

THURROCK & DISTRICT BOWLING ASSOCIATION



FOUNDED 1946

Gen. Secretary: R Brewer; Treasurer: A.Gray; League Secretary: R Clark; Competition Secretary: D Haworth; Match Secretary: R Cornwell; Asst. Match Secretary: T French; Delegates' Representatives: M Coulson; Delegate to Sports Council: P Bainton

Thurrock & District Bowling Association Annual General Meeting **Held at Thurrock Bowls Club on Wednesday 18 January 2023** **Minutes**

Chairman

Rob Brewer opened the meeting by thanking all those present for attending and then called for a minute's silence to remember those members who had passed since the last AGM.

1. Roll Call

Executives Present:

A Gray; R Brewer; D Haworth; T French and P Bainton

Delegates Present:

Aveley; Corringham & Fobbing; Ford Sports; Grays Town; Orsett; Pitsea; South Ockendon; Thames Sports; Thurrock; United Services and VCA Riverview

2. Apologies

Executives:

Robbie Clark; Roger Cornwell and Mick Coulson

Delegates:

The Springhouse

3. Absentees

Delegates:

Gloucester Park

4. Welfare

Obituaries:

Gwyn Vaughan – Aveley

Keith Hoare – Springhouse

Alec Sadler - Springhouse

Ron Rowden – VCA Riverview

Mo Deeble – VCA Riverview

Tom Sanderson – South Ockendon

Frank Bax – Orsett

Alf Lane – Thurrock

Tom Jenkins – President United Services

Gerry Simmons – United Services

Charlie Hughes – United Services

Peter Schofield – Corringham and Fobbing

Chris Payne - Corringham and Fobbing

Tom Kaywood - Corringham and Fobbing

Len Dewar - Corringham and Fobbing

Norman Tamcken – Ford Sports

Alf Tilson – Ford Sports

Dave Clayton – Ford Sports

Mick Wheatley – Ford Sports

Mike Brick - Stone Lodge Captain a friend of the Association, who hosted TDBA teams over several years and was well known to many of our members.

5. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of T&DBA AGM 2021 were passed unanimously.

6. Matters arising from previous minutes

Terry Mizen raised a query regarding the need for a proposal regarding the number of ends to be played in matches for the 2023 Season. Rob Brewer replied that he felt the matter had been adequately covered by the League Secretary in his report to the meeting at **Para 10** below.

7. Treasurers' Report

Alan Gray reported that the Presentation Diner went well with overall accounts showing a loss of £199 this mainly due to the inclusion of the Finals Day costs of £200. A copy of the accounts for the Presentation Dinner is at Annex A to these Minutes.

With audit date the 30th November the Current account held was £1525.45 unfortunately payment of 2 cheques were dated by the bank for the 1st December, meaning there was actually £944.47 with one cheque for £100 still to come off.

The Building Society held £6311.49. The overall excess expenditure on the current account in 2022 is to be covered by transfer of cash from the Building Society.

As the Building Society Interest is paid on 31st December. I have now sent the book to be updated (interest £74.41 for 2022 to be added) with a request for monies to be transferred to the current account. This will more than cover the losses on the current account for 2022. These losses were mainly due to purchase of Stickers, Pens etc for the T&DBA Match fixtures.

I have paid the Trophy insurance for 2023 and the BE Associate Membership for 2023 as well.

A copy of the Balance Sheet for 2022 is at Annex B to these Minutes.

8. Account Examiners' Report

Dave Haworth reported that the accounts had been examined and were concise, detailed, accurate and well produced.

9. Gen. Secretary and Correspondence

Rob Brewer reported he had received the following correspondence:

Dear Rob

Thurrock Area Ladies Bowls Association held their Annual General Meeting on the 23rd November 2022 and the members have asked that we approach the members of the Thurrock & District Bowls Association to see if the two Associations can combine their Presentation Evenings commencing season 2023.

We would appreciate it if you would consider our proposal and if successful our committee would be happy to meet to discuss further.

Margaret Colwell

The proposal from TALBA regarding the combining of the presentation evenings. My view is this, we should try it for the 2023 season and see how it pans out i.e., the length of time it takes to present all the trophies, and I also think that it is very important that the Thurrock & District Association remain in control of the function i.e., the booking and determination of the venue, the booking of the entertainment and the catering arrangements. This does not mean we should interfere with the Ladies presentation programme who are entitled to invite their own guests and present their trophies as they wish, all financial aspects of running the event can be discussed with the TALBA committee later.

Dave Haworth agreed with everything Robbie said and the matter could be discussed at the Spring Meeting in April, by which time a detailed set of proposals for the event would be available following discussions with TALBA.

