

**South Westmorland Seniors' Bowling League
Minutes of 2022 Annual General Meeting
held at
Burneside Cricket Club
at
1:30pm on Thursday 3rd November**

1. Welcome

The chairman welcomed club representatives to the meeting.

2. Remembrance

A minutes silence was observed in remembrance of all those senior's bowlers who have sadly passed away since our last AGM.

They are:

Russ Taylor, Mary Mortimer, Richard Dickinson, and Les Thompson from Kirkby Lonsdale B.C.,

Hilary Holliday from Bowness B.C.,

Rose Meddows and Joyce Cooke from Carnforth B.C.,

John Carr from Staveley B.C.,

Keith Hogarth from Netherfield B.C.,

Alan Curwen and Kath Salisbury from Lower Holker B.C.,

Annie Riley from Silverdale B.C.,

Hilda Doyle from Ingleborough B.C.,

Eileen Craven from Sedbergh B.C.,

Ken Holding from Subscription B.C.

Tony Ridding from Abbot Hall B.C.

3. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Levens B.C. and Carnforth B.C. and individual apologies were received from Dave O'Callaghan (Burneside B.C.) and Pam Newall (Carnforth B.C.)

Of the 28 member Clubs 23 were represented at the meeting.

4. Minutes of 2021 AGM held on 4th November 2021

The minutes of the 2021 AGM which was held on Thursday 4th November 2021 were proposed for acceptance by Subscription B.C. and seconded by Crosthwaite B.C. and were carried unanimously by the meeting.

5. Any Matters Arising from 2021 minutes

The only matter arising from the minutes was covered in item 9 of this year's agenda.

6. Secretary's Report

The League Secretary's report had been provided to Clubs prior to the meeting and had also been made available on the Seniors' League Mb Bowling Results web site. There were no questions regarding the report from the meeting. The report was proposed for acceptance by Windermere B.C. and seconded by Ingleborough B.C. and was carried unanimously.

7. Treasurer's Report and Balance Sheet for 2022

A copy of the 2022 financial balance sheet was provided at the meeting and was proposed for acceptance by Silverdale B.C. and seconded by Subscription B.C. and was carried unanimously.

The Treasurer explained to the meeting that currently there is small surplus generated each year from income over expenditure. The proposal from the League Executive was to use some of this annual surplus in future years to increase the divisional prize money by a total of £75. This would result in prize money for divisional winners and runners up being increased to £50 and £25 (currently £40 and £20) respectively, starting in 2023. The proposal was supported by Arnside B.C. and seconded by Burneside B.C. and was carried unanimously.

8. Election of Officers

The current Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Treasurer stated that they were all willing to carry on for the coming year, as there were no other nominees, the following were re-elected:

Chairman – Ian Hayton	proposed by Windermere B.C. seconded by Allithwaite B.C.
Vice-Chairman – Denise Noble	proposed by Ingleborough B.C. seconded by Abbot Hall B.C.
Secretary – vacant	No nominations
Treasurer – Malcolm Booker	proposed Kirkby Lonsdale B.C. seconded Bowness B.C.

The current Secretary, Mike Fell, had stated prior to the meeting that he was not available for re-election. The chairman stressed the importance of filling this position if the league was to continue. There were no volunteers at the meeting to take on this role therefore the Chairman asked all those present to ask their club membership if anyone was willing to take on this role as a matter of urgency.

Mike Fell briefly outlined the duties and time involvement of the League Secretaries role and also confirmed that he was willing to provide any necessary assistance and guidance to anyone who took on the role.

9. Appointment of league representatives to CCGBA

Following a brief outline of the role by Denise Noble, Phil Smith from Warton B.C. volunteered to take this on. His appointment was proposed by Ingleborough B.C. and seconded by Subscription B.C. as there being no other nominations Phil Smith was appointed.

