



NEWCASTLE DISTRICT BOWLING ASSOCIATION (ZONE 2) INC

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Minutes of the meeting of the Management Committee of the Newcastle District Bowling Association held at Association Headquarters, "Wal Young House", on Thursday, 21st August, 2008 commencing at 6.30pm.

PRESENT: **President:** J.T. Smith (who occupied the Chair); **Vice-Presidents:** K. Aspery; C. Burns; M. Conway; L.S. Coulton; A. Hextell; **Sub-Committee Chairman – Junior:** W. Boyd; **Match:** D. Gilday; **Membership:** B. Cooke; **Selection:** T. Murphy. In attendance D.J. Broad OAM, Secretary

APOLOGIES: B. Alcock, Vice-President; B. Carling, Vice-President; A. Starrett, Coaching Committee Chairman; L. Dimmock, Burwood Colliery BC; B. Hoole & T. Aitchison, Cardiff BC; W. Baldwin (A. Braithwaite Proxy) Hexham BC; R. Wilson, Karuah RSL BC; T. Antram Nelson Bay BC; B. Mannix, Redhead BC; B. Williams, Tea Gardens BC; V. Loughland (E. Roach Proxy), Valentine BC; W. Brogden, Water Board BC.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: A. Wright, Treasurer.

CLUBS NOT REPRESENTED: Cardiff; Carrington; Catherine Hill Bay; Hamilton North; Karuah RSL; Lambton-New Lambton RSL; Lemon Tree Passage; Mayfield; Mayfield West; Morisset Hospital; Nelson Bay; Rathmines Memorial; Tomago.

OBITUARIES: The President referred to the death of the following and a motion expressing sympathy with the relatives was carried in silence:-

Jim Clayton (Kahibah); Lawrence Walkling (Edgeworth); Norm Julian (Boolaroo); Gerry Daly (Mayfield West); Veron Lee (Belmont Sporties); Ron Roocke (Redhead & Belmont Sporties); Kenneth Baxter (Carrington); Kevin Whatman (Hexham); Thomas Dunlop (Raymond Terrace); Theo Ward (Mayfield); Clarry Connett (Water Board); Barry Horne (Teralba); Jack Eveleigh (Mayfield West); Garry Olsen (Mayfield).

MINUTES: The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 19th June, 2008 having been circulated to all members, were taken as read and confirmed.

EXECUTIVE REPORT:

The following recommendations were approved:

1. Approval be granted to Alder Park Bowling Club to conduct:
 - a. Bruce Smith Memorial Mixed Fours on the 2nd & 3rd August, 2008.
 - b. Ernie Jones Triples on the 8th, 9th & 10th December, 2008
 - c. Greater Premier Pairs on the 23rd, 24th, 25th & 27th November, 2008
2. Approval be granted to Lowlands Bowling Club to conduct a Mixed Triples (Men must be 4 Grade and Under) on 11th & 12th October, 2008.
3. Approval be granted to Wallsend Bowling Club to conduct the O'Neills Tyres Prestige Minor Pairs from Monday, 17th November to Thursday, 20th November, 2008.
4. Approval be granted to Redhead Bowling Club to conduct:
 - a. Harold Coulter Shield on 23rd & 24th March, 2009.
 - b. Redhead Master Triples on 18th, 19th, 21st & 22nd May, 2009.
5. Approval be granted to Wangi Wangi Bowling Club to conduct the Turn Around Triples on 13th September, 2008.

It was advised that:

1. Tea Gardens RS & CC Bowling Club has changed its name to Tea Gardens Country Club Bowling Club.
2. CMP Lawler, in conjunction with the RSL & SCA and Bowls NSW, are conducting Defence Strategies Seminars at various venues throughout NSW. A copy of the details of the FREE SEMINAR are in your mail tonight. The advertised CMP Lawler series of short seminars are designed to provide assistance to clubs that may be struggling. The closest seminar to Newcastle is being held at Toukley RSL and Muswellbrook RSL Club. We are enquiring of the Royal as to why no seminar is being held at a Newcastle club.
3. Ms. A. Arps terminated her employment with the Association on Wednesday, 20th August, 2008. The Executive has been empowered to recommend a suitable replacement.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

With a gap of 2 months since my last report to you there have been numerous happenings and events in the bowling world of the NDBA so I will cover them as briefly as I can.

