

# THURROCK & DISTRICT BOWLING ASSOCIATION



FOUNDED 1946

President: G Chegwidden; 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 12 December 2018  
Minutes

**Chair:** Robbie Clark

## **1. Roll Call**

Executives Present: Robbie Clark; Alan Gray; Gordon Chegwidden; Mick Coulson; Mick Bonson; Dave Haworth; Roger Cornwell and Rob Brewer

Delegates Present: Aveley; Drums; Fobbing and District; Fords Sports; GP Murrayfield; Grays Town; Orsett; South Ockendon; The Springhouse; Thurrock and VCA Riverview.

## **2. Apologies**

Executives: Terry French

Delegates: Pitsea and United Services

## **3. Absentees**

Delegates: Orsett and Thames Sport

## **4. Welfare**

Obituaries: Alf Wood (Corringham); John Parmenter (Orsett); Roy Linzell (Thurrock) Roy Christmas ( Pegasus); Frank Price ( Drums) and Malcolm Lawson ( Drums)

## **5. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held Wednesday 6 December 2017 (T&DBA AGM17) were passed unanimously.

## **6. Matters arising from previous minutes**

None

## **7. Chairman's Opening Remarks**

Robbie Clark thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for the help provided in coping with the closure of the Corringham and Fobbing and District green. He also apologized for the number of District games he had missed as President due to the pressure of other bowling commitments. In view of this he was willing to stand down in favour of another volunteer. **Note.** As there were no other volunteers he remains President for the 2019 Season.

## **8. Treasurers' Report**

Mick Bonson reported that the Association made a profit of £641.88 against last year's profit of £29.34. This was due to less expenditure on stock (pens and stickers), coach hire and engraving. However, last year's increase on engraving was due to one off purchases for the new '2 wood singles' competition. There was also an increase in receipts for presentation tickets and presentation raffle.

Competitions and League fees fell by £89.00. When taking into account the cost for Finals Day the competitions showed an overall a profit of £43.42. The friendly matches showed a profit of £103.00 despite making a refund to Tye Green I.B.C. for a cancelled fixture. Sale of stock increased by £10.00 to £35.00. The presentation evening was well supported with over 160 people attending and increasing ticket sales by £112.00 and raffle income by £63.00.

Mick Bonson also raised questions regarding future Presentation Nights and the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2021. These are included under Any Other Business at Paragraph 17.

He finished by saying he recently had a meeting with Jahur Ali from Thurrock Council. The outcome being that in order to encourage more young players to take up the game, season tickets for under 21's will be free of charge for the foreseeable future.

A copy of the Accounts is at Attachment 1.

## **9. Account Examiners' Report.**

The Examiners' reported that they had inspected the accounts and all was in order.

## **10. Gen. Secretary and Correspondence**

Alan Gray reported that he had received some updates to the T&DBA Club contacts and the latest list is now being circulated. He asked Delegates to please check the details for their Clubs and reiterated how important it is that details of General, Competition and Match Secretaries are kept up to date. He also confirmed that, as reported as an addendum to the last Delegates meeting, the issue of Essex County affiliation fees for Orsett and GP Murrayfield had now been resolved. The Senior Citizens T&DBA membership is on hold while the status of the club as a bowls club is confirmed. The problem is regarding the type of insurance they hold and whether

it covers games on other Clubs' greens. He also confirmed that Chadwell St Mary BC is now officially registered as Fobbing and District Bowling Club.

He finished by saying that he understood Graham Smith will put his name forward as a Vice President when he has finished his duties as the Ex-Essex President. See Election of Officers at Paragraph 15.

### **11. League Secretary's Report**

Robbie Clark reported that the 2018 season had gone very well. In the Premier Division all matches were played except for the games between Springhouse 'A' versus Grays Town 'A' and Aveley 'A' versus Gloucester Park & Murrayfield 'A' these clubs deciding as the results would not affect the final league table positions there was little point in playing the matches. In Divisions 1 and 2 all matches were completed. He went on to express his thanks and appreciation to all the Clubs, and their respective league captains, for the excellent co-operation they gave in helping to cope with what was a difficult season due to the non-availability of the Corringham and Chadwell greens.

