

Berkshire Area Local Association – BTBA
Minutes of Annual General Meeting 19th January 2014
Held at the Wokingham Superbowl

(1) Roll Call and apologies:

Brian Page (Secretary)	Brian Dudman
Janet Page	Gerry Olver (Treasurer)
Jacqui Cooper	James Loder
John Wallis (Vice Chairman)	Alan Keddie

Apologies: Apologies for absence were received from Alison Taylor, Darren Knape and Lisa John. Plus after the meeting from Jackie Atkinson by email.

Due to the absence of the Chairman it was agreed that the meeting would be chaired by Brian Page, the local association secretary.

(2) Adoption of Minutes from the 2013 AGM held on 03rd February 2012

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

(3) Chairman's Report:

No chairman's report as Alison Taylor was not available to attend the AGM due to her advanced state of pregnancy.

(4) 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 the head office or the National Council changes. But major changes to the BTBA constitution and structure have taken place this year as discussed at the council meeting in October and the Regional Structure has been implemented with Berkshire being part of the Southern Region, Lisa John (from Sussex) is the Southern Region Representative Officer.

We have seen a further reduction in the number of Sanctioned Leagues in the County and as of September 2013 we had no adult sanctioned league in the county. The Newbury YBC and their associated league are the only sanctioned organisation and league, but we do have three Bowling centres with certified lanes which are MFA/Newbury, Hollywood Bowl/Bracknell and Absolutely Tenpin/Slough. Wokingham have said that they would apply for lane certification if either a league or the Wokingham YBC were to apply for a BTBA sanction.

So our estimated current membership stands at about 70, including 20 Junior members from the YBC (20 juniors + 9 adults to make 29 in total), with an estimated 30 direct ordinary or Gold Card members who join in order to bowl in the Inter Counties and other Tournaments. Plus a few (approx 12) bowlers bowling in sanctioned leagues based outside of Berkshire. I have asked the BTBA (via Lisa) if we can have a list of both direct members and other BTBA members with a Berkshire address but so far they have not agreed to provide this information to the local association.

Consequently the local association's main function at the moment is to run the Inter County Teams, with the lack of sanctioned leagues we have basically no other function as the YBC effectively runs itself. Also this year the Newbury YBC have agreed to take over responsibility for running the YAC and YBC trials and related Berkshire Inter County teams. However in the longer term we have to work on getting leagues within the county re-sanctioned or start new sanctioned leagues.

The Adults and Seniors Trials were held in March at "Absolutely Tenpin" in Slough and were quite well supported with 33 entries and we were able to enter both men and ladies teams in both age divisions. The "profit" from the trial covered the team entry fees but not the lineage costs.

The combined YBC and YAC trials were held in December at MFA/Lakeside, Newbury and were not that well supported by bowlers outside of the Newbury YBC. There were a total of 17 bowlers, all Lakeside YBC members. Due to the age breakdown of the entries there were not enough bowlers to make any YAC teams for 2014 or a Ladies U18 team. So Berkshire will enter both a Boys and a Girls U15 team plus a Boys U18 team in this years YBC Inter Counties.

No County Championships were held in 2013 and I personally think there is not a big enough membership to make them meaningful, plus we have no financial resources to fund what has to be a non profit making event. Do we want to run a County Championship in 2014? See 8.2 in any other business for vote result on holding a County Championships.

Inter County Competition report for 2012:

YAC: The YAC men and Ladies teams bowled at Coventry in February, David Hibbert managed the teams with assistance from Steve Curtis. The men's team came fourth in the qualifying round to reach the round robin finals. However the team did not do well in the finals and slipped to finish in eighth place. The relatively young Ladies team struggled with the strength of the opposition and finished in tenth place, failing to qualify for the round robin final, but Danielle Ediker did win the Ladies High Game award with a 258 game.

