



SURREY COUNTY WOMEN'S BOWLING ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT: MRS CHARLOTTE EMANUEL

**MINUTES OF FOUR COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON 20 OCTOBER 2020  
HELD VIRTUALLY AT 9.20; 11.00; 15.00 and 19.00**

It is recorded here that the scheduled April Council meeting was cancelled due to the global COVID 19 pandemic when the United Kingdom was in total "lockdown" and unable to leave their homes except for shopping.

After much discussion regarding the holding of the Council meeting, the Executive decided to delay the early October meeting to enable all paperwork to be sent to the Clubs and to invite them to a series of virtual zoom meetings all to be held on the same day and at different times.

Those present were asked to reflect on those members who have passed away since our last meeting: Vera Eyles (Mayford Hall), Maggie Rowland (Croydon); Anne Taylor (Guildford); Barbara Lee (Ewell); Margaret Court (Tongham); Margaret Webb (Sutton); Barbara Sanders (Chessington); Mavis Sampson, Pam Jones and Eileen Mills (all from Spring Park Shirley); June Shaw (Bookham); Joan Godly (Malden Manor); Nina Challens, Brenda Greenhill and Barbara Sutton (all from Burpham); Jean Langridge (Southwark Park); Steffi Cotterell (Tongham); Dilys Bailey (Egham) and Anne Sullivan (Chessington). Our thoughts and prayers are with all their families at this very dreadful time which still continues.

At this point in time President Charlotte explained about her Charity for both 2020 and 2021. Learning Disability Indoor Bowls International Series (LDIBIS). This is a very small good cause put together by a number of individuals who felt that there was nothing in the bowls programme for people with learning disabilities. Despite not having actually done anything this year she has collected over £200 and has just received a donation of £75 from the Estate of Dilys Bailey. She wanted to place on record her thanks to all those who have currently donated.

**1 Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from the following for being unable to attend any of the meetings: Benevolent Fund Treasurer & Secretary Mrs Caroline Duarte; Area 1 Secretary Mrs Val Hobart, BE Representative Mrs Pauline Biddlecombe; Past Presidents Mrs Gill Bonnell, Mrs Tessa Davis, Mrs Shân Maylin and 12 delegates/ representatives from other clubs.

9.30 meeting (moved to 9.15): Past President & Life Member Gill Platt; Life Member Jackie Taylor;

11.00 meeting : Chris Jenkins and Maureen Coyle

15.00 meeting: Graham Law; Don Leach; Pamela Jones; Sheila Absolon;

19.00 meeting: Shirley Tracey, Ameeta Garga;

**2 Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 October 2019 which been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read. In view of the current situation all attendees at the four meetings were asked if they had any objection to two members of the Executive signing the minutes as proposer and seconder as it would be difficult to ask for a proposer and seconder in the usual way at four different meetings. This was agreed unanimously across all four meetings. Subsequently Zoë



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Hollins (Treasurer) proposed acceptance of the minutes and Jean Hewett (Areas 1 and 3 Competition Secretary) seconded. The President will sign the minutes and keep them in readiness to be placed in the Minute book.

### 3 Matters arising

The Secretary placed on record the following:

- 3.1 that all moneys fraudulently removed from SCWBA's bank account had been replaced and that all three banks involved had paid compensation for their negligence and not adhering to the Code they had signed up to in early 2019;
- 3.2 The moneys stolen from the Surrey Bowls Group (all four Associations indoor and outdoor) regarding sponsorship was unlikely to be recovered although at the Court hearing when the defendant was sentenced, the Judge suggested that the CPS should try and persuade the defendant's pension provider to allow sums to be removed from the pot so that the Surrey Group and Home Counties could recover some of their money;
- 3.3 The Bowls Surrey website had been put on hold for the time being until the current programmes being worked on were fully operational;
- 3.4 Constitution would be dealt with further on;
- 3.5 SCWBA were still looking for a JVP so if you think you might like to join the team please contact anyone on the Committee.

### 4 Secretary's Report

The Secretary asked at all the meetings whether she needed to read her report in full and all agreed as they had the report prior to the meeting it was not necessary.

She drew attention to the badge qualification and County Colours Policy. It was proposed that flashes be given to Johns Trophy players who had played 50/75/100 times for the County. This was agreed unanimously.

