



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, 18th June, 2009 commencing at 6.30pm.

PRESENT: **President:** J.T. Smith (who occupied the Chair); **Vice-Presidents:** B. Alcock; C. Burns; B. Carling; M. Conway; 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: B. Cooke, Membership Committee Chairman; C. Stockwell, Belmont; T. Undery (T. Maples Proxy), Beresfield; R. Clayden & L. Dimmock, Burwood Colliery; A. Hopkins, Carrington; C. Reay, Fingal Bay; B. Petersen, Lowlands; J. Simpson, New Lambton; J. Richardson, Soldiers Point; K. Smith, Stockton; M. Hellwig, Toronto Workers; P. Squires, Valentine; H. Norman (M. Ralston Proxy), Wangi; E. Lamborn & B. Mahaffey, Warners Bay; W. Brogden, Water Board.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: K. Aspery, Vice-President; D. Gilday, Match Committee Chairman.

CLUBS NOT REPRESENTED: Adamstown; Alder Park; Bar Beach; Bayway Village; Belmont; Burwood Colliery; Carrington; Catherine Hill Bay; Hamilton North; Lambton-New Lambton RSL; Morisset Hospital; Rathmines Memorial; Stockton; Teralba; Warners Bay.

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

Roy Cowan (Swansea Workers); Noel Watt (Kahibah); Sydney Carr (Kahibah); Iwan Netluch (Hexham); Graham Hogg (Cardiff); Cliff Baus (Swansea); Bob Overend (Lemon Tree Passage); George Lucas (Kahibah).

MINUTES: The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, 21st May, 2009 having been circulated to all members, were taken as read and confirmed.

EXECUTIVE REPORT:

The following recommendations were approved:

1. Approval be granted to Redhead Bowling Club to conduct the John Foskett Mixed Versatility Fours on Sunday, 30th August, 2009.
2. Leave of absence be granted to:
 - (a) A. Wright, Treasurer, 22nd July to 5th August, 2009.
 - (b) L. Coulton, Vice-President, 22nd to 26th June, 2009.
 - (c) D. Gilday, Match Committee Chairman, June Management Committee Meeting.

It was advised that:

1. The Janome NSW Open will be held at Taren Point Bowling Club from the 3rd to 9th October, 2009. The RNSWBA is enquiring if any club within Zone 2 is willing to host a Regional Qualifying Event. There will be only 2 events, Pairs & Fours played at the NSW Open this year. As a result it is expected that only 2 days will be required for any Regional Qualifying. Interested clubs should contact the NDBA Office A.S.A.P.
2. Circular No. 076/2009 details the 2009/10 Executive and Permanent Sub-Committees Nominations. A copy of the Circular in on the counter for Delegates tonight. Ballots will be necessary to elect:
 - (a) The Seven (7) Vice-Presidents
 - (b) The Seven (7) Members of the Match Committee
 - (c) The Five (5) Members of the Selection Committee
 - (d) The Eight (8) Members of the Umpires Committee

Ballot papers have been issued and should be returned in the stamp addressed envelope by Thursday, 9th July, 2009.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The 2009 Zone 2 Saturday / Mid-Week Pennant Season has almost come to its conclusion, with only the No.4 Grade Mid-Week Pennant Final between Valentine & Lowlands washed out yesterday to be hopefully played next Wednesday at Heaton-Birmingham Gardens. We now look to the first weekend in August when our representatives in Nos.1 to 7 Grades attempt to bring a State Pennant home. On behalf of the NDBA may I wish each and everyone of them every success in their quest to create history for themselves and our Association. May I thank and compliment our host clubs for the final's series for their efforts, especially when the weather was not entirely favourable.

The meeting with Bowls Australia C.E.O. Neil Dalrymple was attended by 6 clubs and visitors from Zone 15 Executive and our NDBA Executive. I'm sure the short timeline given to you was not all that helpful in getting a bigger attendance.

The meeting covered a wide range of issues in an open and honest manner and Neil expressed his gratitude for the opportunity to both speak to and listen to the wide range of topics that were raised at the meeting. I feel all who attended came away from the meeting with a greater appreciation of Bowls Australia and its role.

The Annual General Meeting cycle continues to gather momentum and we are grateful to all those clubs who invite us to attend these important occasions.

