

SURREY COUNTY WOMEN'S BOWLING ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT: MRS CHARLOTTE EMANUEL

**Minutes of Council Meetings 13th April 2021 at 9.30am, 12.30pm, 3.30pm and 7.00pm
Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

1. Obituaries

The County would like to remember the following members who have passed away since October 2020. They are: Ruth Bullen(Burpham), Joan Martin(Purley Ladies), Barbara Handcock(Stoke Park), Val Davies (Carshalton Beeches) , Margaret Field (Woking Park), Joan Hennessy (Byfleet and Guildford areas), Pam Weaver (Mychett) and Elizabeth(Betty) Hurley (Epsom, Croydon and Sutton). Our thoughts and prayers are with their family and friends.

2. Non Attendees

The following members booked to attend the meeting but for whatever reason did not attend; Nicola Jenkins, Joyce Brook, Denise Rush, Nick Welland, John Neal, Margaret Lauder, Gay Lyle, Barry Willingham, Andrew Savador and Ann Bzowska.

3. Minutes of the last virtual meeting 20th October 2020

As there were going to be four separate virtual meetings the executive have signed off these minutes.

4. Matters arising

There were none.

5. Secretary Report

The President Charlotte Emanuel thanked Past President, Penny Bruno, for putting together this report. Shirley Heard (Cheam Ladies) enquired about the year books; CE informed the meeting that they had gone to the printers that day and that it was a combined book for both the men and the women. She also wanted to extend her appreciation and thanks to John Tucker, men's secretary, and Marianne Ward (Web Master) for the huge amount of work that they had carried out to ensure that the books were completed on time and as accurate as could be due to the changes being made daily due to the pandemic. Zoe Hollins (Treasurer) mentioned that the Executive were planning to arrange a collection for Sheron Mitchell (Past County Secretary) and announced that if the clubs were wanting to make donations she could be contacted to make bank transfers or alternatively cheques could be sent to her. All her details were on the web site. She is looking for these to be sent over the next two weeks.

6. Presidents Report

President Charlotte wanted to thank Marianne Ward once again for all the support she had given her and keeping the web site up to date she had been incredible in the amount of hard work she had completed with so much new information coming down from Bowls England.

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7. Treasurers Report

Zoe Hollins informed the meeting that during the last year the county had made a loss mainly due to the pandemic and that she hoped this year to break even. Sylvia Russell (Cheam Fields) asked if the Treasurer had a statement of accounts as normally at this meeting it was available. ZH apologised and stated that she would in endeavour to produce one and it would be placed on the web site. She also carried out to the draw for the 200 club with the following members winning the top prizes: Pauline Biddlecombe (Southey) £100, Ronnie Owens (Southey) £50 and Jean Cappell (Croydon) £25. New forms for this draw are now on the web site for anybody to purchase.

8. Bowls England Delegate Report

This report was now out of date due to it being completed in February after the BE AGM. This now had been updated due to a document that was penned by John Tucker, Secretary SCBA, which had now been placed on the web site titled "Organised Sport" which details BEs understanding of the Organised Sport and Unorganised Sport via the government and the DCMS (Digital, Culture, Media & Sport). Please ensure that your clubs read this document carefully before going to BE for advice. Vivien Mutucumarana (Gonville) raised the issue regarding smoking on the green and the distance away from the green the person had to be. CE replied that under BE guidance it was prohibited on the green and had to be by 1 metre, visitors to the club must adhere to the club rules. VM also mentioned her concern about bowls touching other bowls whilst playing and that with some people they could be carrying Covid on their hands. CE if you are that concerned then she suggested that people did not play. John (Heathervale) Asked if the rule of thirty applied to eight rink greens, CE said that there were very few of these and yes the rule did apply. CE also mentioned that there was no need to wear a mask on the green.

9. Bowls Surrey Report

Zoe Hollins announced that this would be the first year that the county year book covered both men and women. The books will be distributed by the men's executive and they will contact you to meet at a suitable place to pick these up. ZH also mentioned that there had been three disciplinaries carried out this year one had been completed another withdrawn by the club involved and the third is ongoing. Several members of the BS Board had resigned and ZH wanted to thank them for all their hard work.