YBC: Berkshire did not enter any teams for the U18 Inter Counties due to a lack of bowlers in this age category. We did however enter both a boys and Girls team in the combined U14/U16 Inter County Championships which took place at Coventry Tenpin on the 2nd March. The teams were relatively young and took part mostly for the experience, the Boys finished in 13th Place (out of 16) and the Girls were also 13th (out of 14).

Adults: Both the Men and the Ladies bowled in the Southern Qualifiers at Worthing in September, the teams failed to qualify for the Coventry finals in November. The men finished in Fifth position (of 8) and the Ladies in Fourth (of 5). Berkshire also fielded a men's team in the South East County challenge at the Airport Bowl in August. Berkshire placed sixth out 18 teams in what was a very good practise competition for the Inter Counties and Berkshire scored the highest single game team score of the tournament with an 1122 scratch game with James Loder and Paul Downs bowling very well throughout the tournament.

Seniors: Both the Men and Ladies teams bowled in the Southern Qualifiers at Poole in June, both teams failed to qualify for the Nuneaton finals in October. The men finished in Fifth position (of 8) and the Ladies in Fourth (of 5). It has to be stated that the tournament conditions were not ideal and we did make a complaint to Paul Le Manquais about them, although we did not lodge an appeal against the results (Surrey did!).

(5) Financial Report:

Brian then asked Gerry Olver to present the Treasurer's report.

The 2012 end of year bank balance coming in to 2013 was £459.62; the Bank balance at the 2013 year end was £213.22. The printout of the bank statement was made available to all members present and is attached to these minutes.

During the year we received the following funds:

- (1) Donation to pay U14/U16 entry fees £180.00
- (1) Tombola and Ball Raffle proceeds from the South East challenge Tournament organised by Daniel Bonfield at the Airport Bowl in August. £110.00
- (2) Profits on Adult/Senior Trials after Lineage cost £462.00

So total Income from trials/fund raising = £752.00

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

- (1) U14/U16 ICC Boys and Girls entry fees £180.00
- (2) BTBA ICC adult Men & Ladies entries £250.00
- (3) BTBA IC Senior Men & Ladies entries £250.00
- (4) Seniors IC lineage fees at Poole + BTBA levy £180.40
- (5) Adults IC Lineage fees at Worthing £138.00

So Total Inter County Competition cost for 2013 = £998.40

So the Bank balance at the start of the 2014 year is £213.22.

The immediate team entry requirement costs for 2014 are:

- (1) Junior ICC U15 Boy's and girls teams at £105 each
Payment required in February to be covered by the Newbury YBC
- (2) Senior ICC entry fees for Men's and Ladies at £125 each.
Payment required by 31st March -- Probable cost = £250.00
additional Lineage costs will be required in June, approx £170.00
- (3) Adult ICC entry fees payable for Men's and Ladies at £125 each.
Payment required by 30th April -- Cost will be = £250.00
additional Lineage costs will be required in Sept, approx £150.00
- (4) Boys U18 team entry costs will be covered by the Newbury YBC.
Cost and entry dates yet to be confirmed.

(6) YBC Report:

As mentioned above, at a meeting between Brian Page and Newbury YBC in September it was agreed that the Newbury YBC would take responsibility for running the YBC/YAC trials in 2013 and they also agreed to cover all related entry costs, etc, for the Inter County teams resulting from the trial. Without the assistance of the YBC there would have been no YBC or YAC trials this year as the local association were in no position to fund the related teams.

So we have to thank the Newbury YBC for taking over this commitment and for their efforts in managing the teams for 2014.

No one attended the meeting from the Newbury YBC, but they have rejoined the BTBA for the 2013/14 season with a total 29 BTBA members and will be competing in a number of NAYBC competitions through the year as well as the ICC teams resulting from the county trials held in December as reported above.

(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 proposed, seconded and elected.

(7.2) Treasurer: Brian Page proposed Gerry Olver, the current treasurer, who was seconded by Janet Page, there were no other nominations and Gerry was duly elected to carry on in the treasurers position.

(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 operated in this role for the last couple of years and was happy to continue in the role.

