

# **Minutes of Annual General Meeting**

## **Gedling IBC**

### **Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021**

The Chairman, Peter Slack, opened the meeting at 7:00pm. He welcomed everyone and said how nice it was to meet everyone again after a two-year absence and our last meeting at Proprietary BC.

#### **Roll call**

A roll call showed those present as: Peter Slack (Chairman), Frank Wallis (Secretary), Colin Firbank (Divisional Secretary, Midweek 3 x 4 League) and Keith Williams (Divisional Secretary, Mansfield Midweek & Saturday Leagues) with a total of 30 delegates representing 19 clubs.

#### **Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Porchester, Rolls Royce and Brian Littleton (Saturday 3x4 league).

#### **Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting**

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2019 had been circulated to all clubs. It was proposed by Mike Carley (Notts Constabulary) and seconded by Mick Leafe (Arnold Park) that the minutes be accepted as a true record.

#### **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

#### **Secretary's report - Frank Wallis**

After a year's absence I'm sure that most of our members were pleased to get back on the green. Due to Covid restrictions, the start of the season was delayed by two weeks. All clubs dealt with the rules and restrictions in their own way but we managed to get through the season without any issues.

Since our AGM in November 2019, we have lost a few more clubs. In 2020 we lost Huthwaite Park from the Mansfield Saturday & Midweek Leagues but their Saturday fixtures were taken over by Teversal. Prior to the start of the 2021 season we lost Chilwell from the Midweek Open 3x4 league and Wollaton dropped their team from the Midweek 4x4 league. During the course of the 2021 season Blidworth and Flowserve resigned from their respective Saturday leagues. The Mixed League also saw a couple of clubs having difficulties raising the required number of Ladies. Looking forward to 2022, the Mixed League has seen the return of East Leake.

The current structure of the League is that we have 30 affiliated clubs. Three of these do not play league bowls. Beckingham and Newark Town are new in 2021 and East Bridgford have never played league bowls. Additionally, Blidworth and Flowserve resigned during the 2021 season and are unlikely to return. This leaves us with 25 clubs and 43 league teams.

We have 6 leagues and seven divisions with the maximum in any one league being seven, down to five in one league. It is difficult to see what we can do to improve things in 2022. A lot of clubs have an outlet by playing in other leagues outside BN. Many of the Mansfield clubs have only one or two BN league teams but they have other teams in Ashfield and Sutton leagues. On the other side, there are clubs who have only one or two BN teams and do not participate in any other leagues.

I conclude my report by thanking my chairman Peter Slack, Treasurer John Thurman for their support over the past year. I also thank the divisional secretaries Brian Littleton, Colin Firbank and Keith Williams for their efforts in collecting results and compiling and publishing league tables on a regular basis.

#### **Treasurer's report - John Thurman**

John Thurman resigned from the position as Treasurer in September as he was now playing bowls in Leicestershire and was no longer a member of an affiliated club in Nottinghamshire. The chairman had taken over the books in interim. He reported that we had no income as league fees had not been collected since 2016. The only outlay was pennants for league winners (£160), Honoria for league officials (£190) and room hire (£20). The current bank balance is £2502.85, with the aforementioned items not yet taken out, thereby leaving a balance of £2132.85.

#### **Auditor's report**

The League doesn't currently have an auditor. The Chairman had asked Chris Smith (Arnold Park) to review the accounts. Chris Smith reported that he had audited the accounts and confirmed that all was in order.

## **Divisional Secretaries Reports**

### **Mansfield Midweek & Saturday Leagues – Keith Williams**

After Covid caused us to lose all league bowls in 2020 it was good to be able to play again in 2021, although it was a little different to pre-Covid years with restrictions on use of pavilions and no refreshments. The season ran quite smoothly with no problems. Result cards were usually returned promptly, with just the odd phone call needed to chase the odd ones up.

The Saturday League sadly lost Flowserve after they had only played their first game and cancelled their next two. This was due to members not making themselves available for Saturday games. Their captain said she was fed up of chasing members and begging them to play. The league was well contested but two teams hit the top two positions early on, those being Church Warsop and Langwith Junction. After twelve games, they had both achieved 55 points. Church Warsop finished champions with a better 46 shot difference.

The Midweek League started with only 5 teams, having lost three teams since we last played in 2019, those being Brierley Park, Huthwaite Park and Flowserve. The league was closely contested with Church Warsop and Teversal fighting for top position. Teversal Grange finished as champions, 1½ points ahead of Church Warsop.

That ends my report. I hope the 2022 season gets back to normal and I hope you all winter well and stay safe.

### **Saturday 3 x 4 League – Brian Littleton**

Despite a disappointing start to the season when Blidworth withdrew from the league, the season went well. For the most part it was very competitive but towards the end it became a two-horse race between Arnold Park and Rolls Royce. The league was won by Rolls Royce on the last game despite losing 1-5 to Arnold Park. That one point was the margin to secure the championship. This ended the remarkable run of 5-year winners for Arnold Park.