10. Benevolent Secretary Report

The Benevolent Secretary, Caroline Duarte, thanked those present for all their donations but also added that there were some clubs that she was still awaiting donations from. She further added that she was very impressed with those members that had asked for cards to be sent to people either living on their own or had been self-isolating over a number of months. Also a big thank you to members who were also visiting these people to ensure that they were safe.

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She mentioned that during the pandemic Surrey had lost several members to Covid and her thoughts as always were with their families and friends.

11. Area Secretaries Report

CE announced to the meetings that the area secretary for Area 3 had resigned and that the executive were looking for a replacement. She also assured the meetings that if nobody came forward then the executive would make temporary arrangements for this year as she didn't want members in this area to lose out. Carolyn Stevens (Area Secretary 4) informed the meeting that these games would be played on the same green three rinks against three rinks and that the area secretaries were looking to put out their strongest teams which would be using badged players. Sharia Reedman (Horsell) asked that as she was unbadged would she be selected? CE replied probably not unless you were a strong bowler. CE replied that this should give unbadged players a greater incentive to get their badge. It was also announced that these games would be watched by Johns Trophy selectors and act as feeder games towards being ask to trial for the Johns. Val Hobart (Area Secretary 1) had been promised a breakdown of all players who had points Ann Rapley (Competition Secretary) to make these available to the area secretaries. It was noted that Pat Chappell (Area Secretary 2) had in previous years been Zone Secretary 1 and subsequently did know many players in Area 2, Linda Pillman, Senior President, to help as she is in this area.

12. Match Secretary Report

Dorothy Roberts (Match Secretary) informed the meeting the reasons behind all the county games being cancelled. Whilst the first half of games was obvious due to the restrictions of the pandemic the second half there were seven, six of which, would have needed to use coaches and the executive felt it was still too dangerous and also some of the club houses were too small and had implications for people's health. She also informed the meeting that the celebration games early in the season were being scheduled for later and underlined the need for players to keep an eye on the web site. She was also concerned that only few players were properly listed on the new match system. All Players who had qualified for their badges by the end of 2019 will be given a place in the celebration games so that they will receive their badge at these games.

13. Competition Secretaries Report

CE the new calendar had taken some time to agree but she wanted to thank Ann Rapley and Jean Hewitt (Competition Secretaries) for all their hard work. Shan Maylin (Southey) wanted to check that the same rule applies as before that a competition can be played on another date by mutual consent? JH replied that it could as long as it was played before the date. Pam Garden (Egham) wanted clarification regarding rink bookings. These cannot be done in advance and rinks must be drawn on the day and is a law of the sport, two rinks go into the draw for one game and if one rink is left then it is that rink the person or the next opponents must play on. Some members were concerned that they had been moved to another area after the draw and had already been moved due to the configuration of the new areas. AR replied that it had been done to make it fairer and that previously some zones had only played two rounds to get to the

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latter stages of the competition and other zones four rounds to get to the same stage. Someone asked for clarification regarding the new rules of the competitions they are;

Singles – 4 bowls 21 shots

Two Wood Singles- 21 ends

Pairs – 3 bowls 18 ends

Triples – 2 bowls 18 ends

Fours – 2 bowls 15 ends

Senior Fours – 2 bowls 15 ends

Junior Singles – 4 bowls – 18 ends

Junior Pairs – 3 bowls 18 ends

This is for all competitions leading to Leamington, make sure you carry it with you at all times.

14. Senior Managers Report

Caroline Duarte (Senior Manager) had been asked by the executive to take over the management of both Johns Trophy and Walker Cup squads and have told her that she would make her own choices of fellow selectors. CD informed the meeting that she had chosen one person whose knowledge and experience were important from each of the new areas to become an advisor. These advisors will remain confidential for the time being for obvious reasons to stop potential players from lobbying. She also informed the meeting that the first two Johns trials would take place on the 22nd and 29th May at 10.00am at Sutton ,that a Walker Cup trial would take place on 30th May at Milford at 10.00am against the men's Balcombe Trophy squad. That a match of the Johns squad against the men's Middleton Cup squad would take place on June 26th at Croydon at 10.00am. The first Johns games are on 10th July and the Walker Cup on 11 July. She also informed the meetings that for this year only the Johns would be a straight knock out.

