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*~ Established in 1932 ~*

## **Minutes of the March 2023 Executive Committee Meeting**

held on Tuesday 7th March at the Sir John Bayley Club at 7.30pm

### **1 Chairman's remarks to open the meeting**

Good evening ladies and gentleman. Thank you for your attendance. We have lots to get through.

### **2 Apologies & In Memoriam**

There were apologies from Celia Miles, Worfield, Highley, Dave Evans, Steve Anyon and Martin Gaut.

### **3 Minutes of the February Management Committee Meeting**

These were accepted as a true record, proposed by Trench and seconded by Prince Hotel.

### **4 Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

### **5 General Secretary's report**

Good evening everyone!

It's a sign that a new season is fast approaching as, even though it's less than 3 weeks since we last had a meeting, there's been plenty going on and lots to do!

Although not directly involved with the process any more, there have been DBS reminders to forward to a couple of clubs and checks with selectors and officers that their current certificates will cover them for the 2023 season.

I've yet to hear about possible sponsorship money from Mel Evans MBE Foundation for junior comps this year and, sad to say, there has been no interest from member clubs on talking to Telford & Wrekin Council about the future use of the flat bowling green in Hartshill Park, Oakengates.

Only one club had ordered any scorecards ahead of tonight's meeting but, in the expectation that clubs will require stocks in future, I have approached Steve Reeves of Local Print Pros to see if they would be interested in sponsoring a new batch – and printing them too!

With your permission I plan to invite former competition secretary Phil King to the April meeting so that he can formally be presented with his thank you gift.

I'm pleased to report that Club Info Sheets for 2023 have been flowing in steadily and I will endeavour to update the Club Contacts on the website by the end of the coming weekend – and then supply my fellow officers with an updated list.

We still need 1 more club to launch the proposed Afternoon Division – and if we go ahead the rules already circulated will need some fine tuning so that it can be accommodated easily by the Mike Beckett system.

With that in mind I think we should call an EGM to be held on the night of the April meeting to formally approve the rules - if the launch goes ahead! – when we can also get a proper mandate for this year's changes to the match and league fees.

Thank you

## 6 Correspondence

### **RECEIVED MARCH 3 from KEVIN HALL, sec of Sinclair:**

We will not be doing sandwiches this year. It is not being anti-social in any way but we have rising costs in electricity for the lights and extra costs for the upkeep of the green. Our apologies to all teams in the Mid Shropshire League. Our members voted unanimously to not have sandwiches.

### **Much Wenlock food situation (BOB MUMFORD) and Highley**

### **RECEIVED MARCH 4 from PAULINE WISLON, County Development Officer – and soon to be circulated to all Shropshire affiliated clubs:**

Although the Bowls Big Weekend is happening again in 2023 and has been successful for us in the past we have decided to try a Shropshire based initiative starting in April called ‘**ROLL UP SHROPSHIRE**’

The BBW is held at the end of May and therefore is late for us so we are asking as many clubs as possible to put on a taster session of some sort during April

We intend to advertise this during the month through Social Media & Newspaper so once you have decided when you are holding your session please let Pauline Wilson

([porinkan@gmail.com](mailto:porinkan@gmail.com) 07746 224824) know the following details as soon as possible

Where      When      Times

and we will publicise all the sessions as well.

We have organised some posters for you to use which can be customised to your club. If you do not like them you can of course use your own but please use ‘**ROLL UP SHROPSHIRE**’

The posters can then go on your Facebook page or be printed. Saving them as PDF is a good idea but not crucial. Social Media is the best advertising route so

- get your club members & friends to share as often as possible and
- repeat post over the weeks running up to your event

It is important to think about what you are going to do with any new members you generate and we highly recommend running a regular Social Bowling session where they can get further coaching and or help to play from members.

There are lots of coaches across the County & if you need help please contact your local coach

Let's get behind this initiative & see if we can get new bowlers started as soon as possible in the season.

**Good Luck!!**

### **RECEIVED FEBRUARY 24 from PHIL SCOTT, county DBS checker:**

The DBS checks for 2023 have started and the following Mid Shropshire clubs have not booked an appointment and their officer's DBS runs out before the season starts.

### **Horsehay & Broseley**

The County Secretary will also be reminding the clubs so hopefully a double reminder might stir them into action.

Also, if your league has any junior selectors for inter league or a county rep please ensure they are also DBS checked along with competition secretaries for your league.

There are spaces still available for DBS renewal appointments via Zoom on 25<sup>th</sup> March.

### **7 (a) New Team Applications for 2023 since Feb meeting**

### **RECEIVED MARCH 3 from ROB BURROUGHS, sec of Hadley USC:**

Hi Malcolm/John - Hadley USC would like to formally enter another team on a Friday night into the Mid Shropshire League for the 2023 season.

Kind regards, Rob Burroughs

**RECEIVED MARCH 1 from ANN RAWLINS, assistant sec of Bowring:**

The Bowring are in an enviable position whereby we have a lot of new members wanting to play league bowls on a Monday night.

We are therefore applying for another team to enter in the sixth division.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind Regards, Ann Rawlins

**RECEIVED MARCH 7 from CELIA MILES, bowls sec of Sir John Bayley:**

Hi Mal - It is with regret that the SJB Thursday night team will have to withdraw, After speaking to Michael Cooper and many posts on our web page there is a lack of interest. Last year was also a struggle to get players to bowl.