The 110th Annual General Meeting of the NDBA was successfully held on 17th July and we were appreciative of the attendance of RNSWBA President John Archer and Treasurer Ken Guy. All Offices were filled on the Executive and Sub-Committees except

for a position on the Coaching Committee which has been circularised to clubs. May I further congratulate our newly elected Sub-Committee Chairman of Selectors, Terry Murphy and welcome him to the Executive Committee.

Many clubs have also been very busy with their own Annual General Meetings and we have attended 22 of these meetings in the past 2 months.

Brian Carling and myself attended the Hunter DBA Annual General Meeting. Terry Wilson from East Cessnock BC was installed as the new Hunter DBA President, replacing Bill Waddell. My personal thanks to Bill for the part he has played in maintaining the solid relationship between our two Associations.

Over 80 people gathered at Windale/Gateshead BC on 26th June for a farewell dinner for Mrs. Leslea Milburn. In what was a relaxed and fairly informal evening many occasions were revisited and opportunities taken to share some great memories. As well on this evening the presentation of an Australian Cap was made to Terry McCabe on behalf of Bowls Australia. Many thanks to the 15 clubs who were represented at the dinner and to Windale/Gateshead for their great hospitality.

The Annual Visit of the Nepean District BA in July was an unqualified success with a great response from our two host clubs Lambton and Rathmines Memorial. To the respective Presidents Des Bowden and Mike Usher many thanks for the hospitality and friendship you displayed on behalf of your clubs and the Association. This visit also marked the 50th Anniversary of reciprocal visits between our two bowling associations.

Great news from the Pennant Final Series was Lambton's victory in the State No.2 Grade which really caps off a stellar year for the Club. Celebrations will understandably continue on 28th September with the unfurling of the Zone and State flags. Wallsend No.7 Grade came very close to making the State Final, with a narrow loss in the Semi-Final. To all clubs who represented Zone 2 thank you for your efforts on behalf of your club and the Association.

As well we must congratulate Soldiers Point BC and President Jim Richardson for the Pre-State Pennant practice matches played on 20th July. Your fine gesture was greatly appreciated by all competing clubs and the Association.

The first of our 2008 Pennant Unfurlings was held at Raymond Terrace Bowling Club. President Col O'Brien and his successful No.3 Grade Mid-Week Team celebrated their win in fine style and I thank them for the opportunity to unfurl the flag.

Our District Championship Programme has rapidly moved on in the last 2 months with all of our Singles and Pairs events being finalised. Congratulations to all of the winners and Match Committee Chairman David will expand on these events in his report.

The Representative scene has also been very busy with fixtures against Zone 13 and the Pat Geary Memorial Shield and we thank Toronto Workers and Kahibah for their hosting of these events. Our Senior Inter-Zone Side made the final of the State Senior Inter-Zone Championship at Maitland City and suffered a narrow 1 short loss in the final. Consequently Sam Laguzza and Neville Downes have been selected for the Australian Senior Sides Championship in Queensland later this year. Also congratulations to Jason Stokes, Terry Antram and Jason Pietraszek for being a part of the NSW Side that defeated Queensland 2 tests to 1 test last week. Matthew Baus featured in the NSW U25 Side that also defeated Queensland 2 tests to 1 test.

A significant event was the 20th Anniversary Dinner of the Hunter Academy of Sport. The Academy has established a Hall of Fame and Sarah Rumble was nominated for selection but was not one of the initial four chosen. In time we would hope that a Lawn Bowler is elected to this great honour.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Secretary on behalf of the Treasurer submitted a statement of receipts and expenditure for the month ending, 31st July, 2008 which showed a balance at bank \$35,518.00.

REPORTS:

RNSWBA:

MATTERS OF INTEREST

Australian Junior Bowls Australia Championships: Following on from my June report the Board has received correspondence from Bowls Australia that the host State and Club will not be responsible to cover the financial cost of Ground Transport for all athletes for the 2008 event. Bowls Australia has also retracted its proposed policy changes with ***Coaching Development, Australian Indoor Championships*** including funding issues.

