



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, 19th February, 2009 commencing at 6.30pm.

PRESENT: **President:** J.T. Smith (who occupied the Chair); **Vice-Presidents:** B. Alcock; K. Aspery; L.S. Coulton; A. Hextell; **Treasurer:** A. Wright; **Sub-Committee Chairman – Coaching** S.A. Starrett; **Junior:** W. Boyd; **Selection:** T. Murphy OAM.
In attendance D.J. Broad OAM, Secretary.

APOLOGIES: C. Burns, Vice-President; B. Carling, Vice-President; M. Conway, Vice-President; D. Gilday, Match Committee Chairman; T. Undery (W. Reynolds Proxy), Beresfield; B. Sager (L. Field Proxy), Boolaroo; R. Clayden, Burwood Colliery; D. Godwin, Carrington; W. Shipley, Edgeworth; K. Murray, Fingal Bay; K. Doyle, New Lambton; C. Robertson & B. Cooke, Rathmines Memorial; J. Richardson, Soldiers Point; J. Wolfe, Swansea Workers; E. Milton, Teralba; G. Soper (K. Bucklee Proxy), Wallsend; H. Norman (J. Gilmore Proxy), Wangi; W. Brogden, Water Board.

CLUBS NOT REPRESENTED: Alder Park; Bayway Village; Catherine Hill Bay; Edgeworth; Hamilton North; Heaton-Birmingham Gardens; Mayfield; Merewether; Morisset Hospital; Newbold Diggers; Rathmines Memorial; Teralba.

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

Bror Johnson (Windale/Gateshead & Redhead); Wal MacDonald (Cardiff); George Oldham (Lambton); Phillip Clack (Rathmines Memorial); Glenn Smith (Kahibah); Stephen Woolaston (Raymond Terrace); Malcolm Asplund (Redhead); Max Cuell (Mayfield West); Brian Punshon (Merewether); Raymond Pattison (Kahibah); Ross Brennan (Belmont Sporties/Adamstown); Lance Jones (Charlestown); Bob Langbridge (Dora Creek Workers); Jim Rushford (Lemon Tree Passage); Brian Lucre (Swansea); Anthony Quinn (Toronto Workers); Neville Cropper (Lambton).

MINUTES: The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 15th January, 2009 having been circulated to all members, were taken as read and confirmed.

EXECUTIVE REPORT:

The following recommendations were approved:

- Approval be granted to Mayfield West Bowling Club to conduct:
 - Golden Easter Egg Mens 3 Bowl Triples on 10th, 11th & 13th April, 2009.
 - Queens Birthday Weekend Carnival Mens 3 Bowl Triples on 6th, 7th & 8th June, 2009.
 - Barry Salter 2 Bowl Mens Triples on 3rd & 4th October, 2009.
- Approval be granted to Mayfield Bowling Club to conduct the Kevin Carmody Triples on 22nd, 24th & 29th September & 1st October, 2009.
- Approval be granted to Redhead Bowling Club to register Club Jackets of Main Colour Blue, with Dark Blue Collar, Redhead Sharks logo and Bowls Australia logo.
- Leave of Absence be granted to C. Burns, Vice-President, from 9th to 30th March, 2009.

It was advised that the Association has accepted a quotation of \$4,750 to have the outside of Wal Young House painted.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

May I begin this evening by offering congratulations to President Jim Richardson and the Soldiers Point Bowling Club for having been awarded the staging of the RNSWBA State Championships from 24th to 31st October this year. We would look forward to the Club and the NDBA showcasing this major event. As well in August this year the NDBA will be hosting the No.6 Grade State Pennant Play-Offs, with Wallsend and Lambton Clubs staging the Round Robin and Semi-Final play and Heaton-Birmingham Gardens the Final. In the near future we will be calling all three clubs together to plan for this important fixture.

Congratulations to Terry Antram for his selection in the NSW Team to contest the Alley Shield in ACT and also for his selection, together with Jason Stokes in the NSW Side to play Victoria.

Our Series against the ACT was not a successful one on the green, with ACT taking the Shield for the first time since 1996. They were obviously delighted by their success and this reflected in the words of ACT President Ken Dalgleish in his acceptance speech. Chairman of Selectors Terry will give you more details of this weekend in his report.

Many thanks to President Doug Davis of Lemon Tree Passage for the invitation to attend the club's Annual Cystic Fibrosis Charity Day. This year \$2350 was raised in another fine example of the role that local bowling clubs take in contributing to their communities.

All clubs should have received Circular 03/2009 from the RNSWBA and BA regarding the Victorian Bushfire Appeal. I'm certain that every club in its own way will be doing something to help the people who have experienced such unbelievable trauma and loss. The RNSWBA and BA are providing you with this avenue of directing funds to the appeal.

