



Regional Consultative Council Minutes Tuesday 28th September 2021

BUCKINGHAM BOWLS CLUB, NEW TOWN

PRESENT:

Graham Hay	–	Bowls Tasmania	Peter Kirby	–	Bowls South
Phil Prouse	–	Bowls North-West	Greg Smith	–	Bowls North

IN ATTENDANCE:

David Back	–	BT Board / Treasurer	Bernard Knight	–	BT Board
Anne Mullavey	–	BT Board	Ailsa Milburn	–	Bowls South
Dave Jeffrey	–	Bowls North-West	Maxine Viney	–	Bowls North
Rob McGuire	–	BT CEO (Minute Taker)			

APOLOGIES:

Les Harrison	–	BT Board	Sue Ross	–	BT Board
Gena Short	–		BT Board		
Mark Strochnetter	–	BT High Performance Manager			

Meeting opened at 11.00am

WELCOME:

President Graham welcomed everyone to the meeting.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

The previous minutes from the meeting on 25th May 2021 were accepted as tabled.
Proposed: Peter Kirby Seconded: Phil Prouse.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:

- Gender Identity – BTS now has a player who is transgender. BTS is currently developing a policy to address this issue.
- State Pennant Finals – The BT Board has discontinued with Thursday State Finals but will continue with Saturday State Finals. BTS and BNW want to see the end of all State Pennant Finals. BN want to continue with Saturday Finals and would consider playing four rinks if necessary. It was agreed that this matter will be considered at a future BT Board meeting and BT will come back to the regions with a way forward.

- Review State-Wide Challenge Conditions of Play – It was agreed that regions should be able to swap players across rinks for the second game of each round of SWC and this will be built into Conditions of Play for 2021-22. Regions must have people attending SWC who are able to access and properly document any rink changes on Bowls Link.
- Promotion and Relegation Conditions – At the last RCC meeting it was agreed to request the BT Board to withdraw its decision that the top team in each division be promoted with the bottom team being relegated. It was agreed to recommend to the BT Board that it should be left to regions to determine their positions on promotions and relegations and any other decisions in relation to local pennant.
- Remuneration for doctors providing classification services for disability bowlers – At the last RCC meeting BN asked the BT Board to consider some remuneration for the Doctor from Hobart providing classification services to the Disability Bowlers. Graham Hay advised that BA had recently appointed Ellen Falkner MBE as BA's new High-Performance Manager - Para Bowls. Falkner will commence in the position in early November 2021 and will lead the planning and integrated delivery of athlete performance service support. It is hoped that BA will establish consistent rules and guidelines that will be applicable across Australia. It was agreed that the matter of remuneration for doctors providing classification services for disability bowlers should be put on hold until we see what happens ex BA.

REGIONAL REPORTS/QUERIES:

Bowls North

- Written report as presented prior to the meeting.
- BN is holding a fund-raising Pink Day on Thursday 28 October 2021 and has asked other regions to consider doing the same thing. Players are being asked to wear something pink on the day instead of wearing their normal uniforms and will be "fined" a gold-coin donation for doing so.

Bowls North-West

- Written report as presented prior to the meeting.

Bowls South

- Written report as presented prior to the meeting.
- BTS recently held an SGM to change its Constitution to bring it into line with changes to collection of fees and regarding its disciplinary procedures as determined in Conditions of Play and its Disciplinary Policy.
- There has been a large turnover of Board members this year and BTS needs to develop an induction process for its new Board members.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

a. Disciplinary Procedures – Consistency between regions:

There appears to be inconsistencies between the regions regarding disciplinary procedures. Graham Hay advised that he would like to see more consistency between the regions on this matter.

It was agreed to forward the BTS Disciplinary Policy to regions to see if it is suitable for adoption by all regions. Regions were asked to consider same and bring comments back to the next RCC meeting.

Clubs could then be asked to consider adopting the policy for their own clubs.