Bowls NSW Charity Funds: Equal shares of \$30,000 from the charity account will be presented to Alzheimer's Australia and Glaucoma Australia Associations by the next Board meeting.

Bowls NSW Net Profit: The State Treasurer, Ken Guy reported that for 2008, our profit stands at \$204,126 (pending audit), Zone payments were in excess of \$71,000. This is a significant contribution to help run bowls on a Zone level. Additionally the Board is carrying insurance for the districts and in future, sponsorship will be allocated to the Senior Inter-Zone series providing we can maintain business opportunities with companies who will support and sustain our game.

Moved and resolved that the Executive be authorised to sign a full draft copy of the Associations Financial Report to be issued to the Association Auditors.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Inter-Zone Promotion of Lawn Bowls: Memorandum went out in October 2007 to all Zones for travel and accommodation assistance. Received applications from Zones 1, 3, 4, 8 and 14. \$10,000 to disburse, probably to be distributed in similar amounts to previous year's payments. Moved and resolved that Zones 1 and 8 be awarded \$2,500 each, Zones 3 and 4 \$2,000 each and Zone 14 \$1,000 for travel assistance.

Un-financial Clubs: In the past a period of grace has been extended, but there appears a need to exercise fines on those clubs not financial. The State Treasurer will propose a motion to the Annual General Meeting in September that a fine be levied for late payment after 20 days' grace. If a member or club is playing at Zone level and is known to be un-financial, they leave themselves open to forfeit and there would be no option but to grant this. Treasurer, Ken Guy will provide a note to this effect to be broadcast via the Bowls Magazine which will provide advance notice prior to the matter airing at the Annual General Meeting. Any reference to a period of grace on renewal forms will be deleted. We will not be giving any period of grace because it has encouraged something that is, in fact, illegal.

Premier League: you will note that from past reporting I advised that change was required for the continual playing of this event. Meaning in previous years this event was controlled by our past CEO that did not allow for open discussion back to The Board or full transparency. At the recent *Annual Review Meeting* that was held and represented by 14 out of the 16 teams that participated in this season's event being present, there was a strong cry for change and support to successfully run its future for many years to come. This meeting was also attended by John Smith, Chairman of State Match Committee, who will now become an active member with future planning and decision process.

Minutes from the Annual Review Meeting: outlined that any change must benefit all bowlers of NSW.

Four key recommendations came out of the review, namely:

- i. any approved changes should be implemented for the 2009 Premier League season.
- ii. to play the Premier League Competition later in the year, with dates to be decided by PLCB (Moving PL to later in the year would clear congestion with programming which Zones have experienced and it may assist for more composite sides to enter or at the very minimum maintain)
- iii. all full registered bowlers in NSW be eligible to play both State Pennants and Premier League (NSW Number 1 State Pennant grade is the blue ribbon event in NSW and that all NSW registered bowlers should be eligible to play in this event, that excluding PL players from the Number 1 Pennant grade will detract from the significance of winning the State Number 1 title) Club would take precedence over Premier League at all times with no exception.
- iv. up to two NSW-based marquee players registered with non-Premier League clubs are permitted to play for a Premier League club in the Premier League Competition only. Any bowling commitments that a *Marquee Player* has at their Home Club, District or Zone Level would take precedence over Premier League at all times, with no exception.

Recommendations for the Board to adopt

Moved and resolved that Premier League be held in 2009.

Moved and resolved that 2009 Premier League competition start no earlier than September next year.

Recommendation 3 that all full registered bowlers in NSW be eligible to play both State Pennants and Premier League.

In favour 12, against 2. **Motion carried.**

Amendment to Recommendation 4: that there be no more than three NSW marquee players plus three interstate/international players

In favour 11, against 3. **Motion Carried.**

Motion that up to three NSW-based marquee players and up to three interstate/international players registered with non-Premier League clubs be permitted to play for a Premier League club in the Premier League Competition only

In favour 13, against 1. **Motion carried.**

Noted the decision of this Board now applies.