10. Process for Election for Choosing Future League President

This was raised by the current League President, Anthony Batty, at last year's AGM at which time those present had been asked to give some thought as to the possible process by which a new League President could be chosen in the future as currently there is no procedure in place within the league constitution, and to bring those thoughts to this year's AGM for discussion. The current situation is that the president's appointment is a lifetime appointment, and although Anthony's retirement from the role is not imminent, he is keen to see a formal appointment process in place before that time arrives.

The chairman stresses that the League Executive were looking to the league member clubs to put forward proposals, however the only suggestion from the meeting was that it might be beneficial to create a new role of vice-president who would take over as president when the time came, but there was no suggestions as to how this new role would be filled. As there were no other suggestions from the meeting it will be placed on the agenda for the 2023 AGM

11. Presentation to Divisional winners and runners-up for 2022 season

The president presented the divisional winners trophies and cash prizes to the divisional winners and runners-up. These were:

Division 1 - Winner: Netherfield A	Runner-up: Warton A
Division 2 – Winner: Abbot Hall A	Runner-up: Windermere A
Division 3 – Winner: Milnthorpe A	Runner-up: Sedbergh A
Division 4 – Winner: Bolton-le-Sands B	Runner-up: Kirkby Lonsdale B
Division 5 – Winner: Allithwaite B	Runner-up: Allithwaite C

12. Motions received from member Clubs

12.1 Motion received from Ingleborough BC

Proposed Amendment to Rule R1. Replace the 1st paragraph with: Teams to consist of 8 players on each side. The match to consist of 4 single games and 2 doubles. Each game 21 Up. All matches to be organized under the Rules of the British Crown Green Bowls Association. A random draw to be made by the two Captains prior to the start of the match, starting with a doubles game. **Team Captains may, if they wish, nominate up to 2 players to play in the doubles.**

Ian Haigh on behalf of Ingleborough B.C. explained the rationale for their proposal. This being that more elderly players who might have difficulty if taken "long" on larger greens in a singles match would have the ability to compete on a more equal basis if given the opportunity to play in a doubles match. The additional benefit of this being that older players may also be retained in the sport for longer.

There was much discussion about this proposal which resulted in an amendment to the proposed addition to Rule R1 from Ingleborough B.C. to read:

Team Captains may, if they wish, nominate up to 1 player each to play in the doubles.

The amended proposal was seconded by Sedbergh B.C. and was passed by a vote of 14 for and 8 against.

The Rule 1 will be updated for use in the 2023 season.

12.2 Motion received from Kirkby Lonsdale BC

Proposal Amendment to Rule R1. Replace the 2nd paragraph with:
If a team is one player short a player may play twice and shall be selected from the 7 players available by a random ballot and no club may utilise this more than 3 times in any one season. The opponent may have a practise of 4 ends.

Where a club has 2 or more teams in the league a lower team player should be promoted to ensure the higher team is complete and has 8 players.

Philip Sinclair presented the proposal on behalf of Kirkby Lonsdale B.C. In summary the feeling of Kirkby Lonsdale B.C. and thus the reason for the proposal was that the current “may play twice” rule was being overused by some clubs and this was resulting in them being able to have a much stronger team than if they had a full 8 players team.

Following considerable discussion, the chairman asked for a seconder for the proposal, but none was forthcoming and therefore the proposal was defeated.

13. New Team Requests and Withdrawals for 2023 Season

The secretary had not received any new requests or withdrawals of teams.

14. Promotions and Relegations and Make Up of Divisions for 2023

The secretary stated that promotion and relegation from the 2022 season will be:

Div 1 – 2 bottom teams demoted to Div 2

Div 2 – 2 top teams promoted to Div 1 and 1 bottom team demoted to Div 3

Div 3 - 2 top teams promoted to Div 2 and 1 bottom team demoted to Div 4

Div 4 - 2 top teams promoted to Div 3 and 0 teams demoted to Div 5

Div 5 – 3 top teams promoted to Div 4

This will result in Divisions 1,2,3 and 4 having 12 teams in 2023, and Division 5 having 8 teams

15. Date of 2023 AGM

Thursday 2nd November 2023 (venue to be confirmed).

There being no other business the meeting closed 3:00pm