

GISBORNE AND DISTRICT BOWLING CLUB INC.

Annual General Meeting

7.00pm, Monday 14 December 2020

MINUTES

The meeting opened at 7.05pm

Chairman, Rob Paterson, welcomed members and declared the meeting open at 7.05pm. The following Directors were present: Russell Walker OAM, Mary Wilson, Helena Cyrulo, John Evans and Ron Formica. Please note that Director David Wesney is away and therefore unable to attend.

1. PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

In addition to the abovementioned directors, the following members were in attendance:

Ailene Paterson, Vlod Cyrulo, Bill O'Connor, Richard Newton, Dorothy Evans, Teresa Wylie, Mary Hicks, Ray Hicks, John Kinton, Chris Butterley, Rhonda Kelaart, Judy Butterley, David Kelaart, Eddie Gundy, David Campbell, Robert Black, John Hunter, Louise Ball, Marg Ivory, Tony Hedley, Ian Ball, Frank Perich

The Secretary, Helena Cyrulo, advised that apologies have been received from: Don Crompton, Alan Elliot, David Wesney, Robyn Wesney, Jo Kendon, Paul O'Farrell, John Dale, Wendy Kays, and Peter Wellington.

The Secretary acknowledged our life members:

- Alan Elliot
- Joan John
- Laurie John
- Brian Carr
- Rob Paterson
- Richard Newton

2. MINUTES OF THE 2019 AGM

The Chairman, Rob Paterson, advised that as copies of the minutes were made available to members prior to the meeting there was no requirement to read them out. Questions or comments were welcomed from those in attendance – none were received.

It was resolved that the minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting of members of the Gisborne and District Bowling Club be confirmed to be a true record.

Moved by Richard Newton, seconded by Louise Ball. Motion carried unanimously.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE 2019 AGM

The Chairman noted that a matter raised at the 2019 Annual General meeting which had not been actioned due to the COVID-19 restrictions at the commencement of the current bowls season, related to the recognition of members for their period of membership with the Club. The certificates will be named after our life members and will be provided for 5, 10, 15, 20 etc. years of membership. The aim is to roll this out at the commencement of the next bowling season.

4. REPORTS

4.1 Chairman's Report

Chairman Rob Paterson presented the Chairman's report (attached) and welcomed questions or comments from those in attendance, but none were received.

It was resolved that the report of the Chairman of the Gisborne and District Bowling Club be received.

Moved by Teresa Wylie, seconded by Louise Ball. Motion carried unanimously.

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4.2 Finance Committee Report

The Finance Director, Russell Walker OAM, presented the Finance Director's report (attached) and welcomed questions or comments from those in attendance – none were received.

It was resolved that the report of the Finance Director of the Gisborne and District Bowling Club be received.

Moved by Eddie Gundy, seconded by Ian Ball. Motion carried unanimously.

4.3 Financial Report

The Finance Director noted that copies of the financial statements for the 12 month period ended 31 March 2020 together with the Board declaration were made available to members prior to the meeting. He also noted that they have been subject to an independent review. The Finance Director sought question or comments, but none were received.

It was resolved that the Club's financial statements for the 12 month period ended 31 March 2020 and the Board declaration thereon be adopted.

Moved by Chris Butterley, seconded by Dorothy Evans. Motion carried unanimously.

5. ELECTION/APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS

The Chairman declared that four Board member positions are vacant and advised that Board members who stand down may stand for re-election.

The Chairman noted that David Wesney has not sought re-election to the Board. David has provided great service to this Club, in particular the Board, over a considerable period of time. Although he was not able to be present, for the record, members joined the Chairman in congratulating him for his service to our Club.

The Chairman advised that under the constitution, the terms of office of the positions on the Board are staggered so that one third or the nearest multiple of one third will retire by rotation each year. This year there is an extra position vacant due to Chris Butterley standing down from the Board during the year.