Such a policy should address what happens if a Club suspends someone and the applicability of that suspension from all bowls in Australia.

b. Come and Try Month:

BT will be hosting a Try Bowls Month in October 2021. This was successful last year, and it has been agreed to do the same again this year. The Try Bowls Month will give Clubs more flexibility in what sort of Try Bowls activity will best suit their Club. This also mitigates the risk of wet weather on one day of the year and potentially wasting the opportunity. Clubs simply need to register if they will be taking part in Try Bowls Month and what date/s time/s they will be offering this. This is really an opportunity for Clubs to decide what will work best for their Club and location.

c. Statewide Conditions of Play for Pennant competitions for the three regions:

It has previously been agreed to recommend to the BT Board that it should be left to regions to determine their positions on any decisions in relation to local pennant.

d. Saturday State Pennant Finals – East Coast:

BN advised that East Coast is too good to play in Division 4 in Saturday State Pennant Finals and would like them to be promoted to Division 3. BNW did not agree with this suggestion as it would mean that its Division 3 Premiers would be relegated to Division 4. An option that BN is considering putting to its members is that the BN Division 3 Premiers play off against the East Coast Premiers with the winner representing BN in Division 3 State Finals. If this happened there would only be BN and BTS in Division 6. Another alternative would be to promote East Coast to Division 3 and play a round-robin for Division 3 State Finals. It was agreed to wait and see what BN decides before considering this matter further.

e. Bowls Link Competition Portal:

BN advised that it has been difficult to enter the rosters etc. into the Competition Portal when such jobs are only done once a year. This may be one area that expertise could be shared across the regions – for example could Paul Hoddy or similar expertise be employed across the regions. It was agreed that the BT Board should explore this option and report back to regions.

The BRM used to help Clubs with Bowls Link queries and training. It was agreed that the new BRM should continue to do this in the future.

f. State Pennant Finals – Winners Plaques:

BN advised that State Pennant Finals winners plaques were not provided to winners in 2021. The CEO undertook to investigate this matter.

g. BTAS Bowler of the Year 2020-21 announcement:

BN advised that the BTAS Bowlers of the Year for 2020-21 have not yet been announced. The CEO advised that he has now received the results which need to be checked before an announcement can be made. Presentations will be made to the winners at Gala Week or the first round of SWC in 2022.

h. Juniors:

BTS raised several concerns regarding the behaviour of some players, the lack of supervision and standard of accommodation provided by BT at the recent Tasmania versus Victoria Junior Test Series. These matters have been considered by the BT Junior Development Committee and most of the concerns raised by BTS have been addressed.

Regions were reminded to ensure that all juniors playing SWC are registered in 2021-22.

i. Bowlers with Bowling Arms:

BTS believe that the Bowling Arm Tasmania Committee should come under the control of BT. BTS believe that the BT Board should appoint Committee members and Selectors, its SWC should be conducted over three rounds and not five rounds as happened in 2020-21 and a better scoring system should be introduced.

Graham Hay advised that Les Harrison is the Board Director responsible for the Bowling Arm Tasmania Committee and that the Committee now reports directly and is under the control of the BT Board. The Committee's Terms of Reference are currently being reviewed and will be sent to the regions once signed off by the BT Board.

j. State Selectors and SWC involvement:

BS raised a concern around State Selectors playing in the same SWC competitions that they are selecting. Graham Hay informed the meeting that the BT Board had approved a change to its selection policy to prohibit State Selectors playing in the SWC rounds to ensure that they are able to watch all the play and make a fully informed selection decision. The policy has not yet been updated.

k. BT Board Member Portfolios:

Bernard Knight advised that all BT Board Directors have a portfolio that they look after and if anyone has an issue in relation to a portfolio it should be directed to that Director in the first instance.

l. Capitation and Life Members:

BN asked if BT Life Members were required to pay the annual capitation fee. Treasurer David Back advised that the new model does not set an individual capitation fee and Life Members will be required to pay fees to BT.

m. State Selectors:

BN expressed concerns that some State Selectors may not be playing pennant this season and may not even be attending games which makes it difficult to fulfil their roles as Selectors. Graham Hay advised that Selectors are required to fulfil their duties as Selectors and if they did not, they will be looked at by the BT Board.

n. Reduction in Capitation Fees 2021-22:

BN questioned if there would be a reduction in Capitation Fees for 2021-22 as The Nationals have been cancelled for 2021 which will result in savings to the BT budget. BT Treasurer David Back outlined other negative changes to the 2021-22 budget but advised that this matter will be considered at the BT Board meeting to be held after the RCC meeting.

Meeting closed: 1.26pm

Next Meeting:

Date: TBA

Time: 11am

Venue: TBA – North-West Coast

Signed by Chairman