

Royal Western Australian Bowling Association Inc. T/As Bowls WA



MINUTES of the Board of BOWLS WA

Meeting held on Monday 31st October 2022 commencing at 7.50am.

1. PRESENT

Doug Kelly, Glenda Cooper, Vince Del Prete, Lee Bunney, Judy Flanagan, Marc Abonnel, Phil Manning, Lisa Featherby

1.1 In attendance:

Ken Pride (CEO)

1.2 Apologies

Nil

1.3 Conflict of Interest

Nil

1.4 Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 27th September 2022 were then accepted as a true and correct record.

Moved: Vince Del Prete

Seconded: Glenda Cooper

Agreed

1.5 Actions from August meeting

The CEO confirmed the following from the actions noted at the August meeting:

- The sharing of the WWC legislation and various scenarios for clubs to consider, as developed by staff member Denise McMillan.

2. STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DECISION

2.1 Committee restructure

The CEO again detailed the recommended Committee Restructure to the Board, some for the first occasion. The Board clarified the responsibilities of the standing committees, with agreement that the structure covered off the requirements of the strategic plan and club development strategy.

As a result, the Board Directors were asked to consider the restructure, noting that it did not require constitutional change, for finalisation of Board portfolios at the November Board Meeting.

In the interim the CEO was permitted to commence the process of Committee Charter updates and seeking of key Advisory Committee personnel to reflect the structure, with a preferred commencement of 1 January 2023.

Action: Board Directors to finalise any outstanding matters with the CEO.

Action: CEO to commence the process of change through the formulation of Committee Charters and to begin population of Advisory Committees with key volunteers.

2.2 Board Portfolios

See above, with Director's in discussion with the President to nominate their preferred standing committee portfolio(s).

Action: Board Director's as required.

2.3 Club Development & Modernisation Strategy

The CEO had previously distributed the strategy as completed by McLaughlin Sports Consultancy (MSC).

The Board were requested to endorse the document to enable its release, initially to those club executives who were involved in its formulation and then to the wider club community. The Board duly endorsed the document, with the CEO highlighting the project based structure, which leads to a number of strategic plan strategies.

It is envisaged that the strategy will be launched at the time of an SGM to consider the passing of the upgraded Constitution. **NOTED.**

Action: The CEO and staff to consider an appropriate date for a SGM to be held, noting that (30) days notice to clubs is required.

2.4 Operational Plan 2022+

The Operational Plan which has been drawn from a combination of the projects identified within the Strategic Plan and Club Development Strategy was tabled and explained by the CEO.

It was noted that the Plan has now incorporated a budget against each project where relevant. There is some work to do with the staff before finalised, however the Board accepted the new format and reporting process.

Action: Finalise Operational Plan with staff input by the November Board meeting.

3. STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

3.1 Board Membership

The CV of a potential Board Member was discussed, with Judy Flanagan to seek a meeting with the President and/or the CEO over the next few weeks. The CEO noted there was a casual vacancy as an Elected Director as well as a vacancy as an Appointed Director for the lesser term of one year. **NOTED.**

3.2 Staff Member – Aaron Clark

The CEO informed the Board that Aaron Clark would join the staff as Digital Marketing Officer (0.8) on 14th November, a welcome addition.

3.3 Claremont Bowling Club

The CEO brought the Board up to date on the position of Claremont BC as he knew it, with a planned closure of the club by the Town of Claremont on 30th November.

Several meetings had been held with the President and others of the Claremont committee in relation to the distribution of assets, removal of pennant sides, transfer of players and the formal cancellation of their incorporated status.

At this time the Club is still in discussion with the Town and Bowls WA stands ready to assist where required. **NOTED.**

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

4.1 President

The President tabled his report noting the following:

- The very successful presentation of \$5,000 to Yanchep BC for the purchase of a wheelchair to assist in their program to encourage disabled bowlers to the club,
- Attendance at national meetings at Broadbeach BC, while The Nationals were being played for the first time,
- Attendance at the Bowls Australia Awards Night,
- Meetings held with BA High Performance staff and discussion about HP pathways in WA,
- Involvement on a Zoom Meeting with applicants for vacant BA Board positions, in preparation for voting at the forthcoming BA AGM in early November.

The President sought permission from the Board to vote as required at the AGM and to represent Bowls WA, which was granted. **NOTED.**

4.2 CEO

The CEO updated the Board on the following topics:

- BA CEO and the appointment of Matthew Kennedy, who will commence with BA on 7th November. The position of CEO of Bowls NSW is yet to be announced,
- The Nationals, with a review to be undertaken that afternoon with members of the High Performance team, in addition to further information on the planning for the 2023 event,
- The CEO would be attending the BA AGM and the BPL #16 in Brisbane from the 5th – 12th November, in addition to competing in the BPL Cup in the early days of that week,
- The outcomes and discussions from the State Consultative Body (SCB) and BowlsLink meetings held on the Gold Coast earlier in the month.

4.3 Audit, Risk & Finance

The Director Finance tabled the accounts to 30 September, noting the minor variations to budget. The Affiliation Invoices will be forwarded to clubs in the next few days, now that the cut-off has passed for clubs to correct any anomalies in the BowlsLink database.

Given the cash holding is almost at its lowest ebb at this time of year, any excess funds may be considered to be added to the IOOF investments. This can be looked at in the next Finance meeting.

4.4 Governance & People Development

The marked up Bowls WA Constitution has been received back from Bowls Australia Solicitors Lex Sportiva. A progression towards a Special General Meeting to approve the new Constitution can now be expedited.

On a question from the CEO, the Board agreed that the most significant changes be highlighted and the rationale behind those changes explained to clubs. The more minor points such as re-numbering etc. would not require any detailed explanation, thereby simplifying the process for clubs – it remained important in this process that full disclosure to the clubs is maintained.

The CEO noted that the process of launching the Club Development Strategy would be completed in tandem with the Constitutional vote to provide some reason for metropolitan delegate attendance.

Action: The CEO to consider an appropriate date for the hosting of a SGM.
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4.5 Country

Phil Manning noted some Leagues running into scheduling issues with League and Zone events clashing with pennant in a very crowded calendar. The proposal to host Leagues in a Country Forum would be very beneficial given a robust agenda could be framed that dealt with strategic issues in the country.

The CEO noted that this was a plan with the new committee structures. **NOTED.**

4.6 Club Development

Vince Del Prete was very pleased with the outcomes of the initial Club Development Grant scheme with much learned by both committee and applicant clubs. President Doug lauded the work of Yanchep and their disability program, made possible by the grant and was a great commencement for future editions.

The program would continue to be refined over the off-season, with a budget commitment for 2023/2024. **NOTED.**

4.7 Post-game hospitality

Marc Abonnel was concerned by the removal of food snacks provided to players post pennant game by some clubs. His concern centered around the removal of some levels of camaraderie and the likely “walk out” immediately after matches – a disappointing outcome for all concerned.

Time will tell how this plays out over coming weeks.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.15am.

NEXT MEETING: Monday 21st November at 8.00am