

Berkshire Area Local Association – BTBA
Minutes of Annual General Meeting 3rd February 2013
Held at the Wokingham Superbowl

(1) Roll Call and apologies:

Brian Page (Secretary)	Brian Dudman
Alison Taylor (Treasurer/Chairperson)	Alan Keddie
John Wallis (Vice Chairman)	Tricia Lloyd
Jackie Atkinson	Gerry Olver
Mark Solis	Janet Page

Apologies:

Apologies for absence were received from Jacqui Cooper

Brian Page opened the meeting at 10:15 welcoming everyone to the AGM. It was agreed that the meeting would be chaired by Brian Page as the local association secretary.

(2) Adoption of Minutes from the 2012 AGM held on 29th January 2012

The minutes that were circulated by the secretary and published on the Berkshire County website after last year's AGM were formally adopted as being an accurate report of that meeting.

(3) Secretary's Report:

The BTBA membership situation continues to be a major problem, despite the BTBA efforts to change I have seen nothing that makes me think the membership situation is going to be resolved quickly by head office or the National Council. So far they have produced nothing of note to encourage the non sanctioned leagues in the county to rejoin the BTBA and become sanctioned leagues, also the procedure for individuals to join the BTBA is still too cumbersome and still cannot be completed online, which I believe is the minimum requirement.

We have seen a further reduction in the number of Sanctioned Leagues in the County, as of September 2012 we had just 3, of which one is the Lakeside YBC league. The other two are the Bracknell Big Boys League (which I understand is a sub section of the Thursday night league) at Bracknell and the Wokingham scratch league, and the latter has since ceased to operate, closing in December. So our current membership stands at approx 95 including Junior members from the YBC (13 juniors, but 31 in total), 14 members from the Wokingham scratch league, 20 members from the Bracknell league and an estimated 30 direct ordinary or Gold Card members who join in order to bowl Inter Counties and other Tournaments. The overall impression is that only bowlers interested in the YBC or tournament bowling will be members on completion of this year's membership period in September. So consequently the local association is only continuing in order to run the Inter County Teams, with the lack of sanctioned leagues we have basically no other function as the YBC effectively runs itself.

It is currently planned to run the Adults and Seniors Trials on Saturday 2nd March and Sunday 10th March. The venue will be "Absolutely Tenpin" at Slough. Last years Senior & Adult trials were held at Slough and were quite well supported with 27 entries. The new venue/bowling alley was judged to be a success and we have consequently decided to return there this year and the dates are earlier in March than last year to enable trial completion and the resulting Inter County team entries to be made by the March 31st deadline.

Berkshire hosted the Senior Southern Qualifying at Lakeside Newbury in June, 2012 and although successful from the point of view that both Berkshire Men and Ladies qualified for the Finals the lane conditions were a disaster and the event was compromised by the change of ownership in the weeks preceding the event. A number of complaints relating to bowling conditions were received by the relevant inter county secretary and I am sure Berkshire will not be invited to host any further qualifying events in the near future.

The combined YBC and YAC trials were held in November at Lakeside, Newbury and were not that well supported. There were a total of 21 bowlers, mostly Lakeside YBC members with the only non Newbury bowlers being in the YAC section. Due to the age breakdown of the entries there were not enough bowlers to make any U18 teams for 2013 so the decision was made to enter both a male and female YAC team for the February YAC Inter county tournament at Coventry, although the Ladies team will be very young with a number of U18 bowlers.

No County Championships were held in 2012, whether we hold them in 2013 is up for debate. Although I personally think there is not a big enough membership to make them worthwhile and we have no financial resources to fund what has to be a non profit making event.

Inter County Competition report for 2012:

YAC: The YAC men's team bowled at Nottingham in February, David Hibbert managed the team and due to a bowler dropping out at the last minute also bowled himself. The team came twelfth in the qualifying round, failing to reach the finals by 195 pins. Harry Cooper was our top bowler averaging 204.

YBC: We did not enter a U14/U16 team in 2012 due to lack of entries in the relevant trial. The U18 Boys team bowled in the re-organised (1 Day) U18 tournament at the Airport Bowl in August with quite a young team that failed to qualify for the round robin finals.

Adults: Both the Men and the Ladies qualified in September at the Airport Bowl for the Nottingham finals in November. However both teams struggled in the finals and finished in twelfth place in both categories.

Seniors: Both the Senior Men and Ladies Teams qualified from the Southern qualifying round held at Newbury for the finals at Romford in October. Both teams qualifying in first place in the Sunday qualifying round. In the finals at Romford in October the Men came second to win the Silver medal whilst the Ladies just missed out on the Bronze medal, coming fourth only 48 pins behind the third place score.

(4) Financial Report:

Brian then asked Alison Taylor to present the Treasurer's report.