The weather was very kind and no games had to be rearranged. My thanks to all the club captains for prompt submission of result cards, the record was 5.50pm on the Saturday. Virtually every Sunday the league table was updated and published on the website. My thanks to Frank as he did most of the work in maintaining the league table.

### **Midweek 4 x 4 & Mixed League – Frank Wallis**

#### **4x4 League**

A number of clubs withdrew from this league at the end of the 2019 season reducing the number of divisions from two to one. Just prior to the start of the 2021 season, Wollaton withdrew their team from this league. Due to Covid restrictions on the number of players allowed on the green, the 4x4 league became a 3x4 league. The season started two weeks later than usual on May 18 but all matches were completed on schedule by mid-August, with one match being conceded.

This season the league was very competitive with most teams capable of winning matches against their opponents. An exception was Keyworth B, who played and lost all twelve matches. I commend them for completing all their fixtures and always fielding a full side.

Arnold Park, Cavaliers and Newark Northern were the early challengers for the title, with East Leake and Keyworth A not far behind. With four weeks to go, Newark Northern looked to have seized the initiative, leading Arnold Park by 4 points with a game in hand and Cavaliers by 8 points. However, over the next two weeks, Newark faltered losing 6-0 v Arnold Park and 5-1 v Cavaliers. Entering the final two weeks, Arnold Park led Cavaliers by 6.6 points with Newark a further half point behind. Arnold Park went into their last fixture against Cavaliers requiring a victory to secure the title. However, Cavaliers secured a 5-1 victory. Arnold Park had completed their fixtures and led Cavaliers and Newark Northern by 2.6 and 3.1 points respectively. Both Cavaliers and Newark required victory in their last game and Cavaliers with a half point advantage over Newark just needed to match their result. Cavaliers beat Keyworth A and Newark Northern beat East Leake 6-0 so Cavaliers secured the title with 50 points to Newark's 49.5. A close and hard-fought conclusion by three teams which ended a very competitive season.

#### **Mixed League**

During the season, Newark Northern struggled to raise sufficient Ladies to complete a number of their fixtures to the extent that they conceded five of their fixtures. Wollaton also had problems and conceded two matches. In fact, none of the three schedule matches between Newark and Wollaton were played. Other than that, the league was completed satisfactorily.

The Champions were Cavaliers with 89 pts, the runners up were Hucknall Titchfield Park with 59.5 points and Keyworth finished third with 56.5 points.

### **Midweek 3 x 4 League - Colin Firbank**

In Division 1 Rolls Royce dominated winning all 12 games and dropping only 1 point in each of the games ending 5 – 1. A game conceded to Rolls Royce meant a total of 68.4 points. Positions in the middle of the table changed frequently during the season and there were 10 games decided with a difference of 5 or fewer shots. Bulwell Forest, by winning their last game, finished second on 39.5 points. Attenborough and Greasley MW had 35.5 points each, with Attenborough finishing 3<sup>rd</sup> on shot difference and being the only team apart from Rolls Royce with a positive shot difference. Hucknall TP were just 5 points behind on 30.5. At the start of the season there was concern about clubs having fewer than 20 registered players and this led to Star conceding 2 games and Notts Constabulary 1. However, during the season it was good to see that some clubs did manage to register new players. Covid-19 led to the postponement of 2 games which were played at the end of the season. In Division 2 Chilwell resigned from the league after the fixtures had been arranged. It had been arranged that clubs would play each other 3 times so there were 12 games to play. Many of the Chilwell players joined Trent Vale which resulted in 23 registered players for Trent Vale. Beeston Unity started the season with just 20 players, but, after 4 new players were registered in mid-July, won 3 of the 5 remaining games and finished with 21 points. They conceded one game because of

Covid-19 and were unable to re-arrange the game. Trent Vale had 1 game affected by Covid-19 but this game against Wollaton was played later and the result meant that Trent Vale won the league with 46.5 points and Wollaton came second with 39.2 points. West Bridgford were third with 33.5 points and Porchester fourth with 29 points. Just one other game was conceded and one game was not played. Nearly all cards were sent by email so it is usually possible to update the table quickly. The main delays appear to occur when the regular sender of results is not playing. There were also a few occasions when cards were not completed with players' names in the right places.

