



# 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, 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2009 commencing at 6.30pm.**

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

**APOLOGIES:** M. Conway, Vice-President; J. Walters (L. Field proxy), Boolaroo; A. Hopkins & R. Jordan, Carrington; E. Lind, Dora Creek Workers; W. Shipley, Edgeworth; K. Murray, Fingal Bay; J. Donn (A. Penfold Proxy), Heaton-Birmingham Gardens; J. Simpson, New Lambton; K. Robinson, Rathmines Memorial; J. Richardson, Soldiers Point; J. Wolfe, Swansea Workers; T. Dean, Wallsend; H. Norman (M. Ralston Proxy), Wangi; W. Brogden, Water Board.

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:** K. Aspery, Vice-President; B. Hoole, Cardiff Bowling Club.

**CLUBS NOT REPRESENTED:** Alder Park; Bar Beach; Bayway Village; Burwood Colliery; Cardiff; Carrington; Catherine Hill Bay; Edgeworth; Hamilton North; Mayfield; Merewether; Morisset Hospital; 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:-

*Alan Wallace (Kahibah); Paul Dunn (Boolaroo); Keith Thompson (Kahibah); Charles Taylor (Wallsend).*

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2009 having been circulated to all members, were taken as read and confirmed.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:** D. Broad read out a response from the Royal NSWBA in regards to correspondence received from Fingal Bay BC. He also read correspondence received from Bowls Australia (B.A.) in regards to the NDBA February Management Committee Minutes. C. Burns confirmed that the B.A. National Merchandising Program (NMP) scheme does not fund any elite level of bowls or bowlers. He also clarified the matter of affiliation fees & provided some details of the NMP administration costs which did seem excessive. After discussion moved P. Long, Redhead B.C. Seconded K. Doyle, New Lambton B.C. that the Executive forward a letter to the Royal requesting a break-up of the total income & expenses from the NMP and how the net income is allocated, viz what percentage funds STA Development Officers / how much is distributed to each STA. Noting that the NMP administration costs did seem excessive. CARRIED.

## **EXECUTIVE REPORT:**

The following recommendations were approved:

1. Approval be granted to Raymond Terrace Bowling Club to conduct:
  - (a) Jayco Newcastle Over 50's Triples on 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2009.
  - (b) Maitland Mutual Junior / Senior Versatility Fours on 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2009.
2. Approval be granted to Lemon Tree Passage Bowling Club to change the date of their Winter Mixed Fours from 13<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> July, 2009.
3. Leave of Absence be granted to:
  - (a) M. Conway, Vice-President, 4<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> May, 2009.
  - (b) B. Carling, Vice-President, 26<sup>th</sup> April to 11<sup>th</sup> May, 2009.
  - (c) A. Starrett, Coaching Committee Chairman, 20<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> June, 2009.

It was advised that

- (a) The Association will have a Goodwill Visit to the Nepean District Bowling Association on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> & Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July, 2009. Bowls will be played at Austral Bowling Club on the Saturday afternoon and Kemps Creek Bowling Club on the Sunday morning. Full details of the Goodwill Visit will be available in the near future.
- (b) Soldiers Point Bowling Club will be hosting the Australian Defence National Side, NSW Police, NSW RSL and NSW Greenkeepers Carnival from the 28<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> July, 2009.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

In what has been a relatively quiet month the Easter Weekend proved to be our busiest time. A mixed party of 50 took part in the 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Visit between the NDBA and the Southern Tablelands District Bowling Association.

From our base at Mittagong RSL Club Motel we visited Bowral, Goulburn Railway and Camden Bowling Clubs over the 3 days and at each club we had the good fortune to experience excellent hospitality and friendship from our hosts. A tired and weary party returned on Monday afternoon with each member having their own special memories of a very satisfying 3 days away.

My personal thanks to each of the people who travelled and especially to President Dave Missingham and Secretary Steve Laker of the Southern Tablelands DBA for their great organisation for the weekend.

Congratulations to our Senior Representative Side who again performed with distinction in the Annual Fixture between Zones 2, 6 and 15 at Halekulani B.C. Selection Committee Chairman Terry will fill you in with the details.

