

ABERFELDY BOWLING CLUB EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING SUNDAY 14TH JANUARY 2018

The President welcomed 32 members to the Extraordinary General Meeting held within the Clubhouse, Taybridge Terrace, Aberfeldy.

Apologies: D Craik; P Butter; J Devlin; J Hermiston; P Ely; R McRobert, Roseanne McRobert, P Woolley.

The Secretary explained the background to the two items on the EGM agenda – the adoption of the Bowls Scotland Disciplinary Procedure and Code of Conduct and, if adopted, the subsequent changes required to the Constitution.

The Secretary thereafter covered the main points of the Disciplinary Process which required the Club to appoint members to a Discipline Committee and an Appeals Committee annually at the AGM. The associated Member Code of Conduct was summarised and renewing membership of the club would require acceptance of the Code of Conduct. If accepted, these two documents would require changes to the club's Constitution. After a brief discussion, the Secretary proposed adoption of the Bowls Scotland Disciplinary Procedure and the Member Code of Conduct. This was seconded by G Dark and unanimously agreed by the members present.

The Secretary then went on to outline the changes required to the Constitution which were principally as a result of the new discipline process. The various changes were highlighted and thereafter the Secretary proposed adoption of the new Constitution. This was seconded by R Taylor and unanimously agreed by the members present.

The President thanked the members for their participation and brought the EGM to a close.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SUNDAY 14TH JANUARY 2018

The 156th Annual General Meeting of the Aberfeldy Bowling Club was held in the Clubhouse, Taybridge Terrace on Sunday 14th January 2018. There were 32 members present with President Billy Devlin in the chair.

The President welcomed the members to the meeting and wished them a Happy New Year. He noted that the club had lost a number of members and former members including Duncan McDougall, Sandy Drummond, Meg Kennedy and Andy Fraill and thereafter asked for a minute's silence in respect of members who had passed away in 2017.

Apologies: D Craik; P Butter; J Devlin; J Hermiston; P Ely; R McRobert, Roseanne McRobert, P Woolley.

Items for AOCB: The Secretary requested that the Membership Survey Results be added to the agenda. With that addition, the agenda was closed.

Minutes: The Minutes of the 2017 AGM had been distributed, were subsequently proposed by Frances Inglis and seconded by Robert Christie and thereafter adopted unanimously by the meeting.

Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising.

Correspondence:

There were no items of correspondence.

Secretary's Report:

The Secretary reported that the club continued to make good use of the Section 19 Transport Permit which allowed the club to use a minibus and charge the operational costs to those using the transport. This made significant savings for the club in terms of transport costs. The Try Bowls day had attracted about 35 people to come along and try the sport and had resulted in a few new members. The Club premises and green continued to be available for a number of organisations and have been used by the Rotary Club, the Inner Wheel, the Ukulele Club, Tayside Waders and the school teachers at Breadalbane Academy and were a source of potential new members for the club. Members were reminded that there was a sheet on the notice board for anyone wishing to play in the Bowls Scotland and/or Perthshire Bowling Association competitions. During the year, new mats and new steps to the green had been purchased and were a big improvement.

Match Secretary's Report:

The Match Secretary began by thanking all who sponsored competitions in the club. In the NPL, the club had won both the NPL Pairs and Triples and had narrowly missed out on the winners shield. The club had also reached two Bowls Scotland semi-finals and one Bowls Scotland final. At a county level, the club fielded three members of the successful Perthshire BA County Seniors team.

The new format for the Club's Open Triples competition worked well again and a full complement of 24 teams participated. Club competitions had in the main been completed to time and the Match Secretary thanked members for their assistance with this. The Fixture List for 2018 was well advanced and the green would open on 14th April and close on 30th September. The Match Secretary advised members that he would be standing down as Match Secretary and thanked members for their help over his time in office.

Treasurer's Report:

In the absence of the Treasurer, the Secretary gave the following details on the accounts from the Treasurer's report.

Accumulated Funds

Total funds decreased from £91,940 to £90,521, producing a deficit of income over expenditure for the year of £1,419. The change in amount of current assets was as follows:-

	14/10/2017	14/10/2016
Stock	3,293	3,266
Debtors	-	200
Prepayments	1,188	1,180
Cash on Hand	130	113
Bank Accounts	43,997	47,788
TOTAL	48,608	52,547

The Treasurer provided further details on the entries within this section of the accounts.

