



Berkshire Tenpin Bowling Association Council Meeting
12th July 2017, 19.30
Hewlett Packard Enterprise, Cain Road, Bracknell, RG12 1HN

1. Roll call and apologies

Attendees: Sarah Hood, Phil Staff, Chelsea Piggott, Kim Winson, Brian Page, Gerry Olver, Andre Davidson

Apologies: Brian Dudman, Graham Stewart, Gavin Rutter

2. Minutes of last Council Meeting October 2016

The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

3. Treasurer's Update

GO provided attendees with an updated financial report (attached). All ICC commitments for 2017 have been paid and the accounts are showing a £500 balance with income to be added from the SE County Challenge fundraising and the BTBA Membership rebate.

There was some concern about the county lists being up to date, and therefore the rebate value being correct, based on the mix up with cards issued from Market Deeping. However there are 160 members currently showing on the live wild apricot database.

Action: SH to check Wild Apricot Berkshire members looking for potentially missing members and to cross reference value of the rebate once confirmed by BTBA Head Office.

The county will continue to ask county bowlers for lineage contributions to ensure we maintain this positive position, however it was noted this wasn't collected from the U25 men's team. GO asked for the adult managers to ensure lineage contributions were collected in September.

Action: SH to ensure mens and ladies adult teams pay £2 per game lineage contributions for the qualifiers in September.

4. ICC 2017 events (Seniors, U25 and SE County Challenge)

The Seniors attended ICC qualifying at Poole and the men finished 11th and the ladies 6th, meaning neither team qualified for the finals in October.

The U25 men's team attended qualifying and finals at the Airport, finishing 10th. This was later adjusted to 9th after 1 team was disqualified.

We have two teams entered for the SE County Challenge at the Airport, with £90 raised so far for the county in raffle ticket sales.

It was decided by the Area Secretary that we would not canvass members for interest in the inaugural Peterborough County Challenge, partly because of the timing being only 1 week after the SE County Challenge, but also the distance to travel meaning Berkshire teams would need to leave around 7am for a 9.15 registration, or pay for hotels the night before.

The adult ladies have all been informed of the arrangements for the qualifying at Tolworth in September. The men will be advised of selections by the team manager (GR) a.s.a.p.

The question was raised about county practice sessions which had been run across all age divisions last year. Unfortunately we have been unable to secure the preferable lineage rates we had last year so it was decided to leave practice sessions up to each individual team manager.

Mark Wanstall held a session for the senior teams at Farnborough before their ICC qualification round. Diaries of the adult ladies is making it difficult to pin down a specific weekend to hold any practice sessions. There has been no news on practice sessions for the adult mens team.

Action: GR to email all adults mens entrants confirming squad selections for September.

5. Report from BTBA AGM

SH reported back on key topics of discussion from the BTBA AGM as follows:

- New membership database (Wild Apricot) has been launched.
 - This is a live database allowing members to manage their contact information and membership payments without need to contact the BTBA directly.
 - All Berkshire members should be encouraged to register and give their email to the BTBA if they do not appear on the site currently.
 - Members are also able to update their county affiliation via the website.
 - For members to access the site they need to click on the reset password link, using the email on which they are currently receiving communications from the BTBA.
 - If anyone has any comments or thoughts on the database
 - Lisa John has indicated we should eventually be able to use the new system to communicate with our Local Association members.
- The BTBA website has been down for several months due to malicious code in the set up which could not be removed even with restoring back up copies. The new website is under development and should include more information on the sanctioning process once launched.
- Andy Penny presented his vision for coaching across the BTBA along with his ideas for club bowling.
 - Club bowling will allow the BTBA to appeal to bowlers who cannot make a weekly commitment to league bowling by providing a more flexible structure within which people can take part.
 - Club bowling will also allow the BTBA to access more funding through community outreach and engagement programmes, for example with schools, learning disabilities and senior citizens.
- The Team England Fee for all sanctioned events has been renamed and will be replaced with a Sanctioning Fee.
- An ICC think tank will be held in November. Berkshire will need to send a representative. Dates and full details still tbc.

Action: SH to confirm BTBA AGM minutes have been posted on Berks Bowling News site.

6. Berks Champs 2017 (1st Oct tbc) – venue

With the opening of the new Wokingham Bowl being pushed back to Nov 2017 the council agreed that it would be better to keep the October date for the championships this year as it tends to be quieter and has less clashes. The council agreed it would be preferable to run the event unsanctioned at Bracknell, rather than return to Newbury MFA after last year's event.

Action: PS to liaise with management at Bracknell Hollywood to see if they would be interested in hosting the 2017 championships and whether they have availability on the proposed date – Sunday 1st October.

7. ICC cycle for 2018 & trials - venue and date

The Council considered moving the date of the trials from January/February to later in the year in order to accommodate the possibility of holding the trials at the new Wokingham bowl. While CP is liaising with management to work towards sanctioning for the new centre, it was felt by the council that should sanctioning not take place in time it would leave very little time to organise an alternative.

Therefore the Council agreed to return to Farnborough for 2018 with a view to using Wokingham for 2019 if sanctioning does take place successfully.

There was a suggestion that holding the trials as early in January as we did this year can affect entries as many don't have the spare cash for entries after the Christmas period. It was suggested we hold the trials over the end of January and start of February to accommodate pay dates after Christmas.

Action: SH to liaise with management at Farnborough to see if they would be interested in hosting the 2018 trials and whether they have availability on the proposed dates – last weekend of January and first weekend of February.

8. AOB

There was some discussion about what more the local association can do to recruit new bowlers into the sport by working more with the local communities. It was suggested the Championships at Bracknell could attract a lot of interest from passing members of the public and could be used to promote our sport.

It was also suggested the opening of the new Wokingham bowl could be used to run taster sessions to engage the general public.

Action: CP & KW to develop plans for outreach work with the local communities.