

ABERFELDY BOWLING CLUB ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SUNDAY 15TH JANUARY 2017

The 155th Annual General Meeting of the Aberfeldy Bowling Club was held in the Clubhouse, Taybridge Terrace on Sunday 15th January 2017 There were 30 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 congratulated club member, Ray Taylor who had been elected as President of the Perthshire Bowling Association and Eddie Nicholson who had been elected as President of Bowls Scotland. He thereafter asked for a minute's silence in respect of members who had passed away in 2016.

Apologies: A McGravie; P Ely; J Robertson; D Craik; R Woolley; J Woolley; P Butter and A Woolley.

Items for AOCB: The Secretary requested that Markers for Club Competitions be added to the agenda. With that addition, the agenda was closed.

Minutes: The Minutes of the 2016 AGM had been distributed, were subsequently proposed by Alan Duff and seconded by Frances Ingles and thereafter adopted unanimously by the meeting.

Matters Arising:

Coffee Machine: Following the matter being raised at the 2016 AGM, a coffee making machine had been provided in the kitchen for the use of members.

Club Competition Winners: The Secretary will now add a list of the previous year's club competition winners to the AGM Minutes.

Correspondence: The Secretary reported that all correspondence throughout the year had been dealt with. He had received a Thank You card from Isla and Donnie Duncan apologising for being unable to attend the AGM and thanking the membership for their friendship over the years. He had also received a letter of thanks from the Scottish Association for Blind Bowlers for the donation of a further £250 bringing the total recently donated to £500.

Secretary's Report :

The Secretary reported that the club had purchased a Section 19 Transport Permit which allowed the club to use a minibus and charge the operational costs to those using the transport. This would make significant savings for the club in terms of transport costs. The club had also purchased a Bowls Parc Target Set and this equipment had been put to good use with coaching and on the Try Bowls day when about 45 people came along to try the sport and the club acquired 8 new members.

A number of local organisations including the Rotary Club, the Inner Wheel and a group of schoolteachers had requested and been given use of the green and clubhouse for club activities. This had been very successful and had also resulted in new members.

The Secretary updated members on the installation of a Public Access Defibrillator outside the main clubhouse door in partnership with Aberfeldy Community Council.

Match Secretary's Report:

The Match Secretary began by thanking members for the congratulations for being appointed as PBA President. He then reported that the club had won the NPL Winners Shield and the NPL Pairs, Triples and Fours Sections and congratulated the various NPL team players for their success. He also congratulated the club in getting three teams to the Bowls Scotland District semi-finals and one team to the District final. The Club had also fielded threemembers in the Perthshire County Seniors team – Ray Taylor, Neil Baillie and Douglas Craik.

The new format for the Club's Open Triples competition was working well and a full complement of 24 entrants had been achieved. Two friendly matches had been cancelled, one due to a lack of interest on the opposition's part and one due to bad weather. A new Top Team format had been introduced for an additional club competition and this had been well received and would be a regular feature of the club Fixture List.

The Match Secretary concluded by thanking the sponsors – Barhaul, the Black Watch Inn, Dewar's World of Whisky and the Aberfeldy Distillery, Dow's of Aberfeldy, Gaulds and Golden Charter, the Leszke family and Peter and Anne Woolley. He also thanked Peter Woolley for his organisation of the Rink Night league and the printing of the annual Fixture List.

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 £94,277 to £91,940 producing a deficit of income over expenditure for the year of £2,337. The change in amount of current assets was as follows:-

	14/10/2016	14/10/2015
Stock	3,266	2,992
Debtors	200	248
Prepayments	1,180	3,828
Cash on Hand	113	1
Bank Accounts	47,788	54,374
TOTAL	52,547	61,443

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

Income

There was a slight decrease of £70 on annual subscriptions, principally due to a number of new members paying the reduced fee of £10 for joining in the latter part of the season (see table below for split of membership data) with gents memberships increasing by 6, ladies decreased by 2, juniors decreased by 1 and social members dropped by 1. Visitors' fees had increased by 34% due to the favourable summer weather and increased local advertising aimed at holidaymakers.

	Gents	Ladies	Junior	Social	Total
Jan-01	40	20	3	27	90
Entrants	13	2	0	7	22
Exits/Deceased	-7	-4	-1	-8	-20
Dec-31	46	18	2	26	92

Bar Sales were ahead of the previous year producing a rewarding £12,483 profit, up £2,976 on last year. The percentage profit margin rose from 45.37% to 52.35%. Special thanks were given to the caravan site members and other members for their regular support of the clubhouse bar which makes a significant contribution to the club's income, 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.

Expenses

On the matter of expenses, the Treasurer reported that:

Insurance premiums had decreased slightly due to switching back to a previous supplier part way through the year. In a full year, this would save approx. £450.

Water, Heating & Lighting – this year the club had to make provision for water rates as clubs were no longer exempt. This amounted to £313 for a 7 month period. Negotiations with a new water supplier will reduce this to £360 for a full year. For Heating and Lighting, the new tariffs had resulted in a saving of £247 on the previous tariffs.

Upkeep of Green, the costs were slightly down but the green continued to play very well and thanks were due to Donnie Meldrum for the superb quality of the green.

Costs for Repairs & Renewals had decreased. The main cost here continues to be the renewal of the Alarm Security System which costs £944.

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

Unfortunately, there were no expenses required for members attending the National Bowls Championships at Ayr during the year.

Postage & Stationery costs had risen mainly due to the increased printing costs of advertising 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 £2,832 produced a smaller profit of £391. Excluding the raffle income, there was a £931 loss. The Treasurer thanked all of the members involved in kitchen duties.

The Architect fees had been incurred as part of planning for an extension and refurbishment of the clubhouse.

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.

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. and various minor maintenance costs for the Clubhouse. However, this year it also includes the one-off expense of the Bowls Scotland Parc Target Equipment of £150 and a presentation wall clock for Hamilton BC's 175th Anniversary..

Donations were made to Blood Cancer UK (£25), Bowls Scotland District 6 Junior Bowls Fund ((£15), Breadalbane Football Club for the use of floodlights (330) and the Scottish Association for Blind Bowlers (£250 – proceeds of the Senior Invitation Triples raffle).

There was no material change in Licence costs.

Depreciation costs had decreased reflecting the current value of plant and equipment.

Other Income

Pool Table – Income had decreased.

Sponsorship – Sponsorships remained at the same level. The club is grateful to all of those who continue to sponsor the club competitions.

Locker Rents – No change.

Club Shirts – an additional 31 shirts had been ordered by members.

Miscellaneous – Only item this year is the telephone income which at £1.20 is ominously low. Those using the telephone for non-bowling calls were asked to provide a small donation of at least 10p 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 £239. The club is now eligible for Gift Aid on certain donations and this returned a sum of £119. Donations included £245 from the Senior Invitation Triples tournament, £100 from the Huntly BC tour, £85 from the Caravanners evening and a personal donation of £80 from a member.

Interest received – the £30,000 invested in a 3-year bond had matured part way through the financial year and the club had not been able to replace it with a similar high interest bearing one. It is anticipated that income from interest will be down for the foreseeable future.

Balances

The Statement of Accounts produced an overall deficit of income over expenditure of £2337 for the year.

Fixed Assets

Land and Buildings – No additions or disposals so no change to the figure of £30,254.

Green Improvements – No additions or disposals. The green edging was 1005 funded so overall change.

Plant and Equipment – there was a 10% depreciation charge. The addition of £233 was for a new flymo.

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 2017 in a very favourable financial position. On behalf of the Treasurer, he thanked all members for their continued support and, in particular, Peter Woolley, for providing cover during the Treasurer's absence. The President thereafter invited members to approve the accounts and this was agreed unanimously.

Bonus Ball Report: Alan Duff reported that the Bonus Ball scheme was ticking over well and continued to be a good money earner for the Club. In addition to expenditure on travel and bowls stickers, there were plans for new steps, a pressure washer and some other items in the pipeline. The year had ended with a healthy balance of £1590.59.

Bowls Scotland Report:

The Secretary summarised information from the Minutes of the Bowls Scotland AGM. There were 98 clubs represented and an estimated 200 delegates present. After discussion, the Annual report was unanimously approved by delegates. Financially, Bowls Scotland recorded a small underspend of £4,972 and the accountants advised that the financial state of Bowls Scotland was in a healthy state. Members approved the annual accounts.

There was a motion put forward to terminate the Scottish Super Series as they were not financially viable and it did not provide meaningful competition. After debate, the meeting voted on the resolution but, as the votes for the resolution did not reach the 75% majority, the motion was not approved.

Sue Beatt was appointed as Chair, making her the first female to Chair the organisation. Lyn Wallace and Eddie Nicholson were appointed as Presidents of Bowls Scotland.

Perthshire Bowling Association:

The Match Secretary had attended the PBA AGM as President of the PBA and reported that the County team had been second in the Andrew Hamilton Trophy league and played West Lanarkshire in the quarter final, losing 150 shots to 104. The PBA Finals will take place at Aberfeldy BC on 15th July. PBA finances were in good shape with a bank balance of £11,151. There was to be no increase in fees. The main office bearers were Ray Taylor (President), Ian Nicol (Vice President), Alf Low (Secretary), Willie Gellatly (Treasurer) and Ron Duthie (IPP).

NPL Report.

The President had attended the NPBA AGM at Pitlochry. Jim Brown (Pitlochry) was appointed as President and Jock Tait (Spittalfield) as Vice President. John Anderson continued as Secretary/Treasurer. The association was financially sound with £3298 in funds. Membership fees continued at £10 per club per annum. The NPL had been won by Aberfeldy while Spittalfield won the Australian Pairs and the Centenary Shield and Pitlochry won the Seniors League. Members discussed a proposal from Aberfeldy BC to alter the format for the Seniors League and decided to defer a decision allowing clubs to seek the views of their players.

