

# *Bowls North Harbour*

**Minutes of Bowls North Harbour 19<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting  
held at Orewa Bowling Club on Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June 2017 commencing at 11.05am**

**PRESENT:** Board of Management Tony Rickerby (President), Graham Dorreen (Chairman) , Garry Banks, Denise Samuel, Gary Stevens, John McCormack  
Sheryl Johnson (Centre Secretary/Events Manager), Lisa Brown (Treasurer)  
Delegates from Beach Haven, Birkenhead, Orewa, Browns Bay, Glenfield, Hobsonville, Mairangi Bay, Manly, Milford, Northcote, Omaha, Sunnybrae, Takapuna  
Kevin Holland (Patron), Madeleine Holland, Jean Ashby (Life member), Michael Foy (Life member), Mike Spring (President Bowls NZ), Fay Spring  
**Minute Taker:** Lisa Brown

## **WELCOME:**

Graham Dorreen (Chairman) declared the meeting open and welcomed delegates and invited guests. Graham expressed the Board's thanks to Bowls Orewa for their hospitality.

## **1. APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies

Mike Spring (President Bowls NZ) was invited to speak to the AGM (attached)

## **2. MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 12 JUNE 2016 TO BE CONFIRMED**

**Moved:** That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 12 June 2016 be tabled and open for discussion

**Moved:** Graham Dorreen      **Seconded:** Peter Clark

There was no discussion or matters arising.

**Moved:** That the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 12 June 2016 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

**Moved:** Alf Jenkinson      **Seconded:** Greg Taylor      **CARRIED**

## **3. PRESIDENTS REPORT**

Attached

## **4. CHAIRMANS REPORT**

Attached

**Moved:** That the President's and Chairman's reports be adopted.

Moved: Graham Dorreen      **Seconded:** Garry Moverley      **CARRIED**

## **5. AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2017**

Graham Dorreen moved that the audited financial statements for 2017 be tabled and open for discussion.

**Mover** Graham Dorreen      **Seconder** Peter Clark

There was no discussion or queries

**Moved:** That the accounts for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> April 2017 be adopted.

**Mover** Garry Moverley      **Seconder** Alf Jenkinson      **CARRIED**

**6. CONSIDERATION OF BUDGET FOR YEAR TO 30<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2018**

The board had considered the budget for 2017/18. All income and expenditure has been considered on a line-by-line basis.

Graham Dorreen moved that the budget for 2017/18 be tabled and open for discussion.

**Mover** Graham Dorreen                      **Seconder** Greg Taylor

Ian McKenzie queried why the capitation fees in the budgeted income were less than the actuals for 2017. Lisa Brown advised that the budgeted income did not include the Bowls NZ capitation fees, nor was there any expense item in the budget – they were netted off.

Mike Spring advised the Bowls NZ Capitation fee would be as per last year + CPI increase (26.06.17 We have now received confirmation that the fee will be \$32.33 + gst for full members and \$15.65 + gst for students up to the age of 25)

**Moved:** That the budget for the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018 be adopted.

**Mover** Peter Clark                      **Seconder** Ian McKenzie

**CARRIED**

**7. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT**

The current president, Tony Rickerby, is standing unopposed

Graham Dorreen declared Tony Rickerby as President for 2017/18

Garry Banks is standing unopposed for Vice-President

Graham Dorreen declared Garry Banks as Vice-President for 2017/18

**8. ELECTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CENTRE BOARD**

Denise Samuel and Graham Dorreen are continuing into their 2<sup>nd</sup> year of their 2-year term. Gary Stevens and John McCormack were co-opted onto the board this year and are re-standing.

We have received a nomination from Wayne Wrack, Bowls Orewa

The constitution allows for the President, Vice-President plus up to 6 board members.

Graham Dorreen advised that all those standing are automatically elected to the Board for 2017/18

Sheryl Johnson is to continue as Centre Secretary/Events Manager

Lisa Brown is to continue as Treasurer

Lindsay Knight is to continue as publicity officer and Jean Ashby is to continue as our Laws Officer

**9. FIXING THE CAPITATION FEES FOR THE YEAR**

In 2016, the capitation fees were set at \$23+gst for full members for 3 years.

The board considered this and agreed that there would be no consideration in the movement of the fees until the AGM in 2019.

**10. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR**

Graham Dorreen confirmed the reappointment of Jason Tudor from Orewa Taxation Services Ltd as our auditor for 2017/18

**11. APPOINTMENT OF HONORARY SOLICITOR**

This will be a decision made by the incoming Board at its first meeting.

Graham Dorreen thanked Keith Berman for his services in the current year.

Keith is unavailable for next year due his Bowls NZ judicial commitments.

**12. REMITS AND NOTICE OF MOTION**

There were no Remits and Notice of Motion.

**13. GENERAL BUSINESS:**

Rick Bragger (Glenfield) queried the structure and procedure with regards to the BIAS Fund Gary Stevens replied that the structure had now been finalised and appointments to the management of the fund have now been confirmed. Applications were now open.