Together with Zone Councillor Col Burns, I attended the RNSWBA Ordinary General Meeting in Sydney during March. Col will provide you with details of this and the Board Meeting that preceded it on the same day.

Finally it was a personal pleasure to represent the Association at the Annual Dinner of the Newcastle District Cricket Umpires Association. This group are regular users of Wal Young House. It also provided an opportunity to catch up with many old friends from a different sporting era.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** The Treasurer submitted a statement of receipts and expenditure for the month ending, 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2009 which showed a balance at bank \$44,720.71.

## **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***

***National Merchandising Program (N.M.P.) & Logo Scheme:*** At the Bowls Australia (B.A) Council Meeting in March; State President, John continued to ask for answers with regards to the Administration Expenses that I had reported in February had a total in excess of \$195,000 and these administration expenses were taken out of the logo scheme before distribution back to the State/Territory Associations (STA's) for the 2007/08 Financial Year. The Break down is as follows:

Salaries & Administration	\$ 143,755.84
Airfares & Travel Expenditure	\$ 536.53
Public Relations / Media	\$ 20,000.00
STA's Compliance	\$ 30,000.00
Consulting Expense	\$ 917.50
Hardship Clothing Expenditure	\$ 213.36

There are some extraordinary charges involved with this scheme & unless further questions are asked to explain uncapped Salaries & Administration charges it is hard to imagine that these costs will be reduce for the ensuing year. Questions were asked of State President John, to explain the charges related to PR & Media like who is involved and with whom did B.A Consult with & under what power can this occur? Also, why is there a compliance charge if it is a STA Run Scheme?

*"We may wish to pursue this avenue via District/Zone level back through Bowls NSW & On To B.A.?"*

The issue to generate further revenue by wearing of the logo on garments below the waist and on outerwear from 1 July 2009, has only been delayed. Our State President continued to notified BA of NSW's position and the logo is mandatory for shirt, vest and jacket only. The NSW Board maintains its position, that a sufficient degree of consultation with STA's is still lacking on the part of BA & this must be improved. We will not waver until full disclosure of all N.M.P Generated Funds can be fully explained?

***Junior Assistance Program:*** You may recall that the Association issued & increased 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. This position was again endorsed at our April Meeting. We will seek sponsorship with the appropriate application paper work for the coming events with Junior Championships & Our annual Hunter Challenge.

**Membership Fees:** The Treasurer has announced that Fees will increase by \$2.00 for this year. It is not known if this increase will sustain the full impact of poor interest rate return on Investments which will be reduced by (-\$84,000) from last year results. This is due to present economic conditions, which also continue to hurt major revenue ventures like 'Sponsorship Support'. A vast drop is continuing and a separate committee chaired by John Peek is pursuing all opportunity with vigour. The increase will also assist in covering an expected increase in Bowls Australia Affiliation Fees.

### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

Following our April Board Meeting, District/Zone President John & I attended the Ordinary General Meeting of the RNSWBA. This meeting continues to struggle for maximum representation & it is falling close to closure, as we only fall in by three or four members to maintain the necessary quorum numbers - necessary to proceed with the events to be discussed. We were lucky this time; and although most of the attendees' relived the events of this morning Board Meeting we were treated to a wonderful presentation on the upcoming Sydney 2009 World Masters Games, in which Lawn Bowls will be played. For events & dates all interested players should check the Web or contact Secretary Denis for assistance.

**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 who will visit the undercover venue and check all areas for T.V coverage that will be screened within two weeks of the December Final being played. We are very confident that we can secure a sponsor to cover the total cost of \$12,000.

### **COACHING COMMITTEE REPORT:**

The RNSWBA and the State Coaching Committee is being most proactive in *immediately* organising courses for Coaching Assessors and Presenters so that Zones can continue to run their own coaching courses in line with the new competency based initiatives and procedures.

Appearing *twice* in the April issue of **Bowls NSW** magazine (page 4 and page 43) that has been posted to you and should now be received, is a "WANTED" add which states:.....

