



Wymondham Dell Bowls Club

54B, Norwich Rd, Wymondham. NR18 0NT

Bowls Section

These minutes have not yet been ratified

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 15th May 2024

Present: Alan Coombe (Club President & Trustee), Jean Webb (Hon. Bowls Secretary & Trustee), Keith Richards (Hon. League Secretary), Bob Smith (co-opted member), Barry Flatt, Peter Harlow, Cynthia Lansdell & Alistair Stevenson (Elected members).

Not present: Tony Dunton (Hon. Ass. Bowls Secretary), Jamie Austin-Mills (Hon. Competition Secretary) and John Ottaway (Trustee).

1. Alan Coombe (Club President) was **duly elected as Chairperson** (proposed Jean Webb, seconded Cynthia Lansdell). All in favour.
2. **Apologies for absence** were received from Jamie, John & Tony.
3. The following **appointments were ratified**: -
 - Bob Smith – Hon. Assistant League Secretary and co-opted onto the Bowls Committee.
 - Glenda Adcock – Club Vice-President.
 - Phil Norton – Outdoor Age Concern League Team Captain.
 - Richard Harvey – Men's Indoor County League 'A' Team Captain.(proposed Jean Webb, seconded Cynthia Lansdell). All in favour.
4. **The minutes of previous meeting held on Wednesday 27th March 2024** were approved and signed as a true record by the Chair of the meeting (proposed Barry Flatt, seconded Peter Harlow). All in favour.
5. **Matters arising** – None.
6. **Correspondence** – Due to the high volume, correspondence is logged and available to see on request.
 - a) Email from C. Taylor - NCIBA advising that Bill Windsor Senior Vice President has stepped down. With the Club's support David Perry is prepared to remain in office for 2024/25.
 - Supported by the committee.
 - b) Email from NBA to confirm the appointment of John George as County Administrator for a period of 3 years until March 2027.
 - c) Email from NCIBA inviting the club to play a friendly against the Norfolk CIBA President's Invitation team on Wednesday 19th February 2025. Replied accepting the fixture

7. **Hon. Bowls Secretary's Report (Jean Webb) –**

a) **Report.**

Indoor Season 2023/24

Men's County League (NCIBA) -The 'A' team had a good win in their last game against County Arts (6-1pts) to stay 1.5pts ahead of Roundwood 'A' and will remain in Division 1 for the 2024/25 season.

The final league table is displayed on the Men's notice board.

Muddles - At the request of the members these sessions will continue during the summer months on a Monday and Wednesday lunch time and Sunday evening.

Before the lunch time sessions and for a trial period, coffee and rolls are available to purchase, this will be ongoing if supported by members and volunteers.

Outdoor Season 2024

Men's County League (NBA) - The 'A' team have played two games in the Premier division, Freethorpe away losing 51-39 earning 0pts and home to Downham Market 'A' losing 41-85 earning 0.5pt. They lay in 7th place just ahead of St Lawrence.

In the South One the 'B' team have also played two games, Harling Rec away winning 42-78 earning 4pts and home to Connaught 'A' losing 48-72 earning 0.5pt. The team lay 7th ahead of Connaught B and Scole with 4.5pts.

At the time of writing this report the 'B' team are playing Dickleburgh away.

County Team Competitions (NBA) - Men's Bales Cup – Bye in the first round then beat East Harling 62-43. Will now play Norfolk BC in the quarter finals at Thorpe Rec on Friday 24th May.

National Competitions (Bowls England) - Last night Tuesday 14th May, the men played Norfolk BC 'B' in the Two Fours at home and on Sunday 26th May they play in the Top Club against Mundford at home.

The Club play County Arts in the preliminary round of the Tony Allcock Trophy (Mixed O60). The player request sheet is on the notice board.

Age Concern League - Played three, won three. Whinburgh at home 33-20 earning all 6pts, East Harling away 25-33 earning 5pts and Wicklewood at home 33-26 earning 4pts. Phil Norton has reported that he is struggling for players especially when the fixtures clash with other leagues and competitions.

