



Regional Consultative Committee Minutes Monday 19 September 2022

Longford Bowls Club

PRESENT:

Bernard Knight	–	Bowls Tasmania (Chair)	Peter Kirby	–	Bowls South
Ben Fidler	–	Bowls North-West	Maxine Viney	–	Bowls North

IN ATTENDANCE:

David Back	–	BTAS Board / Treasurer	Phil Prouse	–	BTAS Board
Anne Mullavey	–	BTAS Board	Leonie Price	–	BTAS Board
Mark Strochnetter	–	BTAS Board	Jane Pickett	–	BTAS Board
Gena Short	–	BTAS Board			
David Heron	-	Bowls North			
Rob Soward	-	Regional Bowls Manager (Tasmania) – From 11.00am			
Rob McGuire	–	BTAS CEO (Minute Taker)			

APOLOGIES:

Dave Jeffrey	-	Bowls North-West	Barbara Rankin	–	Bowls South
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Meeting opened at 10.35am.

WELCOME:

President Bernard Knight welcomed everyone to the meeting.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

The previous minutes from the meeting on 16 May 2022 were accepted as tabled.
Moved: Maxine Viney Seconded: Peter Kirby. Carried

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:

- Gender Identity – At the September 2021 meeting, BTS advised that it had developed a policy to address this issue and has sent a copy to BTAS which then sent it to the regions. The BA Member Protection Policy addresses this matter, and it was agreed to take no further action. It was also agreed that registration forms and BowlsLink needs to be amended to reflect more than just male and female.

- Remuneration for doctors providing classification services for disability bowlers – At the May 2021 RCC meeting, BN asked the BTAS Board to consider some remuneration for the doctor from Hobart providing classification services to the Disability Bowlers.

At the September 2021 RCC meeting, 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 following the appointment of Ellen Falkner MBE as BA's new High-Performance Manager - Para Bowls. Falkner commenced 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. Ellen Falkner is attending the Disability Bowls Tasmania Committee meeting on 6 December 2022 when this matter will be discussed. This matter is on still hold at present.

- Disciplinary Procedures – At the September 2021 RCC meeting, it was agreed to forward the BTS Disciplinary Policy to regions to see if it is suitable for adoption by all regions. The policy has been received from BTS and has been circulated to regions. The BA Member Protection Policy addresses this matter, and it was agreed to take no further action.
- Overall SWC Prize Money - At the RCC meeting in November 2020, it was agreed that SWC overall prize money would change from \$3,000 1st, \$2,000 2nd and \$1,000 3rd to a subsidy of \$2,000 per region to assist with offsetting some of the costs incurred by each region. Despite the above, SWC Conditions of Play were not amended to reflect the change of allocation. It was agreed to re- confirm the decision of November 2020 and change Conditions of Play accordingly.
- BN Survey Results – David Heron outlined the results of the recent BN survey. BN agreed to provide BTAS with an electronic copy of the survey results for distribution to regions.
- BPL Tridents Merchandise – At the RCC meeting in May 2022, RBM Rob Soward undertook to contact BA regarding the non-availability of Tridents merchandise from the BA Bowls Shop. Rob advised that he had done that but there was still only limited merchandise available at BPL#15 and even less online. Rob undertook to again talk to BA. BTAS has advertised merchandise for sale by order, however, just six sales have been made.
- Review of Conditions of Play for Statewide Events – At the RCC meeting in May 2022, Peter Kirby advised that the BTAS Conditions of Play need to be revisited. Peter Kirby undertook to provide more information to BTAS to enable it to update its Conditions of Play before the start of next season. Peter advised that this has been done and briefly outlined the changes that he proposed which were acceptable to the meeting.

- All future Junior SWC at Longford – At the RCC meeting in May 2022, BTS requested that Junior SWC in future be played in central locations such as Longford, Midlands and Oatlands to remove the need for overnight travel. Regions did not object to this proposal. It was agreed to refer this matter to the BTAS Junior Development Committee for its consideration with a request to make a recommendation to the BTAS Board. This has not yet been done but will be referred to the Committee at its meeting in October 2022.
- Uniforms for Bowling Arm RRR – At the May 2022 RCC meeting, BTS advised that it had lent its uniforms to players in the second round last season and recommended that other regions considered doing the same in the future. This was done and the other regions did likewise.

