

THURROCK & DISTRICT BOWLING ASSOCIATION



FOUNDED 1946

President: G Chegvidden; 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.

Thurrock & District Bowling Association Annual General Meeting

Held at Thurrock Bowls Club on Wednesday 6 December 2017

T&DBA AGM2017

Minutes

Chair: Robbie Clark

1. Roll Call

Executives Present: Alan Gray, Mick Bonson, Robbie Clark, Dave Haworth, Roger Cornwell, Terry French, Mick Maxwell.

Delegates Present: Aveley; Chadwell St Mary; Drums; Fords Sports; GP Murrayfield; Grays Town; New Phoenix; South Ockendon; The Springhouse; Thames Sport; Thurrock; United Services; VCA Riverview.

2. Apologies

Executives: Rob Brewer, Gordon Chegvidden, Mick Coulson, Alf Beesley

3. Absentees

Delegates: Orsett and Pitsea

4. Welfare

Obituaries: Phil Lush; Albert (Nobby) Clark; Barry Merchant; Barbara Lawrence and P. Pizani; Brian Warby (New Phoenix); Alex Robertson (New Phoenix); Sid Dudley (South Ockendon)

5. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held Wednesday 7 December 2016 (T&DBA-AGM16) were passed unanimously.

6. Matters arising from previous minutes

None

7. Chairman's Opening Remarks

Robbie Clark thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

8. Treasurers' Report

Mick Bonson reported that the Association made a small profit of £29.34 during 2017 against last year's profit of £65.47. Although Competition and League fees increased by £28.00 affiliation fees were down by £25.00 due to Pegasus B.C. folding. Revenue from competitions showed a loss of £114.12 over the previous year but this was due mainly to the one off purchase of the trophy for the 2 wood singles competition. Friendly matches showed a profit of £354.00, which was offset by the cost of purchasing a new flag, stickers and pens for highest winning rinks. The sale of ties and badges realised a total of £25.00 down £25.00 on the previous period.

The presentation dance was well supported with over 140 persons attending. Ticket sales realised £780.00 including £192.00 4 clubs who sent no representatives. The increased attendance also accounted for a rise in raffle prize takings of £189.00. However, donations of raffle prizes from Clubs were disappointing. He finished by saying that although the accounts show a lot of expenditure on stock this will lessen the expenditure in this area for next year.

9. Account Examiners' Report.

The Accounts have, as yet, to be audited (Attachment 1) the reason being that the Bank Statements have only just been received. As this is a perennial problem it was decided that the date of future AGMs would be held a week later than usual thus allowing the bank statements to be available.

10. Gen. Secretary and Correspondence

Alan Gray reported that having sent out Emails re the Presentation Dance, it would seem that there is a little confusion over the issuing of actual tickets. The key issue is that the Treasurer needs to know how many vegetarian meals are required (a different coloured ticket is supplied). There have been several updates to the T&DBA Club contacts (i.e. Hon.Secretary and Match Secretary), all of which are welcomed, and the latest list is being circulated, please check the details for your club. With Essex Handbook details already collected, requests have been received from Essex, for any updates on Officers before they go to print. It is especially important that Competition, Match and General Secretaries are kept up to date.

Having responded to a request for details of duties for Association Officers due for election for the upcoming season a list of duties was sent to all secretaries. It was very disappointing that nobody from the particular club that had expressed the most interest attended the Delegates meeting. Having been in poor health all season I had hoped to step down as Secretary but nobody has put forward their name so I reluctantly stand for re-election, as will Rob Brewer as Minutes Secretary.

The saga of the Chadwell/Corringham BCs' green condition has continued during the season. However, after a successful greens inspection in February and after meetings with Thurrock Council a successful greens inspection took on 25 October 2017, and is reported on under item 14.