The Secretary reported that the following members have been nominated for positions on the Board:

- Russell Walker OAM for a 3-year term
- John Kinton for a 3-year term
- Teresa Wylie for a 3-year term
- Rob Paterson for a 2-year term

As the number of nominations equalled the number of vacancies on the Board, the Secretary declared these members duly elected to the Board of the Gisborne and District Bowling Club.

Those present congratulated Russell, John, Teresa and Rob on their appointments.

6. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

The Chairman sought to seek members' confirmation of the annual membership fees for 2020-21 which are:

- Full Membership \$170
- Junior Membership: \$10
- Social Membership: \$40
- Barefoot Bowls Membership: \$10

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It was noted that the Barefoot Bowls membership is a new category of membership introduced due to the need to comply with the Liquor Licensing requirements and these members do not have the right to be present, debate, or vote at an Annual General Meeting.

It was resolved that the proposed annual membership fees for 2020-21 be confirmed.

Moved by John Kinton, seconded by Dorothy Evans. Motion carried unanimously.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS IN RELATION TO THE BOARD

7.1 Acknowledgement of members

The Chairman acknowledged the passing of club member Roger Cotton since our last AGM, and requested that all present stand for a minutes' silence.

All those present stood and a minutes' silence was observed in memory of Roger.

7.2 Notice of Motion – Life Membership Nomination

The Chairman requested that Richard Newton address the Notice of Motion regarding a new Life Member.

Richard outlined his nomination of John Evans as a life member, which was seconded by Josephine Kendon, and was sent to the Club Secretary in October 2021. The nomination was unanimously supported by the Board and recommended to be put to the members at this meeting.

It was resolved that the Notice of Motion to award John Evans Life Membership of the Gisborne and District Lions Club be accepted.

Moved by Ailene Paterson, seconded by Ian Ball. Motion carried unanimously.

John was presented with a Life Membership badge and framed certificate. John thanked those present and stated that he has enjoyed everything he has done at the Club.

8. BOWLS COMMITTEE REPORT

The Bowls Director (John Evans) read the Bowls Committee 2019-20 Report (attached).

It was resolved that the Report of the Bowls Director be received.

Moved by Eddie Gundy, seconded by Robert Black. Motion carried unanimously.

9. ELECTION/APPOINTMENT OF BOWLS AND SUB-COMMITTEES

9.1 Bowls Committee – 4 members

The Secretary reported that the following nominations have been received for positions on the Bowls Committee:

- Ian Ball
- John Evans
- Paul O'Farrell

As the number of nominations received was fewer than the number of vacancies on the Committee, the Secretary declared these members duly elected to the Bowls Committee of the Gisborne and District Bowling Club.

Those present congratulated Ian, John and Paul on their appointments.

It was noted that nominations for the vacant position cannot be taken at the AGM and subsequent to this meeting the Board, on recommendation of the Bowls Committee, can fill the remaining vacancy.

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9.2 Tournament/Match Committee – 4 members

The Secretary reported that the following nominations have been received for positions on the Tournament and Match Committee:

- Ron Formica
- Dorothy Evans
- Teresa Wylie
- Ian Ball

As the number of nominations equalled the number of vacancies on the Committee, the Secretary declared these members duly elected to the Tournament and Match Committee of the Gisborne and District Bowling Club.

Those present congratulated Ron, Dorothy, Teresa and Ian on their appointments.

9.3 Mid-week Selection Committee – 3 members

The Secretary reported that the following nominations have been received for positions on the Mid-week Selection Committee:

- John Evans
- Teresa Wylie
- Vlod Cyrulo

As the number of nominations received equalled the number of vacancies on the Committee, the Secretary declared these members duly elected to the Mid-week Selection Committee of the Gisborne and District Bowling Club.

Those present congratulated John, Teresa and Vlod on their appointments.