Belmont Bowling Club did a little more catching up with the unfurling of their 2008 No.5 Grade Mid-Week Pennant and 2008 Presentation Day last weekend. I am assured by Zone Councillor Col that a great day was had by all and it is pleasing to see that the Club honoured the achievements of its members when its new clubhouse became available.

Finally this evening may I thank all of those people who have nominated for a position on the NDBA Executive or a Sub-Committee. We will require ballots to elect our 7 Vice-Presidents, 5 Selectors, 7 Match Committee Members and 8 members of the Umpires Committee. Ballot papers will be posted to each club for the consideration of the Board and are to be returned to the NDBA Returning Officer by Thursday 9th July. I will urge each club to give their earnest consideration to this important issue.

Our next meeting is the Annual General Meeting and I would remind Delegates that the meeting starts at 7.45pm, not our usual time of 6.30pm.

TREASURER'S REPORT: The Treasurer submitted a statement of receipts and expenditure for the month ending, 31st May, 2009 which showed a balance at bank \$26,169.33. Moved A.Wright Seconded W. Baldwin that the 209/10 Budget as presented on Circular No. 75/2009 be adopted. CARRIED.

REPORTS:

STATE COUNCILLOR'S REPORT:

MATTERS OF INTEREST

Address by David Crocker, Dept of Sport & Recreation: At our recent Board Meeting we received the reasons on changing legislation to do with *Associations Inc* that progressively will be required to change to *Co Ltd by Guarantee*; this change is necessary to protect one's own objects, constitution and membership criteria. There were also heavy views on *Corporate Governance, Setting Strategies, Measuring Performance* and how this all ties in with Australian Sports Commission that eventually see direction and funding back to Bowls Australia.

Forthcoming Elections: In September of this year we see a change in personnel at the helm within Bowls NSW. After the AGM we will have a New President, Vice President & possibly a New Treasurer, as well as New Board Members representing Zones 5 & 9. There are outstanding issues that concern the Board; it will be interesting during the time remaining prior to September if areas covering; *Co Ltd by Guarantee, Constitution Update & Strategies for Non Profit Organisation* – how to make surplus profit, so as to re-invest with sound initiatives that will flow back into the individual assistance programs within our sport of Lawn Bowls are successfully addressed.

Address by John Smith, Match Committee – Draft 2009-2010 COP

We were presented with the draft 2009-2010 Conditions of Play document. Limited distribution of this document is the present aim and in control with each State Councillor for the purpose of discussion with their individual Zone. Process of discussion to take place from within each District & Zone Match Committee and their opinions are to be formulated & brought back to the July, Board Meeting via the control of each Councillor. The usual inside page has been coloured for ease with proposed amendments, noting Item 1.1. Premier League COP is to be removed as a separate entity. Duties of controlling body have been included. With the event that after discussion which has been organised locally for 30th June and then again after the July Board Meeting whereby any further amendments or additions would have concluded. The document will then be printed and circularised.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Unification: Our CEO reported that both NSWWBA EO and he had been empowered by the Unification Committee to prepare a business case on the unification process. They have been speaking with Jeff Slatter, NSW Sport & Recreation, who have allocated \$20k of Department's money from their sports development program to assist in the unification process. In the Department's view no worthwhile progress has been made within the past ten years. Landers & Rodgers have been engaged to conduct a governance review of all documents into the proposed structure, covering current constitutions, by-laws etc. They will produce an issue a paper that will create a survey for any additional information they need to know in order to move this process forward. The paper will be presented to both NSWWBA and RNSWBA, with a survey that will go out to all key stakeholders (Members) requesting answers and feedback to assist the process. A report will then be drafted on process of merging the two bodies. They will come back to the Board and workshop that; will take the final feedback and create a final report for Board's consideration around February 2010.

If the Board decides that there is a positive response from the membership to proceed, then we will have six months to finalise proceedings leading up to the September election, with voting on the process that will eventually decide the outcome.

Only so much can happen around the table, a lot of going around in circles. Hard to get independent thought when both RNSWBA and NSWWBA are each principally concerned with their own interests. This work is being paid for by somebody else,

is being undertaken by somebody else, yet we have feedback and input all through the process. Both J Buchanan & A Rosenberg have signed off on this agreement on behalf of the Unification Committee, and given the okay to Department of Sport & Recreation for Landers & Rodgers to go ahead. There was some speculation as to whether unification meetings should be suspended while independent action is in process and for liaison just to proceed via our CEO. Some concern from Board Members expressed that work on RNSWBA constitution etc should not grind to a halt while unification preparation continues. Meaning there is still a need to 'put our house in order'.