*We are looking for bowlers with a desire to be trained as Presenters and/or Assessors for an exciting new State-wide project.*

*Some previous training experience is desirable, but not necessary. A willingness to take on new challenges, meet deadlines and perform to a Standard of Excellence is needed.*

*This is a voluntary role and would suit someone looking for a new challenge. We are looking for people right across the state.*

*For more information please contact  
Michael Beaumont, Sport Development Manager  
9283 4555  
michael@rnswba.org.au*

***Applications close 30 April.....( and time is of the essence!!!)***

There will be provision for funding support for this project and it will provide the opportunity for zones to have accredited personnel plus additional coaches, both Introductory and Club, at the disposal of clubs and players in the near future.

A Coaching Implementation Panel will be assisting the Hunter, Newcastle and Central Coast zones on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July 9.00am – 3.00pm at Raymond Terrace Bowling Club to achieve at least 6 Assessors and Presenters and also have a target of accrediting 80 new Introductory or Club Coaches. Specifics are not to hand at this moment but I will alert all as they come to hand.

As this is an across the board initiative and is being instituted in conjunction with the NSWBA, it is not a gender based project, applications are being welcomed also from lady bowlers.

Again, as a reminder, our data base of coaches indicates that 23 are due for re-accreditation this year. These are required to be completed before June 30.

Re-accreditation Coaching Course: Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 9.30 am – 3.00 pm  
Raymond Terrace B.C.

Please be aware that this is a one time only option and non-attendance will automatically retire accreditation.

Those that have been contacted with an invitation to attend and should respond to the Office promptly. There is a closing date of Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May and so far there has been one reply.

The Re-accreditation process will include:  
completed documentary evidence of coaching with related requirements  
written test sourced from the present manual  
on-green practical coaching sessions

The Coaching Committee and the Umpires Committee *Supremacy Challenge Match* where 28 Coaches V 28 Umpires at Belmont Bowling Club on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2009 is to take place, has an altered commencement time, due to local lighting constraints. The game is now scheduled as a 1.00pm start. Creams or Club Apparel (Coach/Umpire) is the dress code for this event. Please contact Lin or myself if you wish to brag for the next 12 months.

#### **GREENS COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Once again another very short report. Due to an illness to one of our Greens Inspectors 6 of our greens were not inspected at the time of our meeting. They being Cardiff, Carrington, Edgeworth, Heaton-Birmingham Gardens, Mayfield and Water Board. The inspector to whom I refer is Frank Potter and we wish him a very speedy recovery.

Whilst we had 46 greens under renovation at the time of my last report, it is pleasing to note that all except 4 of them are back in use at the present time. It is also of some interest that there are now 31 synthetic greens in the Newcastle District.

#### **MATCH COMMITTEE REPORT:**

- The mid-way point of our Saturday and Wednesday pennant competitions has now been reached as rounds 5 of both competitions have now been completed (except for 3 Saturday Pennant washed out Round 5 Fixtures which are scheduled for next Sunday morning & one deferred No.1 Grade Round 3 Fixture between Swansea & Wangi which is scheduled to be played on Sunday May 17<sup>th</sup>. Clubs are also advised that the all important grading round 5 game in the Saturday & midweek pennant competition has now past and clubs should look carefully at their intending player movements, if any, and are also advised to contact the NDBA office with any concerns about player gradings for 2009.
- An early reminder to clubs that the pennant Post Sectional play is fast approaching and you should refer to NDBA Rules and Regulations Number 17 on Page 10 – **Notification of teams selected for Saturday and Mid-Week Post-Sectional Games**. Clubs participating in Post Sectional Games should have their team(s) selected with spares by mid-week if playing on a Saturday and four days prior to a mid-week game. Clubs to fax or email their nominated team(s) to the NDBA Match Committee for acceptance.
- A reminder to clubs with multiple sides that they shall be identified as No.1, No.2, No.3, etc and for the purpose of elevation and regression shall be deemed a higher and lower side.
- The closing date for this year's District Singles Championship are as follows:-
  - State Presidents Singles close on Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> May 2009.
  - The District Major and State Senior Singles both close on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2009 with the expected first round of all singles to commence on Saturday, 21<sup>st</sup> June 2009.

Entry Forms for each of these championships are in your mail to-night.

#### **SELECTION COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Our main Fixture this month was our Seniors test series against Zone champions Central Coast.

