



BTBA NATIONAL COUNCIL Meeting Minutes

12th October 2019

I. Call to order

Meeting of the National Tenpin Bowling Council in Hogs Back Hotel, Farnham.

II. Roll call

Present), Terry Searle, Clerk to the Meeting (TS), Martin Webster Chair (MW), Lisa John (LJ), Simon Herbert (SH) Jo Cundy (JC) Vicki Harman (VH), Mark Stoner (MS), Stuart Watson (SW), Katie Tagg (KT) Chris Hillman (CH)

Apologies: Ron Griffin (RG), Paul LeManquis (PL), Mark Heathorn (MH) Ian Oakley (IO)

III. Declaration of Interests

Stuart Watson, Owner of Talk Tenpin. **JC** to send relevant forms to all new NC members to be returned to MW and LJ, distributed to NC then content published.

IV. Approval of minutes of last meeting

These had previously been approved and there were no live actions contained. Approved by MW

MW introduced the new people in positions, Katie Tagg, her mission to grow the sport within the female community. SW was welcomed back to NC, his mission to raise awareness and recognition of the sport, improving all communication links. IO, a chairman's appointment as head of Team England.

V. MW Office of the Chair

NC Vacancies, Business development Director, Equality & Diversity, Educare Manager and JC is now the interim Safeguarding Officer.

Disco Bowl. Meetings with Pete Terry (Owner) have been very positive, with all forecast investments in the locations going ahead. SH ask when Nottingham will be ready? **MW** to update.

TBPA National Bowling week will be September 2020, there is a need for everyone to work together, next meeting 14th November Nottingham.

BTBA Awards. LJ is now running the awards process, improving the timelines, VH asked what were the problems? LJ explained the flaws with the existing procedure and that she



will be using the process written by RG as the base for revisions, she will be working with PLM.

Life Membership. The exec proposed John Cudmore, he is one of the original members, writing the Mem and Arts, and helping to form the Essex and Kent area associations

Social Membership, the Shipley members are now all on our database, Barnsley bowl are also interested **MW and MS**

Tastecard, over 1700 codes have been sent out, to date around 550 have been activated.

Current membership is 5720 registered with 3480 active members.

Our target for 2021 is 6500 members, SH asked if it is possible to push the Tastecard social membership deal with Money Saving Experts etc. **LJ** to investigate.

VH asked what is happening with the Guildford deal, MW explained it is on hold whilst the new management changes settle in.

Hollywood Bowl, new website app allows people to search for a league by postcode, MW is asking if there could be a click to find out how to join and also a click to become a BTBA supporter, where we would then receive the persons data.

Software Development Proposal, it is to capture all the data from our leagues allowing a national database, from that we can publish averages, and list of high average bowlers. We have a non-disclosure agreement so nothing more was discussed.

VI. Divisional Reports

VII. LJ Membership

Tastecard LJ discussed the success of the launch and handed out Appendix 1, we have yet to promote membership with the Tastecard benefits and will be seeking to have a promotion in November of the £10.00 supporter's membership including a Tastecard via the website.

SH asked what happens if a league does a bulk renewal? LJ explained all the activation codes are sent to the league secretary to enable them to pass directly to their members.



VIII. TS SPORT DEVELOPMENT

KT, Chair of Women's National Council, over 100 women have replied to her survey to confirm they want a woman only event. KT wants to get more involved in finding out what the members want

VH asked if we can do a session for Women that included how to play the ladies games, including coaching. **KT**

KT is looking for sponsors for events, TS told the NC of the amount of work and success KT has experienced over the last few years, including her work for Strike out Cancer.

KT is looking to reform the WNC and was reminded that JC, Nikkita and Lynn Truslove, Gemma Taylor and Sam Denne are already members, **KT** to have meeting prior to next NC meeting

TS explained the current CPSU and Sport and Recreational Alliance campaigns, with a lot of focus on safeguarding everyone involved in our sport.

