



Patron—Mr John Percy

President—Mrs Brenda Jones

Chairman—Mr D T Evans

**Minutes of the 93rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
2 pm at NOVA CENTRE, PRESTATYN Saturday 9th February 2019**

Chairman – Mrs Brenda Jones

- 1. OPENING REMARKS** – The President Brenda Jones opened the meeting by welcoming everyone, especially Sarah Nicholas, Matty Worden and Matt Foster. During the year Brenda had attended as many events as possible with David Mathias attending as well, and attending home County Matches when Brenda went with the away team, and visa-versa.

Brenda explained that our bowlers had done very well in 2019, Sarah Nicholas winning the BCGBA Ladies Merit, Matty Worden the BCGBA Junior Merit and both going on to compete in the relevant Champion of Champions events, both of which were won by our Welsh bowlers John Bailey and Linda Williams. She congratulated them, all saying they were a credit to Welsh Crown Green Bowls.

Brenda went on to thank the secretary Pauline Lindley and Chairman David T Evans and the rest of the committee as we had been unable to find a CEO to replace Matt Foster. Matt had not been well and Brenda, on behalf of us all, wished him a full recovery. Jeanette Higham was thanked for her unstinting work as Press Officer, even taking pictures as Brenda & Sandra huddled under umbrellas in the pouring rain. Jeanette's reports and pictures can be seen on the WCGBA website. The year had been a sad one for Brenda's family as her son and his wife lost their new baby, Graham Rogers and Nick Hughes were thanked for arranging a fund raising event. Everyone was thanked for their donations as a total of £14,869 was raised. This was split between 'The Ronald McDonald House' at Arrows Park Hospital and 'The Children's Bereavement Centre' at Alder Hey Hospital. Sandra & Ron West, John Percy and Peter & Jeanette Higham were all thanked for their support and 'being there' when needed during the year.

Brenda concluded by congratulating Dave Mathias and Simon Walker on their appointments as President and Deputy President for 2019, and was very grateful for being elected President for 2018.

Apologies for absence – Mr John Percy (WCGBA Patron); Mr & Mrs Graham Jackson (BCGBA President); Mark Bircumshaw (BCGBA Interim CEO); BowlsWales; John & Pat Crowther; Delwyn Lewis (EGB) Lewis Scott (Ray Springfield trophy winner); Nia Jones (Ashenden Trophy winner); Sam Williams (Stan Higham Trophy winner); Derrick Evans (Coaching Society Chairman); George Walleth (Past Registrar); John Bailey (BCGBA Champion of Champions) and Linda Williams (Ladies Champion of Champions). Cyril Adams (Life Member); John Lloyd (Life Member); Irving Price (Wrexham League); Collin Seale (Wrexham Vet's League); Mark Whiteley (Welsh Counties League) Parciau Bowling Club; Gresford Village Bowling Club; Anthony Rowlands (Llay Welfare BC); Norma Humphreys (Castell Alun BC)

- 2. PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES**

BCGBA Ladies Merit Winner – Sarah Nicholas

BCGBA Junior Merit Winner – Matthew Worden

Both Sarah and Matty were presented with certificates inducting them into the WCGBA Hall of Fame.

Llew Roberts - Junior aggregate Glyndwr & Gwynedd – Ryan P Williams, was collected by Eric DeCamps

Stan Higham - Junior aggregate Wrexham & Flintshire – Sam Williams, was collected by Eryl Jones

Brenda presented Jeanette, Dusia, Pauline and Sandra, each with a gift in appreciation of their help during the year.

3. **Obituaries** – A minutes silence was observed in memory of all players and friends we have lost during the year.
4. **MINUTES** – Minutes of the 92nd AGM held on Saturday February 10th 2018 had been circulated, they were proposed by Peter Hayes, seconded by Elfyn Jones, passed unanimously as a true record and signed by the President.
5. **THE FINANCIAL REPORT** – Finance Officer Peter Scott, began by explaining that the decrease in income was due to the loss of £1,000 sponsorship from ‘Cooperative Funeral Care’ and no grant from BowlsWales, normally £3,600. Tom Middlehurst, one of our representatives on BowlsWales, explained that in the past Sport Wales (formerly the Sports Council for Wales) had awarded us a grant of £3,600 for the last 10 years or so. They have now changed their policy and wish to deal with only one Bowls organisation that represents all six Governing Bodies of Bowls – (Men’s Indoor, Men’s Outdoor, Ladies Indoor, Ladies Outdoor, Short Mat and ourselves, Crown Green). An umbrella body has been set up to comply with Sport Wales policy but as two of the governing bodies have refused to join, Sport Wales has frozen the money. He pledged to follow all avenues to make sure the WCGBA have a fair allocation of funds. Roger Morgan, our other representative on BowlsWales, is now based in South Wales and has attended meetings on our behalf, stressing that Crown Green Bowls in North Wales is a very important part of Bowls in Wales. Members from BowlsWales had attended some of our events and meetings and we will continue to invite them. Alun Jones, BowlsWales Chairman, and his wife thoroughly enjoyed their day at the Senior Merit Final, so we hope to see more members at our events in the future.