You would remember that the Central Coast senior side defeated us in the NSW Senior Sides Zone Championship final played last year at Maitland City in a real cliff hanger.

Well I am pleased to say we certainly had our revenge defeating them by 30 shots, 133 to 103, with 4 rink wins to 2, at Halekulani Bowling Club. We are hoping this win is a great lead up to the Zones Sides Championship this year.

It really was a great test to watch with good shots applauded by both sides & bowlers standing aside to allow spectators to watch, even quite enough to hear the skippers call. The outright winner of the day was Sportsmanship and good friendship.

Our next fixture is our Red and our Blue Reserves Side matches against Hunter District and Central Coast at Wallsend Bowling Club on Sunday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 2009. These sides have been selected and details are in your mail tonight.

As I mentioned at the last meeting the deferred Pennant Game between Soldiers Point and Raymond Terrace that was to be played on the following Sunday, and it would be worth the trip up to see it. I can assure you it certainly was, top sportsmanship and fantastic bowls were the order of the day.

With our pennants at the half way mark in sectional play. There has been some great results heading for some very tight section finishes, assuring us of many superb semi-finals and finals.

**UMPIRES COMMITTEE REPORT:**

I hope the Easter Season brought you pleasure and joy, as it certainly did for me.

I am pleased to be able to tell you that Bowls Australia has issued to all States and Territories brand new Application Forms for Level 1 National Umpire, Level 2 National Umpire, and also for Measurers. So, all or any forms you have in your Bowls Secretary's Office, or held by your Umpire Liaison Officer, you can destroy. The new forms may be obtained from the NDBA office, and must be used.

I am also pleased to inform you that Bowls Australia have issued new Umpires examination papers, and instructed that all past examination papers must be destroyed. I am also happy to report that the **new** Level 1 paper is nearly completely acceptable, i.e. free from mistakes and ambiguity. And **this** is a pleasant change.

I am **NOT** pleased to report that delays are being experienced in the processing of the umpires accreditation certificates and the printing of the OFFICIAL CARD, and I ask you and all newly accredited officials, i.e. Umpires, to patiently wait for this information to be sent to your State Umpires Committee so they may send you your card.

Congratulations to all umpires officiating during the Pennant Season. It is to be hoped that more bowlers will see their way clear to buy the Law Book and enrol in an umpires class, for their own benefit and hopefully the benefit of the other members of their club.

In your envelope tonight you will find 2 sheets:

1. Duties of the Controlling Body and
2. Duties of an Umpire.

Would you please ask that both these sheets be prominently displayed on your Club Notice Board.

**MATTARA COMMITTEE REPORT:**

The recommended host clubs for our 2009 Mattara Carnival are Warners Bay for the Open and Restricted Singles and Charlestown for the Traditional Carnival.

We thank Cardiff, Edgeworth, Soldiers Point, Teralba and Windale/Gateshead for their nominations and can assure them of allocation of events during the Carnival.

We can now move ahead with the initial organisation of the Carnival with the preparation of Posters and Entry Forms, which will be distributed early in June with entries to close early in July.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE REPORTS**

Umpires Committee

B. Kappler, Dora Creek Workers BC, enquired of L. Coulton of the NEW OFFICIAL CARD, as to what you are an official of?. L. Coulton confirmed that the new Umpires Card would just have OFFICIAL on it & that it was a Bowls Australia decision. It was out of the hands of the RNSWBA Umpires Committee, with all official cards now being issued by Bowls Australia.

**GENERAL BUSINESS:**

1. J.T. Smith advised that all clubs should shortly receive a flyer in regards to the Sydney 2009 World Master Games to be staged from 10-18 October, 2009. He requested it be placed on Clubs Notice Boards.
2. B. Kappler, Dora Creek Workers B.C., requested that the Match Committee give consideration to playing Pennant Post Sectional matches on synthetic greens, especially now that there are 31 synthetic greens in the District.
3. P. Long, Redhead B.C., thanked R. Brew for umpiring at their Coulter Shield Tournament played on the 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> April, 2009.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be held on Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2009 commencing at 6.30pm.

**CLOSED:** The meeting closed at 7.55pm.

**CONFIRMED** .....

**(PRESIDENT)**  
21.05.2009