#### **To consider proposals from Keyworth BC regarding Tuesday Men's League.**

- **KBC propose that the current 3x4 format continues in 2022.**  
Covid restrictions in 2021 meant that the 4x4 league was played in a 3x4 format. The proposal from Keyworth was to continue in a 3x4 format in 2022. Keyworth had two teams in this league and stated that they could only continue with two teams in a 3x4 format but would have to drop one team if the format reverted back to 4x4 format. Cavaliers and Arnold Park both added that they would have difficulties in reverting back to a 4x4 league. East Leake said that they had sufficient members for a 4x4 league but added they would play a 3x4 format if it prevented other clubs dropping out. The proposal, seconded by Mick Leafe (Arnold Park) was voted on and, with 7 votes for and 0 against, was accepted.
- **KBC propose that the last line of rule 8e be deleted - "Any player who has played 4 or more games for the "A" team cannot play for the "B" team for the remainder of the season".**  
Keyworth put forward their reasons for this proposal. Other clubs pointed out that the integrity of the league would be compromised if players could freely switch between the A & B teams. After discussion, the proposal was seconded by Malcolm Potter (Beeston Unity). A vote was taken and with 6 votes for and 10 against, the proposal was defeated.
- **KBC propose that the Men's Tuesday League is split into games of 3 sets of 7 ends whereby each group play each other in a 21-end game. Also, that players can change position at the change of each set of 7 ends if the team desires.**  
This proposal was withdrawn.

It was confirmed that League Rule 9a, which states that all 3x4 midweek league matches are played over 18 ends, will apply to the new 3x4 format of the above proposal.

#### **Proposed League Structure 2022**

##### **2021 Structure - Midweek 4x4 league - Men only - One division - 7 teams**

Due to Covid restrictions, this league is currently operating as a 3x4 league

Teams - Arnold Park, Cavaliers, East Leake, Keyworth A, Keyworth B, Newark Northern & West Bridgford

**2022 – With the acceptance of the Keyworth proposal above, this will remain as a 3x4 league.**

##### **2021 Structure - Midweek 3x4 league – Open - Two divisions - 12 teams**

Teams Division 1 - Attenborough, Bulwell Forest, Greasley MW, Hucknall TP, Notts Constabulary, Rolls Royce & Star

Teams Division 2 - Beeston Unity, Porchester, Trent Vale, West Bridgford & Wollaton

As there are 7 teams in Division 1 and five teams in Division 2, a restructure to two leagues of 6 teams will mean that a third team will have to be relegated from Division 1.

**2022 - After discussion, a proposal to have two equal leagues of 6 teams was accepted with 11 votes for and 2 against. A further proposal to play each other club three times was accepted with 6 votes in favour and 2 against.**

##### **2021 Structure - Mixed 4x3 League – Mixed - One division - 6 teams**

Teams - Attenborough, Cavaliers, Hucknall TP, Keyworth, Newark Northern & Wollaton

**2022 - The addition of East Leake increases the division from 6 to 7 teams.**

##### **2021 Structure - Saturday 3x4 league – Open - One division - 7 teams**

Teams - Arnold Park, Blidworth, Greasley MW, Hucknall TP, Porchester, Queensway Park & Rolls Royce

**2022 - The loss of Blidworth means there will be six teams in 2022. A proposal to play each other 3 times was defeated by five votes to one.**

##### **2021 Structure - Mansfield Saturday 3x4 league – Open - One division - 8 teams**

Teams - Brierley Park, Church Warsop, Clipstone, Flowserve, Langwith Junction, Polly, Retford & Teversal

**2022 - The loss of Flowserve reduces the number of teams to 7, playing each other twice.**

##### **2021 Structure - Mansfield Midweek 3x4 league – Open - One division - 5 teams**

Teams - Church Warsop, Clipstone, Langwith Junction, Queensway Park & Teversal

**2022 - As there are only five teams, there is the option to play each other three times. As there were only two clubs present, it was agreed that the Secretary contact all clubs to decide how many times they want to play each other.**

NOTE - Since the meeting, Polly BC have applied and been accepted into this league.

**To discuss the award of pennants to league winners.**

Peter Slack asked the membership present whether or not we should continue with the award of pennants to league winners. After much discussion and comments from Colin Firbank, Chris Smith, Alan Leonardi, Pat Eames and Mick Leafe, the consensus of opinion was that the award of pennants was a recognition of proud achievements by a bowls club and the practice should be continued. Funds were currently available and league fees could be reintroduced at a later date when money was required.

**Election of Officers**

The following officers were elected for 2022

Chairman	Peter Slack
Secretary	Frank Wallis
Treasurer	No nomination – position to be reviewed

***Divisional Secretaries***

Mansfield Saturday 3 x 4 Open League	Keith Williams
Mansfield Midweek 3 x 4 Open League	Keith Williams
Saturday 3 x 4 League Open League	Brian Littleton
Midweek 3 x 4 Open League	Colin Firbank
Midweek 3 x 4 Men's League	Frank Wallis
Mixed 4 x 3 League	Frank Wallis

**Committee Members**

The two members elected in 2019 were no longer members of an affiliated club so were unable to stand for re-election. No new members were elected.

Association Members	Brian Littleton
(to be elected at BN January Council Meeting)	Mick Leafe

Before the meeting closed, the Chairman, Peter Slack, presented pennants to all the league winners.

The chairman thanked the members for their attendance and closed the meeting at 8.23pm.