Income

There was significant increase of £730 on annual subscriptions, principally as a result of the increased membership fee to cover travel and catering. Although the number of playing members increased by 11, five members entered on the reduced fee £20 for the latter part of the season (see table below for split of membership data). The number of Gents memberships decreased by 3, ladies increased by 1, juniors remained at 2 and social members rose by 3. Visitors' fees had decreased by £36 over the previous year.

	Gents	Ladies	Junior	Social	Total
Jan-01	46	18	2	26	92
Entrants	06	05	0	08	18
Exits/Deceased	-09	-04	0	-05	-17
Dec-31	43	19	2	29	93

Bar Sales remained level at £23,858 producing a rewarding £12,292 profit, very slightly down on last year. The percentage profit margin decreased from 52.35% to 51.52%. Special thanks were given to George Dark for his astute purchasing and his tight management of the Bar and to all of the bar volunteers for their time and contribution to these excellent results.

Overheads

On the matter of overheads, the Treasurer reported that:

There was a major decrease for Insurance premiums due to switching back to Winter and Co on 1st October. Water, Heating & Lighting – a reduction due to having secured competitive fixed tariffs for Gas/Electricity. Upkeep of Green, the costs were significantly up. However, this would roughly be the continuing level of cost if we wish to maintain the green to its current highly acceptable standard.

Costs for Repairs & Renewals had increased mainly due to rewiring of clubhouse and pavilion (£1062), painting and plastering of clubhouse (£300), servicing of mower (£203) and renewal of the Alarm Security System which costs £977.

The costs for Gifts, Prizes & Tournaments had decreased by just over £400 principally due to catching up with SALSC expenses due from P&K Sports Council from the previous year.

Postage & Stationery costs had risen mainly due to the increased printing costs of materials.

Honorariums had increased this year reflecting an increase in the number of volunteers generally.

On matter of Catering Expenses, the combined Catering & Raffles income of £1,618 had produced a deficit of £581. This was more than adequately covered by the increased annual fees amount of £730. Excluding the raffle income would have produced a considerable deficit of £1,473 so thanks were due to all who provided raffle prizes throughout the year. The Treasurer thanked all of the members involved in kitchen duties.

Telephone costs were reduced due to negotiating a better tariff. Although costs appeared expensive, they are necessary to cover the burglar alarm system and any other emergency.

Mower Lease – a new item with a full annual cost of £1,642. A greatly reduced maintenance package added a further £360 per annum.

The increase in Professional Fees mainly referred to the accountancy fees which had been set at a higher level due to inflation.

The Miscellaneous column normally covers various expenses including cleaning products, etc., various minor maintenance costs for the Clubhouse and the website costs (£140). However, this year it includes one-off costs for MIDAS Training to drive minibuses (£170) and a retiral present for the Bowls Scotland District Secretary (£41).

Donations were made to Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance (£250 from the Senior Invitation Triples organised by Tom MacDougall), Bowls Scotland District 6 Junior Bowls Fund (£15) and Breadalbane Football Club for the use of floodlights (£30).

There was no material change in Licence costs.

Depreciation costs had increased but was a paper figure representing the current value of plant and equipment.

Other Income

Pool Table – Income had decreased.

Sponsorship – Sponsorships increased from previous years due to a new sponsor, Greenscape Perthshire Ltd (Donnie Meldrum, our greenkeeper). The club is grateful to all of those who continue to sponsor the club competitions.

Locker Rents – Now incorporated into annual membership fee.

Miscellaneous – Only item this year is the telephone income which had increased by 77% to £9.90!. Those using the telephone for non-bowling calls were asked to provide a small donation of at least 20p per call in the box provided.

Donations received – Various donations received. Net revenue from the sale of Tic-Tac-Toe Cards is also now included under donations which this year amounted to £202. The club is now eligible for Gift Aid on certain donations and this returned a sum of £14. Donations included £235 from the Senior Invitation Triples tournament, £65 from the Caravanners evening, £200 from the Glenlyon Ukelele club's use of the premises and £90 from Inner Wheel and a personal donations totalling £105 from two members.

Interest received – the £30,000 3-year bond invested with Scottish Widows matured part way through the previous year and it had not been possible to replace it with a similar high interest bearing one. Income from interest will be down to this level for the foreseeable future.

Balances

The Statement of Accounts produced an overall deficit of income over expenditure of £1,419 for the year.