15. Junior Managers Report

Debbie Souter (Junior Manager) was concerned that at present they only have nine members of the squad and feels that this number is too low. She is asking all clubs that if they have any girls under the age of 31years who are actively playing bowls could they please contact her. Although she only needs nine players for the Amy Rose Trophy (8 plus 1 reserve although should be two) if any one pulls out she would be looking possibly to pulling out of this competition. Val Murphy (Dorking) asked if there was a minimum age. CE currently no but at any age they need to be encouraged and brought on.

16. Bowls Big Weekend

CE has been alerting everyone regarding this event over the last few months on the Bowls Surrey newsletter and informed the meetings that BE are no longer sending out any advertising material to support this event. However, Bowls International has got some marketing material if you contact them. Some people are having open days and some taster sessions what ever suits your club then that's fine. Other suggestions for advertising were local newspapers, local radio stations, Face book and Instagram, local news boards particularly in surgeries and clinics as people are visiting these for their Covid jabs. As long as you can get your message out there and encourage as many people as possible. Remember currently you can only have 24 plus 6 so be very careful as well as

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no refreshments and ensure that your club has a Covid Risk Assessment carried out in case you get asked by members of the public and to also keep your own members safe.

17. Replies to your Questions

Before the meetings had taken place CE had asked for questions to be submitted in order to ensure that the meetings were not too long. The answers to some of these have already been answered so they will be listed and if already answered a note will be made to where that answer is;

- Shirley Heard – Cheam Ladies
Why is it that in the Fours competition entries from Cheam have been put into Area1 when we are in Area3? See answer at point 13
- Shara Murphy – Horsell
I only have one question at this stage which I am sure other people will be asking about and this is the subject of offering a choice of rinks for our competition opponents. Will this be a requirement for 2021 competitions?
My concern is that during the Covid restrictions only a few rinks are available and several matches are required most days. It will become far too difficult to ascertain rink number to be played on just prior to the start of the match. If we do have to offer a choice of rinks can this be done at the stage of confirming the match date and time? Answer see point 13 NB: It is a law of the game
- Tracie Bailey – Ewell Village
Looking at BE last guidance on opening up , I got a little confused as to what they constitute as “Organised Sport” Whilst internal club events or organised sessions for club members seem to be allowed they then state the casual play (for example roll ups) aren't. Now isn't this a contradiction? What about if I wish to bowl with another 3 people on a Tuesday? I have organised it not the club? Answer see point 8
- Sylvia Russell – Cheam Fields
I was one of a number of competitors who were moved to another area for some competitions. I was not notified that I had been moved and thought that an error had been made, so made several phone calls. I think it would have been helpful if those who were moved to another area were informed of this before the draws were published.
Answer see point 13. However the executive have assured this person that this will not happen and have apologised.

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- Albert Tapper – Addlestone Victory Park
What support can clubs hope to find from Bowls Surrey and Bowls England with Open Days during the “Big Bowls Weekend” on 28th -31st May 2021?
Answer see point 16

18. AOB

Maureen Vandrau – Past President(Sutton) asked if there was any provision being made for the current President, Charlotte Emanuel, as her year has had to be carried over? ZH said that the executive were already discussing this and outcome will be reported later. MV She also wanted to thank the executive for their hard work and for arranging the zoom meetings.

Ameeta Garga – Newdigate – With no secretary what is the process? CE explained that was why new email addresses had been set up so that any query could be addressed as soon as possible. Currently a new job description was being drawn up by the executive and that would be going out by the end of the month. AG was concerned that her club there had been a drop in membership of 50%, was this same in other clubs? CE there has been a slight fall off across the county which is reflected in competition entries, however, until everyone gets back and playing we can't be sure about our membership.

Alex Faircloth – Carshalton wanted clarification on Two Wood Day JH explained that the 1st round of the competition would be play by dates and then the 2nd round would be the normal Two Wood Day at designated venues within your area. Followed by a further date for the last 16 up to the final which would be played on Finals Day.

Someone ask the meeting if anyone was aware of the proposed Congestion Charges for Greater London? Nobody seemed aware of these and will report back if there are any changes after the elections for London Mayor which take place on 6 May2021.

Carolyn Stevens – Milford – Vote of thanks for Charlotte for the work she had done towards the meeting.

19. Date of next Virtual Meeting

October 2021

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