The Hunter Academy of Sports Lawn Bowls Squad is again operating for 2009 and Selection Trials have been held. A group of 24 have been selected to participate this year. The group is being organized by Gerald Longergan from Telarah BC and Vice-President Barry Alcock will be the NDBA Representative to assist with organization. Many thanks to Allan Starrett, Coaching Committee Chairman, for his assistance in the selection of the Squad. Also Allan, together with Barry Starrett have accepted the coaching roles for the Squad.

Congratulations to President Graham Jennison and the Warners Bay Bowling Club on the official opening of extensions to the club last Sunday. They have certainly enhanced the look of the club and provide a great facility for the members and visitors. Mayor of Lake Macquarie Greg Piper unveiled the plaque and spoke highly of the club's valuable role in the community.

The first of our District Championships was finalised at Stockton and our congratulations to the team of Clay Parker, Jason Stokes, Bruce Jewell and Ian Lean from Raymond Terrace for their victory.

Many thanks to those who attended the Side Captains & Selectors Seminar last week. We were well satisfied with the response and hope that many valuable issues were covered to assist them in the forthcoming Pennant Season.

On behalf of the Association may I wish all clubs and players a successful and enjoyable 2009 Pennant Season.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer submitted a statement of receipts and expenditure for the month ending, 31st January, 2009 which showed a balance at bank \$20,630.97.

REPORTS:

STATE COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

OPENING

The meeting was opened by President, John Archer at 9.00a.m after the normal formalities (General Reports) had been read & confirmed the following topics were discussed.

MATTERS OF INTEREST

Logo Scheme & Bowls Australia: The B.A changes to the National Logo Policy, extending the mandatory wearing of the logo on garments below the waist and on outerwear from 1 July 2009, President John Archer notified BA of NSW's opposition and understood the matter was put aside. It appears the issue is back on the agenda. The Board instructed State President, John to advise their B.A Council that NSW maintains its position, that the logo be mandatory for shirt, vest and jacket only. While BA would like logos on more apparel items to generate further income, greater disclosure of amounts raised through the National Merchandising Program is far from full disclosure. Noted, for example, that \$195,000 in BA administration expenses was taken out of the logo scheme before distribution back to the STA's and there is likelihood that administration fees will continue to escalate. The Board instructed President, John to request an explanation from BA of administration costs and to request an immediate cap on costs, noting administration staff had trebled within 2008. The Board agreed that the matter be deferred for further discussion at the BA Council Meeting in March. Generally, it is felt a sufficient degree of consultation with STA's is still lacking on the part of BA that must be improved.

Application for Official Representation: The need to lodge applications for official representation in the correct manner, i.e. via Zone/District and with sufficient lead time, was stressed. To address the apparent lack of knowledge, a circular refreshing everyone's memory was suggested together with a reminder clarifying protocol and procedures.

Junior Assistance Program: You may recall that the Association issued payment for junior development from \$1,000.00 to \$1,500.00. The Treasurer feels this allowance is a simple source of income for many Zones who continue to show a poor performance with junior development. He stated at our recent Board Meeting that no cheque payment would be sent this year. He felt that application from each Zone should be sent, to the Association requesting amounts of tournament sponsorship or relevant documentation seeking reimbursement of Junior Development. We will forward our Invoice for recent Junior Uniform Expenses this cost our Association \$3,500.00 lets hope the full amount is repaid?

Membership Fees: The Treasurer has announced that because of escalating running costs matched by poor interest rate return on Investments and a vast drop in Sponsorship support, Membership Fees will raise. It is anticipated that a maximum of \$5.00 be introduced to Senior (\$40.00) and Junior (\$25.00) will be the only area of fee structure change. Approval of the Treasurers proposed changes will be required at the March 2009 Ordinary General Meeting of the RNSWBA Delegates.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Marketing & Promotion of Lawn Bowls: "Bowls Access Program"

Our Sports Development team has developed a natural progression from In School Bowls Program, enabling Clubs' with access to; small sized bowls for junior programs. The Association will Purchase 40 sets of bowls which can then be hired out to clubs, The Term of the loan will be (3) Three Months at a cost of \$25.00/Set + Delivery that includes Insurance against Transport loss or damage. It is expected that any Club seeking the Loan of the Small Sized Bowls already hold the appropriate in-house insurance cover against loss or damage?

Premier League Final: A deal has been secured for this Year Final Series to be played at Raymond Terrace. Distribution is via paid T.V that will be screened within two weeks of the December Final being played. This cost represents a saving of \$20,000 over NBN coverage that offers no say in camera positioning, commentary or when the Final Series may be screened. Fox/Austar coverage will be seen in a variety of venues and this exposure will be invaluable. We are very confident that we can secure a sponsor to cover the total cost of \$12,000.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT:

2009 has commenced on a positive note with 3 clubs within our Zone nearing completion of the update of their Constitution and By-Laws.

