



MINUTES of the Board of BOWLS WA

Meeting held on Friday 3rd June 2022 commencing at 8.00am

1. PRESENT

Doug Kelly, Glenda Cooper, Lisa Featherby, Ross Warburton, Vince Del Prete, Marc Abonnel, Lee Bunney, Phil Manning (by invitation)

1.1 In attendance:

Ken Pride (CEO), Brian Lucas (Consultant)

1.2 Apologies

Judy Flanagan

1.3 Conflict of Interest

Nil

1.4 Confirmation of Minutes

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

Moved: Glenda Cooper

Seconded: Ross Warburton

Agreed

President Doug welcomed Kyle McIlroy who gave an interesting presentation on studies he had recently undertaken on the use of Bowling Arms as part of his Bachelor of Health Sciences degree. When completed Kyle left the meeting.

2. STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DECISION

2.1 Metropolitan Forum

The CEO noted the discussions at the Metropolitan Forum which centred around Open Gender and the Extreme Weather Conditions of Play. Since the Forum the Staff and RBMs had reviewed those discussions and provided recommendations for change in 2022/2023.

It was agreed that any changes to Open Gender needed to be ratified by the Board given its strategic requirements for the sport, whereas Extreme Weather was an operational matter as a pennant Condition of Play.

The recommendation(s) for Open Gender were discussed at great length and eventually supported. They will be:

- An extension of the Saturday afternoon Open Gender to move from 4th division and under to 3rd division and under,
- No further changes to any other competition from 2021/2022 as further data is sought. **NOTED.**

The changes to the Conditions of Play relating to Extreme Weather (heat) will be as follows:

- Tuesday Pennant - The removal of the General Abandonment temperature from the evening prior, the increase of the vacate the green temperature from 37C to 38C and the earlier commencement of play to be 9.00am roll-up and 9.15am start,
 - Thursday & Saturday Pennant – the reduction of the vacate the green temperature from 40C to 38C and an extension of the time required to be off the green before an abandonment may be called from 60mins to 90 mins,
 - A decision is yet to be finalised on the need for a General Abandonment temperature for Thursday & Saturday pennant.
- NOTED.**

These changes will be communicated to clubs at the Forum prior to the Annual General Meeting in late July.

2.2 BPL – Perth Suns contract renewal

The CEO had attended on-line with Pieter Harris in person a meeting of BPL licensees. The current contract was due to expire at the end of the May event at Club Pine Rivers and Bowls Australia had offered after discussion a further two years, under the same licensee fee terms.

The Board accepted the CEO's recommendation to renew the BPL contract for the Perth Suns for the two-year period under the same licensee fee arrangements.

Action: The CEO to sign the new contract as required.
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2.3 Bowls in WA Strategic Plan 2022-2025

The CEO tabled the Final Draft of the Plan for Board comment. Brian Lucas sought to have an emphasis on the need for targeted demographic/environmental data available to enable information based decisions, particularly within the marketing/promotional area. Furthermore the need for a Volunteer Management Plan as part of further work in this space is required, given its importance to our clubs and sport in general in WA.

Given the strengthening of these two areas the Board endorsed the Plan.

The CEO would make those amendments and forward to Bowls Australia as a finished document. This would then be graphically enhanced by Bowls Australia for distribution.

The finalised document will be presented to clubs at the Annual General Meeting in late July.

Action: The CEO to forward to Bowls Australia for further graphic design enhancements.

2.4 Attire Policy

The President sought discussion on the current Bowls WA Attire Policy position of not permitting advertising on the front of bowls uniforms. He cited the BPL teams, including the Perth Suns and noted the NSW state side have used sponsorship on their playing strip for many years.

After discussion, although not unanimous, it was agreed that advertising not greater than 200m x 200m be permitted on the front of club playing attire.

Action: The CEO to amend the current Attire Policy and inform garment manufacturers as required.

3. STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

3.1 AGM and Forum

The key dates were noted by the CEO, including final dates for Notices of Motion, Board Director's nominations and Life Membership.

The CEO noted that the recommended changes to the Bowls WA Constitution had been forwarded to the Bowls Australia lawyer who was providing his opinion on the document. It was agreed that should the opinion not be received by the closing date for Notices of Motion, the forwarding of the Constitution to clubs would be delayed until that opinion had been received.

It was acknowledged that the current document was appropriate for the short term and that given its importance the opinion would be important to be received and if required acted upon. **NOTED.**

The Forum would precede the AGM and at this time would provide the opportunity for the tabling of the Strategic Plan to clubs, together with the updated changes to the 2022/23 Conditions of Play as agreed to at the previous Forum. Further opportunities on updating club executives on other areas of Governance will also be taken up (ie Club Development Plan, Committee restructures etc.)

- Vice Patron

The CEO informed the Board of the resignation of Norma Samuel as the Vice Patron of the Association. Norma's work has been significant over many years, including taking a key role in the unification of the sport. The CEO will forward on behalf of the Board and Staff a letter of thanks for that service.

A new Vice Patron will now be sought, with Board Director's asked to consider potential candidates.

Action: Board Director's as required.
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3.2 CEO/SCB meetings

The CEO tabled a summation provided by BA CEO Neil Dalrymple on meetings attended by him and the President at the Broadbeach BC, noting any particular items pertaining to BWA.

3.3 The Nationals

The CEO noted in particular discussions around the 2023 Nationals and the possibility of WA hosting. Discussions between BA, Tourism WA and BWA had been on-going for 2/3 years, with the advent of COVID slowing negotiations.

These had now recommenced, with WA a strong option for the two week event to come to Perth – a major coup for both players, spectators and financially for Bowls in WA. Further information will be communicated as it comes to hand.

4. GENERAL BUSINESS

Committee Reports

4.1 President

President Doug tabled a written report noting a number of his activities over the past month, including attendance at several events both on and off green.

In particular discussions with sponsors Henselite and AFGRI had proven very positive with further meetings planned for later in the year.

4.2 CEO

Nothing further.

4.3 Audit, Risk & Finance

Director of Finance Lisa Featherby tabled the draft accounts for the year 2021/2022 which showed a surplus of \$25,340.

Significant variances to budget were noted and explained as required, including the outcome of the assessment of 158 Main Street, which has significantly fallen in value and was reflected in the profit and loss statement (below the line) as was the reduction in value of the Association's investments.

The future of the building were further discussed and considered appropriate that an internal audit be conducted that would consider options for retention, sale or lease of the current property, together with any alternatives for the housing of the Association. The CEO re-iterated this was one of the major strategic decisions that the Board would need to make in the next 3-5 years.

Action: The CEO to consider advice on the future of 158 Main Street from appropriate consultants with a view to reporting to the Board by the end of the 2022/23 financial year.

4.4 Governance & People Development

Nothing further.

4.5 Country

Ross Warburton noted the Notice of Motion in the South West league regarding Open Gender. The specifics are yet to be known but shows a move to follow the metropolitan area in this regard. Details to follow.

4.6 Club Development

The Minutes of the Club Development Committee meeting had been distributed noting the recommended discontinuance of the Saturday "Bowls Talk" show. It is planned to replace this with some form of locally produced podcast or similar. The Board accepted this recommendation and proposed action by the committee.

4.7 Bowls Management

In recess at this time.

4.8 Annual Dinner & Awards Night

Details for this evening's function were noted by the CEO with a full house of almost 170 in attendance.

4.9 Bowls WA at the Races

A new initiative to bring members of the bowls community together and seek some publicity via race names for the sport. A concerted effort however is required to start to "sell" the ticket package to bowlers via the BWA website QR Code.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.00am.

NEXT MEETING

Annual General Meeting and Forum – Saturday 30th July at the Thornlie Bowling Club from 9.00am.