

VERWOOD BOWLING CLUB

Minutes of the Spring Meeting held on Wednesday 25^h March 2015

Present

43 Officers and members were in attendance and the meeting commenced at 7.00pm.

Apologies

Apologies for absence were given for the following members:

Brian Hall, Brenda Hall, Pat Allington, Mike Allington, Tom Wilson, Liz. Allen, Ray Gardner, Mike Poulter, Angela Daymond, Mike Daymond, Ann Coleman, Hilary Walker, Jim Scutt, Bill Norton, Erica Dicker, Myrtle Rowland, Cyril Rowland, Rita Atkin, Roy Jennings.

In the absence of President Brian Hall and Vice President Pat Allington Immediate Past President Gill Farrance chaired the meeting.

IN MEMORIAM

Gill asked for a few moments silence in memory of a past member **George Wyatt** who passed away on 26th December 2015.

George was a member from 1994 until 2006.

President's Address

Past President Gill welcomed the members to the meeting and opened the proceedings by reading President Brian's address to the meeting as follows:

Good evening everyone and thank you for attending tonight's Spring Meeting. I am sorry that we are not with you tonight but circumstances have necessitated that Brenda and I visit friends in Germany earlier in the year than normal.

As we draw near to our playing season, I would like to reflect on the 4 months since our Annual General Meeting. We have enjoyed a varied programme of social evenings, a first class Christmas lunch and a coffee morning. For these events, we must thank our social committee for all the time and effort they put into organising these functions. Thank you ladies! I am sure you are impressed with the up grading to the front of the ground. The new fencing, the re-laid paving slabs and outside kerbs were undertaken by local contractors and our Tuesday morning work party constructed the new flower beds. They also laid the turf verge as well as their regular maintenance tasks. This work has transformed the front of the ground so well done to all those involved in any way.

I would like to remind everyone that this year is a special year for the club. Robert Wood, who this year is the President of the NFBA, will be using the ground for his President's matches. This will include the provision of a meal for the players, so once again we will be asking our ladies to perform their culinary magic. Please support these events if you can.

At a recent management meeting, after some discussion, it was decided to purchase a defibrillator. These are amazing machines which have saved many lives and are extremely simple to use. I am passionate about this decision and have decided to organise a President's charity with the aim of raising some funds to offset the cost. I would therefore ask every playing and social member to make a donation of £2.00 (or more if you like) to this very worthwhile cause. Contributions should be handed to either myself, Peter Coleman or Geoff Finn. Thank you.

Myrtle Rowland has asked that you inform her when you become aware of any member who is unwell or hospitalised so that she can send a card on behalf of the club.

Regrettably, entries for the club competitions have fallen again this year. In some competitions, the first round is the semi-final and the mixed singles did not attract a single lady entrant. Why is this? Robert and I organised a draw to enable competitors to see who their opponents would be in these competitions. This event was publicised on the club's Web page and announced at the social functions. Just two members turned up.

This situation is very discouraging, especially for Robert Wood who spend considerable time setting these competitions up. Perhaps you have some ideas as to why there is a continual decline in entrants. If you have, let us know.

Do enjoy tonight's meeting. Brenda and I look forward to seeing you during the season and we wish you every success in your bowling.

Brian Hall
President

Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the Spring Meeting held on Wednesday 19th March 2014 having been displayed on the notice board were taken as read. The adoption of the minutes was then

Proposed by: Betty Emery
Seconded by: Bryan Tanner

and unanimously approved by the meeting.

The minutes were then signed by the Immediate Past President and Secretary

Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.

Secretary's Report

Geoff gave his report which is attached to and forms an integral part of these minutes.

Treasurer's Report

Peter Coleman read out his report which is attached to and form an integral part of these Minutes.

The interim Financial Statement covering the first 6 months of the current financial year gave comparisons with the final accounts for 2013/2014. This had been handed round to those present and a copy is attached to and forms an integral part of these Minutes.

Captain's Report

John Rodwell notified the men players that the two practise sessions at the beginning of the season will be for Triples at 5.30 on Tuesday 14th April, and Rinks at 5.30 on Tuesday 21st April. He asked those attending to arrive in plenty of time beforehand to ensure a prompt start. And please announce your arrival to enable the teams to be made up and the cards filled out.

