

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
SOUTH WEST ROCKS MEN'S BOWLING CLUB
HELD SUNDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2016**

ATTENDANCE: 35 members and one social member as per attendance sheets.

APOLOGIES: There were 4 apologies as per attendance sheet. President Barry Horsfall mentioned the names of those members having lodged the apologies.

DEPARTED MEMBERS: A minutes silence was observed for departed members prior to the meeting getting under way. The meeting commenced at 9.20am.

The Chief Executive Officer of the South West Rocks Country Club, David Cunningham, addressed the meeting. He explained the Country Club's financial position and mentioned that the bowling club via President Barry Horsfall, was developing a three year plan. He also assured members that developments surrounding the local Croquet club would not affect bowling club activities.

Geoff Hawes questioned the disparity between the fees paid by golfers and bowlers. He suggested that in relation to other clubs, the fees paid by our golfers were less expensive and our bowlers were more expensive. David Cunningham said he would take these concerns to the board at its next meeting.

President Barry Horsfall explained to the meeting that the Croquet club had about 100 members and that it would not become an inner club of the Country Club.

In response to a question on how the bowling club fees are allocated, Secretary Steve Jenkinson explained that \$60 is allocated to the fee payable to Bowls NSW and \$16 to Zone 14. GST needs to be allowed for and the balance is the fee payable to the Country Club to offset the expenses incurred in maintaining the greens.

MINUTES: Each member present had been supplied with a copy of the minutes of the 2015 Annual General Meeting. They were taken as read and adopted on the motion of W Abbott and seconded by R Sydenham. Passed unanimously.

ANNUAL REPORT OF COMMITTEE: President Barry Horsfall presented the annual report verbally. He acknowledged the efforts of all the volunteers in addition to the committee members. He reported that there was a cash flow deficit of about \$100,000 in respect to bowling club income and expenses. However, the bowling club was able to raise \$40,000 by way of sponsorship, special events and raffles. Barry Horsfall also referred to the three year business plan mentioned by David Cunningham and that completion of the plan would be targeted shortly after this Annual General Meeting. He read out important aspects of the report prepared by Chairman of the Match Committee Ian Simpson in respect to our Pennant results for the year. We will be applying to compete in grades 1,4,5 and 7 for next season. The fee for each player, home and away will be set by your new Committee with a view to maintaining it at \$5.

The meeting was advised of the date for our Presentation and Xmas party being held on Saturday December 10. Social bowls was showing a decline in numbers with Tuesday and Friday almost non existent. Commencing with the introduction of Daylight Saving Wednesday bowls will start at 2pm.

The future of the Sindors Shoot-Out is in doubt. The handicap triples event held in January this year was considered a success, attracting 36 teams, and will be retained next year. The Trial Bay Classic Pairs had 38 teams this year including 7 from South West Rocks.

A two bowl pairs event is to be developed and held three or four times each year on a Monday, when most other bowling clubs' greens are closed for maintenance.

This will be similar to events held at Stuarts Point club.

MEMBERSHIP: A meeting was recently held at Coffs Harbour concerning the fixed fee being introduced by Bowls NSW. This was briefly covered in the report and in particular the vote of no confidence in the Board of Bowls NSW called for and their lack of activity in promoting the sport through advertising, considering that they had an amount of approximately \$2M available. Fees payable to Bowls NSW would be stabilised in 2017. Our membership numbers have shown a slight increase in full members whereas the numbers of CCSMs have decreased by 20 over the last 12 months.

SPONSORSHIP AND RAFFLES: There has been a slight increase in revenue from sponsorships. However, Raffle income has declined on both Thursday and Sunday. Barry Horsfall requested all members to bear in mind to support our sponsors when they are in need of a product or service offered by them. He advised that we had recruited seven new sponsors during 2016 and that six new cool jacks would soon be in place around green three. He offered congratulations to our greenkeepers for the condition of the greens.

The suggestion was put to the meeting that the Annual General Meeting for 2017 could be held after bowls on a Wednesday starting at say 6.30pm. The response was almost unanimous support.

The leads clinic that was initiated by the late Bruce Daley is to be held on 18 and 25 November and 2 December. A Bowls Clinic to be run by Paul Sullivan, assisted by Chris Brown and a lady bowler is yet to be confirmed. This clinic will cover all positions, etiquette and umpiring.