The main concern emanating from comments from the floor was the additional amount of time that would be needed for the presentation of trophies.

10. League Secretary's Report

Robbie Clark submitted the following report for the Meeting:

I do apologise for not being present this evening but my wife has kidnapped me into a week's holiday at Potters.

League Data 2022

The 2022 season went really well, all league matches were completed in all divisions.

League Winners & Runners Up 2022

I would like to congratulate all the league winners and runners up which were as follows.

Premier Division Winners	Grays Town A
Premier Division Runners Up	Thurrock A
Division One Winners	Pitsea
Division One Runners Up	Fobbing & District
Division Two Winners	Ford Sports
Division Two Runners Up	Aveley B

As per the current association league rules at least one team must be promoted and relegated from each division per season.

The remaining promotion and relegation places from the Premier league and Division One will be decided when I know the structure of the leagues for the 2023 season, this of course totally relies on how many entries we get in the leagues, **all clubs must inform the league secretary no later than the 21st March 2023** of teams they wish to enter. This is normally done at the T&DBA AGM in December but because of my earlier point regarding the compiling of fixtures I will accept league entries no later than the above date.

This completes my report for the 2022 season one I have enjoyed immensely; I would like to thank the association committee the delegates and the club team captains for their help in the past year.

League Data 2023

League Fixtures for 2023

I will not be publishing the 2023 league fixture programme until early April 2023. I know that this is an inconvenience as clubs want to put the fixtures in their fixture books. However, please bear in mind that it is a bigger inconvenience for the league secretary who spends many hours compiling the fixtures in January. Then only to find after publishing them in February, that teams pull out in April. This is normally after clubs have had their Spring meetings, when they find they don't have the personnel they assumed they would have, in the previous Autumn, when they had their AGMs.

The restructuring of the Division 2 league went very well as did the 18-end format for league games and the dropping of having a tea break during league matches. Therefore, I advise that we should continue with these changes for the 2023 season. However, these changes will need to be formalised for 2024 by a proposal to change the League Rules at the 2023 AGM. .

In the 2022 season the Premier League and Division one was permitted to field a team with 10 players this was only a concession for that season, in the 2023 season the quota of players allowed to play in the league, will revert to as per the league rules, this of course can be changed by a motion submitted at the 2023 AGM.

Regarding the experiment of division 2 playing with 2 rinks of four players and being able to play with a minimum of 6 players before they concede a rink, this will carry on for the 2023 season, but a motion for this arrangement to continue in the future must be put forward and voted on at the 2023 AGM.

I will continue to stand as the league secretary, Deputy President and other positions that I hold. Regarding the motions put forward for the future I personally am in favour of all changes of motion.

11. Competition Secretary's Report

Dave Haworth reported that he was pleased to be able to say that the 2022 season saw our game of outdoor bowls almost returning to normality, after a shaky and apprehensive 2021 season following the covid break of 2020. A brief summary of the numbers for comparison

2019 Total entries across all competitions -278

2022 Total entries across all competitions -256 – a reduction of 8% compared to the last normal season. On a positive note, this when compared to 2021 entries was an increase of 11%, so you can see things are now returning to normality after an unprecedented period in all our lives. Every year I say the same thing and urge all club delegates to continue to positively promote and encourage their club members to support the competitions to ensure their future viability. It is through your efforts and encouragement that T&DBA can continue to provide a competitive environment for those who enjoy this aspect of our game. One thing very noticeable to me this year was the number of new names coming forward to enter competitions, so a big thank you to the delegates and please do take back to your clubs my heartfelt thanks to all those who did take part, particularly those taking part for the first time.

With an increase in entrants along with new competitors, there were a couple of issues which I outlined at the last delegates meeting. I do not intend to go over the details again but will simply say, these caused me to review the competition rules and one or two others and have suggested some changes and updates, hence the large number of proposals, many of which are simply to bring things up to date and to provide clarification where necessary.

I would like to thank on behalf of the Association Orsett bowls clubs who hosted the competition finals over our first official finals weekend. As always, please pass on my thanks to all their members who helped provide refreshments, who set up the green and cleared everything away afterwards and not forgetting our regular umpire Colin Whitear who officiated on both days.

For the 2023 season finals, Orsett have again offered their hospitality, as have Grays Town and Thurrock BC. Thanks to these clubs for their offers. Obviously, I now have the unenviable task of trying to make the right decision and will be in touch with the clubs in due course as soon as I can. Just to satisfy the constitution I have to mention the increase that was discussed and fully supported at the last delegates meeting to competition fees, the first such increase in over 20 years. Hopefully, it will be a similar time before any further increases are needed. To comply with the Constitution, I announce these tonight. These, along with the change to presentation ticket costs, will now be shared in the competition entry forms as the content is now clear and agreed. I have also submitted a proposal to change the format for the Inter Club Knockout Competition. Competition forms will need to be returned back to me by 31st March at the latest. Before I close, I will add that I will share a copy of updated rules concerning competitions as soon as they are available. Can you please share these and encourage all new entrants to read and become familiar with them. Please also encourage players with any queries to contact me via e-mail or my answer machine at the earliest opportunity, sooner rather than later so we can resolve problems before they become issues.

I'd like to thank my fellow Executive committee members and delegates for the help and support they have given me during the year and for all the hard work they have put in both during and outside of the outdoor season. Please do remember, we all may play in competitions, leagues and association matches, but the association can only function with a full complement of officers. And finally, I have to mention one person in particular, who has provided increasing support to me over the last couple of years, our league secretary Robbie. He doesn't just organise and run T&DBA leagues, he also maintains our web site, then finds time to help me out with gathering the trophies and getting them to and from the engraver for the presentation evening, which again he is heavily involved in along with Sue his wife. And to top it all, he even finds time to bowl and win in competitions. Thanks Robbie.

12. Match Secretary's Report

Roger Cornwell was not able to attend the Meeting due to ill health but informed Rob Brewer that:

Last season indoor fixtures went very well with full support and our winning over 60% of games, we are no walkover. The 22 outdoor fixtures went well also with the last game where the gents once again beat the ladies. I would like to thank Orsett for hosting our games this season. Next Season's indoor fixtures have now been completed and he has already started the outdoor fixtures but is waiting in case any Club wishes to arrange a special fixture to celebrate a particular milestone in their history. They should make that known asap, directly by Email to him, so he could build that into the fixture list. Chelmsford have requested a game but we failed to get support last season so they remain a question mark. However, we have confirmed fixtures with Houghton Kirby, Thanet and East Kent. He finished by saying thanks for support but don't like missing meetings and will see you all when I can.

13. Election of Officers for 2023 Season

(1) Re-election of those officers, already circulated to all Clubs, willing to remain in their current posts for the 2023 Season.

PASSED

(2) To consider a proposal from Robbie Clark and seconded by Peter Bainton that Terry Mizen be elected to the post of Delegates Representative on the T&DBA Committee.

PASSED

14. To Consider Motions

To consider a proposal from Robbie Clark (The Springhouse) and seconded by Rob Brewer (Ford Sports) that for the upcoming 2023 Season, the cost of presentation tickets be raised from £8 to £10 to meet rising costs of providing, primarily, the buffet. However, to minimise the extra costs to Clubs the requirement to buy six tickets (£48.00) will be reduced to five tickets (£50.00) meaning an annual rise of £2.00.

PASSED

To consider amendments to the Association's Rules and Constitution proposed by Dave Haworth (Aveley) and seconded by Rob Brewer (Ford Sports) as follows:

RULES AND CONSITUTION

Section 6 ADMINISTRATION, sub-section b The Delegates

FROM

Each member Club shall nominate one Delegate and these Delegates plus the Executive Committee shall normally meet (excluding the AGM and EGM) four (4) times a year, the exact date of the next meeting to be agreed at the end of the previous meeting.

TO

Each member Club shall nominate one Delegate and these Delegates plus the Executive Committee shall normally meet (excluding the AGM and EGM) TWICE a year, prior to the start of

the season and at its close, the exact date of the meetings to be agreed at the end of the previous meeting.

Sect 7 MEETINGS

Rename duplicate sub-section (a) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS and duplicate sub-section (b) EXECUTIVE & DELEGATES MEETINGS to (c) and (d) respectively

Thereafter the renamed sub-section be amended to read:

(d) EXECUTIVES & DELGATES MEETINGS

FROM

The Delegates plus the Executive Committee shall normally meet (excluding the AGM and EGM) four (4) times a year, the exact date of the next meeting to be agreed at the end of the previous meeting

TO

The Delegates plus the Executive Committee shall normally meet (excluding the AGM and EGM) TWICE a year, prior to the start of the season and at its close, the exact date of the meetings to be agreed at the end of the previous meeting. The General Secretary shall properly convene these meetings by sending an Agenda and Minutes of the previous meeting to each Delegate (with a copy of the Agenda and Minutes to the Club Secretary) and the Executive Committee members at least seven (7) days prior to the meeting.

In order that business discussed at the meetings is correctly reported back it is imperative that clubs ensure their delegates attend BOTH meetings held during the year. If the elected Club Delegate is unable to attend any of the meetings, then a deputy delegate MUST attend in his absence so that the club can be properly represented

COMPETITION RULES

Sect 8 PLAYING RULES sub section d

FROM

Protests: All protests about the green must be made before the sixth end and the match completed. All protests against a competitor must be lodged in writing to the Competition Secretary within 3 days of the completion of the match. The person lodging the protest must include a fee of £2.00 with the protest. This fee may be returned if the protest is upheld.

TO

Protests:

1. All protests about the condition and play of the rink must be made before the sixth end.
2. In the event of wishing to lodge a formal complaint on the rink condition, the green inspection certificate must be examined to verify that the rink in dispute has been passed fit for county competition play. This should be confirmed, full details of rink number, colour, direction of play and nature of complaint must be communicated immediately after completion of the match to the Group 9 secretary for further investigation
3. In spite of any protest, the game must be played to its conclusion and a result communicated to the Competition Secretary. Any team refusing to play a match to its conclusion will automatically forfeit the tie
4. The communicated result of any game where a protest has been made, will stand, irrespective of any findings resulting from any investigations carried out by out by the organisation responsible for green testing within the County Group

Sect 11 SEMI-FINALS & FINALS sub section b

FROM

Finals to be played on the 2nd. Sunday in September, (unless circumstances prevent this), on the green of the incumbent President or at a venue agreed by the Executive Committee.

TO

Finals to be played over the 2nd. weekend in September, (unless circumstances prevent this), on a suitable green agreed by the Competition Secretary in conjunction with the Executive Committee.

Sect 13 KNOCK-OUT COMPETITION sub section c

FROM

Teams shall consist of twelve players; less than twelve players will result in forfeiture of the match.

TO

Teams shall consist of three rinks of three players, competing in a Three Wood Triples match, less than nine players will result in forfeiture of the match. The winner will be the team with the highest total score across all three rinks .

Sect 13 sub section l

FROM

Final to be played on the 1st. Sunday in September, (unless circumstances prevent this), on the green of the incumbent President or at a venue agreed by the Executive Committee.

TO

The Final will be played during the 2nd weekend in September as part of the finals weekend. Should circumstances prevent this the final will to be played on the 1st. Sunday in September on a suitable green agreed by the Competition Secretary in conjunction with the Executive Committee.

ALL PASSED

15. Date and Time of Future Meetings.

To be confirmed as a date in April.

ANNEX A TO AGM 2022

Competition and Presentation Dinner 2022

T&DBA Comp fees		Affil	dinner	comp
Aveley	£128.00	£25	£48	£55
Corr/Fobbing	£167.00	£25	£48	£94
Ford Sport	£85.00	£25	£48	£12
GP Murrayfield	£79.00	£25	£48	£6
Grays Town	£165.00	£25	£48	£92
Orsett	£174.00	£25	£48	£101
Pitsea	£102.00	£25	£48	£29
Sth Ockendon	£83.00	£25	£48	£10
Thames Sport	£131.00	£25	£48	£58
Thurrock	£152.00	£25	£48	£79
The Springhouse	£205.00	£25	£48	£132
USBC	£84.00	£25	£48	£11
VCA riverside	£79.00	£25	£48	£6
	£1,634.00	£325.00	£624.00	£685.00

on night cheques

Thurrock	£72.00
Springhouse	£112.00
Grays Town	£64.00
Ford Sport	£72.00
Cash	
total	£944.00

		Income	Expense
finals day, Orsett	£150.00 umpire		£50.00
Presentation dinner	trophy		£150.00
	engraving		
	Cash Prizes	£475.00	Competition fees £685.00
	hall booking		£100.00
11/11/2022 Meals	100 at £9	£900.00	meal tickets £944.00
	Flowers £17.00		entertainment £160.00
			raffle prizes £86.87
			raffle tickets sold £263.00
		£1,892.00	£2,088.87
		balance	-£196.87
see second page			
Presentation Dinner 2022 breakdown of items			
Hall meal	11/11/2022 Buffet	100*9	£900.00
Tilbury Community Trading Company		Ch 100295	£100.00

Sue & Rob Clark Expenses 2022

misc				
Disc				£160.00
Flowers				£17.00
raffle books				£6.00
raffle prizes				£86.87
raffle prizes	finals & v Talba	4.70+3.00+4.70		£12.40 99.27
Web page	WordPress	25+20		£45.00
stamps for League cards				£3.80
Engraving	Victor Trophies Ltd			£150.00
paid Sue Clark	expenses	Ch 100296		<hr/> £481.07

Prepared by Treasurer A Gray

We have examined the accounts and certified they are a true record
D Haworth M Bennett