



*Buckfastleigh Bowling Club
Duckspond Road
Buckfastleigh
TQ11 0NL*

Executive Meeting

Meeting held on 09 October 2019 at 2pm.

Present: John Sims – Chairman; Tom Bowden – Secretary & Treasurer; Jeanne Pinney – Vice Chairman; Sonia Bowden – Club Captain; Ham Sampford & Pauline Manfield – Committee Members.

Chairman's Introduction

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for the work they have done in the last 12 months.

Apologies:

None.

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

The minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 13 August 2019 were signed by the Chairman as correct.

Matters Arising:

1. Captains' Report

The Chairman stressed the point that next year's Captains need to motivate their teams and have a far more positive attitude in their manner.

It was felt that Members, particularly Committee Members, must do more to support the Club, in friendlies, Club nights, Club competitions and social events.

Action: All

2. Fire Extinguishers

A notice needs to be put on the notice board saying where the extinguishers are and what they are for.

Action: TB

3. Plastic Glasses

A sign is needed that only plastic glasses be allowed outside the Clubhouse.

Action: TB

4. Honour Boards

These can now be updated for the 2019 competition winners.

Action: JP

Correspondence:

1. Pauline Manfield

Tom had received a letter from Pauline resigning as Ladies Representative.

2. MDL AGM

Tom outlined the position regarding our proposal to the MDL to allow Ladies to play in the Men's B team when they are short of numbers. Initially, Victoria Bowls Club said they would second our proposal, which they subsequently reneged on. Totnes Bowls Club were then approached and their B team captain said they would happily second us. However, no communication was received by the MDL so we can only assume that they also reneged.

Consequently, for next season, Ladies will not be allowed to play in our B team matches. We will try again next year.

Action: TB

3. County Competitions

Tom reported that we have entered 1 team in the Ladies triples, 1 Member in the Ladies singles, the Ladies InterClub and the Men's Top Club, Foxlands and County Trophy (which will be held on a knockout basis next year)

Treasurer's Report:

None, as the AGM is next week.

The Green:

Ham presented the Green Report, a copy of which is attached to these minutes.

Jeanne will arrange for the compost bin to be emptied.

Action: JS

Any Other Business:

1. FamilyDay

The Chairman thanked Ham for all his work in organising a very successful day, who in turn thanked Pauline and Barbara for their work in the kitchen and also Kelvin and Lesley for running the bar.

2. Defibrillator

It was agreed that the money previously raised, approx. £200, should be given to Buckfastleigh Fire Service with a recommendation that a defibrillator be installed near the Club, either near Squeeze Belly Lane or on the clubhouse.

Action: TB/JS

3. Letter of thanks

It was agreed to send a letter of thanks to those people who have gone 'above and beyond' the call of duty in helping the Club through the year.

Action: TB

4. Various Dates

The following dates were agreed for next year:

Green Opening: Saturday 25 April 2020 (Bob Dowdell to open)

Family Day: Sunday 6 September 2020

Green Closing: Saturday 26 September 2020

It was also agreed that we have a friendly fixture on Closing Day.

Action: TB/SH

5. Fixture Book

There was concern that the format of last years fixture book was too small and that the layout could be improved. Tom has offered to complete the fixture book for next year.

Action: TB/SH

6. Mixed Matches

Pauline reported that Sue would like someone else, possibly the Club Captain to organise mixed friendlies. Sue is happy to continue arranging the fixtures.

Action: TB

7. Annual Dinner

Tom reported that the Annual Dinner has been well supported and as at today we have 38 people going. The original event at Dartmoor Lodge, has been cancelled.

There will be a draw and Tom will ask Members for contributions for the draw.

Action: TB

8. Ladies InterClub

It was agreed that the fee will be £17.

Action: SH/PM

9. Constitution

As the proposed new constitution makes reference to 2 new officers, this needs to be on the agenda before the election of those officers. Also, there is no need for the role of Club officers to be within the constitution as they are contained within the rules of the Club which is delegated to the Executive Committee.

Action: TB

10. Minutes

Copies of the minutes of the Executive Committee are available in the Clubhouse on top of the microwave.

11. Bowls Devon AGM

As Bob will be President next year, as many officers as possible should try and attend the AGM to be held on 7 December 2019.

Action: All

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 6 November 2019 at 2pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.45pm.

Signed as correct:

Chairman

Green report to Executive Meeting 9th October 2019 at 1400 hrs

A full year's work for the Green Team and other voluntary helpers:

- ✓ Winter had been relatively kind to us, but still wet. Early preparations for the opening had been successful especially the deep spiking [deep Verti-draining completed by our consultant, Tim, the previous October 2018]. Cutting at 7 over the winter when weather allowed. Full treatment of green; scarifying both ways, reseeding, fertiliser, top dressing all completed during October 2018. Specific Iron treatment to counter the moss build-up was successful, and grass growth much improved.
- ✓ Mower sent away for servicing in January 2019.
- ✓ A Volunteer team got the Green ready for the season: seats out, rubbers down, poles out, and hedge trimmed. They need to be thanked officially.
- ✓ Green opening Saturday 27th April as arranged. Next cut lowered to 5, and 10 barrowloads removed.
- ✓ Green Team set about the schedule for the season and achieved a sound result. The Green appeared to be the best yet, despite weather problems: a bit of drought, then too much rain. Many greens suffered, but ours got through relatively unscathed. Praise given by several visiting sides.
- ✓ Machinery kept in order, mainly by Ken. Adjustments made to suite the overall conditions, had been very successful in maintaining the Green. Team only had to cut to schedule without fiddling with the mechanics. Much easier for overall maintenance.
- ✓ In line with our targets the green has improved considerably, even the difficult rinks are coming back into 'playability' more frequently. Improvement more noticeable, especially by visitors. Home advantage, no longer the permanently heavy conditions at Buckfastleigh!
- ✓ Green treated with soluble fertiliser and iron mainly by Sue and Ham.
- ✓ Green reviewed from time to time with the consultant, who has applied fungicide on two occasions to counter 'Dollar Spot'. His overall comparison with other local Greens is most favourable. Greatly impressed by the efforts the Team is making, and the massive improvements to the Green. This is the only green, to his knowledge, where the members are making such a massive direct input, and achieving such spectacular results. He is very aware of the high morale of the Team, and the willingness for volunteers to take part. "The members really own your Green, and should be proud of what they are achieving".
- ✓ Towards the end of the season a plan of work to be undertaken was set out. Closing day: Saturday 28th September 2019 was preceded by visitor matches and a Family Fun Day.
- ✓ Family Fun Day Sunday 8th September 2018, left no lasting marks on the Green, and was a splendid event, not intentionally raising over £120 towards Club Funds, and giving members and their guests an enjoyable time.
- ✓ After the closing day the Green was scarified at least two ways, removing 7 loads mainly of thatch and some moss.
- ✓ Grass seed was spun out and fertiliser put down.
- ✓ The overhanging vegetation, along the 'pathway', that proved so difficult for the lorry to deliver the top soil in previous years was cut back thanks to Ken, Will Lithgow and Ham. Lorry delivered three tonnes successfully to the grounds on pallets.
- ✓ A great team collected on Sunday 6th October 2019 to move the bags of top dressing around, take in all the seats, rubbers etc, and spread out half the top dressing. Many thanks to all.
- ✓ Green can be wintered by Ken and Ham, and volunteers called upon as and when required.
- ✓ MANY THANKS TO ALL WHO HAVE GIVEN THEIR TIME AND ENERGIES DURING THE YEAR.
Ham, your 'Green Manager'