraged all to become hands on; he believed it was quite different to Bowls Connect and given the proximity to the pennant season all needed to have a working knowledge of the system.

7. Matters for Discussion

7.1 Hosting requirements for the IZRR

An updated set of *Guidelines for the hosting of an IZRR* had been distributed prior to the meeting by the (EZ). There was much discussion on differences between the men and women and the level of accommodation required by each. Kevin Heberle noted that if the proposed guidelines were introduced for the men, many smaller clubs/towns would be disqualified from hosting.

Bob Plater gave an update on the source of the document and issues surrounding the IZRR at Emu Point; however there remained much confusion amongst the delegates as to their support or otherwise. It was clear that as it stood the Zones did not have an agreed position.

Action: Zone delegates to return to the next meeting the tabled Guidelines and approve or amend as they require. It is noted that there may end up two sets of Guidelines – one for men and the other for women.

7.2 Country Week Singles – ladies

The (EZ) had distributed a Motion seeking that at Country Week where a singles section had only two players, the result of the section would be determined by the “best of three” matches. Following discussion, the Motion was lost 3-1 and the current condition of play of a single match will continue. **NOTED.**

8. Reports

Eastern Zone – their CCES will be held in coming weeks with a successful Umpires clinic held in Kalgoorlie.

Northern Zone – the round of northern classics had been successfully held, however administratively it was becoming more difficult to find officials at all levels.

South – West – their CCES had been successfully held at Bunbury, with an Umpires course conducted by Elaine McDonald. Bob Plater noted a November Zone meeting but continued to query the value of the Zones as another tier of administration. This issue had been raised before and needed to be considered at a strategic level for the future benefit of country bowlers.

Southern – a new Pingelly complex was about to be opened with the bowling club re-located (time will tell as to its success). Kevin Heberle had tabled a written report noting various matters including the pennant demise of Nyabing. Also a successful CCES had been held in Gnowangerup with 22 participants on the weekend just passed.

9. General Business

- The Board members present thanked the Country Committee for the annual invitation to the meeting.
- Bob Plater noted development plans for the Halls Head club with a full cover planned for “A” Green in the coming months.

- A letter had been received from the Cervantes Bowling Club seeking alterations to the process agreed at the May meeting for the inclusion of composite sides for country week. Sandra Trenowden noted the position was not supported by the Zone and as a result it was considered no further. **NOTED.**
- A query on the use of Reserves for IZRR matches, where players could be subbed on and off the green depending on form during the match. This was against the Laws of the Sport and could not be considered further. **NOTED.**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 12.10pm.

Next Meeting – To be confirmed.