The 2011 end of year bank balance coming in to 2012 was £375.12 the Bank balance at the 2012 year end was £459.62. The printout of the bank statement was made available to all members present. The YAC team entry bowling this February (2013) was paid in December 2012 but was covered by a matching donation and there are no additional lineage fees to be paid. So the Bank balance at the start of the 2013 year is £459.62 which is slightly higher than the 2012 starting figure. During the year we received the following funds:

(1) Donations from the Lakeside YBC	£135.50
(2) Raffle proceeds organised by the Senior Ladies at the Southern Qualifiers	£68.20
(3) Tombola and Ball Raffle proceeds from the South East challenge Tournament organised by Daniel Bonfield at the Airport Bowl in July, less entry subsidies	£91.50
(4) Profits on Adult/Senior Trials after Lineage cost	£333.00
(5) Profits on YBC/YAC trials after Lineage cost	£168.00
So total Income from trials/fund raising =	£796.20

During the year we paid out for BTBA Inter County Team entries:

(1) BTBA IC adult Men & Ladies entries	£250.00
(2) BTBA IC Senior Men & Ladies entries	£250.00
(3) BTBA U18 Men's Team entry	£320.00
(5) Seniors IC lineage fees at Lakeside Newbury	£135.00
(6) Adults IC Lineage fees at Airport Bowl	£150.00
So Total Inter County Competition cost for 2012 =	£1,225.00

The shortfall of income with regard to expenditure was covered by donations from the county secretary this year but for 2013 we need to raise the required funds or we will be unable to enter county teams. The immediate team entry requirements costs for 2013 are:

(1) Junior ICC U14 & U16 Boy's and girls teams at £90 each	
Payment required by the 08th February =	£180.00
(2) Senior ICC entry fees for Men's and Ladies at £125 each.	
Payment required by 31st March =	£250.00
Additional Lineage costs will be required in June,	
Approx	£135.00
(3) Adult ICC entry fees payable for Men's and Ladies at £125 each.	
Payment required by 31st March =	£250.00
Additional Lineage costs will be required in Sept	
Approx	£150.00

Note: No U18 team entry costs this year and the YAC entry costs will not be known until December. With the brought forward balance plus the Adult & Senior Trial profits we will just about be able to cover these entry costs for 1, 2, & 3 above.

(5) Fund Raising Report:

We have no official fund raising committee and in the current economic environment plus the lack of members, sanctioned leagues, etc, it is very difficult to have a coherent fund raising plan. At last years AGM it was decided to run some King of the Hill style tournaments to try and raise some money. However mainly due to Berkshire taking on hosting the Senior Southern area qualifiers this was not accomplished. We did however manage to raise some funds from holding a Raffle at the Qualifiers and also made some income by taking part in the fund raising raffle and Tombola associated with the South East County Challenge tournament at the Airport Bowl. The funds raised were relatively modest and are detailed in the financial report provided by Alison.

(6) YBC Report:

No YBC report was received as no officials from our only sanctioned YBC in Berkshire (Newbury Lakeside) attended the AGM. However the following comments were covered in the meeting.

The Bracknell YBC moved from Bracknell to Wokingham during 2012 in an attempt to attract more members but as yet this move has not generated enough additional young bowlers to allow them to consider re-affiliating to the BTBA.

The relationship between the Lakeside YBC and The Berkshire BTBA local association needs to be improved, it is understood from the BTBA organisation structures that there should be a sub committee within the county that both the BTBA and the YBC provide members for to enable a working relationship and dialogue. It was agreed that John Wallis and Brian Page should organise a meeting with the Lakeside YBC to discuss forming this committee.

During the year the Lakeside YBC contributed £135.50 in donations to assist in payment of the YBC/YAC team entries and they also subsidised their bowler entries to the November YBC trials by 50% of the entry fees (cost for 16 players at £12/head = £192).

No U14/U16 teams were entered in 2012, only a boys U18 team.

For 2013 there will be no U18 teams but there will be YAC teams bowling at Coventry on February 16th/17th plus both boys and girls U14/U16 teams bowling at Coventry on the 2nd/03rd March.

(7) Elections of Officers of the Association:

Brian then chaired the following elections:

(7.1) Area Secretary:

Brian Page agreed to remain as Secretary for another year, there were no other nominations and Brian was duly elected.

(7.2) Treasurer:

Alison said she would re-stand as the treasurer but was willing to stand down (due to work and study commitments) if someone else was available. Brian Page proposed Gerry Olver, who was seconded by Mark Solis, there were no other nominations and Gerry was duly elected.

(7.3) Vice Chairman:

Brian Page proposed John Wallis, seconded by Gerry Olver, there were no other nominations and John was duly elected.

(7.4) Inter County Co-ordinator:

Brian Page has taken over the role and was happy to continue in the role and was re-elected unanimously.

(7.5) Chairman:

During 2012 Alison Taylor had been the Chairperson at the same time as being the Treasurer. Alison was willing to carry on with the Chairman's role. There were no other nominations so Alison will continue as the Chairperson.

(7.6) Chairman of Fund raising subcommittee:

No one elected

(7.7) Election of Council Members for 2012:

Last year's council members were:

Jacqui Cooper, Janet Page, Gerry Olver, Brian Dudman, Peter Taylor and Homer Joseph

Those not attending the AGM were removed from the council and replaced by people who were at the meeting or had made their apologies;

The 2013 Council members elected were thus:

Brian Page , Brian Dudman, Alison Taylor, Alan Keddie, John Wallis, Tricia Lloyd, Jackie Atkinson, Gerry Olver, Mark Solis, Janet Page and Jacqui Cooper.