Graves Cup, Robin Dawson Memorial Trophy & Mixed Friendly - The first game in the Graves Cup K/O played at Mundford Village Bowls Club is on Saturday 8th June starting at 5.30pm against Feltwell. Format is four rinks of triples played over 18 ends. Should we win the next game will be played on Saturday 13th July.

The Robin Dawson Memorial Trophy held at Shropham B.C. is to be played on Sunday 23rd June. Teams of four pairs will play in a round robin playing four games of 6 ends.

Our first mixed friendly game is against the Essex VP's touring side on Sunday 30th June starting at 2pm.

More details and player request sheets for the above are on the notice board.

Member's Individual Achievements - Members drawn in the 1st round of the County Fours won their respective games and play the 2nd round on 21st May.

The number of members who have registered an interest to play in the outdoor leagues etc. total 29 men and 8 ladies.

Indoor Season 2024/25

Ladies County League (NCWIBA) - It is confirmed that as no new teams have entered the league for the 2024/25 season the ladies team is relegated. Fixtures for the new season have already been arranged and confirmed with the opposing teams.

Men's County League (NCIBA) - The format of next season's County league is Divisions 1, 2 & 3 – 7 teams & Division 4 - 8 teams.

Wymondham 'A' will be in division 1 along with Acle 'A', Beccles 'A', County Arts 'A', Gallow 'A', Norfolk BC 'A' and Norfolk BC 'B'.

Wymondham 'B' will be in division 3 along with Acle 'C', Beccles 'B', County Arts 'B', Gallow 'B', Gallow 'C' and Roundwood 'B'.

Wymondham 'C' will be in division 4 along with County Arts 'C', Dereham 'B', Diss 'B', Hunstanton, Lynnsport 'B', Norfolk BC 'C' and Shotford 'B'.

One team will be relegated and one team will be promoted from each division.

Men's County O60 Double Rink Competition (NCIBA) - 18 teams have entered and these will be split into 3 groups of 6 teams. Wymondham will be in Group B along with Diss, Norfolk BC, Roundwood 'A' and 'B'.

The Semi-Final draw will be made once all the group games have been completed and these games will be played on a "home and away" basis during the week commencing Monday 24th February 2025. The Final will be played on Wednesday 12th March 2025 at Dereham IBC.

National Indoor Competitions (EIBA) - Entries into the individual competitions can be done via the Competitions Portal on EIBA website or by completing an entry form and returning it to EIBA HQ. Closing date for entries is the 2nd June 2024 and forms can be found on the indoor competition notice board.

Miscellaneous

Big Bowls Weekend - The Club registered with Bowls England for a couple of hours on Sunday 26th May from 10am. Some volunteers have come forward but a couple more would be appreciated.

Norfolk County Indoor Bowling Assoc. - The names of this year's Club competition winners who will compete in the 2024/25 County Championships have been forwarded to the County. Gordon Roberts has again requested to be nominated for the position of County Friendly and President's Invitation Match Secretary.

- Committee supports Gordon Robert's nomination for Match Secretary.

Norfolk Bowls Assoc. (Men) - A payment of £391.00 has been made to Bowls England and NBA for 2024 Fees & Subscriptions.

Management Committee - The committee has met once since our last meeting and the following was agreed: -

- Tony Dunton has been appointed Green's Liaison Officer.
- Elected Outdoor Green and Grounds sub-committee: - Stephen Williams, Tony Dunton, Barry Flatt, Gary Goodrum and Alan Willer.
- Elected Premises sub-committee: - Stephen Williams, Peter Harlow, Bill Blackburn, Alan Coombe, Tony Dunton and Rosemary Leeder.
- Social - Geoff Batley to continue organising dances and bingo.
- The Management Committee asked the Greens Committee to devise a plan on the future maintenance of the green.
- Management Committee accepted the Bar Manager's resignation.
- Committee members are to remain vigilant for large bags being left on the concourse and mobile phones being used by members while bowling.
- Gary Goodrum to pursue sponsorship and the selling of advertising space/boards.

