



## MINUTES of the Board of BOWLS WA

Meeting held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2020 at Royal Perth Golf Club commencing at 10.00am.

### 1. PRESENT

Larry Bandy, Doug Kelly, Lee Bunney, Vince Del Prete, Glenda Cooper, Ross Warburton, Debbie Capper, Brian Lucas, Marc Abonnel

#### 1.1 In attendance:

Ken Pride (CEO), Phil Gregson (DSR)

#### 1.2 Apologies

Nil

#### 1.3 Conflict of Interest

Marc Abonnel noted his role as Facilities Manager at the Cockburn Bowling Club in relation to the Annual Dinner.

#### 1.4 Confirmation of Minutes

In relation to the November Minutes, the President sought to formally move the acceptance of the Bowls WA Individual Awards Structure and Process as agreed to at the Board Meeting.

It was so Moved by Larry Bandy and Seconded by Doug Kelly

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2020 were then accepted as a true and correct record.

**Moved: Doug Kelly**

**Seconded: Ross Warburton**

**Agreed**

## 2. STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DECISION

### 2.1 Suspension of Affiliation – Armadale BC

The Board considered several documents that had been forwarded by the CEO, including:

- Interim Audit Report on the club
- Bowls Australia legal advice in relation to BWA liability
- Proposed letter from the Board to Armadale BC following that advice
- Email updating the City of Armadale.

The information tabled was discussed at length, including the ramifications of a suspension of affiliation to the club and other clubs within their competition(s), responsibilities to the Armadale membership and wider responsibilities to the sport. It was confirmed that Bowls WA needed to work through its processes as per the Constitution but given the serious nature of the failings of the interim audit and other concerning matters it needed to act.

As a result, and following legal advice a letter would be forwarded to the Armadale Bowling Club on 4<sup>th</sup> January seeking an explanation as to why the club should not be suspended from Bowls WA until a number of issues are remedied. As per the Constitution the club will have (14) days to respond, following which the Board will meet to discuss the matter after a period of (21) days.

**It was resolved that such a letter be forwarded.**

**Moved:**

**Vince Del Prete**

**Seconded:**

**Ross Warburton**

**Agreed**

**Action: The CEO as required on the 4<sup>th</sup> January**

## 3. STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

### 3.1 2021 Annual Dinner & Awards Night

*Marc Abonnel noted a conflict on interest in this discussion.*

Marc Abonnel as per the November Minutes had drawn up costings of hosting the Annual Dinner & Awards Night at the Cockburn Bowling Club, in order to draw comparison with other alternate venues.

Rough costing comparisons were drawn between three alternatives; a bowling club, a high-end club (i.e., RPGC) and Crown Perth and were considered in terms of cost, accessibility, standards offered, and meeting the need for a night befitting the awards.

Vince Del Prete sought more information on these options before a decision could be made and requested the CEO draw up such comparisons for the January/February meeting to consider. **NOTED.**

<b>Action: The CEO as required for further consideration at the January/February meeting.</b>
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### **3.2 Ethical Sourcing**

The CEO had distributed a Bowls Australia discussion paper on Ethical Sourcing. The ramifications for BWA sponsor Dynamic Sublimation had previously been discussed, however this update on the process to be undertaken by Bowls Australia seemed reasonable and at a far less cost than previously considered by BA.

Further discussions will no doubt follow between BA and their licensees.

## **4. REPORTS**

### **4.1 President**

The President tabled his report and noted a number of events attended, including one with the CEO and Armadale BC auditor and bookkeeper, the details which have already been noted.

### **4.2 CEO**

The CEO had distributed his report which noted discussions with Tourism WA and the possibility of the Nationals coming to Perth in 2023 and 2026, the formation of a Junior Development Committee and the direction it will be taking, the publishing by Bowls Australia of the *Women in Sport* report following an extensive survey on the diminishing number taking up the sport and a summation of the current financial position after the first 6 months of the financial year.

Also tabled were two executive training courses which had been undertaken by the CEO and Pieter Harris respectively. The courses *Leadership Development Program and Coach and Official Leadership Series* had been funded by DSR and involved CEO's and Coach's from a number of different sports.

These items were discussed, and the report accepted.

### **4.3 Bowls Management**

Marc Abonnel noted the commencement of the *Innovations Committee* which had had its initial meeting with a very enthusiastic group. A number of tasks were allocated, and key dates set for the reporting on those. Doug Kelly noted the importance of a detailed agenda and minutes from meetings as in due course any outcomes will need to be carefully considered and communicated to club delegates.

The process would be through the BMC and thereafter the Board for any major changes to the present.

### **4.4 Club Development**

Vince Del Prete noted the excellent work of the committee over the year, notwithstanding the disruptions on the way through. The Brad Hogg ambassadorship was progressing very well and gaining great cut through on various mediums – the updated advertisement on radio was particularly catchy.

The program for the ads was tabled for the next two months.

### **4.5 Country**

Ross Warburton noted a SWZ meeting will be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> February, where the future of the Zone Committee would no doubt be discussed. The Leeuwin League were not in favour of some of the recommendations of the Zone Review Committee and these would be further explored at that time.

A Country Committee meeting will be held on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February, immediately following the Board Meeting.

Ross noted that the much-heralded Eaton BC redevelopment has yet to commence due to some planning issues not being finalised.

#### **4.6 Finance**

Lisa Featherby spoke to the accounts to the 30<sup>th</sup> November and the receipt of the vast majority of affiliation fees, placing the Association at its highest point of the year in terms of cash flow.

As requested, the CEO tabled the accounts of >\$1,000 for the Board's information.

The IOOF investments had now surpassed the high mark of pre-COVID and continued to grow on a monthly basis; these investments will form the basis of the Association's financial backing for many years to come.

The accounts to 30<sup>th</sup> November, the mid-point of the financial year were accepted.

#### **4.7 Governance & People Development**

Brian Lucas updated the Board on the first meeting of the Governance Review Committee, who received a full briefing from Peter Minchin of Purpose Driven Performance.

The next stage will see the Board Directors interviewed by Peter in two focus groups. This will occur in late January and delve into issues such as the current objects of Bowls WA, is it meeting those expectations and where should Bowls WA be seeking to be in 5-10 year's time.

The CEO will set these important meetings up as required.

### **5. GENERAL BUSINESS**

#### **5.1 Report from Phil Gregson (DSR Consultant)**

The President again welcomed Phil to the meeting and thanked him for his support over the course of the year.

Phil provided a report on the current direction of DSR within the larger ministry of LGSCI. There were some funding opportunities through the Sport Development Fund, which Bowls WA would be well placed to access; noting however that due to the impending election in early 2021, the application period closed on 12<sup>th</sup> January.

Various project options were discussed, noting the criteria set by DSR on the project funding. The CEO would return to work on the 11<sup>th</sup> January and focus on an application for an appropriate project(s) to be submitted by the closing date.

#### **5.2 End of Year**

The President thanks Phil, the CEO and the Board Directors for their work over a most difficult 12 months and trust all enjoyed a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

Their being on further business the meeting concluded at 12.00pm.

**Next Meeting: To be advised.**