A discussion followed on the new offence of Upskirting, **all** must make themselves aware of the issues. The NAYBC has a tournament rules that the length of any skirt must not be shorter than the middle finger when the arm is hanging down by the side.

CH advised that all countries have different uniform rules and requirements.

SH NAYBC

BTBA Tour finals In Nuneaton, 33 medals were awarded, next year the final will be over a weekend due to all the tours being combined, the first event was in September

Bowltrack who produce the ranking lists are looking for payment this year **SH**

Benefits of a sanctioned YBC, this was discussed at the TBPA and SH want to produce publicity material and have a web marketing, SH requested a budget of £800 **TS to inform RG. SH to send to MW prior top 14th Nov. TS to send parental questions to MW**

SH to circulate documents to NC.

MS held Yorkshire YBC challenge, there was a big difference in the standards of the club bowlers, this highlighted the differences in how the YBC's are run, MS is looking for the clubs to learn from each other, the event will be ongoing

SH to look at promoting open mornings and a proposal that proprietors give birthday cards to those attending parties inviting them to try the YBC.



Mansfield YBC is now sanctioned

Technical report PLM

The number of certified centres has dropped to 48 which includes one USAF base sanctioned by the USBC. Three other centres have BTBA certification, one in Scotland, one in Wales and the other in Gibraltar.

Scunthorpe and Nuneaton have now been inspected post the change of ownership to DISCO Bowl. Nuneaton have had synthetic overlays installed. Worcester indicated that they would follow suit after the school holidays. This is being pursued.

Odd discrepancies from document downloads on the Lane Certification tab on the website, have been resolved. My uploaded documents had to be linked in two places, news to me, but only for some of them. Weird but true!!

Working relationships with BV continue to develop. BV have recently overlaid Cleethorpes, a centre that hasn't been inspected for some time. The owners were still of the opinion that lane inspections were done the 'Maurice Glazer' way i.e. from the bar and not on the lanes. The inspection will prove otherwise and be an independent quality check of the work. BV are paying for this. There is a distinct aversion to the BTBA at this centre and a visit by the regional rep is recommended once the inspection has been completed.

Altrincham is expected to be inspected as a new build soon. It has been opened for a while and is owned by the company that runs Mansfield and Chesterfield.

I understand that the proposal to discuss string pinspotters and playing rules impacted by them at the World bowling presidium didn't happen as it was submitted too late.

Hollywood continue a drive to install string machines. Brighton has been converted and Portsmouth continues to be a very strong favourite to follow in the near future.

Activities planned: Consideration of another Inspectors Course, I have two names already.

Issues / Challenges: Overcoming the 'there is no need for inspections' belief by many uneducated centre managers. This is heard most from centres who say they don't need it as we have no sanctioned leagues.

Although a difficult challenge, negotiating a companywide agreement would be a valuable step forward. A point to discuss at the the TBPA meeting perhaps.



Finance Treasurer's Report RG.

MW presented

Information into the accounting system is getting better and faster, people are getting better at seeing what is there but when checking the areas of your responsibility please also check for what is not there. ICC accounting has now been split into two, Adults and Seniors and now can move from transaction to budget led.

It was agreed by all that **RG** should explore other banking providers as the service offering from Barclays was lacking, it is unable to integrate with Xero accounting software, and almost impossible to get approved signatories.

The full budget for 2020 will be completed by end 2019, all need to respond when required. TE budget was discussed and the history of the forecasting, RG explained what is required going forward, and is available to discuss with Team England management (TE).

VAT, RG has been working with tax experts. Hollywood bowl have also been working on a league contract, the tax expert explained that and contract must be for 10 weeks, and have a 2 week break, the league will be required to sign a fixed fee contract and the supplier will supply the lineage free, all events must be played in the same center, concessions and practice are not VAT free.

RG to contact Member of Parliament.