Fixed Assets

Land and Buildings – An addition of £2,361 increasing the figure to £32,615.

Green Improvements – No additions or disposals.

Plant and Equipment – There was an addition of £1,403 and a depreciation figure of £767.

After tending to members questions, the Secretary concluded the Treasurer's report stating that the Club remained financially sound compared to many other clubs and starts 2018 in a very favourable financial position. The President thereafter invited members to approve the accounts. The accounts were proposed by J Adams and seconded by J Hermiston and agreed unanimously.

Bonus Ball Report: Alan Duff reported that the Bonus Ball scheme had a good year. The numbers had increased to 59 and the scheme continued to be a good money earner for the Club. In addition to expenditure on travel costs the scheme had purchased a pressure washer and new mats for the club. The balance in the fund at the end of the year was £1544.17. It was intended to switch to internet banking and allow members to pay by 4-weekly Standing Order.

Bowls Scotland Report:

W Devlin gave a brief summary of the Bowls Scotland AGM. The main update was that the proposal to change the capitation fee had been defeated and this remained at current levels.

Perthshire Bowling Association:

The Match Secretary had attended the PBA AGM and reported that the County team had won its section trophy for the first time in almost 25 years and went on to progress to the quarter final of the Andrew Hamilton Trophy. The County Senior Team won the Scottish shield in 2017. Aberfeldy BC had hosted the

Perthshire finals on 15th July 2017 and this was a great success. It was hoped to have a county match played at Aberfeldy in 2018. PBA finances were in good shape with a bank balance of £12,927. There was to be no increase in fees. The main office bearers were Iain Nicol (President), George Lennon (Vice President), Alf Low (Secretary), Willie Gellatly (Treasurer) and Ray Taylor (IPP).

NPL Report.

A Woolley had attended the NPBA AGM at Pitlochry. Jock Tait (Spittalfield) was appointed as President and A Woolley was appointed as Vice President. John Anderson continued as Secretary/Treasurer. The association was financially sound with £4,127 in funds. Membership fees continued at £10 per club per annum. Members rejected a proposal from Aberfeldy BC to alter the format for the Seniors League. A request to have the weekly match results circulated was not supported with clubs being advised to phone the Secretary for a note of the results if they wished.

Property

In advance of the PBA finals at Aberfeldy BC in July, Perth and Kinross Council had undertaken some maintenance work on the old pavilion now a List B building. Further work was needed. In the main clubhouse, the roofing problems had been resolved and the ceiling replastered and papered and new lighting fitted. The committee continued to consider what further improvements were needed to the toilets, kitchen and bar areas and general redecoration.

A new top of the range lawn mower with a championship sole plate had been leased by the club which would allow maintenance of the green to a very high standard. The superb condition of the green had been noticed and the club had been offered the chance to host the Perthshire Ladies Finals and a PBA County match in 2018.

Election and Installation of President

President Billy Devlin thanked members for the privilege of having been elected as President again and the Committee and members for all their support during the year. He nominated Neil Baillie as President for 2018 and this was seconded by John Duff and unanimously agreed by the members. He thereafter presented incoming President Neil Baillie with his chain of office and demitted the chair in favour of Mr Baillie. President Baillie thanked IPP Devlin for his hard work during his term in office and thanked members for their support.

Election of Office Bearers for 2018

The following office bearers were appointed to the Management Committee for 2018:

Position	Name	Position	Name
IP President	Billy Devlin	Child Protection	John Duff
President	Neil Baillie	Committee	Tom MacDougall
Vice-President	Colin Dow		Cathy Lambie
Treasurer	Robert Christie		John Devlin
Secretary	John Duff		Chris Boynes
Match Secretary	Peter Hobbs		Anne Woolley
Bar Convenor	George Dark		Jim Adams
Green Convenor	Jimmy Hermiston		Douglas Craik

The following members were appointed to the Discipline Committee for 2018:
Colin Dow, Tom MacDougall, Peter Hobbs, Amanda Fenwick, Jim Adams

The following members were appointed to the Appeals Committee for 2018:
Neil Baillie, Diana Taylor, George Dark, Anne Walls, Chris Boynes.

The President thanked outgoing Committee members for their years of service on the Committee and thanked those members new to the Committee for taking on the post.