Property

The Secretary continued to press Perth and Kinross Council to complete the maintenance on the old pavilion now a List B building. In the main clubhouse, the roofing problems had finally been resolved. The committee continued to consider the need for alterations to the toilets, kitchen and bar areas, redecorations and the installation of new lighting.

Club Colours

The new club tops had been received and looked very smart. New members were entitled to a first shirt at half price. Any second or subsequent tops would be charged at full price. The Match Secretary had arranged for club rain jackets and the initial order had been distributed. Further orders of club shirts and jackets could be submitted but members were asked to bear in mind that minimum order numbers had to be reached before an order could be submitted.

Election and Installation of President

President Billy Devlin thanked the Committee and members for all their support during the year. He indicated that he was prepared to stand as President again and was proposed by John Duff and seconded by Jimmy and was unanimously agreed by the members.

Election of Office Bearers for 2017

The following office bearers were appointed for 2017:

Position	Name	Position	Name
IP President	Anne Woolley	Child Protection	John Duff
President	Billy Devlin	Committee	Christine MacLennan
Vice-President	Neil Baillie		Tom MacDougall
Treasurer	Douglas Craik		Cathy Lambie
Secretary	John Duff		Robbie Matthew
Match Secretary	Ray Taylor		Robert Christie
Bar Convenor	George Dark		John Devlin
Green Convenor	Jimmy Hermiston		Gordon Evans

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 2017:

Alan Duff	Tom MacDougall	John Duff
Billy Devlin	Anne Woolley	Ray Taylor
Gordon Evans	Roddy MacRobert	George Dark
Mattie MacDougall	Jimmy Hermiston	
Douglas Craik	Christine MacLennan	

Subscriptions

The Committee proposed that Subscriptions for Ordinary and Senior Members be harmonised at £45 and would cover the cost of annual membership, locker hire and the total cost of all meals for home friendly matches (including that of the opponent). Junior Members would remain at £10.00 per year with their first year free. Junior and Honorary Memberships would also include the annual membership, locker hire and meal costs as per Ordinary members. Meals for all other matches or competitions would be paid for on the day as at present. Social Memberships to remain at £10.00. This was unanimously supported by the members present.

Green Fees

It was proposed by B Devlin and Seconded by T MacDougall that Green Fees remain at £2.00 per person per game. This was agreed.

Honoraria

The Treasurer proposed this should remain at £80.00 for the Secretary, Treasurer and Bar Convener. This was agreed.

Travel

The Secretary proposed that travel costs for 2017 nbe 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 seconded by J Hermiston and 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. There continued to be difficulty in getting a member to take on the role of catering organiser for the club. Despite discussion, the matter was not resolved and the committee will have to try and make arrangements for catering during 2017.

A.O.C.B.

The Secretary asked for clarification for the sake of members that it was the challenger’s responsibility to arrange a marker for club competitions requiring one. This was agreed.

It was agreed that the green would open slightly later than usual on 8th April 2017 and close on 1st October 2017.

There being no further business, the President thanked the company for their attendance and closed the meeting at 3.30pm.

Signed, President

Signed, Secretary

Date

ABERFELDY BC – COMPETITION WINNERS 2016

Competition	Winner	Runner (s) Up
Gents Championship	Billy Devlin	Jimmy Hermison
Ladies Championship	Isla Duncan	Christina Maclennan
Reid Cup	Billy Devlin	George Dark
Black Watch Trophy	George Dark	Jimmy Hermiston
Alex McIntyre Cup (Seniors)	Jimmy Hermiston	Neil Baillie
President's Cup	Douglas Craik	Hamie McRobert
Leszke Trophy	Neil Baillie	Billy Devlin
Pitilie Shield	Douglas Craik	David Scott
Club Pairs	Hamie McRobert Douglas Craik	Jimmy Hermiston Diana Taylor
Dewar's Pairs – Gents	Billy Devlin Peter Woolley	Douglas Craik John Devlin
Dewar's Pairs – Ladies	Betty Swift Jean Woolley	Muriel Findlay Anne Woolley
Barnett Pairs	Tom MacDougall Muriel Findlay	Roddy McRobert Anne Woolley
Blackadder Pairs	Jimmy Hermiston Jim Adams	Douglas Craik Cathy Lambie
Stewart Triples	Billy Devlin John Devlin Christina Maclennan	Mattie McDougall Tom MacDougall Bob Woolley
Barhaul Trophy	Meg Rattray Douglas Craik	Roddy McRobert Billy Devlin
MacKinlay 2-Bowl Trophy	Peter Butter	Tom MacDougall
Nominated 2-Bowl Pairs	Peter Jack Christina Maclennan	Neil Baillie Peter Butter
Davy Leggat Trophy	Ray Taylor Anne Woolley Hanie McRobert	
NPL League	Aberfeldy BC	
NPL Pairs Trophy	Aberfeldy BC	
NPL Triples Shield	Aberfeldy BC	
NPL Rinks trophy	Aberfeldy BC	
Top 4	Billy Devlin John Devlin Jimmy Hermiston Roseanne McRobert	
Hamilton BC invitation Fours	Douglas Craik Billy Devlin Jimmy Hermiston Peter Butter	