5.1 Questions on the Report, previously submitted – several queries had been submitted regarding the lack of the £3,600 grant, and this has now been explained.

Another questioner asked why the honoraria was so high as we had not had a CEO, Peter explained that the honoraria were paid in retrospect, and we did have a CEO the previous year.

6.1.1 **Recommendation that player’s registration fee be increased by £1 to £4 per player.**

Proposed by Peter Scott Financial Officer and agreed unanimously by the EGB. Peter explained that we had 3,846 bowlers registered last season so by increasing the registration fee by £1 it would give us enough to fill the gap left by the loss of grant. **This proposal was passed by a large majority.**

- Affiliation Fees for 2019 – recommended no change to stay at £30. The BCGBA club registration fee has increased by £5 for the last few years, in 2019 it will be £30, and increase to £35 in 2020.
- Appointment of Independent Examiners for 2019 Accounts – ‘Sage & Co’ **Approved unanimously.**
- Proposed Honoraria – **All approved unanimously**
- Financial Officer - £1000
- Secretary - £1050
- Registrar - £750
- Tournament Officer & BCGBA Rep - £300
- Team Co-ordinators - £200
- Ladies Secretary - £50
- Website Manager - £200
- Area Development Officers (to be appraised) - £100
- Open Competition Secretary - £50

Peter was thanked by the chairman, explaining that the coming year would be very busy for him as he had been recently installed as Chairman of Denbighshire County Council.

7. **REPORTS FROM OFFICERS** – now on the WCGBA website.

The Chairman read the report on the BCGBA Rules Revision meeting:-

- Every Club must have a named Safeguarding Officer who has a current DBS certificate, by March 1st 2019, failure to comply will result in an appropriate penalty.
- Club fees will be increased to £30 in 2019 and £35 in 2020.
- New membership fee will increase from £10 to £12 in 2019.
- Annual fee for associate members will increase to £30 in 2019.

DRESS CODE RULES:- (these will be found in the 2019 BCGBA handbook)

- Suitable footwear must be worn. Hard or block heeled footwear, sandals or other open-toed footwear must not be worn whilst on the green in any match played under the Association's jurisdiction.
- Trousers: These shall be full length, single coloured trousers in black only. Tailored shorts: Knee length, single coloured shorts, in black only are permitted in any match played under the Association's jurisdiction. Studs, rivets and zipped pockets are not allowed, nor are external pockets on the legs. Nothing in this rule shall prevent exceptions being made for individuals with a relevant disability.

DRESS CODE FOR COMPETITIONS – British Merit, Junior Merit & Champion of Champions

- Dress Code Rules will apply plus the following.
- Players must wear the appropriate shirt, red or blue, provided by the BCGBA for the competition. If a player deems it necessary to wear protective clothing over the shirt, they must wear the appropriate tabard or bib, red or blue over their protective clothing.

7.1 Questions on reports – none submitted

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR FORTHCOMING YEAR – 2019

President – David Mathias, proposed by **David T Evans** on behalf of the Gwynedd Area Bowling Association.

David's interest in Crown Green Bowling started in 1983 when he took up the running of the 'Happy Valley' pavilion shop, overlooking the Beaumaris Bowling Green. The following year he started playing seriously. He represented Wales once and lost to another Gwynedd bowler, Roger Morgan, in the final of the Welsh Senior Merit in 2001. He has won league cups, and plays for Beaumaris, Môn Menai and Gwynedd Seniors. He has taken on many roles in his club, various leagues and Gwynedd Area. In 2016 he was elected President of the North Wales Coast League. He is at present Secretary of both Gwynedd Area and Beaumaris club. He is Chairman and treasurer of Môn Menai Bowling Association and Chairman of the Anglesey & Bangor League. He has a very busy schedule, but as he takes on his biggest task to date he is 'Up to the Challenge'. His posts on the North Wales Forum under his pseudonym of Llangaff are enjoyed by many. He is also a fervent Liverpool supporter!!!

Mr. Jim Paton on behalf of the Glyndwr Area Bowling Association seconded the nomination for David Mathias as President. He said it was good to see someone who had worked so hard for his club, leagues and the 'Welsh' receive the highest accolade. He also said how much he enjoyed reading 'Llangaff's' comments on the forum especially when he was abroad watching the cricket test matches.

The nomination was approved unanimously. David was then presented with his blazer and badge of office. He then presented Brenda with her 'Past President's' badge, a bouquet of flowers, and an album of photos taken by Jeanette during the year. He thanked Brenda for her hard work during the year and supporting him as Deputy President, Brenda replied by presenting David with a bottle of 'Liverpool F C' wine!

David then thanked everyone for their attendance especially Matt Foster, our past CEO who had done a great deal of work for Wales. The Presidency was a great honour for him and his family and he thanked both Gwynedd and Glyndwr Bowling Associations for their support, and the kind words, from David & Jim. He was particularly well supported by several board members, Life members but particularly David Walker the Tournament Officer.