The Secretary also brought up the subject that SCWBA rules state that a person must be badged before being selected to play in either the Johns Trophy or Walker Cup. She explained that Bowls England rules were silent on this. She also spoke to approximately twelve counties and asked the question whether they stipulated only badged players and the answer was that they did not. She felt that the selectors should have discretion. A vote was taken on this and it was passed by a large majority.

#### Questions from the floor:

- a. What is happening to points?** The points system would disappear.

For clarification: those with points now will have until 2024 to utilise those points to acquire their badge. Those with no points currently will immediately switch to the new system.

- b. Although in the minority it was recorded there was sadness that the rule relating to only badged players could be selected for the Johns and Walker Cup was to be removed. Where was the incentive for people getting their badge?** Explained that the chances of an unbadged player being picked for playing in the Johns/Walker Cup were very remote unless they were extremely talented from another County. It would bring us in line with Bowls England and



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other counties. The incentive in succeeding in getting their County badge is that they can play in County matches.

- c. **Selectors and Zone games** It was accepted that the Secretary had gone to Area games but that in future selectors would be attending the Area games and also they would like Area Secretaries going forward to advise them of ladies they should be watching as they are more likely to know what is happening in their own areas.

### 5 **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer stated there had not been a lot of movement on the account but SCWBA were looking at a loss of approximately £5k to £7k. She explained we had spent £3k on computer programs and had also made a loss on Bowls England Year Books in excess of £400. Bowls England will not be issuing a Year Book for 2021 so if anyone would like a copy of the 2020 Year Book they should contact the Secretary. She asked that anyone who asked for a Year Book make a donation to the County to help towards our loss.

The draw for the 200 Club which was due in April was carried out by President Charlotte at Milford BC and the first prize of £100 was won by Jan Pedersen, the second prize of £50 was won by Linda Pillman and the third prize of £25 was won by Caroline Duarte who donated her prize to the President's charity.

#### **Questions from the floor:**

How much is in the bank? Current A/c is carrying a small amount; Tour A/c is carrying a small amount also; just over £30k in the Savings Account.

### 6 **President's Report**

President Charlotte explained that she had not done very much this year due to the COVID 19 situation. She had attended two funerals but had the joy of giving out a Loyal Service Award to Norma Hodgkinson of Mayford Hall.

### 7 **Match system and Competition program**

#### **7.1 Match program**

Sometime in January all County players will receive an email from Bowls Surrey inviting them to activate their account. You will then be able to apply for all matches you wish to play in on-line.

Players will find that their name has been put on the system together with all their contact details. For those ladies who do not use computers all they need to do is to telephone either the Match Secretary, Secretary or President in that order and they will enter everything for you.

Once selection has taken place, players will either receive a letter or email advising them that they have been selected. They will also be told the cost to them and asked to pay for the match by BACS and be given the appropriate bank details. Clearly this is preferable as it means we can pay the club by BACS before the game.



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Some players will also see that they are eligible to play in Executive games (Celebration games). Players do not need to do anything for the Johns and Walker Cup games as these selected by the Selection Committee and emails will be sent out accordingly.

SCBA have now used this system for a couple of years and the men find it very good. Instructions will be coming out to you in the New Year about the whole process. This system prints out everything for the game and is very progressive.

Please make sure that your County players all know they will not get sheets from Dorothy as in the past unless they are not online. Those that are online will be able to apply for matches once the matches are published and their account is activated.

### 7.2 Competition program

SCBA and SCWBA have invested in the construction of a competition program which fits in with the affiliation and match systems. When your club Secretary enters in the affiliation numbers, he/she will also enter in the competition entries as well. No change there! However, the system will then enter the competition participants into their areas. This means that the Competition Secretaries will look at the entries for the relevant competitions in each area. If there is an imbalance in one competition they will decide if a club should be moved from that area to another for that particular competition. We are hopeful it will not happen too often and if the draws for the last two years are anything to go by this should not be a problem. The way the byes and walkovers work is that you can have one bye plus one walkovers or two walkovers. Therefore, should a player/team get a bye in the first round and walkover in the second round they cannot receive another walkover. Should they get through to the third round and then get given a further walkover, that game will not count towards their badge.