He congratulated all the league winners and runners up as follows:

Premier Division Winners	Grays Town 'A'
Premier Division Runners Up	Drums
Division One Winners	United Services
Division One Runners Up	Thurrock 'A'
Division Two Winners	Grays Town 'B'
Division Two Runners Up	South Ockendon

As per the association league rules at least one team must be promoted and relegated from each division per season. For the 2019 season 1 team at least will be promoted from Divisions 1 and 2 and one team at least will be relegated from the Premier Division and Division 1. In connection with this he then went on to bring up the issue of how many teams should comprise each of the leagues for 2019 in view of the net loss of one team which left a total of 22 teams to participate. After some discussion a majority vote decided that the Premier and Division 1 Leagues would each comprise seven teams and Division 2 eight.

Therefore, the following promotions and relegations will take place:

#### **Promoted to:**

Premier Division:	United Services and Thurrock 'A'
Division 1:	Grays Town 'B'

Relegated to:

Division 1 GP Murrayfield and Fobbing and District

Division 2 Orsett 'B'

As some confusion over exactly what was intended for the 2019 Season was expressed a list of the Leagues and their participating Clubs is at Attachment 3.

Robbie then apologised in his capacity as League Secretary for invoking the 'Three Triples' rule used in Division 2 for Division 1 teams last Season. He now realised that this had been a mistake and would not be repeated for Division 1 in future.

He finished by saying that this completes his report for the 2018 season, one which he had enjoyed immensely working with the current Association Committee and Association members.

**12. Competition Secretary's Report**

Dave Haworth reported that Competition entries were down 8.8% on 2017 figures. The newly introduced 2 wood singles competition accounted for 23 entries. If these entries are taken out it means there was a reduction of 16% overall compared with previous years. He urged all club delegates to positively promote and encourage their club members to support these competitions to ensure their future viability. He thanked all those who did support the competitions during last season.

Competitions ran smoothly throughout the season and there were no major issues that required his intervention. Unlike the previous year, the weather made the playing of the rounds much more pleasant with virtually no disruptions to the round play by dates. He asked all club delegates to please congratulate all their participants in the competitions; although whilst it is nice to win the taking part is far more important. He thanked all those entrants who diligently phoned, e-mailed and posted on their results on time, which makes the competition secretary's job that much easier. He also passed on his thanks, and that of the Association, to Springhouse Bowls Club for hosting the finals for 2018 and providing refreshments and a superb buffet during the day. He also thanked Colin Whitear, formerly of GPMurrayfield, for officiating on the day. 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 the 28 February 2019.

He thanked his fellow Executive committee members and delegates for the help and support they have given during the year and for all the hard work they have put in both during and outside of the outdoor season. He asked all to remember that whilst we all may play in competitions, leagues and Association matches, 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 stated that the outdoor fixtures are nearly finished and half the indoor fixtures for next season were complete. The current indoor season was ongoing and was well supported but so far only one game has been won out of three fixtures. Outdoors this year 10 out of 11 fixtures were fulfilled with one being cancelled due to a lack of players due County and Group 9 commitments. He finished off by asking for continued support and wishing all players a good indoor season.

### **14. Greens Working Party**

Greens Inspections were carried out by Alan Gray, Alf Beesley, Peter Bainton and James Gatton from Thurrock Council on 26 September 2018. The report is as presented to the last Delegates meeting and included in the resulting Minutes.

A further meeting was held on 28 November 2018 with Council member Jahur Ali, Elm Horticulture and Basildon & District Bowling Association, who had raised concerns about cross-contamination of their greens when their own Clubs playing in the T&DBA leagues bowl at Corringham. At the time of the inspection, grass had not germinated completely and there was also a degree of moss present. Elm Horticulture (who has the contract for the 2019 season) gave an assurance that the Green would be ready for April. The Company have also indicated they would like to take over the maintenance of more council greens and their performance at Corringham will, therefore, be monitored quite critically.

Gloucester Park & Murrayfield is still being assessed due to continued subsidence. Martin Bennett will update us as and when there is any change.

A copy of the Report is at Attachment 2.

