

THURROCK & DISTRICT BOWLING ASSOCIATION



FOUNDED 1946

President: Vacant; Gen. Secretary: R Brewer; Treasurer: Vacant; League Secretary: R Clark; Competition Secretary: D Haworth; Match Secretary: Vacant; Asst. Match Secretary: D Jago; Delegates' Representatives: T Mizen;

Thurrock & District Bowling Association Annual General Meeting held in the Banqueting Hall, Tilbury Community Centre on Wednesday 15 January 2025 Agenda

1. Roll Call

Executives Present:

R Clark; D Haworth; T Mizen and D Jago

Delegates Present:

Aveley; Carreras; Corringham & Fobbing; Orsett; Pitsea Riverview; South Ockendon; Stanford le Hope; Grays Town; Springhouse; Thames Sports and Thurrock

2. Apologies

Executives:

R Brewer

Delegates:

Ford Sports;

3. Absentees

Executives:

Delegates:

4. Welfare

Obituaries:

Mick Coulson and Dave Blandy - Corringham & Fobbing

John Graves and John Webb - The Springhouse

Doug Forster, Des Allen, Gordon Ogden and Bob Robinson - Thurrock

Alan Gray - Aveley

Roger Cornwell – South Ockendon

5. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of T&DBA AGM 2023 were passed unanimously

6. Matters arising from previous minutes

Nil

7. Treasurers' Report

Dave Haworth, in his capacity as Acting Treasurer, gave the following Report:

I will start with the top line revenue, expenditure and account balances

INCOME 2024 season	EXPENDITURE 2024 season
Total £3,406.00	Total £3,993.56

Income over expenditure – a deficit of **-587.56**

This is slightly mitigated by interest from the Associations Mansfield building society account. No final figure yet as the account pass book is currently being brought up to date. The amount is likely to be between **£90 and £100**

The main reason for the deficit is due to the “one off” cost for a complete redesign and updating of the Association’s website. Additional costs related to the maintenance of our website include the domain name renewal for a further 2 years and the hosting fee for the 2024 season. , totalling **£300**

Website design	£300
Domain name renewal	£25
Website hosting	£109
TOTAL	£434

This is the first major overhaul of the site since it was set up over 10 years ago and I think which we all agree, it had provided considerable benefits to all clubs and members; providing real time information and warrants the investment. Sadly, like most things nowadays, costs have increased significantly particularly in webhosting, which saw an increase of 55%. Until this year, we had benefited from a very low cost over a prolonged period.

Competition and Finals weekend expenditure also saw a deficit of **£85.50** but was in line with expectations. This is predominantly driven by food costs over the 2-day event but it does benefit from a TALBA contribution to the costs, and this year there were no umpire expenses for the season as we were unable to source an umpire for the event.

Regarding the presentation evening, I will return to that after I have provided the bottom-line balances.

The very bottom line of the accounts is as follows:

2024 opening balance **£3,676.86** which included **£763.41** of uncashed cheques from 2023

Closing balance **£2,831.75** after income and expenditure taken into account and include **£505.86** in uncleared cheques

Added to the Mansfield Account total, this means the Association has a total operating capital of **£6,303.38** plus interest to be added for the 2024 season.

The presentation evening was well supported again, and in spite of increased costs, the event virtually broke even, making only a very small loss of **£1.20, which is in no small part down to the effort put in to the raffle event and the support of all who contributed, as it grossed £475.00** making a profit of **£337.55**.

The Association has always maintained that this as a “not for profit” event and believe that it should be protected, which is why we took action some years ago to guarantee, at least in part, funds to underwrite the costs and minimise losses by requiring mandatory ticket purchases from all clubs. The premise of “not for profit” still remains true but when you look in detail across the accounts, as I have done as acting treasurer this year, a clear picture emerges of ever declining revenue versus ever increasing costs. If this remains unchecked, the end result is as clear as night and day. This is further underlined by the current flux we have seen in club numbers, with some clubs disbanding, others merging and some still unsure about the future. This has a direct threat to financial revenue and the ability of the Association to continue along its current path. Please do not think this is alarmist. It is purely to reassure clubs, that we as an Association are not asleep at the wheel and are keen to ensure our Association continues to exist in the future for clubs as long as outdoor bowls exist in Thurrock.

With this in mind, the Executive Committee will be meeting within the next couple of weeks to discuss the current situation and the potential financial implications. and whether steps need to be taken at this time.

8. Account Examiners’ Report

Dave Haworth reported that the accounts had been examined independently and were passed as accurate.

9. Gen. Secretary and Correspondence

Nil

10. League Secretary’s Report

Robbie Clark gave the following report:

League Data 2024

The 2024 season went very well, all league matches were completed but one, which was the Premier League match between Grays Town A and Thurrock A, both clubs enquired of the League Secretary if it was ok to not play the match the league secretary agreed to the request as any result did not affect the Premier league positions.

League Winners & Runners Up 2024

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	Springhouse B

Division Two Winners	Ford Sports
Division Two Runners Up	Thurrock B

League Fixtures for 2025

I will not be publishing the 2025 league fixture programme until early April 2025 I know that this is an inconvenience as clubs want to put the fixtures in their fixture books, but please bear in mind that it is a bigger inconvenience for the league secretary who spends many hours compiling the fixtures in January only to find after publishing them in February teams pull out in April after clubs have had their Spring meetings, and then find they do not have the personal they assumed they had in the previous Autumn when they had their AGMs.

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 2025 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 2025** of teams they wish to enter.

This is normally done at the T&dba AGM in January but because of my earlier point regarding the compiling of fixtures I will accept league entries no later than the above date.

