



PHONES: 49 293441 -- 49 291307  
FAX: 49 291699  
EMAIL ADDRESS: [zone2@ndba.com.au](mailto:zone2@ndba.com.au)

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:  
PO BOX 2199, DANGAR 2309

Minutes of the meeting of the Management Committee of the Newcastle District Bowling Association held at Association Headquarters, "Wal Young House", on Thursday, October 15, 2020 commencing at 6.30pm.

**PRESENT:** **President:** M Conway (who occupied the Chair); **Vice-Presidents:** J.G. Bilby, T Blow, **Treasurer:** D.G. Wells.  
**Sub-Committee Chairman** – R Gardner Junior Committee, J.T. Smith OAM Match Committee.

**APOLOGIES:** W.E Masson, D Gilday, J Lindsay, D Rowe, J Fowler (New Lambton); T Antram (Soldiers Point); J Smith, (Bayway Village); R Steel, (Catherine Hill Bay); B Boxall (Rathmines), J Wark, (Swansea Workers); T Dean, (Wallsend Diggers); A Perkins, (Lemon Tree Passage).

**LEAVE OF ABSENCE:** K Bucklee,

**CLUBS NOT REPRESENTED:** Boolaroo, Carrington, Hamilton North, Jesmond Bowlo, Lambton, Lowlands, Tomago, Warners Bay.

**OBITUARIES:** *Brian Wells (Kahibah); Andrew Penfold, John Kwasniak (Wallsend Diggers); Steven Rowe (Merewether); Mark Chenery (Valentine); Wal Jackson (Kotara); Andrew Butler (Raymond Terrace); Bernie Hoole (Cardiff); Arthur Nowland & Paul Kosgriff (Fingal Bay).*

**MINUTES:** The Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday, July 16, 2020 having been circulated to all members, were taken as read and confirmed.

**MATTERS ARISING:**

**EXECUTIVE REPORT:**

Results of Special Resolution Voting

- a) Constitution Gender Neutral (25 Yes 0 No) Carried
- b) Removal of Sentence relating to Selection Committee. (24 Yes 1 No) Carried
- c) Brian Carling to receive NDBA Life membership (25 Yes 0 No) Carried

Bowls NSW Board meeting was held today where the new C.O.P was discussed, and the 2021 version will be available next week along with information relating to Pennant Grades for 2021.

2021 Pennant nominations must be returned to NDBA on the correct form by Wednesday December 16, 2020.

Bay Way Village has had a new Synthetic green installed and is up and running.

Zone 2 membership as of 15/10/20 = 4458, in March 2020 = 4720. Since March 87 new members have been added and 175 have been deleted from members list.

**It is recommended:**

That entries to Zone events for 2021 to be registered online with clubs having their own weblink.

Clubs requiring assistance with Pennant Grade nominations to seek the help of Secretary Warren Shipley either by phone or in person at your club.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

**From:**

1. NSW Fair Trading approved changes to the Constitution. New Constitution takes effect September 25, 2020.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

It gives me great pleasure to see our bowlers back on the greens at their clubs playing Social and Championship Games. Zone 2 is up and running with the 4's Championships that will conclude this weekend with our newly crowned champions for 2020. The following weekend is the commencement of the Zone Singles Championships. Thank you to all those clubs who have put their hands up to host all these Championships.

I am also looking forward to seeing all our Zone Rep Players in action on November 21 & 22 with the Battle of the Ages and the Pat Geary Shield. Congratulations to all those players who have been selected in these games.

My thanks again to all those clubs who have invited our Executive to their Annual General Meetings. My sincere gratitude to Warren Shipley for his continued commitment and professionalism to this Zone during Covid-19 with his communication to all the Zone Clubs keeping everyone up to date with information being filtered through from State and Australian Administrations. To Don Wells our treasurer keeping his fingers on the pulse with the Job Keeper and our funds. Thank you to Fiona and Louise for your continued support to this Zone with your office work.

With this being the last delegates meeting for this year I would like to thank you all for your understanding support since March this year with the ongoing changes/cancellations of Bowling Events. I would also like to thank you for your gratitude and I am hoping that we can invite you to an Appreciation Xmas function here at head office sometime in December during the day for a few beers and some Christmas snacks. We will keep you all informed with details as December gets closer and hopefully Covid-19 restrictions will be eased.

Stay safe.

Best wishes

Mark T Conway -President.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT: D Wells**

April to September Income	= \$155 537
April to September Expenditure	= \$ 97 442
April to September Balance	= \$ 58 095

D Wells reported that \$72,000 of the income was made up of JobKeeper, ATO Boost and Service NSW Grant.