(7.5) Chairman: Alison had confirmed by email that she 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 sub committee: No one elected

(7.7) Election of Council Members for 2012:

Last years council members were:

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

All AGM attendees were elected as council members, thus the 2014 council is:

Brian Page, Brian Dudman, Alison Taylor, Gerry Olver,
Jacqui Cooper, Janet Page, John Wallis, Alan Keddie

It was also decided that we would ask Tricia Lloyd and Jackie Atkinson if they would continue as council members. Brian Page will contact them by email and ask them to remain on the council for 2014.

(7.8) Election of Tournament Manager for County Trials and Decision on Trial Dates and Location:

Due to holiday commitments Brian Page will not be available to be the tournament manager or run the Adults/Senior County trials planned for early April. Gerry Olver will be the trials Tournament Manager with James Loder has his assistant manager. After consideration of the bowling centres with certified lanes it was decided that we want to hold the trials within the county if possible but could go outside of Berkshire if no venue within Berkshire can be agreed as acceptable. The trial dates were chosen to be Saturday 5th April and Sunday 13th April.

It was also decided that for the 2015 trials we would aim to have the trials in January so that we will be able to complete the letters of intent for both Adults and Seniors by the end of January with the trial results already completed.

(7.9) Election of Team Managers

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

U15 Boys

Newbury YBC to provide managers for both teams, at the moment Steve Curtis has been nominated on the official entry forms.

U15 Girls

U18 Boys

Newbury YBC to provide the manager

U18 Girls (No team in 2014)

YAC Men

No Team in 2014

YAC Ladies

No team in 2014

Men's Adult Team

James Loder & Jason Agate will carry on if we cannot appoint a suitable non bowling manager.

Ladies Adult Team

Alison Taylor agreed by email to carry on as manager.

It was suggested that we should ask David Hibbert if he was interested. Brian Page to action.

Senior Men's Team

Brian Page

Senior Ladies Team

John Wallis

(8)Any Other Business

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

The situation with Berkshire BTBA not having any sanctioned adult leagues was discussed and it was explained that Richard Beck was going to request the articles of association of the BTBA to be changed to allow a number of counties in the same position as Berkshire to remain as operating local associations.

(8.2) Berkshire Area Championships: Do we have the required numbers and interest to hold a Championships in 2014?

It was confirmed by a majority vote that we would not hold an official Berkshire BTBA area championships on the nominated weekend.

It was however decided that we should organise a Berkshire Bowlers closed championship for the counties league bowlers later in the year. This will be a handicap event (using the highest current league average) and have divisions for all the normal age Groups, U15, U18, YAC, Adult and Seniors dependant on the entry numbers. The exact format, date, etc, to be decided on in a council meeting to be held after completion of the county trials.

(8.3) Fund Raising Requirements for 2014 if we are to continue with ICC Team entries:

Team entry costs to be generated from the county Trial profits. To raise the potential entry fees of £500 the trial entry fee will be increased to £35 per entry. Lineage costs to be paid by the team bowlers if necessary, Berkshire will compete in the South East County challenge in 2014 if it is run again this year and participate in the related ball raffle and tombola to help raise funds towards the lineage costs. When we run the closed championships we can also run a raffle, etc, as well

At the end of the meeting John Wallis proposed a vote of thanks to the secretary for completing the required paperwork, etc, to keep the Berkshire Association operating throughout the last year, this was backed by the other members present and much appreciated by myself.

The meeting closed at 11:55AM.
Brian Page
Berkshire BTBA Area Secretary

Berkshire Area Local Association – BTBA

Minutes of EGM held 19th January 2014

Present: Those present at AGM held on 19th January 2014, as above.

Brian Page opened the meeting at 11:56 pm and requested nominations to attend the BTBA AGM in 2015.

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

So Brian and John will represent the Berkshire Local Association at the Main BTBA AGM in June 2015.

Brian closed the meeting at 12:00pm.

Brian Page
Berkshire BTBA Area Secretary