11. League Secretary's Report

Robbie Clark reported that the 2017 season went really well, with all matches in the Premier Division being played. In Division 1, Corringham and United Services conceded one match each and Gloucester Park Murrayfield played with two rinks once. In Division 2 all matches

were played. He thanked all the clubs and their respective league captains for the excellent co-operation in what proved to be a difficult season due to the atrocious weather, it was very much appreciated,

League results were as follows:

Premier Division Winners	Drums
Premier Division Runners up	Grays Town "A"
Division 1 Winners	Aveley "A"
Division 1 Runners up	Gloucester Park Murrayfield "B"
Division 2 Winners	New Phoenix
Division 2 Runners up	Orsett "B"

Many congratulations to those Clubs involved

As per the association league rules, for the 2018 season, at least one team will be promoted from Divisions 1 and 2 and at least one team will be relegated from the Premier Division and Division 1. The remaining promotion and relegation places in all divisions are decided when the structure of the leagues for the following season are known, which is reliant on how many teams are registered for each league. All Clubs should have informed the T&BDA League Secretary by this evening's AGM how many teams they intend to enter for the 2018 season and as no notifications have been received of any teams withdrawing from the league, two teams will be promoted and relegated from Divisions 1 & 2.

Therefore, the following promotions and relegations will take place:

Promoted to:

Premier Division:	Aveley A and Gloucester Park Murrayfield "B"
Division 1:	The New Phoenix and Orsett B

Relegated to:

Division 1	Ford Sports and Thurrock A
Division 2	South Ockendon and Springhouse B

The league programme for 2018 will commence on Wednesday the 9 May 2018. Robbie closed by saying that the 2017 season was one he has enjoyed immensely, working with the current association committee and association members

12. Competition Secretary's Report

Dave Haworth reported that competition entries continued to buck the County trend and were up 1% on 2016 figures and, when taking the newly introduced 2 wood singles

competition into account, this resulted in an 11% increase on total entries for the 2017 season. He thanked all those who supported the Leon Williams 2 wood singles competition, which was introduced to recognise and honour the huge contribution he made to bowls over many years in the Thurrock area. Since a reduction in the number of people entering district competitions in 2014, he is now pleased to report that there has been a steady increase year on year since. He urged Club delegates to continue to encourage their members to support and promote this.

Competitions ran smoothly throughout the season with no major issues that required his intervention. However, the rain did cause a couple of hiccups in the closing rounds with a couple of games requiring extensions, due to planned matches being rained off. Would club delegates please congratulate all their participants in the competitions, although whilst it is nice to win, the taking part is far more important.

The issue over what should happen if an individual makes competition entries and then changes clubs after the entries are submitted was clarified at the last AGM with the playing rules being updated.

He went on to say he had also proposed amendments for this year to include details of the new 2 wood singles competition.

He also felt the need to clarify, beyond all uncertainty, the substitution arrangements for the Mixed Fours competition – one male and one female substitute are allowed BUT only one of these may compete at any one time. As always the first four to play will constitute the original team. Please also note, the entry for this competition must be made by a club member affiliated to T&DBA, meaning they must be male and they will be the only contact name for game arrangements.

He passed on his thanks and that of the Association to Aveley BC for hosting the finals again for the fourth year and providing refreshments and food on the day. He also thanked Colin Whitear of Murrayfield for officiating and Alan Gray for assisting.

Entry forms for next season will be ready to send out immediately after Xmas and must be returned to the competition secretary no later than 28 February 2018

He thanked his fellow Executive Committee members and Delegates for the help and support they had given during the year and for all the hard work they have put in both during and outside of the outdoor season. He asked everyone to please remember that we all may play in competitions, leagues and association matches but the association can only function with a full complement of officers, some of whom work quietly in the background and, to many, remain unknown.

Finally, he gave a special thank you to Robbie Clark for maintaining the web site. He had tried to reduce his work load regarding the posting of competition rounds this year and, going forward, allowing him more time to focus on league issues.

13. Match Secretary's Report

Roger Cornwell reported that it was a successful outdoor season this year outdoor winning fifty percent of the games played. There had been a lot better response overall with a lot more games being mixed which seems to be a policy being adopted by more and more Clubs as

they move away from the male/female only team format. Next season's outdoor fixture list is more or less complete with only a few loose ends to tie up and will be published pre-season.

The current indoor season is going well with victories being recorded against Stone Lodge and Clacton, support so far has been good and there have been some good days out.

He finished by thanking Gordon Chegidden for the support he had given as President for 2015/16/17 and was now looking forward to the incoming President Robbie Clark having a good year.

14. Working Party Report

Greens' inspections were carried out by Alan Gray, Alf Beesley and Peter Butler, Thurrock Council, on 25 October 2017.