The report was adopted on the motion of John Newbury and seconded by Barry Ellam . Carried unanimously.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE: Treasurer Martin Verrall presented his report. A copy of the report was given to each member present. The treasurer expressed concern over the decline in social bowls numbers. However, the raffle account was considered satisfactory and sponsorship income was good thanks to the efforts of President Barry. The treasurer asked all members to support our social bowls programme, raffles and our sponsors. Kerry Nelson questioned the quality of meat offered as prizes in the meat raffles. The treasurer responded by suggesting the quality of our prizes represent good value for the money expended.

The report was adopted on the motion of Les Lucas and seconded by Mark Wilcher. Carried.

President Barry Horsfall asked for a show of hands to continue the Out of Pocket Expenses unchanged from this current year and this was carried unanimously.

APPOINTMENT OF RETURNING OFFICER AND SCRUTINEERS.

The members endorsed the appointment of Barry Pettit as Returning Officer and Barry Pettit, Les Lucas and Don Iverach as scrutineers.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

The conduct of the election of officers was handed to Barry Pettit on behalf of the scrutineers. At this point Richard O'Riley and John Newbury joined the top table and joined the committee members.

PRESIDENT: Barry Horsfall was elected unopposed.

Voting took place for the positions of Senior Vice President and Vice President.

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT – Bill Parker and Roger Sydenham nominated. Bill Parker elected.

VICE PRESIDENT – Ian Simpson and Roger Sydenham nominated. Ian Simpson elected.

Election of **SELECTORS** then took place. Ian Simpson, Wally Brooks, Ray Boulter, Ken Martin and John Newbury nominated. Ian Simpson, Wally Brooks and John Newbury elected.

The president then called for two further nominations from the floor for the **COMMITTEE**, Richard O'Riley having already been nominated and deemed elected. Colin Young had previously indicated he was willing to be nominated and was proposed by Larry Meere and seconded by John Newbury. Roger Sydenham accepted a nomination by Trevor Miles which was seconded by Bill Abbott. The Committee formed consisted of Richard O'Riley, Colin Young and Roger Sydenham.

Nominations were then called for the position of **BOWLS**

SECRETARY/COORDINATOR and none were forthcoming. Michael Howard had previously consented to being nominated in his absence and this nomination was proposed Alan Jeffery and seconded Kerry Nelson.

SECRETARY: S Jenkinson - unopposed.

TREASURER: M Verrall - unopposed.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY: J Newbury – unopposed.

PATRONS: Barry Pettit and Alan Jeffery were elected by a show of hands.

NOTICES OF MOTION: There were no notices of motion.

RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE CONSTITUTION:

The President thanked Don Iverach for his input into the proposed changes which initiated amendments to the recommendations put to the members.

The Secretary addressed the meeting explaining the reasons for making the nominated changes. These covered the correction of previous printing errors, updating the existing Constitution to reflect practices currently carried out, and the role of the Club Ltd in ratifying some decisions made by the committee. Also the need to remove the category of Social Member to avoid possible future confrontation with Bowls NSW should this category remain. These changes were carried unanimously by a show of hands. Further changes were also requested in respect of the number of days notice for activities leading to the Annual General Meeting and an amended recommendation for an inclusion of Absentee Voting to be added to Section 30. After having received an explanation of the reasons for changing the recommended addition this amendment was also carried by the necessary majority.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE INCOMING COMMITTEE:

Geoff Hawes: Consider whether or not Full members have priority over Social (CCSM) members on a Saturday. He also requested an update on the progress of the photograph of the grade 2 pennant team. Bill Parker was able to confirm that an enlargement of the available photograph is under way and will be framed.

Chris Brown: Can the minor pairs winners compete in this same championship whilst they are still not winners of a major championship. This matter will be passed to the incoming Match Committee for determination. The conditions of play of our tournaments was questioned and this will also be referred to the incoming Match Committee. This will consist of Ian Simpson, Michael Howard and John Newbury. Disappointment was expressed at the lack of entries for the Minor Pairs.

A motion from Mark Wilcher that any member who is not a major championship winner should be able to enter any minor championship was put to a show of hands and was carried. This will be forwarded to the incoming Match Committee.

Don Iverach requested that the incoming Match Committee consider events focusing on Handicaps and Consistency.

Les Lucas: In future could we have a clinic on the use of the Bowling Arm.

Finally, would the incoming Committee consider the removal of the privacy vote so that the numbers involved in the count can be disclosed.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

There was no additional General Business.

The meeting was closed by President Barry Horsfall at 11.15 am.

S Jenkinson, Secretary

B Horsfall, President