Club Skips

The following Skips were appointed for 2018:

Billy Devlin	Anne Woolley	Colin Dow
Neil Baillie	Roddy MacRobert	Amanda Fenwick
Mattie MacDougall	John Duff	Jim Adams
Douglas Craik	Ray Taylor	
Tom MacDougall	George Dark	

Subscriptions

Due to the deficit over income being over £1400 last year, with a similar prediction for 2018, there was a need to plug the gap in funding. The standard of the green was very high as a result of the extra money being spent on it and members were reaping the benefit of that investment. The current membership fees were relatively cheap in comparison to other similar clubs and it was pointed out that many members paid more for their Bonus Ball entry per year than for their bowling. As a result, the Committee proposed that full membership was increased to £60 and would continue to cover the cost of meals, travel and locker hire as before (with the option to pay in two instalments). Junior memberships to remain at £10 (the first year being free) and Social memberships to increase to £15. After discussion, two amendments were proposed: That memberships remain at the status quo (proposed by Ray Taylor seconded by Alan Duff) and that the full membership fee be increased from £45 to £60 over 3 years (proposed by J Adams and seconded by P Hobbs). On a vote being taken between the amendments, the three year increase (J Adams) amendment was supported but on a vote being taken between that amendment and the Committee proposal, the Committee proposal succeeded on a vote of 21 votes for the proposal and 6 votes for the amendment. The Committee proposal was carried.

Green Fees

It was proposed by the Committee that Green Fees remain at £2.00 per person per game. This was agreed.

Honoraria

It was proposed by the Committee that honorariums for the Secretary, Treasurer and Bar Convener be increased to £100. This was agreed.

Travel

It was proposed by the Committee that travel costs for 2018 be as follows: Grandtully £2.00, NPL District £3.00, Other £4.00 – all to be paid to drivers by players. For the coming season, travel costs beyond Perth or when a bus is hired will be £5 and would be paid for from the Bonus Ball fund. This was agreed by members.

Catering

It was proposed that meals not covered within the new annual subscription be charged at £2.50 per head for a High Tea of sandwiches, sausage rolls and baking, £3.00 per head for a cooked meal and £1.00 per head for tea and biscuits unless otherwise specified in advance. This was agreed.

A.O.C.B.

The Secretary updated members on the outcome of the membership survey conducted at the end of the season. There had been 26 surveys returned. The main findings were that members were happy with the number of friendlies currently being played; there was a need to increase volunteers for all friendly and NPL matches; some members wanted coaching sessions for new/inexperienced members on rink nights; coaching was needed by some members on all areas of play including the rules, etiquette, measuring and advice from the head; most members were happy with the separate night for the annual presentation; consideration should be given to ways to improve the standard of bowls with a view to increasing success in National/Perthshire competitions; more afternoon activities for members.

There being no further business, the President thanked the company for their attendance and closed the meeting at 4:35pm.

Signed, President

Signed, Secretary

Date

Competition	Winner	Runner(s) Up
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Gents Championship	Neil Baillie	Douglas Craik
Ladies Championship	Amanda Fenwick	Diana Taylor
Reid Cup	Billy Devlin	Neil Baillie
Black Watch Trophy	Billy Devlin	None
Alex McIntyre Cup (Seniors)	Ray Taylor	Roddy McRobert
President's Cup	Neil Baillie	Peter Jack
Leszke Trophy	Hamie McRobert	David Campbell
Pitilie Shield	David Campbell	John Devlin
Club Pairs	Billy Devlin John Devlin	Neil Baillie Douglas Craik
Greenscape Pairs	Peter Jack Christine MacIennan	Billy Devlin Neil Baillie
Barnett Pairs	Jimmy Hermiston Muriel Findlay	Peter Jack Christine MacIennan
Blackadder Pairs	Anne Woolley Chris Boynes	Billy Devlin Alison Steele
Stewart Triples	Mattie McDougall Neil Baillie Billy Devlin	Hamie McRobert Anne Woolley Peter Woolley
Barhaul Trophy	Colin Dow Neil Baillie	Billy Devlin Hamie McRobert
MacKinlay 2-Bowl Trophy	Neil Baillie	David Campbell
Nominated 2-Bowl Pairs	Colin Dow Chris Boynes	Billy Devlin John Devlin
Davy Leggat Trophy	Colin Dow Davy Scott	-
Top Team	Davy Scott Colin Dow Muriel Findlay Peter butter	-
NPL Pairs Trophy	Aberfeldy BC	
NPL Triples Shield	Aberfeldy BC	
Craik-Rennie Quaich	Aberfeldy BC	