### **15. Election of Officers for 2019 Season**

President	:	Robbie Clark (The Springhouse)
Senior Deputy President	:	Vacant
Junior Deputy President	:	Vacant
General Secretary	:	Alan Gray (Aveley)
Minutes Secretary	:	Rob Brewer (South Ockendon)
Hon Treasurer	:	Mick Bonson (Drums)
Account Examiners	:	Martyn Bennett and Dave Haworth
League Secretary	:	Robbie Clark (The Springhouse)
Competition Secretary	:	Dave Haworth (Aveley)
Match Secretary	:	Roger Cornwell (South Ockendon)
Assist Match Secretary	:	Terry French (Aveley)
2 Delegates to Executive Committee	:	Mick Coulson and Mick Maxwell
Selection Committee	:	Roger Cornwell Terry French

Competition Committee : Dave Haworth, Mick Bonson  
Roger Cornwell and Allan Williams  
Joint working party Greens : General Secretary  
Alf Beesley and Peter Bainton  
2 Delegates to Thurrock  
Sports Council : Mick Maxwell and Peter Madgewick

All Officers were elected without objection

## **16. Any Other Business**

### Trophies

Dave Haworth made a statement regarding difficulty in selecting suitable trophies that reflect the achievements of competition finalists, as well as being something that one is happy to receive. He said "Whilst it has not been easy, until this year I have normally managed to select the required number of awards without too much difficulty from what has been on offer. However this year I cannot say the same. Having browsed five catalogues I have struggled to find nine sets of trophies to award for this season. For the future, after discussion with and approval of the Executive Committee, I would like to propose that the Association be given the option of awarding appropriate gift vouchers to finalists as an alternative to trophies. This will provide a very useful backstop should the Competition Secretary be faced with the same problem in subsequent years". It was agreed that delegates would take this back to their Clubs for discussion and a decision would be made at the next Delegates Meeting following their findings.

### Presentation Evening

Mick Bonson also asked delegates to seek the views of their Clubs regarding the Presentation Night and in particular the need to continue hiring a singer at a considerable cost. An alternative would need to be found and perhaps a DJ might be one option. He also floated the idea of a different venue for the Night and used Orsett Hall as an example. However, it was pointed out from the floor that this would more than double the cost and would likely meet opposition from the Clubs given the compulsory purchase of six tickets per Club each season. It was agreed that a decision based on their findings would be made at the next Delegates Meeting.

### 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

After a general discussion it was agreed in principle that there would be special bowls stickers to commemorate the occasion and further consideration would be given to other mementoes such as pens etc. Roger Cornwell was asked to contact the Royal Household, Essex County and Group 9 with regard to arranging special matches as part of the celebrations.

Council Leases

The following issues were highlighted:

The use of advertising as a means of raising additional income. At the moment advertising inside or on the outside fabric of the building is permitted. Perimeter advertising needs to be approved through the Council’s Estates Department.

A 21 year lease entitles a Club to be able to seek various grants.

Disputes are currently in train regarding the ownership of buildings erected by Clubs in the event of the Council closing the complex on which the building is situated.

General

Terry Mizen pointed out that the T&DBA were not shown as being affiliated in the latest Bowls England Handbook. Alan Gray will make enquiries.

Roger Cornwell reported that the Association had raised £1271 for charity through sponsored matches

**17. Date and Time of Future Meetings.**

Venue Thurrock Bowls Club

Ex-Meeting - Wednesday 20 February 2019 - 7.00 pm

ExDel-Meeting - Wednesday 6 March 2019 - 7.00 pm

AGM – Wednesday 11 December 2019 – 7.00 pm

Meeting ended at 7.55 pm

Minutes: Rob Brewer

Approved:        /                    /  
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Chairman

Treasurers report for A.G.M. Held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2017