Once a player has played their game she can then go online and put in her result. She will be able to see who she is playing for the next round on the screen provided the potential opposition has entered their result. You may have to wait until the next day. If, on the following day, nothing is visible please telephone the relevant Competition Secretary: Jean Hewett for Areas 1 and 3 and Ann Rapley for Areas 2 and 4.

If a player cannot use a computer then nothing will change for that player as the Competition Secretaries will put the result in the system and be able to tell the player who she is playing.

### 8 Benevolent Secretary's Report

Asked clubs to make donations as the Fund was using quite a lot of its money on flowers and cards particularly during this very sad time. We have an increasing number of past members over the age of 90 and two attaining the age of 100. President added clubs and members can send cheques to Caroline at any time before 30 September (the end of year) – they did not have to use the affiliation system if they did not wish to. DON'T FORGET THE CHRISTMAS GIFTS! Please make sure we have addresses for those recipients as delivery may not be possible in today's climate.



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9 **Bowls England Representative Report**

Reported on the death of Nancie Colling MBE and also of David Bryant CBE. She also mentioned the national campaign launched by Bowls England "Let's Roll this Summer". President Charlotte elaborated on this stating suggested dates were 29 – 31 May 2021 and would continue annually. Clubs should sign up with Bowls England for this. Whole purpose to help with recruitment nationally. The President said details would be coming out in the October newsletter. She asked if everyone received the Bowls Surrey newsletter. A number put up their hands to confirm they did not receive the newsletter and the President took those names to put on her distribution list.

**Q Does it have to be that weekend?** Answer: we believe so.

To participate clubs must enrol with BE.

10 **Thanks to Marianne Ward**

Marianne was thanked for keeping the website up to date during a very difficult period.

11 **Safeguarding Officer's report**

Chelsea Brady had reported that nothing much had happened. There had been a few enquiries which she had helped with or directed the questions in the correct direction for response.

12 **Constitution and Rule Changes**

The Secretary went through all the rule changes at each meeting and what they meant. She explained the importance of the "appointment" of certain positions like "Communications Officer" as it would not be helpful for someone to apply for the role who has no knowledge of the media and how it works, ie Twitter, Facebook, Instagram etc.

**Q Does Bowls Surrey now have an Administrator** – Yes his name is Colin Homes and he will be elected into the position for three years at the AGM.

**Q Being new to everything is it possible to have a chart setting up the structure?** Secretary said she would sort something out for the websites.

**Q Green Rangers when do they get called out?** If you deem the rink you are on unplayable you can call a green ranger out. Green Rangers will be listed in the Year Book and on the website. If you are struggling to find the green, which is something we have all done at some point in our bowling careers, that is not a reason to call out the Green Ranger.

**Q Green Rangers** We will be trialling this for two years.

13 **Appointment of Officers:**

Re-Appointment of all Officers, including those who are ex officio, was unanimously agreed at all four meetings.

Caroline Duarte was nominated by Southey and seconded by Windlesham and she will be voted in at the AGM.



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14 **Surrey Dinner:**

Treasurer confirmed that the deposit paid to Tyrells Wood Golf Club had been carried forward to 2021.

15 **200 Club**

Treasurer advised she had only sold 31 tickets. Forms are available on the website. She explained that many people buy tickets at the October meeting which cannot happen this year, but asked that clubs be encouraged to buy a ticket as it will all be funds going into the County coffers. **PLEASE DO TAKE PART.**

16 **Any other business:** There followed discussion at all four meetings about with regard to Council meetings going forward.

- It was virtually unanimous that Wimbledon was not a popular choice. Secretary will look at Leatherhead Sports Centre (where we used to go), and Imber Court;
- It was suggested we had Area meetings;
- It was further suggested we had Area meetings in April and a full Council meeting in October;
- It was also suggested that with the uncertainty going forward and with different parts of Surrey being in different Tiers of lockdown perhaps we should think about Zoom meetings for April;
- Some felt two full meetings as it was an opportunity for everyone to get together;
- If we have Area meetings will they all be on the same day? No this would be impossible. OK if they are Zoom meetings but not if the Executive have to travel to four different areas in Surrey.

It was agreed the Executive would take all these suggestions on board and would discuss at their January meeting when things may be a bit clearer as to what is likely to happen in 2021.

Finally, the Officers were thanked at all four meetings for their hard work.

17 **Date of next Council meeting: 6 April 2021 – Zoom, Areas, full Council to be advised nearer the time.**