

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: D Jago; Delegates' Representatives: T Mizen; Delegate to Sports Council: P Bainton

Thurrock & District Bowling Association Executive and Delegates Meeting **held at** **Thurrock Bowls Club on Wednesday 25 October 2023**

Minutes

Chairman

Rob Brewer opened the meeting by welcoming all there and thanking them for their attendance.

1. Present

Executives

Present: R.Clark; A.Gray; R Brewer; T Mizen; P Bainton and D Jago

Delegates

Present: Aveley; Corringham/Fobbing and District; Ford Sports; Grays Town; Orsett; Pitsea; South Ockendon; Thames Sports; The Sprighthouse; Thurrock; United Services and VCA Riverview

2. Apologies for Absence

Executives

R.Cornwell and D Haworth

Delegates

None

3. Absent

Gloucester Park

4. Welfare

Obituaries

The roll call for those of our members who had sadly passed away during the course of the year would be held at this year's AGM. Names to Rob Brewer please.

5. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the previous Executives and Delegates Meeting held on 12 April 2023 (ExDM2023-04) were passed unanimously.

6. Matters Arising

Nil

7. General Secretary's Report

Rob Brewer reported that he had distributed a copy of the proposed revision to the T&DBA Rules and Constitution with a view to taking any queries or amendments at this meeting. He would then put forward a proposal at the AGM that the new copy be passed as a single entity rather than going through each item for amendment, which would take up a considerable amount of time at the AGM. The reasoning behind the revision was to try and reflect more accurately the current state of the Association and simplify how things actually work at this time. There were no amendments put forward at the meeting and the document will be presented at the AGM. However, an opportunity to make amendments still exist providing they reach the Gen. Sec. at least three weeks before the AGM.

8. Treasurer's Report

Alan Gray reported that he had received a donation from TALBA for expenses on the shared finals day and the up-to-date balances are as follows:

Building Society - £3885.90

Current Account - £4735.86

It was expected that expenses in relation to the Presentation Dance would be in the order of £2000.00.

9. League Secretary's Report

Robbie Clark reported that:

League Data 2023

The 2023 season went well, all league matches were completed in all divisions.

League Fixtures for 2024

I will not be publishing the 2024 league fixture programme until early April 2024 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 don't have the personal they assumed they had in the previous Autumn when they had their AGMs.

League Winners & Runners Up 2023

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

Premier Division Winners	Thurrock A
Premier Division Runners Up	Grays Town A
Division One Winners	Thames Sports A
Division One Runners Up	Corringham & Fobbing & District
Division Two Winners	Ford Sports
Division Two Runners Up	VCA

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 2024 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 2024** 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 2023 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.

10. Competition Secretary's Report

Dave Haworth sent his apologies for not being able to be there in person to deliver this brief report which stated that:

There were no major issues at all with progress of the competitions this season, unlike 2022 which did pose one or two challenges a couple of necessitated rule revisions.

Well over 95% of all result were communicated via e-mail which made the whole process of collating and updating competition information a lot easier and far more efficient – a big thank you to all those who used this method.

Competitions went well throughout the season and culminated in a spectacularly hot finals weekend, not just in the quality of some of the bowling but in the weather too. But maybe, it was just a little too hot, but at least it did not rain.

The weekend was made all the more enjoyable by the efforts of Phil Johns and his army of willing volunteers from Thurrock BC who worked hard throughout to ensure the success of the weekend, from the laying out of the rinks, provision of breakfast, a copious buffet lunch and plenty of refreshments. My sincere thanks to Phil, Paul, Peter and all those involved. A big thank you too for Elaine Score who stepped in at the last moment to ensure we had a qualified official available over the two days. She most certainly saved the day and made things easier.

This year sees again the combining of the T&DBA and TALBA finals but incorporated that addition of the Inter Club Knock out. I must admit to being a little concerned at programming this, not knowing until the last knockings if it would in fact be feasible to complete all finals over the weekend. Fortunately, on this occasion it was possible. I certainly do not feel at the moment that I can commit fully to this until we have another

one or two seasons under our belt, just to be sure. Equally, whilst the joint event certainly has gone off very well and I am happy to consider doing this again, I am reluctant at this point in time to agree to making this a permanent arrangement going forward. Again, with time, this may well be a consideration for the future.

To finish, I will provide all stats on the competition's entries etc. and other info at the AGM. I look forward to seeing you all there.

11. Match Secretary's Report

Roger Cornwell was not able to attend the Meeting due to ill health but informed Rob Brewer the indoor season was now underway but appealed to Delegates to encourage more members to put their names forward for matches. Meanwhile, arrangements for next season's outdoor matches were progressing well.

12. Any Other Business

There was a general discussion regarding the composition of leagues and how the situation might develop for next season and in the future. However, it was agreed that it was unlikely there would be any changes for the coming season but the Association and its members need to be prepared to make adjustments in the future, to ensure its own and the Clubs' viability to organise and continue playing league matches.

Robbie Clark then gave a quick briefing on how the Presentation Dance night was likely to pan out. So far 158 tickets have been sold. It is planned to start with the ladies presenting their trophies at 8.00 p.m. which should be finished at 8.30 p.m. at which time the buffet will open and remain open for the rest of the evening or until the food goes. At 9.00 p.m. the men's trophies will be presented which will finish sometime around 9.30 p.m. the evening will then continue with entertainment until 11.00 p.m. when the function ends.

13. Future Meetings

The AGM will take place at 7.00 p.m. on Wednesday 10 January 2024 at Thurrock B.C.

Minutes: Rob Brewer

Chairman: