

THURROCK & DISTRICT BOWLING ASSOCIATION



FOUNDED 1946

President: G Chegwiddden; Gen. Secretary: A Gray; Treasurer: M Bonson;
Match Secretary: R Cornwell; Competition Secretary: D Haworth; League Secretary: R Clark;
Minute Secretary: R Brewer; Asst. Match Secretary: T French; Delegates' Representatives: M Coulson & M Maxwell.

Minutes of Thurrock & District Bowling Association Executive & Delegates Meeting held at Thurrock Bowls Club on Wednesday 8 March 2017

Chair: A.Gray

1. Roll Call

Executives Present: A.Gray; R Clark; D.Haworth; R.Cornwell; M. Coulson;
M.Bonson; T.French and R.Brewer

Delegates Present: Aveley; Chadwell St Mary; Corringham; New Phoenix; Orsett;
Pitsea; South Ockendon; Springhouse; Thames Sport; Thurrock; United Services
and VCA Riverview

Absent: Grays Town; Drums and Gloucester Park & Murrayfield

2. Apologies

Executives: G.Chegwidden

3. Welfare

Obituaries: Kevin Meyers (Aveley)

4. Approval of Minutes

The meeting unanimously approved the minutes of the Executives and Delegates Meeting held on Wednesday 28 September 2016 (ExDM2016-09).

5. Matters arising

Nil.

6. General Secretary Report & Correspondence

Alan Gray reported that he had:

Emailed Luke Love re- season tickets and Mick Bonson will be handing out registration sheets during the meeting. He had also Emailed Peter Butler re-greens inspection and the results are at **Item 11** below. He has received responses from Thurrock and Springhouse regarding Histories of Clubs and Terry Mizen has reported that there is a leaflet regarding this at Grays Town. An interesting fact to come out of this is that the 'Tilbury Hospital Challenge Cup' was presented by J H Pinkerton to Thurrock BC when it opened in 1940, as a trophy for a charity day to raise money for 'Tilbury Hospital' and the 'Spitfire Fund'. In the minutes of 1947 it

was donated to T&DBA (remaining the property of Thurrock BC) and it is also noted that the T&DBA v RAFA charity game is held on Thurrock BC ground.

7. Treasurers Report

Mick Bonson reported that although the accounts show a loss of £295.77 they do include the £200.00 deposit for the Hall hire for the Presentation evening. The friendly matches currently show a loss but as all coach hire for the indoor season has been paid and with four more fixtures to be played it is anticipated that loss will be reduced. He has also been notified of the charges for Thurrock Council Season tickets and letters for relevant clubs are available at this meeting.

The Year's Accounts are at **Attachment 1**.

8. League Secretary Report

Robbie Clark reported that everything is now ready for the 2017 season. Envelopes containing fixtures and result cards for the coming season as well as a letter regarding the eight named A team players and a reminder about the change of rules regarding the conceding of league matches, will be distributed to those delegates in attendance. He also reminded delegates that it is their responsibility to ensure the appropriate members of your club receive this information.

One specific item remains, which has been raised by Barry Barclay (Ford Sports) regarding the 6pm starting time in May. From the league's point of view, this start time is to allow those players who work sufficient time to get to the game; for instance it is not easy, if you work, to get over to the other side of Basildon by 5.30pm. A knock-on effect of starting the league matches at a later date in May would result in more games in August that have to start at 5.30pm. There would appear to be two main problems with this: firstly it would cause even more of a problem for those that work and, secondly, there would be less time at the end of the season to allow any fixtures to be played that have been moved or cancelled. He stated that in his opinion, the matches played at Ford Sports in early May should be played straight through with no tea break, which should save at least 15 minutes. The main consideration appears to be that the rules were made before the advent of the artificial outdoor playing surface which, according to Ford Sports, can take up to 15 minutes per match longer. However, the fact is that the majority of league Clubs still play on grass and whilst there is a certain amount of sympathy for Ford Sports position timings will remain the same for this season. He then went on to say that Ford Sports are free to propose a rule change on timings for the 2018 season at the next AGM.

He finished by saying that Ford Sports have been allowed to switch their first two home fixtures this coming season due to green maintenance. This means that they will now play seven home games in a row, not an ideal situation.

9. Competition Secretary Report

Dave Haworth thanked all those clubs who returned their entries and cheques ahead of the deadline. Standard competition entry numbers increased by one percent to 279 but with the introduction of the two wood singles competition the number of entries increased to 307 an overall increase of 11% over 2016, which is a very positive and pleasing outcome. He paid special thanks to all those who supported the new two wood singles competition, there being 28 entries in total and given the number of entries there would seem to be no reason for its inclusion in competition entries in the future.