Motion was put that any further unification discussions & committee meetings be put on hold until the independent draft report was presented back to the Board. **Motion heavily defeated.**

The final report from Landers & Rodgers will be a proposed draft constitution for a unified body, a process of dissolving both organisations to form the new unified entity and this process would be presented to both organisations. Their timeframe is February 2010 to September 2010 that will encompass a case to all members. L&R quote is tied to \$20k.

Correspondence Protocol: An increasing amount of correspondence is being received at RNSWBA without following correct protocols. An item has been placed in the bowls magazine reminding clubs to follow protocol and forward matters to the next authority for consideration. While RNSWBA staff are happy to assist in interpretation of laws etc. Districts and Zones are the best place to start and they do have the knowledge, experience and resources to resolve disputes before the matter progresses to State Level.

Law Changes: Through our State Umpires we are seeking as much feedback as possible from District and Zone Committees on recommended changes to laws of key interest. Interesting that the survey on the BA website indicates overwhelming support for the 21m length to be returned as a law.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

At this time I would also like to endorse the comments made by Present John about the visit made to this Association by CEO, Neil Dalrymple from B.A. This informal gathering was organised by B.A Director, Des Skinner whom I also sincerely thank.

This opportunity afforded me plenty of question times with the many concerns that I had as a Board Member that inturn was always raised back to you as Delegates. Neil did not waver or hesitate to answer the many questions asked about his position, staff knowledge, policy and future direction.

I anticipate from this day forth that common ground has been found between both Organisations who will continue to unite, providing all direction is communicated clearly and that it carries the voice of which it represents, the STA's.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT:

Only a short report to let you know our latest pamphlet No.9 "Duties of a Club Treasurer" is now in the hands of our Executive Committee and should be on our website early in July. Thanks to the work of our Treasurer Alec Wright.

We have two more being out sourced, "Duties of a Club Secretary" and "Duties of a Games Secretary". Both important to the efficient running of a club. Hopefully they will be available in the second half of this year.

Our Committee would like to congratulate Wangi Bowling Club for recently having their Rules of the Co-Op Ltd passed successfully through the Department of Fair Trading. A lot of time and effort has gone into the product and our committee have enjoyed being of assistance to them. Special thanks to Harry Norman for being the spokesman representing his committee.

COACHING COMMITTEE REPORT:

A highly important venture for the Coaching Committee is to support the NSW Coaching Implementation Panel that will be coming to assist the Hunter, Newcastle and Central Coast Zones on Wednesday 8th and Thursday 9th July 9.00am – 5.00pm at Raymond Terrace Bowling Club.

Aspirants for Introductory Coach may choose either the Wednesday or Thursday, whilst those choosing to become a Club Coach will be required to attend both days with a further day follow-up on a date yet to be advised by the Implementation Panel.

The cost for this year only will be at a reduced \$25 while it is indicated that future costs for attending such courses will be in the vicinity of \$120 plus.

There is a priority is to accredit at least 6 Assessors and Presenters from the 3 zones along with a target of accrediting 80 new Introductory and/or Club Coaches.

It is strongly, *repeat strongly*, recommended to clubs, especially to those that host corporate/party functions, school bowls or barefoot bowling, to support the accreditation of at least 7 bowlers as Introductory Coaches and ideally one new Club Coach.

State wide it is being suggested that for each barefoot, party bowls, schools etc, that there be an Introductory Coach per rink. Cost of paying the attendance of these coaches is to be bourn by the visiting participants. (\$30 per rink may be a considered option)

Application forms to attend this course will be sent out from the NDBA Office in the very near future and I urge for your strong support in this significant endeavour.

Please contact me if you have any further inquiries for assistance.

MATCH COMMITTEE REPORT:

- The Saturday Pennant competition has now been completed, with the winners competing in the upcoming State Pennant playoffs in August 2009. They being:
Grade 1: Swansea
Grade 2: Nelson Bay
Grade 3: Raymond Terrace
Grade 4: Dora Creek Workers
Grade 5: Redhead
Grade 6: Wangi
Grade 7: Valentine No.1

To all these sides we wish you good fortunes at the upcoming State Pennant playoffs.

