



Bowls Hampshire Executive Meeting

28th March 2024

1. **Apologies**

Kim Harris, Tony Ingram, Sheila Andrews, Ric Newsom, Mary Varndell.

In attendance: Richard Shelley, Kay Kerley, Carl Taylor, Lesley Taylor, Wendy Brown, Liz Bingley, Colin Bingley, Jim Marsland, Charlie Bumstead, Min Wright, David Brindley, Geoff Jessup, Sue Lewis Parkes, Michael Andrews, Margaret Leppard, Paula Haynes, Maxeen Fletcher, Michael Squires, Doug Nazer, David Wildman, Paul Robson, Allan Leppard, Sue Ward, Adie booth, Chris Brett, Mandy Wilde, Lyn Booth, Margaret Holden, Alex Ryman, Mandy Orchard, Dave Brown, Brian Jones, Tim Orr, Hazel Marke.

2. **Minutes of the previous meeting** (23rd November 2023) were reviewed, proposed by Liz Bingley and Seconded by Sue Lewis Parkes, and unanimously agreed by all attendees.

3. **Matters Arising**

No matters arising

4. **BH 2024 Calendar**

Following the BE AGM, the BH calendar has been finalised and will be issued with these minutes.

5. **Report following BE AGM**

Hazel and Tim attended the BE AGM as the BH representatives and they gave the following update from the meeting.

Hazel gave an update with reference to voting on the BE competition proposals which will take effect from the 2025 season. Two key changes were defeated, the two wood singles will remain and there will be no changes to the Top Club format. Unfortunately, some of the other changes were passed including senior competitions will be over 60 rather than over 55 with the exception of the senior fours men's and ladies' competition which will remain at over 55 in line with the British Isles rules. The family pairs also changed with players achieving success internationally and at County level Balcombe and Walker, will no longer be allowed to take part. The Club two fours will become an open competition and the format for the Balcombe, Walker, Amy Rose and White Rose will also change. Only club Champions will be allowed to enter the C of C and BE will introduce a new pairs competition but BE still have to finalise the criteria for entry.

Affiliation will go up in line with CPI and be rounded up although BE didn't elaborate.

The proposition BH put forward with reference to the White Rose entering two teams we withdrew because the Competition proposal went through and two teams will be allowed under the new format from 2025. There were two other propositions put forward by Devon and Cornwall which were passed. At the National Championships A & B teams will be in different halves of the draw and the last round of BE competitions will be played on neutral greens.

Tim kindly then gave an update following the BE zoom meeting which I was unable to attend. The BBW has 612 signed up of which 38 clubs from Hampshire have signed up.

BE had stated that in accordance with Sport England all clubs had to have a safeguarding officer in place by 2025. BE are now reviewing this to see if Sport England will allow other alternatives, i.e. one safeguarding between more than one club or a non-member of the club being their safe guarding officer. We now await to hear what will happen.

All safe guarding officers are to be DBS checked and the certificate will cover all types of bowls. Currently Crown green bowling is offering a DBS check at a cost of £12.00 which is much cheaper than going through BE.

BE are revisiting Regulation 9 to try to make it easier to understand and implement.

Richard thanked both Hazel and Tim for attending the BE AGM and all their work on behalf of Bowls Hampshire with reference to Bowls England.

6. **Financial Update – Carl**

Carl gave an update on the competition numbers for 2024, the men's numbers are up by 60 and the ladies y 132. The blue-ribbon events for the ladies are up in every competition but the triples. Entries are up in the North East and West but not in the South. There are reductions in some of the County competitions, i.e. Golden Pairs and Thornbery.

The cost of County friendly matches will remain at £10.00 for players and any guests attending these matches will pay whatever the clubs charges for the meal.

The BH mixed friendly matches to be played against Hampshire clubs will remain at £5.00. For some of these matches there will be a small surplus to be repaid to the treasure, whereas for others there will be an additional cost. In these instances, the match captain will pay the difference and then claim the money back from the treasurer.