Our Committee is extremely pleased to be able to assist them with the task and congratulate the club members involved for their commitment and dedication to get the end result required.

Delegates, with the changing legislation predicted in 2009, if you have not reviewed your club's documentation of governance for a number of years, our Committee recommends you do so.

Further Advisory Pamphlets are now on our website, namely:

- No.7 – Responsibilities of Club Delegates to the NDBA
- No.8 – Do's and Don't for Club Secretaries in their Relationship with the Association.

No.'s 6, 9, 10, 11 are currently in the development process and will be available in the near future.

Our Committee would like to hear of any further information your club would like to see on the website, that would assist in the operation of your club and assist the Zone in total.

COACHING COMMITTEE REPORT:

Draft copies of the new coaching manuals for the Introductory Coach and the Club Coach are presently being given their final editing. It is hoped that these will be available from Bowls Australia mid way through the year.

The Committee has planned tentative 2009 dates for the following:

Preliminary Coaching Seminar: Sunday 17th May 9.30 am – 3.00 pm
Venue is yet to be confirmed

This seminar is important for: presently accredited coaches
coaches whose accreditation is to lapse this year
and is
a prerequisite for bowlers intending to attend the
Introductory or Club Coach Courses

Introductory Coach Course Saturday 10th and Sunday 11th October
9.30 am – 3.00 pm
Venue is yet to be confirmed

Club Coach Saturday 7th and Sunday, 8th November
Saturday 14th and Sunday, 15th November
Saturday 21st and Sunday, 22nd November
9.30 am – 3.00 pm
Venue is yet to be confirmed

The Coaching Committee is throwing down a challenging gauntlet to the Umpires Committee to form a side and play in a Classic Challenge for bowling supremacy. Details will become available if the contest is accepted.

GREENS COMMITTEE REPORT:

Once again all greens have been inspected with pleasing results for this time of the year. Whilst there were still 36 greens under renovation and one green unfit, it was noted that most of the greens being renovated would be back in use in time for Pennants. Unfortunately the Match Committee had some minor problems when allocating District Games due to a shortage of greens but in the end all games were allocated only to be postponed due to the inclement weather last weekend.

It is also pleasing to see that most clubs are still working on their gardens and surrounds which certainly lifts the appearance of their respective clubs.

It is recommended that clubs number their greens viz. Nos. 1, 2, 3, etc. This assists the Greens Committee Inspector in ensuring that the correct rating is given to the respective greens at a club. Sometimes it can be very confusing if the greens are not numbered.

JUNIOR COMMITTEE REPORT:

Our junior championships are now underway with the playing of Round 1 of the Junior Pairs last Friday evening at Lambton. We witnessed a close match ... at 16 endsit was 16 allbetween the Toronto Workers pairing of Sam Morgan and Jarrod Gorsuch up against the Lemon Tree Passage pairing of Scott Carmody and Adrian Solomons. Sam and Jarrod went on to win this match 26 – 16.

Round 2 will be played on Friday night at Lambton and a good night of bowls is assured, with 4 rinks of our junior pairs and at the same time Lambton have a trial scheduled against Alder Park. This should be a good night of bowls.

Congratulations to Natasha Van Eldik from Raymond Terrace. We often talk about Natasha's success and noteworthy is her most recent selection for NSW in the open women's team to play in the Australian Sides Championship next month in Canberra. Natasha will be leading for Katrina Wright ...not bad for a squad member just turned 18.

In your handouts tonight is the season programme for the Development Squad. There are a few changes to the draft you received last year....so if you could find a place on your club notice board for this programme....it would be appreciated.

It was great to see at our first training session for the year held on the 9th a number of new juniors in attendance. We have noted that our squad is drawing from half of our clubs so to the other 26 Clubs I would like to remind you that I am only too willing to visit and meet with any club personnel interested in getting a junior programme up and running.

This is a timely reminder and an opportunity in our economic climatewith sporting fees so high in traditional kid's sports....we note a number of parents are looking at alternatives for their children and with a low cost factor in our sport ...this is a huge advantage. So, the time is now for any junior promotion.