Corringham/Chadwell St Mary. (9.00 a.m. Richard Warren and Peter Schofield)

Owing to late running bowls events on the green, greenkeepers were not able to get on to the green till early October. The green has been scarified (not looking pretty at this stage but the mossy patches have gone), 'hollow tined' and awaiting the top dressing and grass seed to be applied. The other green keepers would assist when their greens were done. Peter Butler had contractor's paperwork for building repairs (Soffits etc.) and needed clarification regarding pointing. This took some while to explain. Peter photographed several spots. Door steps rotting and letting water inside. Paving stones along the side of the building were not helping and needing levelling. The fire door 'wooden' lintel looked warped making the door unusable. The main fuse box could not be opened to find the isolation switch and there was no sign of the main stop cock for the water supply to the building. Peter Butler would look into these points. Further communication from Corringham/ Chadwell BC, indicates the grass seed was very late being applied, which is not good as the temperature frequently drops below germination level.

United Services. (9.45 a.m. Don Pedder)

Reviewed the green which looked in good condition. The green keeper was starting to apply the top dressing. Don asked about the Hedges being trimmed by a contractor. Peter indicated it was not clear if this would be able to be done for the coming season. With the Clubs 50th anniversary in 2018, Don was asking for regular assessments of the green's condition. Peter Butler pointed out that during the winter the greens are checked on a regular basis for Fusarium and treated when necessary and that greens are treated twice a year for Chaffer grub (now requiring a government licence for use)

Orsett. (10.15 a.m.)

Green was looking in good shape for the time of year. Peter was shown the redecorating to the Ladies Changing room.

Blackshots. (10.30 a.m. Peter Madgewick and others present)

Green looking in good shape for the time of year, the south green was being 'hollow tined' and the top dressing was to go on soon after. Peter had discussions regarding a problem with padlock keys and the date for opening the Council greens as County competitions can start as soon as 1 May. Greens will be prepared for use by the third week in April, giving

club members time to practice before the first game. The exact date is to be confirmed. There was also a matter of a letter received from a member of Drums BC which had not gone through official channels. The comments regarding the Blackshots Bowling Greens were not agreed by Peter Madgewick nor by Alan Gray and not substantiated by comments from visiting players.

South Ockendon. (11.10 a.m.)

Nobody was present to represent the Club or open the green. However, looking through the gate the green appeared to be in excellent condition. Alan Gray noted that it was a pity there was nobody to speak to as there are still a lot of problems with the Pavilion, which could have been raised with Peter Butler. Nevertheless, it was felt that the Inspection had been very useful and informative for both sides.

GP Murrayfield

Alan Gray informed the meeting that GP Murrayfield greens are not being dug up, as there is general subsidence still in progress, including subsidence to the clubhouse. This green comes under Basildon Council control.

15. To Discuss Motions

Motion 1 (updating to include the new two wood singles)

Competition Rules 8 PLAYING RULES to read

(a) Match Format: **FOUR-WOOD** singles and 2-wood pairs competitions to be played to **21 SHOTS**; **TWO-WOOD SINGLES**, 4-wood pairs and fours competitions to be played to **21 ENDS**; Triples to be played to **18 ENDS**; Inter-Club Knockout to be played to **18 ENDS**, total rinks scores to count.

Mixed fours Knockout Competition open to all members of Clubs Affiliated to T.& D.B.A. **THE ENTRY AND CONTACT DETAILS PROVIDED MUST BE CONSISTENT WITH THIS.** All players in a four (2 x men + 2 x Ladies) must belong to the same bowls club. Two substitutes allowed per team, one lady and one man, **BUT ONLY ONE SUBSTITUTE IS ALLOWED TO PLAY AT ANY ONE TIME.** He or she **must** be named as the substitute and after playing **may not** play for another entry in the same competition

Motion 2 An Amendment and addition to

TROPHIES SECTION

Change:- SINGLES to **FOURWOOD SINGLES**
And add:- **TWO-WOOD SINGLES**
LEON WILLIAMS MEMORIAL PLATE

Both motions passed without objection

16. Election of Officers for 2018 Season

President	:	Robbie Clark (The Springhouse)
Senior Deputy President	:	Vacant
Junior Deputy President	:	
General Secretary	:	Alan Gray (Aveley)