MATTERS SUBMITTED BY BTAS BOARD:

a. Lack of support for BTS Match Committee 2022-23

BN and BTS has advised that it will not provide anyone for the BTAS Match Committee BTAS outlined that the Committee was being formed:

- To assist the CEO to organise and oversee all Bowls Tasmania championships and events.
- Duties will include assisting in preparation of Conditions of Play, allocation of venues for Bowls Tasmania events, running championships (conduct draws, allocation of venues, prepare score cards and draw sheets, prepare Bowls Link results, provide information to host clubs, arrange appointment of officials, assist in running events, input results into Bowls Link and provide results to Publicity Officer and webmaster).

It is noted that most State events proceed quite smoothly and without incident, however, that is because of the enormous amount of preparation and planning that has happened before the start of each event – and it is in this area that Bowls Tasmania is seeking some support from regions and anyone else interested in joining a Match Committee to assist in this workload.

Unlike the regions who have Match Committees to organise and run regional events, Bowls Tasmania currently only has its one employee, and it is impossible for him to do everything required of him. The establishment of a Bowls Tasmania Match Committee is seen as one way in taking some of the pressure off him.

BTS advised that if a club is going to host an event, it should also be responsible to take on the role of Tournament Director. BN believes that its Match Committee can assist as required

It was agreed that BTAS should be able to work with a smaller Match Committee if all regions undertake in full all the responsibilities of host regions and Clubs as listed in current BTAS Conditions of Play. Amongst the responsibilities of host regions for Bowls Tasmania events is the appointment of a Tournament Director, which did not happen last season with the Seniors Championships held in the North and all State events held in the South. It was also agreed that draws for all championships should be done on BowlsLink.

b. Review process for appointment of Elected Directors

President Bernard Knight outlined the current process of appointing Elected Directors if more than one person is nominated for the position. The BTAS Constitution requires that they be elected by the clubs located within their region. This is a time-consuming process and the BTAS Board believes that the appointment should be made by the region without going to clubs. It was agreed to seek to change the Constitution at the next BTAS general meeting.

c. BTS Junior Initiative

BTAS endorses the new BTS Junior Initiative which provides grants of up to \$500 to clubs to assist in developing and conducting programs aimed at the recruitment and retention of junior players. Details of the initiative have been sent to other regions. Bowls North advised that it is looking at the initiative. Rob Soward advised that he is working with Beltana which is talking to local schools in its area to offer scholarships for junior bowlers.

REGIONAL REPORTS:

Bowls North

- Written report as presented prior to the meeting.

Bowls North-West

- Written report as presented prior to the meeting.
- BNW sees its biggest issue is the promotion of the game – very little seems to be done by BTAS.
- BNW is purchasing its own livestreaming gear.

Bowls South

- Written report as presented prior to the meeting.
- BTS has restructured its Saturday Pennant competition so that its Division 6 competition, a three-rink competition, would be recognised as the lowest division for Saturday Pennant, and the Division 7, a two-rink competition, would be established as a separate competition, with no rights to promotion to Division 6 nor relegation from that division to Division 7.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

a. BTAS use of ITO's

BTS believe that BTAS should look at utilising the expertise of ITO's at BTAS events. The BTAS CEO undertook to meet with the two ITO's in Tasmania to see how they could be better used at BTAS events.

b. Working with Vulnerable People (WWVP) Card

BTS advised that it is having trouble with some clubs who do not believe that their Board Members need to have a WWVP card. BTS believes that BTAS policy in that regard is not being followed. What can BTAS do to make this happen?

c. BTAS Bowling Arm RRR Points

BN asked if points gained by each region in the BTAS Bowling Arm RRR can be included in the overall points for State Wide Challenge (SWC) . One issue is that the overall winner is currently declared after the final round of Open SWC which will be held on 5 March 2023 – whilst the final round of the Bowling Arm RRR will not be held until 30 April 2023. BTAS agreed to look at this matter.

Meeting closed: 12.15 pm.

Next Meeting: Date: TBA – January 2023
Time: 11am
Venue: South

Signed by Chairman