

English Bowls Umpires Association

Minutes of an Executive Meeting held on
Tuesday 2nd October 2012 at Avenue Club Leamington

Present:

Phyl Jones - Deputy Chairman
Rick Moore – Secretary
Jessie Clark – Deputy Secretary
Vernon Findell – Treasurer
Bob Penny – Development Officer
Val Cornwall – Northern Area Secretary
Michelle Van Putt – Zone Representative
Carol Watt Sullivan – Zone Representative and CPO
Ray Keen – Area Secretary
Brian Burton – Area Secretary
Trevor Hackett – Area Secretary
Sue Trott – Zone Representative
John Davies – Area Secretary

Apologies:

Mavis Wellington – Chairman
Alan Thornhill – Area Secretary

Chairman's Opening Remarks

Phyl Jones took the chair in the absence of Mavis who has had a back operation. Mavis was making progress and a card was signed by all to be sent to her.

Minutes of previous meeting:

The minutes were proposed as correct by Jessie Clark and Bob Penny and duly signed.

Matters arising:

Paragraph 6(c) of minutes of 17th March to be amended by deletion of the wording.....'and the secretary for an area to live within the area'

Ties and metal badges were now available for sale at a cost of £7 and £2 respectively.

In the 2012/2013 EIBA LTD handbook the reference to 'competent person' has not be deleted as promised by the Association. The EIBA are presently undertaking a comprehensive review of all their competition rules.

Correspondence:

Letter received from Ray White acknowledging receipt of his medal and certificate of Life membership. He gave thanks to the Association for the honour and wished it every success in the future.

Letter received from Tony Allcock requesting a meeting with Rick to discuss further the letter which Rick had sent to all Bowls England County Administrators/Secretaries, outlining the need for the Counties to give financial support to the Umpires Association, so that reasonable expenses can be paid to cover Umpiring duties.

Secretaries Report:

Umpires Expenses:

The letter referred to above was discussed at Bowls England Competition Committee's meeting and it had been agreed in principal that a sum of £100 would be added to each Counties Bowls England affiliation letter, which would result in £3500 being passed over to EBUA. This money must be ring-fenced to cover the quarter finals onwards, for all competitions that lead to Leamington and Worthing and including all Bowls England National Team events. Bowls England would expect EBUA to negotiate separately with other Associations for which they work. Rick will write again to all Administrators/Secretaries to take no further action until he has met with Tony Allcott.

With regard to the Indoors, it was agreed that all clubs (approx. 320) be sent a letter similar to that which had been sent to Bowls England. The same letter should be sent to Indoor County Associations. (approx. 64); copy to EIBA Ltd.

New Areas

Rick gave the meeting his suggested format for the future of EBUA, there should be 6 Areas each with an Area Secretary and all Counties within each area should have a co-ordinator. The Secretaries in situ should become Acting Secretaries for the next twelve months, until an amended constitution has been agreed at the next AGM. If passed, elections for Secretaries should be held in the autumn 2013.

Northern Area. Secretary Val Codwell

Cumbria Durham Lancashire Northumberland and Yorkshire

Midlands Area Secretary Brian Burton

Leicestershire Lincolnshire Northants Nott's Warwick Worcs and Derby

Eastern Area Secretary Trevor Hackett

Cambs Essex Herts Hunts Norfolk and Beds

South Eastern Secretary Alan Thornhill

Kent Middx Surrey and Sussex

South Central Secretary Ray Keen

Berks Bucks Glos Hereford Oxford Wiltshire and Somerset

South Western Secretary John Davies

Cornwall Devon Dorset Hampshire and IOW.

Sue Trott, Mich Van Putt and Carol Watt Sullivan, whose positions as Zone secretaries disappear under this reorganisation, will remain on the executive as Executive members.

The reorganisation was proposed by Rick Moore and seconded by Trevor Hackett and passed unanimously by the Executive Committee: Phyl Jones would prepare the amendment to the constitution.

Reports:

Northern Area. Val Coldwell

Two examination weekends are planned, and new candidates are coming forward.

Eastern Area Trevor Hackett

Some complaints re allocation of duties at Worthing had been received and dealt with locally. Finding a venue for examinations is proving difficult undoubtedly due to requiring two days.

South West Area John Davies

Area meeting to be held 28th October. Local Tournaments require markers, so local markers courses will be held. A Workshop weekend had been held and another one is planned for April. Sue Trott organised an examination seminar which was a success despite difficulties in getting help from examiners.

South Central Ray Keen

Area meeting planned for 7th October. Examinations planned for May 2013. Dan Bluett had agreed to be co-ordinator for Wiltshire.

Midland Areas Brian Burton

Meeting to be held 28th October, with examinations organised over the weekend 13/14 April 2013. He had dealt with changes in county co-ordinators.

South East Area Alan Thornhill

It is difficult to find venues for workshops and assessments therefore there is a backlog of members and new candidates to get through the system. He had been contacted with regard to the selection of umpires for finals at Worthing and suggests that allocation of duties for finals should be reviewed.

Treasurers report.

Balance in two bank accounts £24950. 00 including £254.00 in interest.

£14288, 00 represents advance subs.

Travelling to-date is £8263.00 which is £1400 more than the full year claims for last year.

This meeting will cost approx. £1000.

Vernon expressed concern at the cost of £1000 to restock 6 training kits. He requires the holder of each kit to sign for it and therefore take responsibility. He will not accept requests to replace equipment that goes missing.

Membership totals Male 449

Female 447

Non Active 171.

42 umpire's certificates have expired. Area Secretaries and County Co-ordinators were making enquiries.

Not all claims are being made on the official form, which is available on the website.

Development report

Bob has prepared two papers to cover future examinations and tutoring. After discussion the reports were accepted, subject to any further comments from the Executive.

Bob suggests that National Tutors and National Examiners be reorganised and renamed to cover the 6 areas.

- One National Training Administrator

- Six National Examiners

- Six National Tutors

- Area Examiners and Tutors

All the above positions to be appointed by the Development Officer.

Liaison to be between Area Secretaries who will pass the information on to County Co-ordinators who will seek new candidates.

He reported that Ken Roots has stepped down as a National Examiner and Graham Gibbins has taken over. Andy Ouens is standing down as a National Examiner.

Other points made were:

All 4 year re-tests must be subject to the full two day course, it was suggested that in some instances the Candidates were examined before completion of the two days.

Tutors and Examiners that are used in areas where they cross borders are proving expensive to the Association.

Any Other Business

Congratulations to Val Coldwell and Ken Bickley who have gained International Technical Officer status.

Number of members required to form a Quorum for the Annual General Meeting to be discussed at the next meeting

Situation with regard to Starter Kits to be discussed at the next meeting

The minimum age of Umpires to be on the next Agenda bearing in mind that a 15 year old has qualified.

Vernon Findell, Treasurer, informed the executive that he will not be seeking re-election at the AGM 2014, when his term of office expires.

Phyl Jones is having a knee operation shortly and will use her convalescence to standardise all EBUA stationery.

Dates for AGM, either 21st or 7th April, Jessie Clark to arrange.

Date of next Executive January 2013.