Thanks, Celia Miles.

**RECEIVED MARCH 7 from LOUISE COTTON, sec of Wrockwardine Wood:**

Hi Malcolm - It is with regret that we will have to withdraw the Division 5 Monday team for 2023. We cannot muster enough players to field two teams on a Monday and we do not wish to start fielding partial teams.

The teams in Mid Shropshire League for 2023 are as follows:

Monday Division 4 playing on no 2 green

(Can this be fixtured to be at home when Wem league Div 1 plays at home)

Thursday A (Green 1) and Thursday B (green 2)

(Again can home games be on same night)

Friday Div 1 green no 1

Friday Div 3 green no 2

Please can these teams play at home on the same night fit around Premier on green 1

Many thanks, Louise

**7 Fixture Secretary's report**

Hi Everyone, as you're aware, today is the deadline for informing the league of any withdrawals or new teams and we've had two clubs withdraw teams today (one after 6pm).

What I know so far:

- Requests for three new teams on a Friday: HUSC, Wrock Wood & Newport
- Requests for two new teams on a Monday: Horsehay & Bowring
- One new team on a Thursday - Castlefields
- SJB have today resigned from the Thursday league
- Wrockwardine Wood have resigned their team from division 5.
- The following clubs have confirmed their teams and greens where appropriate:
  - Bowring
  - Bylet
  - Charlton
  - Highley
  - Newport
  - Sinclair
  - SJB
  - Edgmond
  - Allscott Heath
  - Wrockwardine Wood

Where I haven't heard from clubs, I'm assuming their teams & greens remain the same as last year. This means - in the order of the ease of organisation:

### **Afternoon**

Not confirmed yet. Seven teams entered. Potentially, it would run from 6th April to the first week in July but 11th May, 8th & 29th June & 6th July would have to be played on the Tuesday due to Seniors League cup matches or possibly skip 6th July and finish on the 13th.

*Agreed to run with 7 teams from 6th April to 13th July, missing 6th July and with Tuesday fixtures on 9th May and 6th June to fit in with the Senior Citizens League.*

### **Thursday**

- 13 teams and will start on 6th April using every Thursday up to 28th September. The fixtures are ready to be published.

### **Monday**

- 35 teams in 3 divisions. Last year 33 teams were evenly split 11/11/11. This year, we need to decide whether it's 12/12/11, 11/12/12 or 12/11/12? In all cases I propose promoting 2 and either relegating 1 or 2.

*Agreed to have 11/11/12.*

- As mentioned in Feb, the league will start on 3rd April and run to 2nd October.

### **Friday**

- This year we have 37 teams in 3 divisions. Last year we had 34 as 12/12/10.
- The dates we published at the Feb meeting were based on 36 teams but we've had a late application so one of the divisions will require 4 additional Fridays. As Rob has organised the Merit on 14th and 21st April, I propose 12/12/13 with a straightforward promote 2 and relegate 2 from last year and with all 3 new teams in division 3.

*This was agreed.*

- As to dates, division 1 & 2 will start on 28th April and run to 22nd September but for division 3, we'd have to use the 2 merit Fridays and 29th September and one other. 7th April is Good Friday bank holiday although the Premier league are starting on that date. So, either that or one or more Wednesdays.

*Agreed division 3 will play additional dates: Fri 21st April, Wed 10th May, Wed 5th July & Fri 29th September.*

I've been in touch with Mike Beckett and Graham Hughes about coordinating the Friday fixtures with the Premier (three clubs need to be resolved) and the Wem league on a Monday where 5 clubs need to be considered). So, there's quite a lot of work still to do but I hope to have them all available as soon as possible.

Any questions?

## **8 New Afternoon Division in 2023**

- 5 of the 7 club delegates (Albrighton, Bowring, Chelmarsh, Edgmond and Madeley CC - Donn Wood had already left!) stated that they wished to press ahead, even if it meant launching with one less than the previously stated minimum of 8 sides.
- They agreed fixtures will start on Thursday 6th April and run until July 13th. The only senior league comp date we will use is 29th June (their over-75 Merit) so there will have to be a couple of Tuesday games.

- Match fees will be 50p per player, in line with all MSBL divisions, and they agreed the scoring system should be 3 points for an agg win (1pt each if a draw) plus 1 point for each individual game
- We already have a shield for the champions and that I would get the amended rules out to all 7 clubs by Friday 17th March at the latest.
- We hope to recruit an 8th team so there are no byes and, given the amount of host club bowlers who attended when we staged the Dave Ellis challenge at at Bridgnorth in September, I am going to invite them to join!

## **9 Treasurer's report**

There was a balance of £14,853. Everyone was in agreement of the new fees for the 2023 season.

## **10 Competition Secretary's report**

- All the entry fees were fine for the individual and team competitions.
- Clubs can let me know if you wish to hold an event this season please.
- I am waiting for Mike Beckett to sort out a tick box for entering the Ashton and Harris Cups.
- I will put dates on the website as well as a list of entries.

## **11 County matters**

The next meeting is on Monday. Malcolm Fletcher will raise about subsidising the referees.

## **12 Any Other Business**

There was no any other business.

## **13 President / chairman to close the meeting**

The Chairman said to come to us if clubs have any issue with lights etc through the season.

With no further business, the meeting was closed at 8.15 p.m.