Ian McKenzie (Milford) said he appreciated the work done at Bowls NH and as a first year President, he would have appreciated a closer relationship with Bowls NH. He would like more liaison so that his club officers were clear on what is expected of them from Bowls NH and Bowls NZ.

Graham replied that the board would discuss this at its next meeting however the board had targeted the club secretaries as the conduit between the centre and the club and Sheryl had run a secretaries meeting earlier in the season. Tony Rickerby said he would be very happy to attend functions or meetings if he was invited. He apologised that he never managed to get around all the clubs last season.

Kathy Brown (Milford) asked if there was going to be any discussion regarding the \$50 payment per green paid to clubs for hosting centre events. Graham explained that the new board had increased the payment from \$35 and it was unlikely that this would change for next season. Kathy commented that they used to be paid \$2/player. Graham explained the structure of the allocation of prizemoney per event and the need to cover costs and help fund representative costs. Graham said that the issue would be raised at the next board meeting.

There being no further business, Graham declared the meeting closed at 11.45am

## Address to Bowls North Harbour AGM, 25 June 2017

### Mike Spring

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President Graham, Life Members, Delegates, ladies and gentlemen

First of all I'd like to thank you for the invitation to attend your AGM this morning, and your Prize Giving later in the day.

I'm now into the twilight of my presidency and its four years of commitment. I say "four years of commitment": that's what it has been, and I don't regret one moment of it. As I said to the Bowls NZ Delegates in my acceptance speech in 2015:

"When I sought your vote for the Vice Presidency two years ago I committed to making an effective contribution to Bowls New Zealand, and to the Game of Bowls in New Zealand, for the next four years. I don't resile from that commitment."

And that remains as true today as it did four years ago.

Throughout those four years I have taken every opportunity to speak at events, at clubs, at centres, and at regional forums. We are a sport that transcends all socio-economic layers, all age groups; a sport that is played throughout the length and breadth of our country; a sport that is played internationally and with now in excess of 50 member nations is pursuing IOC recognition .

In New Zealand our sport is being played by more people than ever before. One of the two outcomes of our 2015-2020 strategic plan is to increase participation by five percent over the life of the plan – we've increased by almost 20% in two years. But we are living in a period of turmoil. Club memberships continue to decline - we are closing almost one club per month. But this is not a uniquely bowls problem. Golf faces the same issue, every sport and sports club, every service club, social club, special interest club faces the same issue. But it's not that people are disengaged – today they just want to do things differently.

So a major focus for Bowls New Zealand during my term has been to encourage that adoption of change throughout our organization. As I said, we have more people playing bowls now than we've ever had. But we have a much more diverse clientele. The heart of every club is its cadre of roll-up bowlers so we've got to cater to their needs. The needs of our competitive bowlers are different and we have to cater for them. Our casual bowlers now outnumber our members by almost 3:1 and their needs are different again. And so too are the needs of our youth. We no longer have a 'one size fits all' sport. To keep people in the game we must package our product into a package they want to buy! Because that's the society that we live in – "I'll buy it if I want it, but if it's not what I want then don't try and sell it to me.

And no longer can we rely on our customers (because that's what our bowlers are - customers), no longer can we rely on them getting the information they need by attending our club-night briefings, or reading our club circulars. They want the information on their phone; they want it in their e-

mail, they want it on facebook, on twitter, they want it now. They don't want to have to go to the club to put a tag in the box, they don't want to send in an entry form, they want to do it electronically. So we must change our way of doing business. We need to know exactly who our customer is and we need to tailor our product to our customer. So we must have every bowler on our databases, we must keep them current, we must use them, and most importantly of all we must remain totally engaged with each and every bowler.

Bowls New Zealand cannot fix the problems we have because they are very much grass-roots problems. We can identify the problems, we can promote the need for change, but we can't fix the problem top down. That is the domain of clubs and centres.

I could go on for some time, but I've probably said enough. However, I do want to flag a danger that I am seeing right now. Clubs and centres are starting to struggle to fill their executive, and are recycling through the willing. But for how long will that paper over the cracks. We need to start thinking laterally. Do our office holders really have to come from within our full playing membership? Or should we be harnessing the wealth of talent available from our casual bowlers – or even non-bowlers – who maybe, just maybe, have a much greater understanding of what today's customer wants? Did I hear "We can't do that, the Constitution won't allow it!"? then maybe it's time to change the constitution. Ah, the joys of change!

Ladies and gentlemen, you have a challenge in front of you. Pick it up, run with it. As a centre, think strategically, take control – lead your clubs, face the now and the future.

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## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

It is my pleasure as President of Bowls North Harbour to present this report for the 2016/17 season.

In my first report to the board I made mention that we live in an environment of constant change. How right this has been. Sheryl Johnson stepped in to the role of Centre Secretary/Events Manager and what a great job she is doing.

Moana Christensen resigned from the board due to ill health and was replaced with John McCormack who is looking after the player of the year points, is involved in the judicial area and is working on reviewing the BNH Strategic Plan.

Sheryl had to be replaced on the Board and Colin Rogan replaced her. Colin came with a wealth of experience in running and formulating tournaments.