The format for the two wood singles will follow that laid down for the County two woods which is **21 ENDS ONLY** and our competition rules will be updated in December 2017 to reflect this. All other singles games will continue to be played until a player reaches 21 shots. He reminded everyone that the match result must be phoned to him or communicated electronically on the day of the match. The result card, **PROPERLY COMPLETED WITH ALL INFORMATION**, must be sent to reach him within three days either by post or electronically. He went on to say that other than singles, one substitute is allowed in a pair, triple or four. However, once a substitute has been played then only that individual can be used as the substitute if future matches. No other substitute is allowed and the substitute must be clearly indicated on the scorecard. For the mixed fours one male and one female sub can be played **BUT** not both at the same time. Contact details have already been circulated to all clubs for checking and confirmation is required by 30 April so that the final list can be forwarded. Draws for the first round of the competitions should be with clubs by the second week in April.

Finally, he reminded all clubs and competition finalists that T&DBA perpetual trophies need to be lodged with their club at the start of the season or returned to him at Aveley which will also host Competition Finals day on Sunday 10 September with the Inter-club knock out being played a week earlier on the Sunday 3 September. .

10. Match Secretary Report

The Outdoor fixtures for 2017 have now been finalised and have been passed to Robbie for inclusion on the website. The 2016-17 Indoor season went well with victories over top clubs, Folkestone Oyster and this weekend Thameside Wanders, the latter being beaten by 20 shots with the top rink being skipped by Mick Bonson. Two games, against Finchley and District and Prince Arthur, were cancelled due to lack of support but, overall, support has been a lot better this season.

11. Greens Working Party

This season's greens inspections were carried out by Peter Butler, Thurrock Council, Alan Gray and Alf Beesley on 1 March 2017. Apologies were received from Alan Brady. Peter Butler informed us he now has control of the budget for his department including papers relating to income from leases etc. and he is still working his way through the details. Individual inspections were carried out as follows:

09.00 Corringham and Chadwell St Mary,

Richard Warren, Peter Schofield and Keith Petit were in attendance. Last year's wet green was explained as being caused by a blockage in the soakaway where it runs into the adjacent allotments. This has apparently been looked into and will be checked on by the Council to see if the problem has been resolved. The green was a little mossy and is awaiting suitable weather conditions to be treated along with some fusarium. The car parking area shows some improvement but is still an ongoing concern. Having reported problems with the gutter fascia and soffit Peter Butler stated he will return to photograph the problems and will inform the appropriate department for investigation.

09.45 United Services

Don Pedder was in attendance. The green is awaiting suitable weather for moss to be treated. Hedges are being trimmed by a contractor. Workmen are currently engaged on levelling the paving slabs by the green and have instructions to extend the paved area to the corner of the building which will widen and level the access path up to the green gates. Peter Butler explained that it was the Club's responsibility to lift the ditch mats and clean the ditches at the end of the season. This had not been done and Don Pedder agreed to raise this at a forthcoming club meeting.

10.30 Orsett

No representatives were in attendance. The green has been cut short with patches of bare ground where worm castes have not been swished away. These areas should recover before the season starts.

11.30 Blackshots

Peter Madgewick and others were in attendance. The fox problem still exists but does not appear as serious as last season probably due to the new fox wires being in place. There are some bare patches which are a puzzle and Peter Butler is arranging for some new turf to cover these.

12.30 South Ockendon

South Ockendon had a mix-up in communications resulting in no representatives being present. However, the green is looking in excellent condition.

Other Matters Arising

Leases

Peter Butler stated that it was now Council policy to sort out the matter of leases and/or their renewal as soon as possible. The status of Drums and Aveley were mentioned in particular.

Self-managed Greens

A general discussion took place regarding Council greens under self-management, Aveley and Thames Sports being quoted as examples. Peter Butler asked why the Council was not inspecting Aveley's green. Alan Gray responded that although the Club is self-managing the Green he is aware that the council still need to know that standards are being maintained. He went onto say that an inspection is welcomed at any time.

Overall, Alan Gray felt that the inspections had been very useful and informative for both sides.

12. Any Other Business

Chadwell St Mary enquired about rumours that the Club had been/were to be offered the use of the old Billet site. After some discussion it was decided that the Club should ascertain, in the first place, if they are interested and what issues need addressing (refurbishment of the Clubhouse being mentioned as main concern). This should then be passed to Alan Gray who will approach the Council on their behalf to see how the situation can be developed.

Riverview raised the issue of the £48 charge for tickets for the Presentation evening as no members entered any competitions. It was pointed out that the

evening covered trophies for both competitions and the league. In response to a further question it was confirmed that the £48 levy was a condition of entry to the league and, therefore, compulsory for those wishing to participate in the league.

Orsett raised queries regarding insurance cover. It was clarified that liability insurance is a Club responsibility and that, generally, insurance cover exists only for the registered bowlers and not social members.

13. Date and Time of Future Meetings

ExM2017-09 on 20 September 2017 at 7.00 p.m.

ExDM2017-09 on 27 September 2017 at 7.00 p.m.

AGM 20167 on 6 December 2017 at 7.00 p.m.

Meeting closed at 2015 hours.

Minutes. R Brewer

Approved / / 2017

Chairman