- The Midweek Pennant winners for 2009 are as follows:
Grade 1: Raymond Terrace
Grade 2: Swansea
Grade 3: Teralba
Grade 4: Still to be decided
Grade 5: Heaton Birmingham Gardens
- On behalf of the Zone 2 Match Committee I would formally like to thank all the executive members and umpires, along with all of our bowling clubs and their officials who have officiated and hosted our pennant and pennant finals this year.
- Clubs are also reminded of the option of applying this year for the regrading for 2010 for any players who may have played only 1 or 2 games in a higher grade in 2009, 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.
- The first rounds of the 2009 District Major Singles Championship is scheduled to commence this Saturday 20th June 2009, along with the State President's Singles. Also scheduled to commence this weekend will be rounds one & two of the State Senior Singles Championship which is scheduled to commence on Sunday, 21st June 2009. This will allow the semi-finals & finals of each Championship to be played at Charlestown B.C. on Sunday, 28th June, 2009.
- The closing date for this year's District Minor Singles Championship is Wednesday, 8th July 2009 with the first round expected to commence on Saturday 25th July, 2009. Entry Forms were distributed to clubs by way of Circular No. 070/2009.
- Entries for the 2009 District Triples Championship close on the 24th June 2009 and the first round is expected to commence on Saturday, 11th July 2009.
- Any clubs wishing to submit suggestions or changes to the 2010 NDBA Season's Program or Rules & Regulations are urged to do so as per NDBA Circular No. 053/2009 and be in the hands of the NDBA Secretary by Tuesday 30th June 2009. The Association's Programme, Rules & Regulations for 2010 will be discussed at the August Meeting of the Management Committee and finalised at the September Meeting 2009.
- Delegates just an early reminder that the closing date for this years Three Three's Competition is Wednesday the 5th August 2009, with the expected commencement date Wednesday, 26th August 2009.
- Entries for the Champion of Club Champion Singles Championship also close on Wednesday, 5th August, followed by the Champion of Club Champion Pairs Championship on Wednesday, 12th August & the Champion of Club Champion Fours Championship on Wednesday, 2nd September, 2009.

SELECTION COMMITTEE REPORT:

As I mentioned in my last report that it was an exciting time of the year, with our Pennant Finals being played.

With rain interfering in some of the top grades, it allowed me to attend and watch some of the 4 & 5 grade semi's and finals. The keenness and enthusiasm of players and supporters was equal to any premier league final and a pleasure to watch.

Congratulations to Kahibah, Lambton, Alder Park and the ultimate winner Swansea for their brilliant display of sportsmanship and brilliance during the semi-finals and final of the No.1 Grade.

It was bowls at its very best, with fortunes going one way then the other. If it was a football match, I feel sure 2/3 of the way through the final, some of the supporters would have retired to the bar.

One Alder Park player after the game, looked blank and said “where did we go wrong?” My reply was, nowhere mate Swansea just raised their self to a higher level, and although your side still played well you could not match their brilliant play over the later ends.

Our next Representative game is against Zone 13 in Sydney and 8 teams have been selected and players notified. This match is the lead up to the fixture against Zones 4, 9 & 16 at Dubbo on the 25th & 26th July. This side will consist of 6 teams.

Our Senior side will be playing in Coffs Harbour on the 7th, 8th and 9th July, for the State Senior Inter-Zone Sides Championship.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE REPORTS

R.N.S.W.B.A.

K. Bucklee, Wallsend, enquired if Unification was successful would it flow onto District/Zones ? C. Burns replied that it should have a flow on effect.

Coaching Committee

W. Shipley, Edgeworth, enquired about the status of current coaches. A. Starrett advised that coaches retain their current status until their expiry date. If they then chose to do the re-accreditation course, they would be re-accredited as a Club Coach.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

1. Vacancies still exist for the Mixed Goodwill Visit to the Nepean DBA on the weekend of Saturday, 18th & Sunday, 19th July, 2009.
2. P. Long, Redhead, enquired if the District had any information on the proposed Mixed Pennants Competition? J.T. Smith advised that the Lake Macquarie Womens B.A. had invited Lake Macquarie Clubs to enter a Mixed Pennants Competition. The NDBA had received no official information on the competition.

NEXT MEETING: The next Meeting will be the Annual General Meeting to be held on Thursday, 16th July, 2009 commencing at 7.45pm. The next Ordinary Meeting will be held on Thursday, 20th August, 2009 commencing at 6.30pm

CLOSED: The meeting closed at 7.45pm.

CONFIRMED

(PRESIDENT)
20.08.2009