b) **EIBA Team Competitions entries 2024/25** – The following entries were agreed: -

- Denny Cup (Men) – one entry.
- O60 Double Rink (Men) – two entries.
- Mason Trophy (Ladies) – one entry.

c) **AGM Open Forum** – Jean went through the questions raised in the open forum by the Bowls Committee: -

- I. Q - Opinions sought on using the re-spots on killed ends in domestic indoor leagues and competitions.
R – Majority of those present were in favour. It was suggested that Team Leaders are approached for an opinion.
 - After discussion the Committee decided that this decision can be made without referral.
 - Keith Richards proposed, seconded by Peter Harlow that all indoor domestic leagues from 2024/25 season will use the re-spots on killed ends.
 - A decision on competitions will be made after the NCIBA AGM.
- II. Q – Do we hold a presentation evening? Proposed date being Friday 25th October.
R – Majority of those present were in favour of a Presentation evening.
- III. Q – Would members like more organised indoor bowls during the summer months?
R – Good response from the indoor bowlers. Worth considering.
 - It was suggested that more indoor bowls could detract members from bowling outdoors.
 - Alistair volunteered is to organise an outdoor fun day to encourage more members to try outdoor bowls.

- Look at the possibility of introducing more indoor bowls for summer 2025.
- IV. Q – Men's Indoor County Ass – sought opinions on: -
- Introduction of a new sets based singles competition open to all male members and a County League Cup.
 - Use of re-spots in competitions
- R – Majority of those present were in favour.

Questions raised from the floor: -

- V. What's happening about new shirts?
- In Jamie's absence Alistair gave a brief update: -
The supplier ZapKam meets the Club's criteria. An established business supplying Long Stratton, Club Shop and lead time of approx. 5 weeks. Prices vary depending on size of order ranging from around £26.99 to £31.00. Colour swatches are available at £1.20 each. They also supply jackets.
 - It was proposed by Alistair Stevenson, seconded by Jean Webb to continue designs etc. with the company ZapKam. All in favour.
- VI. Is it possible to have a Friday muddle at 12 noon?
- It was proposed by Alistair Stevenson, seconded by Peter Harlow to run a Muddle on a Friday lunch time from 2024/25 season. All in favour.
- VII. Increase prize funds to encourage more members to enter the competitions.
- The committee think that this would not attract an increase in entries and that the present prizes are sufficient.
- VIII. Ability to enter Club competitions online.
- After discussion it was felt that this is not feasible.
- IX. Can there be a hardcopy of contact details?
- The committee cannot see why a hard copy is needed when members can access this information via their bowlr account on the Club website accessible from the concourse PC or a mobile phone. Also data protection prohibits this information being in general circulation. It was suggested that instructions on how to access this information be displayed next to the PC.
- X. Stop players running up the green following their bowls.
- Notice prohibiting running already displayed.
- XI. Rules not being adhered to regarding no-shows for scheduled games.
- Jean and Keith to check league rule and investigate.
- XII. Query on rink fees for indoor club competitions. Presently pay £4.50 double session.
- Due to the length of a game being 18 ends or 3hrs 30 minutes a double session is booked which prevents the rink being used.
 - It was suggested that perhaps no rink fees are paid in the finals.
 - Jean to look at the associations competition rules.

8. Hon. League Secretary's Report (Keith Richards) –

Summer leagues have started with no problems and running smoothly.

Applications for Winter 2024/25 are coming in and the number of teams playing will be similar to 2023/24 season

9. Hon. Competition Secretary's Report (Jamie Austin-Mills) – Nothing to report.

10. Any Other Business –

- a) Muddles – Request received from a member to change positions after 4/5 ends in triples and 7/8 ends in pairs.
 - It was agreed for Jean to talk with the members attending the muddles.
- b) Recruitment – Ideas are needed on how to recruit new members and encourage more bowlers to play outdoors.

- It was suggested to offer the members who play in the indoor muddles a trial of 5 ends outdoors.

11. **Date of next meeting -** Tuesday 25th June 2024 @ 10.00am

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.50pm

Chair (print) Signed Date