Balance sheet 1/12/16 to 30/11/17

Opening balance 1/12/16	Barclays Community Ace.		1095.82		
	Mansfield Building Soc.		7571.92		
	Cash in hand		41.00		
	Total		8708.74		
	Less un-cleared cheques		<u>459.16</u>		
	TOTAL		8249.58		
	INCOME		EXPENDITURE		
	2016	2017	2016	2017	
Sale of season tickets	38433.00	38548.00	Thurrock Council	37534.00	38548.00
Affiliation Fees	425.00	400.00	Refunds	909.00	----
Competition Fees	805.00	833.00	Finals day costs	135.00	150.00
Match fees	9466.00	7372.00	Club fees	6344.00	5232.00
Presentation Dance	552.00	1336.00	Coach fees	3060.00	1786.00
Dance Raffle	174.00	363.00	Raffle prizes	69.66	71.78
Sale of stock	50.00	25.00	Stock purchase	196.08	656.71
Building Soc. Interest	<u>315.97</u>	<u>377.78</u>	Trophy Insurance	84.39	89.68
TOTAL	<u>50230.97</u>	<u>49254.78</u>	Executive honoraria	500.00	500.00
			Hall hire	75.00	75.00
			Trophy engraving	539.87	797.12
			Presentation meals	489.50	884.15
			Entertainer	200.00	200.00
			Web Domain	25.00	25.00
			Sundries	4.00	10.00
			Deposit to TCC	<u>.</u>	<u>200.00</u>
			TOTAL	<u>50165.50</u>	<u>49225.44</u>
Total income	49254.78				
Total expense	<u>49225.44</u>				
PROFIT	<u>29.34</u>				
Closing balances	Barclays Bank	746.22			
	Mansfield B.S.	7894.70			
	Cash in hand	<u>13.00</u>	2016 Balance	8249.58	
	TOTAL	8653.92	2017 Profit	<u>29.34</u>	
Less uncleared cheques		<u>375.00</u>	Total	8278.92	
	TOTAL	<u>8278.92</u>			
Stock in hand Blazer badges 38 @ £6		228.00			
Ties 44 @ £10		440.00			
Prepared by Treasurer M. Bonson					

## Attachment 2

GWP 2018-09 Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Greens Inspection Alan Gray Mick Coulson, Alf Beesley and Peter Bainton with James Gatton from Thurrock Council

**Corringham, Chadwell St Mary, 9.00** am Mick Coulson, John Francis

'Horticulture' have been employed to manage the green over the winter.

They have heavily scarified etc. applied some dressing and soil and seed.

The result is miraculous. No rye grass to be seen, there are some large areas without grass but, provided the grass seed takes, I can see no reason why this green will not be usable next season.

A company is to cut the hedge to 2 mts. The main building work outstanding is to relaying the path around the Club house. The car park area nearly finished, surface is looking good.

**United Services 9.50** (9.30) am - Brian Purkiss

North and East rink still not growing - Collier turf to spray. The same contractor as Corringham to cut down the Leylandii hedge. Bare patches to be scarified etc. and slow fertiliser to be applied. Sprinkler head noted not to be sitting properly.to be checked.

James was informed of a problem in the car park with large numbers of potholes - he will pass on this report to the appropriate section.

**Orsett 10.20** (10.00) nobody from the club present

Green keeper Michael

'Lawn Services' are to scarify etc for the winter. Some bare areas but hardly visible because of a mass coverage of worm castes.

This is like last February and the areas covered with caste will not grow grass. Must be swished regularly. Over the winter I suggest that somebody from the club comes at least every other day to swish the green, liaise with Lawn Services.

**Blackshots 10.50** (10.30)

Peter Madgewick, Terry Chamberlin, Dave Wakefield, Danny Wakeling, Terry Mizen.

Lee has already started scarifying the south green top dressing and seed to come.

Games still to be played on north green. Which will then receive the same treatment.

Council do not have equipment to ease the work, and a request to borrow a spreader and sprayer to be made to Aveley BC - Terry Mizen

Following complaints from neighbours the hedge on the west side has been heavily cut back.

James is still hoping to get a second water tank to allow separate watering to the 2 greens.

### **SthOckendon Il.30(11.20).**

Roger Cornwall - we beat Roger to the club.

Looking good - members of committee having play recently saying it played well. After a weekend game work can start on the scarifying and seeding etc.

James was reminded of the ongoing problem of local office staff using the car park - possible no parking before 10 am?

### **Aveley - Alan Gray**

After tea and biscuits (many thanks Roger) James visited Aveley BC where we have started extra scarifying and part top dressing and seed on the bare patches around the edges.

**Premier Division**

Grays Town 'A'  
Drums  
United Services  
Springhouse 'A'  
Aveley 'A'  
Orsett 'A'  
Thurrock 'A'

**Division 1**

Ford Sports  
Thames Sports 'A'  
Corringham  
Pitsea 'A'  
GP Murrayfield  
Fobbing and District  
Grays Town 'B'

**Division 2**

South Ockendon  
Springhouse 'B'  
V.C.A  
Aveley 'B'  
Thames Sports 'B'  
Thurrock 'B'  
Orsett 'B'  
Pitsea 'B'