Proposed League Structure for 2025

Premier League 7 Teams

Aveley A – Corringham/Fobbing A – Grays Town A – Orsett A – Pitsea/Riverview A
Springhouse A – Thurrock A

They will play each other twice on a home and away basis a total of 12 matches per team.

Division One 5 Teams

Carreras – Grays town B – Orsett B – Springhouse B – Thames Sports A

Play each other 3 times a total of 12 matches per team, 6 home matches 6 away matches.

Division Two 7 Teams

Corringham/Fobbing B - Ford Sports – Pitsea/Riverview B – South Ockendon - Thames Sports B
Thurrock B – Stanford Le Hope B.C

They will play each other twice on a home and away basis a total of 12 matches per team.

This completes my report for the 2024 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.

11. Competition Secretary's Report

Dave Haworth reported that the 2024 competition programme ran smoothly throughout the season and there was no requirement for me to make any intervention to resolve any disputes. Again T&D BA competitions attracted continued good support in numbers from the majority of clubs making up the Association, even showing a minor increase of 2.89% compared to entries for the 2023.

	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	% Change
Entries	53	33	35	47	45	54	20.00%
Home	29	19	19	29	31	29	-10.34%
Away	31	23	24	30	29	20	-31.03%
Refused	52	44	41	47	46	50	8.70%
Withdrawn	33	24	25	28	28	31	11.11%
Not entered	20	15	21	22	16	18	12.50%
Not invited	10	8	7	7	8	7	-12.50%
Not accepted	18	14	16	17	14	17	21.43%
Not available	15	16	6	18	11	11	0.00%
Not entered	17	10	10	11	14	12	-14.29%
Total	278	206	204	256	242	249	2.89%
% Change		-0.71%	-25.90%	-26.62% on 2019	25.49% on 2021	-5.47% on 2022	2.89% on 2023
Change	-4	33	-18	12	2	9	
Change	6	19	-10	10	31	-2	
Change	2	23	-8	30	-1	-9	
Change	-5	44	-11	47	-1	4	
Change	4	24	-8	28	0	3	
Change	2	15	-3	22	-6	2	
Change	-3	8	-2	7	1	-1	
Change	0	14	-2	17	8	3	
Change	-3	16	-9	18	14	0	
Change	-1	10	-7	11	11	-2	
Change	2	16	-7	18	11	7	

Whilst this is good, I continue to ask the same thing as in previous years that all club delegates 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 this tradition of providing a competitive environment for those who enjoy this aspect of our game. So, a big thank you to the delegates and please do take back to your clubs my thanks to all those who have taken part.

I'd just like to repeat some comments made in my October report. I would like to thank again on behalf of the Association Thurrock BC who hosted our 3rd competition finals weekend, with a particular mention for Phil Johns, Paul Mager, Peter Bainton and their army of willing volunteers, who worked hard to ensure the success of the weekend, including the laying out and clearing of the rinks, the provision of breakfast and a copious buffet lunch, the manning of the refreshments bar and those individuals who marked games.

For the third year running, the T&DBA and TALBA finals shared the same venue and ran successfully side by side in spite of one or two initial challenges.

This was the second year where the T&DBA Inter Club Knock out formed part of the finals weekend. Fortunately, results were such that this enabled me to programme this with minimal impact on competitors. However, at this time I am still reluctant to say that this will be a permanent arrangement going forward at this time and I want to see further evidence that this is sustainable. Until this format is proven, I have no intention of proposing the adoption of this as the norm at this time.

Given the overall success of the weekend, I am happy for us to proceed with the joint format for the 2025 season and will approach TALBA in due course.

However, what does remain is the venue for this year's finals. Again, I ask that those clubs interested in holding the event please contact me via e-mail. Before doing so, please bear in mind that not only must your green be of a suitable standard for the playing of finals, but that your club must be able to provide the high standard of catering that really has become an equal highlight to the games themselves.

Because of the delayed AGM I have delayed sharing the competition entry forms. I will share these immediately after the Executive Committee meeting later this month. These will need to be returned to me by 31st March at the latest. Finals weekend will be on 13th & 14th September, with the venue to be advised.

I would like to thank my fellow Executive committee members and Dave Jago who have stepped up to the plate 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. This year certainly has not been easy with the very sad loss of both our Treasurer and Match secretaries early in the year, who now need to be replaced.

Finally, I have to thank our league Secretary Robbie and his wife Sue who have both continued to provide increasing support to the Association, particularly in the work done around the presentation evening.

12. Match Secretary's Report

Dave Jago reported that the number of Indoor and Outdoor fixtures would be reduced in future due to a decreasing number of players being available.

13. Election of Officers for 2025 Season

Re-election of those officers, already circulated to all Clubs, willing to remain in their current posts for the 2024 Season. The list is attached at Annex 'A' to this Agenda.

PASSED

Election of nominees to fill vacant posts.

THERE WERE NO NOMINEES

14. To Consider Motions

Nil

15. Date and Time of Future Meetings.

A date in April 2025 to be decided

Annex 'A' to AGM 2024 Agenda

T&DBA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2025

POST	POST HOLDER	STANDING YES/NO
President	VACANT	
General Secretary	Rob Brewer	YES
Hon Treasurer	VACANT	
Match Secretary	VACANT	
Competition Secretary	Dave Haworth	YES
League Secretary	Robbie Clark	YES
Delegate to Executive Committee	Terry Mizen	YES

T&DBA SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2025

POST	POST HOLDER	STANDING YES/NO
Account Examiner	Dave Haworth	YES
Assistant Match Secretary	Dave Jago	YES
Assistant Competition Secretary	Robbie Clark	YES
Assist. League Secretary	Rob Brewer	YES
Selection Committee	VACANT	
	Dave Jago	YES
Competition Committee	Dave Haworth	YES
	Robbie Clark	YES