9.4 Saturday Selection Committee – 5 members

The Secretary reported that the following nominations have been received for positions on the Saturday Selection Committee:

- John Evans
- Paul O'Farrell
- Ian Ball
- Richard Newton

As the number of nominations received was fewer than the number of vacancies on the Committee, the Secretary declared these members duly elected to the Saturday Selection Committee of the Gisborne and District Bowling Club.

Those present congratulated Richard, Ian, John and Paul on their appointments.

It was noted that nominations for the vacant positions cannot be taken at the AGM and subsequent to this meeting the Bowls Committee can fill the remaining vacancy.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS IN RELATION TO THE BOWLS COMMITTEE

None raised.

11. DATE OF NEXT AGM

The Chairman advised that the 2020-21 Annual General Meeting will be held on 14 May 2021.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45pm

Signed by Chair: **Date:**

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Chairman's Report

What a year 2020 has been!

The beginning of the year saw the country grapple with raging bushfires and just when we thought it could not get any worse Coronavirus hit us. Containing this virus has not been easy, causing economic and personal hardship for many families.

During the Coronavirus lockdown the Board had a duty of care to look after the health of our members so we followed the guidelines set out by the Government and Bowls Victoria. I know that some members were not happy, complaining that we were too rigid. Let me assure you all that we were acting only in the best interests of our members' health.

We finally paid out our last debenture of \$20,000 during the year, which now leaves our club debt-free.

Once again, this year our Tuesday and Wednesday Barefoot Bowls programs were very successful. Thanks go to Vicki Noble, Ailene Paterson and their helpers for organising Tuesday and David and Robyn Wesley and their helpers for running Wednesdays.

As there has been very little action around the Club I have not much more to report.

I would like to pass on my thanks to a number of members who have worked hard during the past 12 months. Bill O'Connor for general work around the club and assisting John Evans with the greens; John Evans for the many hours spent keeping our greens in great shape; Peter Wellington & John Reardon for putting out the rubbish bins weekly; Jan Doherty for cooking sausages on Saturdays after pennant; Brian Carr for assisting with the Friday night raffles; Ron Formica for running social bowls on Wednesdays and Saturdays; Robyn Wesley and all her helpers for running the Chicken and Champagne Day; Richard Newton for carrying out janitorial duties; and Teresa Wylie for looking after the kitchen. My apologies to anyone I have forgotten to mention, and thank you for your contribution.

Thanks also to our Board members:

A big thanks to Russell Walker for the enormous amount of hours he spent over the past 9 months with policies, procedures, and the Coronavirus restrictions, including many phone calls to Bowls Victoria.

To Helena Cyrulo – a special thanks for all your work during a very difficult time with lots more paperwork.

To Mary Wilson – thanks for your many hours spent keeping our banking and accounts in order.

To Chris Butterley – thanks for all your hard work as Bowls Director and also John Evans who took over that role when Chris resigned.

To Ron Formica – a great job working with our sponsors during this difficult year. We have lost some, retained some, and acquired some new sponsors.

To David Wesley – thanks for looking after sponsorship over the past few years and for being a valued member of the Board.

Thanks also to all members of the various committees

Thank you to all our Board members for what have been very difficult times.

In closing I thank you all for your support during the year, and I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a better New Year.

Rob Paterson
Chairman

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Director of Finance Report

Firstly I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Treasurer Mary Wilson for her ongoing commitment throughout the year in our revenue collection, payment of our bills and maintenance of our accounts, and Bob Sellman for the production of our financial statements.

Our financial statements for the financial year ended 31 March 2020 disclose a profit of \$24,700 compared with \$27,900 for the 11 month period for the previous financial year – a reduction of \$3,200. The reduction in our profit in the main was brought about by fewer functions being held at the Club, a reduction in our sponsorships and the start of the negative impact brought about by COVID-19 with the Layton Homes, Neal Street Clinic and GREAT tournaments being cancelled.