The cost of stock will remain the same as last year, shirts are to be sold at **£20.00** and jackets (which cost between £49.92 - £54.00) to be sold at **£40.00**. There is no increase in the cost of ties £4.00 and baseball caps £6.00.

A question was asked about what the process was when a match was cancelled after all players had arrived and paid their £10. After a discussion, the Chair Richard said with Carl they would provide a statement as to what should be done in those circumstances, although the captain of the day should in many instances take a common-sense approach.

Action: RS / CT

7. **Competition regulations update**

Following a request by a club to enter two teams in a couple of the team events, it was deemed that the competition regulations were unclear although the intention had always been that only a single entry would be allowed per club.

A paper with the changes was produced and sent out prior to the Executive meeting.

The changes were unanimously agreed by the Executive.

Mandy put forward that now the Benevolent triples is only run at a county level there was no need to play all 15 ends if it wasn't possible to win the match.

Hazel to amend the regulations accordingly.

Carl also mentioned that the men's two wood triples is played to 21 ends and the ladies two wood triples is played to 15 ends. This to be discussed at the next Management and Finance meeting, but will remain as is for the 2023 season.

Dave mentioned that the BH competition regulations under eligibility state that players must come from one club but with the junior championships it is allowed they can be from different clubs.

Hazel to amend the regulation accordingly

Dave also mentioned the fact that the BE regulations state that three dates have to be given and the BH regulations state that only two dates have to be given.

Hazel has checked the BE regulations and Regulation 50: National Championships (County Stages) doesn't not mention the number of dates only the timing of when matches have to be played.

Regulation 52 National Competitions does state that three dates should be given. These competitions are run by BE and not BH.

I will double check with BE.

8. **New Website application**

Carl informed the meeting that the new application had been provided by the developer to access had been given Hazel and himself to start to load and test in readiness for the road shows later in the year. It is hoped to run the ladies' friendly matches using the new application alongside the current system.

Hazel then explained that at yet less than half the clubs had sent in their members names and without this information testing of the application would prove very difficult. She explained that she had written individually to all club secretaries who returned their members names and hoped that by the end of April all clubs would have compiled.

John Tucker the Surrey Administrator had agreed to come to the September Executive meeting to demonstrate the system so that all Executive members fully understood the benefits prior to taking the roadshows to all the clubs.

Richard thanked Carl and Hazel for their work on the website and stated that after meeting with the developer he was assured of the data security and the developer's expertise as he worked in this field and had knowledge of what was involved. He hoped all members of the Executive would promote the new application within their areas as this was definitely the way forward for the County.

9. **New BH shirt**

Hazel informed the meeting that following receipt of a sample of the new BH shirt which has been shown at the AGM, the sub committee decided that the yellow/gold didn't look right and changed the colouring and had a second sample produced. On receipt of this which was a men's large Carl came back and said unfortunately due to the way the dots were produced on the shirt, it wasn't very flattering in fact it looked like a ladybird!!

The sub committee decided on a new design and a sample is being produced and it is hoped that it will still be available in time for the BH County teams to use this season. A picture of the new design was passed round for everyone to see.

David Wildman had asked whether the current shirt was still to be used and for how long. It was confirmed that for all friendly matches would wear the current County shirt and white bottoms, this included the Home Counties League and that the new shirt wouldn't be used until at the very earliest in 2026. The Middleton, Balcomb, Johns, Walker, Amy Rose and White Rose would wear the new shirt and dark navy below the waist. Also, players representing BH at the Nationals would have the choice of wearing the old or the new shirt as long as members of the team were in the same attire.

Richard thanked Carl and Hazel for their work on both the website and new shirt on behalf of the county.

10. **Presidents Day**

The President's Day will be held at Banister Park on Wednesday 3rd July. Lesley to arrange a meeting with Sue, Doug and Hazel to finalise details.

11. **Bowls Hampshire Luncheon**

Confirm that the date for the luncheon will be Sunday 20th October to be held at Fleming Park BC

12. **Any Other Business:**

Richard closed the meeting at 8:15pm

Date of next meeting: Thursday 19th September 18:00 at Banister Park