



MINUTES of the Board of BOWLS WA

Meeting held on Monday 28th March 2022 commencing at 8.00am

1. PRESENT

Doug Kelly, Glenda Cooper, Lisa Featherby, Ross Warburton, Judy Flanagan, Vince Del Prete (part), Marc Abonnel

1.1 In attendance:

Ken Pride (CEO), Brian Lucas (Consultant)

1.2 Apologies

Lee Bunney

Vince Del Prete joined the meeting via Microsoft Teams from Sydney.

1.3 Conflict of Interest

Nil

1.4 Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 28th February 2022 were then accepted as a true and correct record.

Moved: Glenda Cooper

Seconded: Ross Warburton

Agreed

2. STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DECISION

2.1 Constitutional amendments

The CEO had previously distributed the proposed changes to the Constitution, including a brief description of the reason/need for the change for clubs to consider. The general format of the changes were considered simple enough for clubs to understand, although acknowledged was the importance of “selling” the changes to the club executives in order for a positive vote to be achieved at the AGM.

Discussion turned to the most appropriate way of presenting the Notice of Motion(s) to the club. Whether this should be undertaken as one single Motion or broken up in some fashion such that several positive acknowledgements would be required.

Generally it was thought that given enough time and pre-work undertaken to explain the importance of the changes and what those changes meant in practice a single Motion would be considered appropriate. (BL) highlighted the importance of focussing on the why and need for the changes, including the regulatory requirements the PDP recommendations and the reach for best practice through the AICD.

The CEO noted that a short, video, a general Forum and the informed use of the RBMs to personally seek club support would follow in coming weeks. He noted that Constitutionally Notices needed to be distributed to clubs by 15th June so immediate promotion of the changes would commence once staff had been briefed. **NOTED.**

Given difficulties with the Link, VDP exited the meeting.

3. STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

3.1 BWA Strategic Plan

(DK, VDP and the CEO) had met on-line with Mike McLaughlin and discussed the findings of the e-survey completed by over 1070 bowling community respondents on matters relating to the Strategic Plan.

In general findings were not considered out of the ordinary with Club Development, clubs as central community hubs and the wish for continued up-skilling of volunteers high on the priorities into the future. One statistic that was of concern was that 41% of respondents were not sure that their club would be financially viable in ten years time. Surely a reason to push for structural change for the sport.

There was much debate on areas of the interim report including the need to better understand our market, both external and within the sport at present; and to not disenfranchise those currently within it (BL). Also to ensure the area of performance and pathways was not diminished and given it was excluded as a “pillar” or Strategic Priority Area in the report

this should be reconsidered or at least not be lost. (JF). (JF) and the CEO had previously noted that the BA Strategic Plan Draft was difficult to read with a number of vertical layers above actual actions – this also seemed to be the case with the BWA format. This was passed onto (MMcL).

The CEO noted the importance of the next stage in the Plan, which will seek to include a wide range of people from the bowls community to provide greater, more in-depth discussion on the report. This initially was to be carried out on-line, but the difficulties of hosting up to 30 people remotely would prove very difficult. The CEO has now asked (MMcL) to view his diary to seek his personal attendance, which is deemed much more appropriate – he is awaiting the possibilities for dates for this. The extra expenditure for attendance will be out of budget but was roundly endorsed. **NOTED.**

3.2 Industry Investment Program (IIP)

The CEO tabled the reports required by DLGSC in the three year review of the IIP, which will determine State Government funding for BWA for the next triennial.

(VDP) and the CEO had met online with our Consultant in a detailed review of the reports. It was reported that Government has increased the base amounts for STAs to receive and it is likely that BWA would receive additional funding through this increase in the overall pool.

Currently BWA sit within Category 3C and was seeking to improve its position to 3D following a number of business practice improvements over the past three years and going forward into the next triennial. If this could be achieved it will provide additional funding over and above that anticipated – we wait for the results.

The focus on Inclusive Practices and Pathways for members was particularly noted and should become an integral part of the next Strategic Plan.

Action: Note the above when working through the priorities of the next Strategic Plan.

3.3 National Integrity Framework overview

The CEO tabled an overview of the NIF. The details will predominantly affect the National Sporting Organisations (NSO) in our case Bowls Australia. However, BWA will take on the framework once accepted by BA, which is likely to come into effect 15th June 2022.

This will take over a number of existing policies and has been communicated to DLGSC as part of the review.

Brian Lucas left the meeting.

4. REPORTS

4.1 President

(DK) tabled his written report which noted the funeral of Larry Bandy and other issues including:

- Attendance at the ladies IZRR and delegates meeting,
- Various events all of which were successfully run,
- Corrigin Bush Fire fundraiser which was extremely successful raising \$33,500 Troy Kinnane attended on behalf of BWA),
- Issues relating to COVID but in the main and being met and season will now likely see its conclusion as scheduled.

4.2 CEO

The CEO noted some key dates for the AGM lead up which will be distributed to the Board shortly.

Action: The CEO as required.

4.3 Audit, Risk & Finance

(LF) noted out of budget expenditure for the month of the Live Streaming costs via SEN and monies that needed to be expended for the acquittal of the Winning Drive grant from DLGSC. Income was enhanced through better than budget in Competitions and a strong year through dividends received. The IOOF investments have taken a small hit as expected due to world events, but will bounce back no doubt in the months ahead.

The CEO is confident that a close to breakeven point will be reached at year's end.

4.4 Governance & People Development

Nothing further in Governance, however the CEO noted a number of training courses through DLGSC funding support that staff will be undertaking through AIM.

4.5 Country

(RW) noted very positive comments from country week attendees and no issues with increase in lunch fees with clubs very helpful in their hospitality.

A RMHI Day will be held during the Binningup BC two day carnival (13/14 April).

Generally all progressing for the end of the season although some instances of COVID affecting some League finals.

4.6 Club Development

Nothing further.

4.7 Bowls Australia Board Meeting

A summation was provided by the BA CEO from the Board Meeting on 10th March. **NOTED.**

4.8 Member Suspension

The expulsion of Kevin McDonald from the Boyanup BC was noted.

4.9 BWA Newsletter and options

A note regarding the BWA Newsletter was tabled and discussed, with differing opinions on the future usefulness of the Jack Hi magazine. The CEO was requested to have a Newsletter produced in the format available for publication and a binding decision will be made after 3 or 4 editions to gauge response in lieu of further Jack Hi's

Action: Newsletter production for the months of April, May and June before a decision at the July Board Meeting.

4.10 Response to BA Strategic Plan

The CEO reminded the Board of the opportunity to comment on the BA Strategic Plan by 15th April – (See email 15th March).

GENERAL BUSINESS

Next Meeting

The CEO advised the next scheduled meeting would, if required, coincide with the Strategic Plan Design Lab Workshop. That date is dependent on Mike McLaughlin's diary to get to Perth.

Will advise as soon as known.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.05am.