Our profit of \$24,700 and the impact of non-cash items such as depreciation and amortisation of \$26,400 together with the reduction in our cash by \$6,400 provided \$57,500 which was applied in the main to repay our final amount of debt owed to debenture holders of \$50,000 relating to our synthetic green, the installation of our new stairs, the purchase and installation of our new projector and to acquire our stock of uniforms. It has been a great achievement to repay in just 5 years the \$250,000 raised from club members in 2015 to construct the synthetic green.

As I reported at our last AGM, with our club being situated on crown land, last year we entered into a Section 16 lease with the Council and the State Government, which has resulted in all the improvements such as the clubhouse and bowling green, etc. remaining in the ownership of the Club. Further, as part of the agreement we have negotiated for the leased area to be increased – a 10 metre strip on the east side of the bowling green and 27 metres on the north side of the bowling green to enable two rows of parking to be utilised if in the future we lose some of our current car park due to any changes to the Melbourne/Kilmore Road intersection. With those works now proceeding we are currently in negotiation with VicRoads to determine the actual impact of those works on our current car park and determine what works we need to undertake and at what cost.

Under the terms of our lease agreement and to obtain funds from Government, the Board has needed to adopt a range of policies to enhance the Club's practices. These included developing a Strategic Plan and a range of policies including: Player and Spectator Code of Conduct; Fair Play; Member Protection; Whistleblower; COVID-19 Conditions of Entry and Play; Adverse Playing Conditions; Child Safety; Sun Smart; Smoke Free; and Club Championship Eligibility. All of these documents are available on our club's website, in a folder in the club rooms, and some of these policies are on the downstairs notice board. Now that COVID-19 restrictions are

easing if members wish, we could have a separate get-together to run through these various documents.

By way of update, the Club has been successful in obtaining two Government grants of \$1,500 and \$2,700 respectively. The second grant relates to acquiring 8 sets of lightweight bowls for our community bowls program involving introducing school children, people with disabilities, and mothers with babies to the game of bowls. Our local Member of Parliament visited the Club last week to see the schools bowls program in action and we took the opportunity to discuss further funding opportunities to enhance the Club's facilities.

In closing, I would like to thank my fellow directors and members of all the Club's committees for their ongoing great work for the Club, and you members for your ongoing commitment and passion to the game of bowls and our great club, especially during this period of enforced restrictions due to COVIC-19.

Russell A Walker OAM

Deputy Chairman & Director of Finance

Bowls Report 14 December 2020.

All bowls activities were going smoothly until the COVID virus hit us in March and put an end to all bowls events. Most of our club events were nearly completed, in the last few weeks these events have been finalized with the exception of the mixed pairs which will be carried over to the new season. Congratulations to all winners, trophies will be presented at our Christmas function next Friday night 18 December.

The pennant season had mixed results with several of our teams playing off in the finals, sadly we could not achieve a pennant flag. All teams were competitive and we hope the new season brings better results.

The Club is disappointed that we had to cancel 2 of our Tournaments due to the virus, Layton Homes and Neil St Clinic Tournaments, hopefully this season we will be able to hold these successful events.

Over the last couple of years we have seen some of our younger Bowlers transferring to Metropolitan Clubs to have a go at the big league, hopefully they will soon return to Gisborne and strengthen our pennant teams.

Bare foot bowls is a great success with the club hosting nights on Tuesday and Wednesday, these Bowlers need to be encouraged to join in playing social bowls and finally joining our pennant teams.

Several of our Members have been successful in Divisional events, Kevin Jarred 60 and over, Teresa Wylie and Helena Cyrulo Ladies pairs, Marg Ivory, Louise Ball and Teresa Wyle Ladies triples, Region winners Teresa Wylie and Ethan Higgins. Congratulations to all these Players well done.

Finally on behalf of the Bowls Committee, I thank all Bowlers on our respective Committees, Midweek and Saturday Selection and Match/Tournament Committee for their contribution over the last 12 months in organizing Competitions and the general running of all bowls events, your efforts have led to an enjoyable year for all Bowlers.

John Evans, Bowls Director.