### **REPORTS:**

#### **Advisory Committee: J Bilby for B Carling**

J Bilby congratulated B Carling on receiving his NDBA Life Membership. Next meeting to be held on November 5

#### **Coaching Committee: J Bilby for Ted Masson**

J Bilby for T Masson stated that Bowls NSW have taken over all aspects of arranging Coaching Courses and Presentations.

#### **Greens Committee: J Bilby**

J Bilby announced that Bayway Village's new green now in play. All greens were inspected in September and a number of greens were nearing renovation state. Next inspection to be held in February 2021.

#### **Junior Committee: R Gardner Junior Chairman**

No report.

#### **Match Committee: J.T. Smith OAM- CHAIRMAN**

##### **Zone Championships**

Since my last report there has been plenty of postponing of fixtures due to the limitations placed upon us by Covid-19.

We have at last been able to programme our Zone Fours and Singles events with entries for each event as follows: -

Singles - Open (53)	Senior (57)	State Presidents (76)
Fours- Open (34)	Senior (21)	State Presidents (31)

The Fours events have reached the Finals and will be completed this weekend. We thank our Host Clubs being Soldiers Point, Wallsend Diggers and Edgeworth as well as all clubs who assisted with preliminary rounds.

The Singles will be hosted by Raymond Terrace, Water Board and Mayfield West Bowling Clubs and will commence on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October. A new feature of these events is the requirement for some entrants to act as markers due to the inability of clubs being unable to provide the required number owing to the current situation with Covid-19. Players required to mark were included in the original draw and a reminder was sent to all clubs on Tuesday this week listing those players required to meet this commitment.

Entries have closed for the Champion of Club Champions Singles with 28 nominations. This event will be hosted by Water Board and is due to commence on November 1. This will be followed by the Champion of Club Champions Pairs beginning on November 14 with entries for this event closing on October 16.

The State Match Committee has released its 2021 Bowls Calendar which will include the finalisation of the 2020 State Champion of Club Champions events in February and March and the 2020 State Championships in the same months with the order of play to be determined.

The Saturday Grades 2-7 State Finals are tentatively scheduled for July 16-17 with the No.1 Grade programmed for July 30-31 and August 1. The Saturday No.1 Grade will be under the direct control of the State Match Committee and nominations are to go direct to that body and will close at the end of November when the format and starting date will be announced.

Now that we have the State Calendar, we can consider all options for the commencement date of Grades 2-7 Saturday Pennants as that decision will be made at Zone level. Your club has been forwarded the information on Zone 2 2021 events and the four (4) proposals for the 2021 Saturday Pennants. Tonight, will be a discussion of the options presented and a voting paper will be forwarded to clubs for them to indicate their preferences. The votes need to be returned to the Association by Friday, October 30 as we must notify Bowls NSW of our Zone 2 Programme by November 1.

Clubs were also provided with details of other Zone events from the Match Committee and the details of Bowls NSW events that cannot be changed.

Representative fixture dates will be finalised between Zones concerned after each Zone has completed their 2021 organization.

We will now proceed with the discussions of suggestions for Zone 2 Seasons Programme. My thanks to Secretary Warren for the material provided to clubs and this evenings meeting to assist us in our deliberations.

### **Selection Committee T Blow**

As we all know, 2020 has been a disaster for all bowls.

Since the BNSW Inter-Zone in March, all representative games have been cancelled.

The annual "Soldiers Pt Classic" was to be played in August, between Zones 2, 4, 11 & 16 & the games between NDBA's U18/25's, Over 40-60's, Seniors Over 60's & the Veterans Over 70's were all cancelled.

The "Pat Geary Shield" played between Zones 2, 6, 14 & 15, & the game played between NDBA's U18/25's, Over 40-60's, Seniors Over 60's & the Veterans Over 70's, now known as "The Battle of the Ages" were all to be played at Belmont Golf. The "Pat Geary Shield" has now been transferred to Soldiers Point & due a green renovation "The Battle of the Ages" is now at Wallsend.

All matches are to played on Saturday & Sunday 21<sup>ST</sup> & 22<sup>ND</sup> November.

Zone 15, have withdrawn from the "Pat Geary Shield", & Zone 11 are the replacement Zone.

## **State Councilor Report T Blow**

### Zone Reports

#### Zones 1 & 7

Progress made in zone-alone proposal.

Most resistance coming from Clarence River District in Zone 1.

#### Zone 11:

Lansdowne BC has decided not to disaffiliate even though down to 15 or so members.

BNSW will review fees to assist them keep their doors open.

#### Zone 13:

Bondi and Bronte BCs breached COVID guidelines and respectively fined \$10K and \$5K.

#### Zone 14:

Clubs do not understand the need to register and deregister bowlers given that fixed fee does not relate to numbers of bowlers.

### COVID-19 Restrictions Update

Community sport restrictions in place until 30 September, & no further news has become available, we will update.