MATCH COMMITTEE REPORT:

- The first of our District Championship events was concluded on Sunday, 8th February, 2009 with the District Four's final being played at Stockton Bowling Club. Congratulations to the team of Clay Parker, Jason Stokes, Bruce Jewell & Ian Lean from Raymond Terrace Bowling Club on defeating Dick Hadley, Jason Sutton, Lee Madden & Paul Wilson from Stockton Bowling Club 24 to 8 in the final. The fans on hand to witness this final were treated to a great game of bowls as the score did not indicate the game. This was a history making victory, as it was Raymond Terrace's first District Fours title. A big thank-you to Stockton Bowling Club for hosting the final's series. To all the other clubs who hosted earlier rounds in this event, please accept our thanks.
- Due to the inclement weather on Saturday, 14th February, 2009 all district pairs events have been postponed to Saturday, 21st February, 2009, with the exception of all first and second round matches that were played at Raymond Terrace on Saturday, 14th February, 2009. The winners from Raymond Terrace will rejoin the competition on Sunday, 22nd February 2009.
- Another reminder that the Annual NDBA Veterans V Super Veterans bowls day is on the 19th March, 2009 at Lowlands Bowling Club. Veterans players are for ages 70 to 74 and Super Veterans 75 and over commencing at 12.45pm.
- The all important annual Side Captain's and Team Manager's meeting was held on Thursday, 12th February 2009 at NDBA Headquarters with 29 clubs represented on the night and a big thank you to President John Smith who conducted the evening. A lengthy discussion took place on all aspects of pennant managers and side captain duties including grading of players.
- The annual Zone 2 Reserve Side Fixture to take on Zones 6 & 15 has been scheduled to take place at Wallsend Bowling Club on Sunday, 3rd May, 2009.
- It was agreed that the date of Zones 2, 6 & 15 Seniors (Over 60) Matches be changed to 23rd March, 2009 at Halekulani Bowling Club.

- Clubs wishing to change their Saturday number {1} one grade pennant matches to Friday night are urged to complete the appropriate forms ASAP. The form has to be signed by both clubs and is required to be forwarded to the NDBA office prior to any game change by the Monday prior to the scheduled date of the match.
- Clubs are also advised to fax all their player gradings of nominated players for the 2009 season as soon as possible. This will enable the Match Committee and Office Staff to double check their player status. Clubs are also advised to fax or contact the NDBA office with any concerns about player gradings for 2009.
- There has been a number of late changes to the Saturday and Mid-Week Pennant Competition draws. These changes are detailed in Circular No.021/2009 in your mail tonight. Please note that the Mid-Week Pennant changes are not on the Pennant Fixture Cards. You should ensure that the appropriate changes are made to your Pennant Fixture Cards, before they are given to your players. You will note that Mid-Week No.5 Grade Section 4 now has only 4 teams in the Section, we would appreciate a club entering a side in this section.

SELECTION COMMITTEE REPORT:

We started our representative programme for 2009 with an away 3 Test Series against the ACT side.

We arrived in Canberra in time for a roll up. They had a night pennant fixture and we were relegated to their second green that had just come back from renovations.

We lost both tests on the Saturday by narrow margins, in both games we started badly giving a 20 shot lead then fighting back with some top bowls. To their credit the ACT held firm and deserved their wins.

Unfortunately the afternoon test was marred by an umpires ruling, though correct by the book it really was not in the spirit or the best interest of the game.

A general discussion over breakfast with a few of our senior players on the way to approach the third test, especially the way to play the 16/17 second green, saw the boys start much better and hold the lead throughout to record their only win over the weekend.

All three tests were really tight results with the ACT worthy winners 2 Tests to 1.

We were well served by our three last minute replacements, all three well worth continuing in their positions.

Gentlemen, your club has received a request by Secretary Denis for your club to nominate players for consideration for representative fixtures, whether it be in our Senior, Zone or Reserve sides (Circular No.11/2009). Please follow this up with your club and have them returned ASAP, as we will be having some trial games on our agenda. Also we have a Senior and Reserve side representative game in the near future.

UMPIRES COMMITTEE REPORT:

Just recently a reprint of the Laws of the Game was issued by Bowls Australia, containing all of the past amendments as part of the book. Included was an amended D.R.2 which deals with a challenge to bowls.

For those of you who look at the BA website, you must have been confused and surprised to find again another amendment to D.R.2 which does not correspond to the Law Book.

Please use the Laws of the Game at all times. The update published in On the Green is valid (at this time) and corresponds with the Law Book.

And more amendments to the revised Law Book are on the way.

Bowls Australia has, in its wisdom, decided that they will issue all umpires certificates instead of the State Umpires Committee, and this will mean a longer wait for certificates. There will be no issue of badges.

MATTARA COMMITTEE REPORT:

Once again we set out on our Mattara Programme for this year and the 2009 Mattara Carnival is the 49th.

The Committee have issued Circular No.019/2009 which asked for clubs to express an interest in hosting the Les Parrott Memorial Open Singles & Restricted Singles or the Traditional Carnival. The Singles are scheduled for the 10th to 12th August and the Traditional Carnival for 13th to 21st August. Nominations are due for return by 27th March, 2009.