BOWLS AUSTRALIA - Agenda Items of interest on Our Game;

Review of Our National Merchandising Program: is still continuing An amount of \$38,000 has been received which will appear in next year's accounts, bringing it to a total received for 2008 in excess of \$140,000. **Following further**

Investigation The Board has uncovered that over the last 5 years BA staff has increased from 5 to 17 with little discernible improvement in service or productivity. We are in contact with other states on these matters and this will be an item of discussion at the next meeting. However the lack of transparency continues to frustrate all concerned and we will continue to pursue for full disclosure of actual figures with Bowls Australia in October 2008.

I will keep you informed of the final outcomes?

Coaching Committee:

Planning and preparation for Seminar Coaching Seminar 3 is under way.

The morning's activities are specifically designed for any bowlers who are experiencing:

- * mobility difficulties
- * medical problems associated with joint conditions
- * lack of flexibility

which may be causing ineffective and/or inappropriate delivery techniques.

There are also a number of former bowlers who have given up the game and may wish to use this seminar as a pathway back to sporting enjoyment.

It will be a very practical session where opportunities will be given to try out such items as

- * the Bowlers Arm,
- * a variety of walking sticks,
- * a range of fixed stances,
- * bowls specific Wheel Chairs

The venue will be New Lambton Bowling Club and will be held on
Saturday 6th September 2008, 9.00am - 11.30am

It is open also for coaches who may have mobility issues within their club membership.

Preliminary Information: Details of the November Level 1 Coaching Course at Raymond Terrace's all weather venue are soon to be announced. The course will take place over the 1st three weekends of November and will commence at 9.00am through to 3.00pm on each of the Saturdays and Sundays.

Junior Committee

The last two months have been 'full on' for the Development Squad. As I am aware of a busy schedule tonight, I'll briefly outline what has transpired over this period.

At the State Junior Championships held at Warilla BC from 14th – 20th July. Our singles player Daniel Hill didn't make the semis as we would have hoped, with our team performances likewise. In dropping one crucial game in our sectional play no teams advanced to the post sectional play.

Our U/25's on the other hand performed extremely well against Zone 15 at Terrigal BC on 27th July winning both games of 18 ends very comfortably. These inter- district games are extremely important in assessing our players' performances ... with the twelve playing members of our squad outstanding both technically and in the way they played the game.

At the State Junior seven – a – side held at Roselands BC over the 9th – 10th August plenty of weakness were exposed in our junior ranks and we will need to re-evaluate this performance as our side came twelfthwinning only one game out of five. One pleasing aspect however, was the State selection of Natasha Van Eldik from Raymond Terrace BC. Natasha was selected as skipper in the pairs and fours for the upcoming junior Inter-State series in September. We congratulate Natasha on her selection.

A couple of announcements that your Club should have notification of or will shortly receive:

- The scheduled NDBA U/25's v's NDBA Reserve side set for Friday 29th August has been postponed to a date to be fixed.
- The U/18's fixture on 20th September to Tuncurry's 50th Anniversary is in all Clubs – Circular No.105/2008. Please check to see that players selected for this event are available and a reminder to parents and supporters wishing to travel by coach to contact headquarters to book seats.

Our next training session will be held at Raymond Terrace BC on Monday, 8th September an important one for all players to attend.

Match Committee:

A large number of district championships have been completed during the past two months. Congratulations are extended to the following players on their success:

- The State Presidents Pairs was won by Brad Clarke & Ian Shearer (Wallsend) defeating Norm Brennan & Ingo Schuette (Windale/Gateshead) 19-17 in the final. A big thank you to Soldiers Point Bowling Club for hosting the final series and to all the other clubs who hosted the earlier rounds.
- The District Pairs has been won by Craig Hines & Terry Antram (Nelson Bay) defeating Paul Poidevin & Greg Sattler (Kahibah) 18-9 in the final. A big thank you to Valentine Bowling Club for hosting the final series and to all the other clubs who hosted earlier rounds.
- The Senior Pairs has been won by John Carmody and Doug Howard (Hamilton) defeating Arnold Parkinson and Dennis Ashbridge (Tea Gardens) 24-12 in the final. A big thank you to Stockton Bowling Club for hosting the final series and to all the other clubs who hosted earlier rounds.
- The weekend of the 12th & 13th July, 2008 saw the finals of the State President Singles and State Senior Singles Championships being played. Well done to Stuart Clarke (Bar Beach) on winning his first District Championship defeating Adam Clements (Stockton) 31-12 in the final. A big thank you to Soldiers Point Bowling Club for hosting the final series and to all the other clubs who hosted earlier rounds.
The final of the State Senior Singles was won by Neville Downes (Soldiers Point) defeating Ross Ball (Alder Park) 31-14 in the decider. A big thank you to Mayfield West Bowling Club for hosting the final series and to all the other clubs who hosted earlier rounds.
- The final of the prestigious District Major Singles Championship was played on Saturday, 19th July, 2008 at Swansea Bowling Club. Special congratulations to Glen Dow (Redhead) on defeating Sam Laguzza (Toronto Workers) 31-30

in a thrilling final. Thank you to Swansea Bowling Club for hosting the final series and to all the other clubs who hosted earlier rounds of this event.

- The final of the District Minor Singles Championship was played on Saturday, 2nd August, 2008 at Adamstown Bowling Club. Congratulations to Robert Riley (Windale/Gateshead) defeating Ken Fairhall (Carrington) 31-6 in the final. Thank you to Adamstown Bowling Club for hosting the final series and to all the other clubs who hosted earlier rounds of this event.

Clubs are also reminded of the option of applying this year for the regrading for 2009 for any players who may have played only 1 or 2 games in a higher grade in 2008 when filling in as a replacement and now having a higher grade than they usually would have. There is a specific form for this application and the State Match Committee will only deal with applications submitted on this form.

This year's Three Three's competition commences next Wednesday, 27th August, 2008. The draw was forwarded to clubs yesterday and a copy is in your mail tonight.

The 2008 Champion of Club Champions Singles Championship commences next Saturday, 23rd August, 2008. This is immediately followed by the Champion of Club Champions Pairs Championship which commences next Sunday week, 31st August, 2008. A copy of this draw is also in your mail tonight.

We now move to a discussion on the 2009 Season's Programme and recommended alterations to Rules and Regulations Governing NDBA Competitions. I now hand back to President, John to lead off the discussion.

- All recommendations (as per NDBA Circular No.108/2008) were discussed and will be voted upon at the September Management Committee Meeting.

Selection Committee:

Our 3 selected teams formed a great side to compete in the Senior Inter-Zone Sides Championship, held at Lorn Park and Maitland City.

They got off to a flying start with a good win over Zone 4, with Neville Downes' four leading the way with a 9 shot margin. Another good win over Zone 12, George Dawes 17 shot margin and again another good performance by Neville Downes with a 14 margin. The third game for a place in the semi's, saw Sam Laguzza set up the win with an 18 shot winning margin, setting up a semi-final against Zone 1.

Zone 1 certainly put it to our boys, they were at one stage 23 shots up, only Laguzza's team keeping his end up. Downes down 22 to 2 trailed the jack from 2 down to 4 up, then on the next end the most perfect bowl to convert one down to a magnificent 7 and finally play a 24 all draw. Dawes getting over the line by 3 and Laguzza a fabulous 14 shot winner.

The final I was not privileged to see, unfortunately health reasons prevented me attending. President John said it was a really great final, with our boys jumping well only to see Zone 15 fight back and take the lead then we fought back to regain the lead only to lose the last 3 ends to go down by 1 shot. A top effort by our side and congratulations to Zone 15.

Our defence of the Pat Geary Memorial Shield never really got to first base, with a big loss to the ever improving Zone 14 in the first game, eventually losing by 32 shots with only 1 ½ rinks wins. The afternoon game was much the same with Zone 15 immediately jumping to a 20 shot lead and going further ahead to record a 27 shot margin, with our boys only recording 2 rink wins. Aaron Sherriff played the game of his life with some unbelievable shots picking up 3 x 5s on the first 3 ends, eventually winning his game by 32 shots.

