



MINUTES of the Board of BOWLS WA

Meeting held on Monday 24th February 2020 at Bowls WA commencing at 8.00am

1. PRESENT

Kerry Andersen, Ross Warburton, Larry Bandy, Marc Abonnel, Lee Bunney, Lisa Featherby, Doug Kelly

1.1 In attendance:

Ken Pride (CEO)

1.2 Apologies

Debbie Capper, Hendy Cowan, Vince Del Prete

1.3 Conflict of Interest

Nil

1.4 Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 20th January 2020 were accepted as a true and correct record.

Moved: Lee Bunney

Seconded: Larry Bandy

Agreed

The President welcomed Doug Kelly to the Board and hoped he enjoyed his time as a Director; a specific portfolio will be allocated to Doug in due course.

2. STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DECISION

2.1 Budget 2020/21

The CEO had distributed the budget for 2020/21 as recommended by the Audit, Risk & Finance Committee. He then proceeded to detail the assumptions that the committee had made and acknowledged in the formulation of the budget, with the balance of the Board comfortable in their conservative nature.

It was acknowledged that a key to the eventual outcome of the accounts will be the 3rd year sponsorship option available to Blooms the Chemist; this had not been included in sponsorship income as a worst case scenario with a contractual decision required by the end of May (3 months prior to the end of the contract). Marc Abonnel queried this practice, which would require the Board to accept a budget with a significant deficit, rather than include it in income for a small surplus.

Given the Board understood the ramifications of the loss or gain of the 3rd year option, it was comfortable to accept the current budgeted position.

Issues surrounding the form of the Affiliation Fee are yet to be finalised but given committee discussions have probably discounted any significant drop of income to satisfy club concerns the budgeted total would remain, with an overall 1% increase in the metropolitan area and no increase in the country. **NOTED.**

On this basis the Board was comfortable in approving a budgeted deficit of (\$41,393) for the 2020/21 financial year.

It was moved that the 2020/21 budget as presented be approved.

Moved: Lisa Featherby

Seconded:

Larry Bandy

Agreed

2.2 Hong Kong Invitational Pairs

The CEO had been informed that Hong Kong LBA had cancelled the event due to the Coronavirus. A re-think on seeking a SE Asian partnership will be required.

2.3 State selection policy – multiple teams

The CEO had distributed a paper recommending that state players could only be selected in one event, whether that be Over 60s/Open Sides or Under 18/Open Sides; a policy was required due to the change in scheduling of these events. The Board considered the recommendation from the selectors and supported its intent, given the onerous playing schedule of back to back events.

Action: The CEO to inform the selection panel of the policy.

3. STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

3.1 Meetings and discussions held with Murray League

The CEO and RBM Steve Unsworth had met with the SWZ President, Murray League President and Treasurer on matters relating to the Affiliation Fee and various Notices of Motion put forward to the League by clubs. A very positive meeting was held with the CEO explaining several issues relating to the Notices of Motion and outcomes if they were to be accepted at League level.

The CEO stressed that two committees were investigating possible ways of altering the current pennant-based fee structure, but this was proving difficult in trying to satisfy all parties, both within the League and outside of it.

3.1.1 IZRR meeting – Kellerberrin

Doug Kelly provided an overview of the IZRR meeting held at Kellerberrin with discussion following on issues such as the continuation of Zones administration, Affiliation Fees and information spread to the individual member. The event was well run, albeit very hot, resulting in a slower than usual green.

3.2 Board Evaluation Report Actions

As required the CEO noted two of the specific actions from the Board Assessment for discussion.

The CEO asked Doug Kelly whether his induction process was appropriate and whether further information was needed for a full briefing. Doug responded that the information provided was enough for his needs and further information would be garnered from attending meetings over the next month.

Secondly the issue of Board training opportunities. The CEO had distributed a Board Director's course that DSR had made available to new and/or experienced Directors. These courses were free and available for Director's to apply if they so wished. **NOTED.**

Aaron Delaporte joined the meeting

3.3 Bowls Link Commercialisation

Aaron Delaporte was invited to report on a meeting in Melbourne he attended on the commercialisation of the Bowls Link system and what that would mean to BWA and the clubs. Initially Aaron updated the meeting on the improvements that are planned for the system in coming months, particularly around club event and database management.

The possible commercialisation of the system in association with Croc Media would be discussed with STAs with a possibility of a reduced cost to STAs for assigned advertising rights to sections of the competition management areas. For further discussion when a proposal is received from BA.

The President thanked Aaron for his detailed presentation, and he left the meeting.

4. REPORTS

4.1 President

The President tabled her written report of activities over the past month, with a number of events attended and prizes awarded. A number of national updates were also provided including the resignation of Wayne Turley from the BA Board; his replacement Wayne Moffat of Qld, who was a current World Bowls Board member and previous CEO of Club Pine Rivers.

4.2 CEO

The CEO reported on a committee meeting held last week in Melbourne which focusses on the most appropriate structure for the governance of bowls in Australia. It was very well-run meeting by appointed consultants, which agreed on a set of current problems at STA and national levels and a series of options which will be explored in greater detail in coming months.

The CEO will distribute the Minutes of the meeting to the Board upon receipt.

4.3 Bowls Management

Marc Abonnel noted the upgrading of the Integrity Policy to take into account Friday night fixtures; the Minutes of the meeting on the 10th February had been distributed – no further questions.

4.4 Club Development

The meeting had only recently been held, with no Minutes yet available.

4.5 Country

Ross Warburton noted the Country Committee would meet immediately after this meeting.

A continued strong presence at Country Week with almost 1000 men attending and strong numbers for the women. Approval or otherwise of composite teams continues to be a difficult topic, with direct family members allowed entry. Ross noted this will cause some displeasure but believed it the appropriate outcome for people to enjoy bowls.

Ross noted the SW League meeting and some of the misinformation emanating from it. He commended Steve Unsworth (RBM) for his report to the League under difficult circumstances; giving clear, concise information to those delegates willing to listen.

Ross noted several of the issues that were on the agenda for the following country meeting.

4.6 Finance

The accounts to 31st January were tabled and noted by Lisa Featherby. The accounts were very strong for this financial year with a healthy surplus anticipated, further strengthened by a better than budget Dividends Received (\$6k) and a very strong performance over the 12 months by the IOOF investment portfolio.

The accounts were accepted, with all payments able to be met in a timely fashion.

5. GENERAL BUSINESS

5.1 Forums

The dates for the Presidents' and Ladies Forums will be Monday 11th (evening) and Tuesday 19th May (morning) respectively at venues to be confirmed.

5.2 Disciplinary Hearing – M Yates

The outcome of the hearing for M Yates was noted, with a one-week (midweek) suspension with a three-week suspended sentence until the end of the 2020/21 season.

Ross Warburton noted that a hearing was being considered by the Eaton BC against one of its members and this outcome would be conveyed to the CEO upon completion.

5.3 Bushfires Appeal match

Lisa Featherby noted the great success of the event at South Perth, noting it would be a great initiative to continue for future years, with the BWA charity the beneficiary.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.45am.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 23rd March – 7.30am for 8.00am.