Deputy President – Simon Walker, proposed by **Mr David Walker** on behalf of the Flintshire Bowling Association.

Simon started bowling in 1978 at St Asaph Bowling Club under the guidance of his Father Rob, winning his first match at Sunny Rhyll. In the 1990s he took on admin work on the committees at both St Asaph and Grove Park Bowling Clubs. With Mel Higham he helped to start the referee's society, and after becoming a referee he was selected to referee the quarter finals of the BCGBA Senior Merit. In 1990 he gave up bowls due to his work commitments in Birmingham. However in 2002, after 'encouragement' from his Father he got out his bowls and started playing again initially at Gladstone Bowling Club. He also played for Gresford Village and took on more admin work in various roles for the Deeside Vets League, Flintshire Area, Gladstone Bowling Club and has been Development Officer for the WCGBA for the last 4 years. He has always been constructive in trying to improve the game.

Pauline Lindley on behalf of the Wrexham Area Bowling Association seconded the proposal for Simon Walker as Deputy President. Pauline had only known Simon since he became WCGBA Development Officer, but he has worked tirelessly to promote the game, particularly to Health professionals, even taking a day off work to attend their meetings and seminars.

The nomination was approved unanimously

Simon was presented with the Deputy President's badge by the new President, he thanked David, Pauline and the Flintshire Area for the nomination, and also the support of his wife. He was looking forward to taking up his duties as Deputy President and representing the WCGBA.

CONFIRMATION OF OFFICERS for 2019 - **Vacancies & new names in bold**

Chief Executive –**Vacancy**

Financial Officer –Peter Scott

Registrar for new members - **Peter Scott** replacing George Wallett (CR1 & CR2 forms to be sent to George)

Secretary – Pauline Lindley

Tournament Officer – **Vacancy**

Senior Team Manager – Joey Williams

Ladies Team Coordinator – Beverly Taylor

Junior Team Coordinator –Phil Maddox

Men's Veterans Manager – Mike Barrodale

Ladies Veterans Manager –**Amanda Nicholas**

Commercial/Sponsorship Officer – **Vacancy**

Press Officer – Jeanette Higham

Welsh Liaison Officer – David T Evans

Safeguarding Officer – **Pauline A Lindley** replacing Mark Whiteley

Website manager – David Philip

BCGBA Representative – **Peter Higham** replacing David Walker

Disability Liaison Officer – Ray Barnes

The President appealed to those present to come forward and spread the word amongst their colleagues to fill the above vacancies.

He thanked all the officers and committee members, especially those who have held posts for a number of years.

9. CONFIRMATION OF EGB MEMBERS FOR 2019

Flintshire – Peter Higham, Martin Richardson, Catherine Rogers

Glyndwr – Danuta Price, Abigail Wynne-Jones, **Vacancy**

Gwynedd – David T Evans, Delwyn Lewis, Roger Morgan

Wrexham – Brenda Jones, Sandra West, **Vacancy**

10. RULE CHANGES AND NOTICE OF MOTIONS

Rule 4.2 Page 4 Present Rule

The President and Deputy President may be invited to attend Executive Governance Board meetings in a nonvoting capacity.

Suggested change.

The President, Deputy President **and Patron** may be invited to attend the Executive Governance Board meetings in a nonvoting capacity, **unless they have a dual role as an E.G.B. member in which case they have the right to vote.**

Proposed by Peter Higham, Life Member and EGB Member:- Peter felt that the Patron's knowledge and expertise would be most valuable at committee meetings. Adding the last part made it clear that even if a member was in a non-voting capacity, but was also an EGB member they would be allowed to vote.

The proposal was approved unanimously

The Chairman David T Evans on behalf of the WCGBA, presented David Walker with a token of appreciation of his work on behalf of the Association. David was originally a member of the previous management committee and in 2012 became Flintshire representative on the new Executive Governance Board. David had, at the last committee meeting said that he wished to stand down as Flintshire representative on the Board, as WCGBA Tournament Officer and Welsh representative on the BCGBA Management Committee, at this AGM. David has been a valuable member of the 'team' and has contributed a great deal to our interests and discussions. As Tournament Officer he organised all Welsh Merit Finals and several other Welsh competitions, every year, except for 2008 when he was WCGBA President. He has received some criticism over the years, but David ignored it all and carried on! He has always had a mind of his own and was never slow to let others know of his feelings! One everlasting memory that some members will not forget is David's way of conducting draws. There was never anything underhand, he just did them his way. David T Evans concluded by congratulating David on his excellent service and presented him with a memento of his time on 'the Welsh'.

David took the opportunity to thank all bowlers, clubs, club secretaries and everyone who had helped him over the years.

Peter Hayes of the referee's society appealed to members present to think about training as a referee. There are more referees needed to fill all of the requests that come in as no one is refused. The referees are only there as guardians of the laws of the game, and are essential in many competitions.

Meeting closed at approx. 3.10pm