For community sport to be continued across different areas the Office of NSW Sport & Recreation required a submission of a more detailed breakup within regions.

As such a break up was deemed both difficult and artificial, BNSW and WBNSW jointly decided to keep the status quo.

### Operational/Office Update

BNSW staff were on JobKeeper and working reduced hours, & from 24 September, staff have reverted to fulltime basis. Hours 8.30am – 4.30am.

Staff have been doing a lot of background work on BowlsLink.

Plans to livestream top games have had to be put on hold due to restrictions.

Instead a series of interviews with elite players is planned.

### HoSO Report

HoSO Report was mainly on 2020/2021 Proposed BNSW Season Calendar

### Feedback on 2021 Season Calendar & COP Update

Feedback for COP was to allow opportunity to express how you see the future of bowls in NSW.

Feedback has been underwhelming.

However, based on feedback received, a new proposed version of 2021 calendar has been provided to Zones, & Warren has sent NDBA calendar to clubs with 4 different versions for feedback.

Proposed changes include:

moving the Australian indoor qualifiers to later in year;

moving Inter-Zone to late May;

bringing State Pennant finals forward;

separate weekend for Grade 1 and Grades 2-7 Pennant finals;

moving State selection series and State quadrangular series to later dates.

Snapshot of feedback given and reasons prompting proposed changes outlined.

Out of meeting of metro zones on Tuesday, consensus was for a unified metro zones calendar.

While this is not possible across the State, it demonstrates what can be achieved by meeting.

### New Club & Zone Pennant Entry / Submission Forms

Each Zone Match Committee will receive their own folder with every club's entry form for Pennants.

They have choice of agreeing to the allocation or not.

Any variation then is submitted to the Zone Match Committee and then on to the State MC.

All the Zone MC has to do is put in elevations or regressions with supporting reasons, it is hoped the process is simplified.

### BowlsLink Update

Incorrect upload/transfer issues experienced from current system to BowlsLink have delayed move to membership module.

More than likely, membership module will not be ready in time for the 2021 calendar year.

Refining required to be able to support full membership database capability for State/zones/clubs. I believe that members would be able to change personal details themselves on BowlsLink.

Ellis in discussion with BA and with other States.

Competition Module takes a little work to set up but once this time, operation is easy. Zone 5 are trialling it. Should be ready for use for 2021 season.

Training tutorials will be prepared for the whole State and complemented hopefully (COVID notwithstanding) a roadshow.

#### Coaching Programs

Were awaiting responses re venues for competition &/or selection modules from some Zones for November and for December. I assume all ok now.

#### Print Media

Zone 1 pointed out on the difficulty of access to print media.

David Ellis presented a flyer based on BA's Local Legends campaign which can include local club information.

Competitive pricing with regional papers attainable which can be further enhanced using the one BNSW account.

BNSW can do the work, & Zones will show their clubs the way of advertising.

Not a big expense and even the recent Grassroots grant to clubs could easily cover the cost. Contact David Ellis/Warren Shipley if interested.

#### CEO Report

##### Unification

Talks have been progressing. Check on BNSW and WBNSW websites for updates and Q&A posts. Any questions on unification can be directed to the working party via [unification@bowls.com.au](mailto:unification@bowls.com.au)

#### Grants & Funding

514 clubs were eligible for the Local Sport Grant Program and thanks go to zones and RBMs who worked hard to assist submission, in a very short lead-time, which enabled clubs to secure a total of \$401K.

Overall BNSW and WBNSW were able to bring \$1M into the sport.

The 25 per cent reduction in affiliation fee will hit the BNSW budget next year but it does contribute towards clubs getting back on their feet after recent disasters.

Action:

Please send through zone and district financial reports following your AGMs.

**NEXT MEETING**– tentatively Thursday 19 November 2020 - 9.30am with AGM to follow.

#### **Umpires Committee: M Rigby for K Bucklee.**

M Rigby (for K Bucklee) advised that several accreditation and re-accreditation courses have been held and also advised the Delegates that 3 laser measures have been approved by World Bowls and Bowls Australia for use.

#### **General Business:**

1. Discussions took place regarding 2021 Saturday Pennant Season for Grades 2-7 regarding the four versions put forward and also starting times for Sunday games. Voting papers have been forwarded to all clubs and MUST be returned by October 30.
2. Garry O'Connell, Mayfield West thanked the Association for arranging markers for the President Singles as the club would have found it difficult to supply markers required. This was endorsed by Pam Stamford who are Hosting the Senior Singles.
3. Jim Partridge, Fingal Bay enquired about changes to the 2021 COP and Secretary Warren updated the Delegates regarding some of the changes. COP will be released the week beginning October 19.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next Meeting TBA in 2021.

**CLOSED:** The meeting closed at 8.00pm.

**CONFIRMED.....(PRESIDENT)(TBA 2021)**