



## **MINUTES of the Board of BOWLS WA**

Meeting held on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2023 at the Royal Perth Golf Club commencing at 10.00am.

### **1. PRESENT**

Doug Kelly, Glenda Cooper, Terry Murphy, Gail Richardson, Vince Del Prete, Phil Manning (part)

#### **1.1 In attendance:**

Ken Pride (CEO), Clive Adams (Operations Manager)

#### **1.2 Apologies**

Lisa Featherby, Marc Abonnel

#### **1.3 Conflict of Interest**

Lisa Featherby had previously noted her potential conflict as a member of the State Team in relation to future costs in her written submission to the Board.

#### **1.4 Confirmation of Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023 were then accepted as a true and correct record.

**Moved: Terry Murphy**

**Seconded: Vince Del Prete**

**Agreed**

#### **1.5 Actions from September meeting**

- . Future license of the Perth Suns (agenda item)
- . SGM scrutineers – appointed and completed tasks at the SGM

### **2. STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DECISION**

#### **2.1 Perth Suns license**

The CEO tabled the letter forwarded to the CEO of Bowls Australia (as agreed at the November meeting) regarding the continuation of the Perth Suns franchise in the Bowls Premier League. The letter had been tabled at a BA Board Meeting, but no formal response had been forthcoming; this would likely be in the New Year when there is confirmation on the number of teams and structure of the next iteration of the competition.

**Action: The BA proposed license fee should be included in the 2024/2025 budget.**

#### **2.2 Bowls WA Policies**

The CEO had forwarded to Directors a number of updated policies for review. The FAIR Committee had also conducted a review and made changes as considered appropriate. The Director's were then offered the opportunity to make further comment with Terry Murphy seeking changes to several policies.

These were agreed to and the CEO is to update the changes made and seek their addition to the website and governance files.

**Action: The CEO to update as required.**

#### **2.3 Appointment of Deputy President**

Following the resignation of Judy Flanagan, President Doug had sought support from Marc Abonnel to take the role of Deputy President until the AGM, to which Marc agreed.

The Board resolved to appoint Marc Abonnel Deputy President until the 2024 AGM.

**Moved: Terry Murphy**

**Seconded: Glenda Cooper**

**Agreed**

### **3. STRATEGIC ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/INFORMATION**

#### **3.1 SGM update**

Successfully completed with the proposed Constitution strongly supported by the clubs (59-1). The Constitution has now been lodged with the appropriate Government department; however, the current Constitution will be in play until formal recognition is received. **NOTED.**

#### **3.2 President's/CEO meeting with BA**

The CEO tabled a summation of a fortnightly meeting CEO's held with the BA CEO, with the matters discussed including:

- The latest financial position of BA and the actions to remedy undertaken and planned,
- The discussions held with other state government tourist bodies, seeking a host for the 2024 and 2025 Nationals,
- The outcome of the recent BA Board elections and the resultant casual vacancy,
- The levels of live streaming taking place by both BA and the STA's and whether better production efficiencies could be attained on a national broadcast basis,
- Proposed changes to the Nationals Business Model and its effect on STAs and participants.

*Phil Manning joined the meeting.*

##### **3.2.1 Nationals' business model**

BA had informed the CEO's that the current business model of the Nationals was unsustainable, position communicated several months ago. As a result, BA would now, depending on financial arrangements with the host club, charge each participant between \$300-\$350 to compete in their event. This would be a single charge irrespective of how many events the player participated in. The fee may be met by the player, the club, the STA or any other combination. This now left BWA to consider the amount, if any, that it would contribute to the overall costs to be incurred by the players.

There was considerable discussion on the matter with several options considered.

Following that discussion, it was agreed that players in the Australian Championships and Champion of Champion events, would meet the full cost of attending. Players who were selected in state teams (Under 18s, Para, Over 60's and Open) would receive some level of BWA support. Purely for budgetary purposes it was agreed that \$12,000 be set aside for high performance participation in the Nationals.

<b>Action: The CEO to set aside \$12,000 in the first draft of the 2024/2025 budget for HP participation.</b>
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*The meeting welcomed Brad Denham from DLGSC.*

#### **3.3 DLGSC/ASC Board Evaluation**

President Doug welcomed Brad Denham to the meeting who proceeded to brief the Board about its two-yearly internal Board Evaluation. This is a recommended requirement from DLGSC and is a Australian Sports Commission (ASC) process. The Board will receive an online survey via the CEO for completion, at which time a report is compiled of the responses by DLGSC.

<b>Action: The CEO to forward to Directors the online survey once received from DLGSC</b>
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#### **3.4 CEO leave**

The CEO informed the Board he will be absent from the office on sick leave from the 8<sup>th</sup> January – mid February. **NOTED.** Clive Adams will attend the CEO/SCB meeting in Melbourne in the week commencing 12<sup>th</sup> February.

### **4. GENERAL BUSINESS – REPORTS**

#### **4.1 President**

The President noted that,

. he and Vince Del Prete as Chair of the Club & People Development Committee conducted the CEOs annual review in the previous week,

. he will attend the SCB meeting in Melbourne on 15<sup>th</sup> February and following that the BPL event in Moama the following week.

#### **4.2 FAIR Committee**

The accounts to 30<sup>th</sup> November were tabled and accepted. There was a pleasing increase in the value of the investments which had been finding it tough over the past several months in line with the broader market.

Good progress had been made in the transfer of accounts from Bankwest to Beyond Bank, with funds gradually being sent across. The debit card facility was up and working well with the first batch of expenses accepted by the new system. Well done to Liz Rolt in working her way through this difficult process.

#### **4.3 Club & People Development**

Vince Del Prete noted the recent committee meeting held which given new committee members returned to the Club Development Plan for a review and reset. There was discussion over the timing of the Club Grants Program which was successfully conducted last year. The funds remain in the budget but given the timeframes, it was considered prudent to roll-over those funds to 2024/2025 budget. **NOTED.**

An additional amount of \$20,000 will also be incorporated into the 2024/2025 budget given last year's program was significantly over-subscribed.

#### **4.4 Web update**

Terry Murphy requested the website receive an update in the committee section. **NOTED.**

**Action: Clive Adams will action an update which will incorporate a new look for the site and now an inclusion of the new policies.**

There being no further business the President thanked the Board for its work over the past 12 months and wished all a safe Christmas and New Year. He then invited the Board to join the staff for lunch.

The meeting concluded at 12.20pm.

**Next Meeting: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2024.**