Andrew Saville resigned due to work commitments and Graham Dorreen took on the Chairmanship roll and is doing an incredible job, we are so lucky to have someone with so much energy and commitment to the game of bowls. Gary Stevens joined the board, replacing Andrew and is involved in the judicial area.

Garry Banks has worked really hard on the match committee side of things, and on the coaching side, Denise has done a fantastic job.

The Board had an incredible expense this year in respect of travel to Whangarei, Christchurch and Wellington with the rep teams to the tune of \$30,000. Thanks to Lisa and Graham they managed to cover much of this cost through grants. Additionally, they were successful for grants for the rep uniforms and many other necessary expenditure items. I must say the rep uniforms are very smart and are the envy of the other centres. A big thankyou to Lisa who has done an incredible job with the accounts.

Our Rep teams have all performed extremely well this year with our 1 to 8 Team winning the Intercentre Nationals two years in a row and our senior men's team coming runner up in the National Intercentre in Wellington. Our women's 1 to 8 team did extremely well in coming third. I have tried hard to get to all of the centre finals and those finals I attended I really enjoyed watching and I must say we have some very talented bowlers in North Harbour.

Browns Bay again hosted the Heartland Bank Harbour 20,000 tournament, which continues to be our signature tournament in our Centre. The surplus funds from this go to the BIAS Account, which is now open for applications. The current balance in the BIAS account is approximately \$84,000.

Pennants was again a feature of the season, with approximately 500 participants.

I attended Northlands Centre opening but unfortunately I only managed to get around a few clubs in the beginning of the year.

Sheryl along with BNZ put together a secretaries manual and held a meeting with the club secretaries to introduce the manual and this was a great success.

I would like to thank the event managers and umpires for the time they have willingly given over the past season.

For me it has been an interesting year; we have had our ups and downs, but I have enjoyed being part of the Board, but it is the team around me that have done an amazing job.

## **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

I have thoroughly enjoyed my role on the Board of Bowls North Harbour this season.

Success is built upon having the right people with the right skillsets working towards a common goal and I would like to thank each of our Board members for their support and expertise. We have a unified Board who continue to respect the integrity of the past, while answering the challenges of governing a Centre in today's environment.

Our financial performance this year has been very solid. The Board this year voted to not accept any remuneration for their role as Board members, primarily due to having to fund representative expenses out of Auckland. I thank everyone for making this contribution. Clearly you will see from the accounts, we have received tremendous support from our Super 6 sponsors as well as our external funders, so please support these organisations when you have the opportunity.

Our President Tony Rickerby has been a great attribute to our Centre this year. Many of you would have seen him at Centre events and at your club. Tony is enthusiastic about bowls and the role that Bowls North Harbour plays and I am delighted that he is standing again next year.

Clearly the on green performance has been exceptional, with our Open Men's team finishing runner-up in Wellington, our 1-8 women's team finishing third in Christchurch and our 1-8 men's team taking out the title in Christchurch.

We have had 2,167 players participating in Centre events this year and a significant proportion of these are juniors.

We piloted a new initiative (funded by Harbour Sport, KiwiSport) involving 300 Northcross Intermediate School students at Browns Bay. The sole focus was participation and introducing them to the game of bowls. The feedback was very positive and we are hopeful that we have planted a seed that will see these kids participate in bowls in future years.

Another initiative was to engage a mental skills coach for our representative squads. This was fully funded by a grant and is a two year appointment. Following a debrief of the representative season, it was clear that the introduction of a mental skills coach was very beneficial.

We have added to our junior centre event programme – the players requested this and these have been very well supported. A big thank you must go to the clubs who hosted our Centre events and to the respective greenkeepers for preparing the greens to such a high standard. Similarly, a big thank you must also go to the volunteers that enable such events to be hosted.

Off the greens, our key focus points were to get a good handle on the financial position of the Centre and improve communication with our clubs. We are well underway with a new website. We send out a regular newsletter and we have been diligent with ensuring the minutes of our meetings are circulated to clubs in a timely manner. Tony Rickerby chaired a greenkeepers meeting at the Centre, which was beneficial to those who attended.

We need to keep striving to better integrate the role of the club, the Centre and Bowls NZ. I think we have made significant progress here, but there is more to be done. Bowls NZ have also been very supportive on a needs driven basis.

Looking forward, we have formulated a new Strategic Plan for 2017-2020. The key focus points are:

- Promotion and growth of the game
- Talent development
- The playing environment (ie our greens)
- Strengthening the structure of Bowls North Harbour (eg website, communication)
- Financial sustainability

A copy of our strategic plan will be on our new website

I reiterate Tony's comments regarding Sheryl Johnson. I have a very close working relationship with Sheryl and I cannot stress enough what a massive contribution she has made in the short time that she has been in her role.

A big thank you to Murray Mathieson, Colin Rogan, Gary Stevens and Sheryl for putting the 2017/18 programme together. This has been distributed to all the clubs, with a set of working notes.

I look forward to the future with a great deal of positivity and it has been a privilege to work alongside talented people who love the game of bowls. It is great to see everyone standing again for the Board.