(7.8) Election of Tournament Manager for County Trials:

Brian Page was happy to continue managing the Adult and Senior Trials and will assist in running any Fund Raising tournaments during the year; however assistance from other bowlers/councillors will also be required.

With regard to the YAC and YBC trials it was thought that due to CRB requirements, etc, Lakeside YBC will be asked to run them this year.

(7.9) Election of Team Managers

The following BTBA members were confirmed to undertake the Team Manager's roles for 2012:-

U14/U16 Boys

Lakeside YBC to provide managers for both teams.

U18 Boys

No U18 teams being entered for 2013, so no manager required.

YAC Men

David Hibbert

Men's Adult Team

To be reviewed after
The March Trial results

Senior Men's Team

Brian Page

U14/U16 Girls

U18 Girls

YAC Ladies

David Hibbert

Ladies Adult Team

Alison Taylor

Senior Ladies Team

John Wallis

(8) Any Other Business

(8.1) Update on current situation with the BTBA and the Berkshire Local Association:

This subject was mostly clarified in the Secretaries report and was covered with an open discussion at that stage of the meeting. But a number of people at the meeting were not happy with the way the BTBA sends out its "Situation Updates" -- or rather does not officially send them out. Simply posting articles on the BTBA website is not an effective way of communicating with the membership. Why does the BTBA not send out direct updates to the local association secretaries so that they can then circulate them to their members?

It was requested that the secretary would refer this point to head office for their comment.

(8.2) Fund Raising Requirements for 2013 if we are to continue with ICC Team entries:

As covered in the financial report earlier in the meeting, it is obvious that we need to have some effective fund raising during 2013 if we are to continue entering ICC teams, we will have expended all our current funds before the end of 2013 by entering teams as currently planned and detailed above.

The proposal made by the secretary during the discussion on his report was that in future all Berkshire County trials will have to have the relevant entry fees priced as necessary to ensure there is enough profit made on the trial to finance the resulting team entries. With this in mind the upcoming Adult and Senior trial entry fee has been increased to £30 on the basis that with 30 entries the team entry fees will be covered. This has to become the norm for all future trials and was generally agreed by everybody at the AGM.

As decided at last years council meeting and AGM it was again agreed that we should run a series of four tournaments throughout 2013, generally around bank holiday weekends. It was confirmed at this meeting that they would be both Scratch and Handicap events and in order to attract a larger entry would be unsanctioned but a nominal £1 (or more?) donation from each entry would be made to the Local BTBA Association. It was also decided to get the series started on one of the May bank holidays and the preferred venue for the first event would be Wokingham if possible, but we should also try to use all possible venues in the county to attract as many bowlers as possible to the tournaments and also run some fund raising raffles at the same time.

(8.3) Berkshire Area Championships:

Do we have the required numbers and interest to hold a Championships in 2013?

As specified in the secretaries report Berkshire Association did not run a County championships in 2012 and it was discussed if we should run one in 2013, the general consensus of the meeting was that we would not do so. It was thought more important to attract non BTBA members to bowl in local tournaments and then try to encourage them back into competitive bowling and to progress to sanctioned events. It was proposed that maybe we should run an unsanctioned "Berkshire Open Competition" with age group prizes with the hope of attracting some of the better local bowlers that have allowed their BTBA membership to lapse. The tournament could be within the Bank Holiday events discussed above or as an additional event. It would not be run on the official championship weekend.

(8.4) What can the Berkshire Association doo to increase Membership?

This item was added to the agenda from a proposal on the day. It was thought unlikely that there were enough arguments to convince the unsanctioned leagues within the county to rejoin as sanctioned leagues. All the leagues are suffering with reduced numbers of bowlers due to various reasons, including economic ones. In the short term the proposed tournaments in 8.2 and 8.3 were seen as the way to attract local non BTBA bowlers to have an interaction with the local association in order to open a dialogue with regard to membership.

The meeting closed at 12:00 midday.

Brian Page

Berkshire BTBA Area Secretary

Berkshire Area Local Association – BTBA

Minutes of EGM held 03rd February 2013

Present: Those present at AGM held on 03rd February 2013.

Brian Page opened the meeting at 12:01pm and requested nominations to attend the BTBA AGM in 2014.

Brian Page and John Wallis were nominated and approved by the members present.

Brian and John will represent the association at the June 2014 AGM

Brian closed the meeting at 12:05pm.

Brian Page
Berkshire BTBA Area Secretary

Berkshire Area Local Association – BTBA

Minutes of EEGM held 03rd February 2013

Present: Those present at AGM held 03rd February 2013

Brian Page opened the meeting at 12:06pm

Brian requested nominations for National Council – none were forthcoming.

So no Berkshire members will be put forward for the BTBA National Council.

Meeting closed at 12:10pm.

Brian Page
Berkshire BTBA Area Secretary