During the season he asked players to check the team sheets and tick their name off to confirm their availability and if unavailable **notify the captain by phone.**

There is only one team in the Percy Baker this year and John will do his best to offer everyone and equal chance of playing where possible. An availability list for this league will be on the notice board in due course.

Having had a very successful year in 2014 John hopes that we can continue this year as well.

Vice Captain's Report

Mike Poulter had been unable to attend but had given a brief report to the Secretary that he is looking to having the same commitment and support this year from Verwood 'A' team as was shown last year and may we have a successful 2015 season.

Ladies Section Report

Alice reported that the Ladies had their Spring Meeting on Thursday 19th March, and their lunch was held in the Albion on 22nd January which was an absolutely perfect meal of 3 courses for £12.50. The NFBA Coffee Morning will be at Braeside BC on Friday 27th April. The ladies' first New Forest league match is on 5th May and the B&D league on 7th May. The B&DWBA now requires all club's lady players to be registered which Alice has now done. The Bowls Dorset Edna Paisley league starts very early on 22nd April.

The NFWBA invited a ladies team to play in a Representative game against Atherley IBC on 20th January. Our team was Alice Bulley, Pat Allington, Jane Roberts and Gill Farrance, they all enjoyed the game but Alice was unwilling to divulge the score. Pat and Gill Farrance were presented with their New Forest badges after the match.

The ladies practise and coaching sessions will be on 15th and 20th April at 1.00 for 1.30pm

Alice reminded the ladies that the Friendly game against Salisbury is earlier this year on Monday 15th June, and the Ladies Captain's Day will be on 1st August.

Match Secretary's Report

Geoff read his report that is attached to and forms an integral part of these minutes.

Reports (continued)

Competition Secretary's Report

Robert was disappointed with the competition entries this year which had fallen from 169 in 2014 to 142. When he joined in 2008 there were 285 entrants. The most disappointing are the ladies matches, the 2 Wood Singles and the Francis Harwood Singles have only six entries, none in the Open Singles and the Ladies Singles Championship have only ten. This means that in some competitions there are only two rounds.

This year the competition draw was held in the clubhouse so that competitors could have early knowledge of their opponents. It was well publicised both on our website, by word of mouth and at the social events. Brian and Brenda Hall, Len Rackham and Steve Cheeseman were the only members who attended. The draw was made by Len and Steve.

Social Committee's Report

Eileen said that the last two Socials, the Beetle Drive on 14th January and Dominoes and Fish & Chip supper on 18th February were very successful, especially the fish & chips supplied by the Albion. The final Social event is the Cockney Evening on 1st April which will include a "Bangers & Mash" meal for £6

Publicity Officer

We do not have a Publicity Officer at the present so there was no report.

Green Keeper's Report

No report

There being no further business the meeting closed.

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OPEN FORUM

Defibrillator:

During his Competition Secretary's report Robert commented on the question of acquiring a defibrillator and said that he had attended a demonstration at the Crane Valley Golf Club. At the last Management Committee he had agreed to contact the person who gave the demonstration to get further information, which he did, and learnt that the charge was £250 an hour. Robert felt this may be too expensive and therefore did not pursue the matter. However as current President of the NFBA Robert has chosen the Dorset Air Ambulance as his charity and will be meeting its area representative on 17th April when he will ask if it would be possible for one of their people to demonstrate the use of our defibrillator when we have it.

Robin Peirce opened the Open Forum discussion by citing the case of a local rugby player who collapsed on the field and was resuscitated by the defibrillator without which he would not have survived. The rugby club have decided to buy one.

Geoff agreed that they were desirable and the committee is committed to acquiring one but the matter is still in the early stages with regard to cost, type and training etc. although the equipment apparently is simple and safe to use. There are many types available generally in the region of £1000/£1200 each which would require the members' approval. Vanessa Curtis queried why this was necessary when around £2500 has been spent on the fencing etc. without recourse to the members. Geoff explained that that expenditure was on the maintenance of the premises and within the Management Committees' powers but felt that outlay on a defibrillator would require the consent of the members, all of whom would require notification.

On a poll of hands there was unanimous support for the acquisition.

Dave Hall asked what the next step was and Gill Farrance said that enquiries are in hand and hopefully it should not be too long before we have one.

There were no further questions and Gill thanked the members for attending and closed the meeting at 7.55pm.

President.....

Secretary.....