Sunday was the big day with Zone 6 now firming to favoritism to take the title. I said to the boys we did not handle the extreme conditions as well as our opposition on Saturday, though if you play as well today and get the even breaks you could turn the game your way. They certainly did this winning by 16 shots with 4 rink wins, giving the title to worthy winners in Zone 14.

The selectors congratulate Kahibah on the wonderful standard of their green, the players from all 4 Zones were high in their praise of the surface.

Our next big test is the Inter-Zone Sides Championship, the major representative event of the year. Last year we were defeated with the last bowl of the tournament, it was a terrific performance by our boys, particularly with the amount of imports available for some Zones.

The players have been notified of their selection and I know you all wish them good bowling.

This coming weekend is the Champion of Club Champion Singles Championship at Raymond Terrace and Mayfield West, any one attending will certainly see championship bowls at its best.

Mattara Committee

The 48th Mattara Carnival has almost reached its conclusion with all of the semi-finals and finals of the traditional carnival scheduled to be played at Wallsend BC tomorrow, 22nd August. A warm welcome is extended to anyone who would wish to see a day of high quality and entertaining bowls to attend our final day. Don't forget that the Mattara Raffle will be drawn tomorrow afternoon at the Presentation Ceremony and tickets can be purchased this evening.

The official opening took place at Wallsend BC last Saturday, 16th August with the Lady Mayoress Cathy Tate rolling the kitty and Alison Sibley the Manager of the Wallsend Branch of the Greater rolling the Golden Bowl. Our thanks to President Wal Bate of Wallsend for the hospitality extended to our official party after the ceremony.

Congratulations to Host Club Hamilton North and all of our clubs who hosted sectional and post-sectional play in the Les Parrott Memorial Open Singles and Mattara Restricted Singles which concluded last week. Sam Laguzza's victory in the Open Singles over Kelly Strong was his second success in this event having been victorious in 2001. Sam accepted the trophy from Merle Parrott who was accompanied by daughters Beverly and Diane. Stuart Clarke had his initial victory in the Restricted Singles by defeating Claude Pendlebury and accepted his prize from Stuart Williams the Manager of the Elmore Vale branch of the Greater. Earlier in the day Mick Young Manager of the Tomago branch had presented our equal thirds.

Entries for this year's carnival were excellent with a total of 1080 with 34 clubs involved in the hosting of events and continuing with the fine tradition of extending the hand of friendship.

Clubs and participants are reminded that the Committee will be reviewing the Mattara Carnival at its September Meeting on 2nd September, 2008 and any suggestions regarding the Carnival can be sent to the Committee by that date.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE REPORTS:

RNSWBA

J. Carmody (Hamilton BC) questioned how a bowler could play State Pennants and Premier League for two different clubs? He said that this was contrary to the State Condition of Play referring to Declaration of Club for a Season. C. Burns stated that this dispensation would only apply to a maximum of two marquee players at any Premier League Club.

J. Simpson (New Lambton BC) asked if unification was in hibernation. C. Burns advised that he would only report on unification when there is a statement signed off and issued by both the RNSWBA and the NSWBA. He further advised that the Unification Committee is having on going discussions.

Match Committee:

In response to a question from W. Shipley (Edgeworth BC) it was confirmed that there would be no pennants during Easter or on Anzac Day in 2009.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. The President presented Coaching Committee Re-Accreditation Certificates for Charles Rogers (Beresfield); Warren Boyd & Les Smith (Charlestown); Glenn Brown (Dora Creek Workers); Bruce Alexander (Raymond Terrace) & John Lomas (Redhead) to the respective club representatives.
2. J.T. Smith reminded Delegates that entries close tomorrow for the Bowls NSW Club Challenge.
3. J. Simpson, New Lambton BC, advised Delegates that their Club had established a Medical Register. It is a voluntary exercise, but could assist a member in the case of an emergency. He explained that the information is kept in a safe place and has a legal disclaimer. A sample copy is available tonight and has also been given to J. Smith for the NDBA records.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 18th September, 2008 commencing at 6.30pm.

CLOSED: The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

CONFIRMED.....

(PRESIDENT)
18.09.2008