TS to contact Sport England

Legal JC

There are some changes needed to the Mem & Arts, they need to be completed and agreed prior to AGM. **JC**

Code of Conduct, JC is the owner of that document.

TC presidium. We were not on the original mailing list, this caused a few problems but we recently found out that Terry Richards of Wales was also excluded from the mailing list.

England to host Junior TC 2020 Adult TC 2021



Team England

CH Progress since last NC meeting - Since the last meeting we have had five TE Events. Senior TC, Women's Worlds, Senior Worlds, Youth YTC and Adult YTC, with the ECC to come near the end of October.

There were some issues with changing out players within the Senior Worlds and this cost some money to the BTBA and would impact on the total costs per tournament.

We have tried to remain in budget with most Championships, however due to promised player contributions from other sources, this has proved quite difficult this year.

Although there were some issues regarding the new appointments within the Exec, I believe that most of these issues are resolved and moving forward I believe we will eventually be in a much stronger place.

Activities planned:

We are in discussion regarding the appointments to the Team England Exec Committee and hopefully all these appointments will be filled by the end of November. Once this is in place, we can move forward on appointing manager for the various tournaments to be held next year. I have submitted an outline budget for 2020 to Ron Griffin some time ago and I will follow this up with a detailed breakdown of the costs in due course.

First thing on the Agenda for the TE Committee is to confirm which tournaments TE will be participating in 2020 and beyond.

I believe that there is a plan in place for the TE qualification process for next year, although I have not seen this in writing at this time.

In discussion with Dave Steiner, I have been told by him that he has a plan for the seniors already in place. I think Mark Heathorn and Ian Oakley have had discussions regarding the Adult Qualification process. The only one I am unsure of currently is the Juniors/Youth plan.

Issues / Challenges:

Due to unforeseen circumstances, it has been a very difficult period with people leaving posts and Terry being unwell. Notwithstanding this, in respect to moving forward. We need to ensure that the branding for TE and BTBA is strong and distinctive. I have had brief discussions with Ian and Martin regarding this and there are some good ideas going forward. With funds being so tight we need to get value for money in everything we do. This includes the charges for Player Contributions. I think players need to be aware that these are likely to increase if nothing changes regarding the current funding situation.



I also believe that qualification criteria needs looking at in relation qualifying averages across all levels, something that the new TE Committee can look at and report back at the next Council meeting.

There is a lot of work to do, but hopefully with a full team on the Committee we can progress things along quickly and bring TE up to the standards where it needs to be at.

TS to enquire as to Ruth Molineux current health

Team England Managers

IO is Manager for the adults

DS manager for the seniors

A discussion took place over whom should be Junior Team Manager and Council suggested the position should be given to Steve Allen **CH**

They will be part of the Team England committee headed by IO, along with CH.

World Women's Championship, LJ went as team Manager and reported it went well.

Junior team to be announced ASAP **IO/CH**

Team England Branding, the uniform tender will be issued later this year in order for the EYC team to have the first set of new uniform.

CH said a discussion would need to take place on how the home nations run the International Teams

Funding of events - people need to be aware of the ongoing increases in the cost of attending events and the need for team or individual sponsorship or face increasing player contributions.

LJ thanked CH for his efforts and Mrs C Hillman for her management and social media reporting at the European Men's Championship this year, the reporting was fantastic.

Player Profile was a good idea we need to continue to include that in any run up to an event, but we must ensure we have the proper permission before publishing any junior profiles (also to be approved by JC in her safeguarding role)

Structure remodeling.

SH to send proposal for a new youth structure to NC, renaming the NAYBC and his job description title.

The new structure is due to start January 2020



SH needs to decide what message needs to be given to over 18's as in what is out there for them. **SH**

SH to send proposal to the executive via TS prior to 1st December 2019

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Official of the year,
Nominations

- Simon Herbert
- Lisa John
- Caz Hillman

JC to process and collate.

MS. New 10 lane bowl opened in Manchester owned by Tameside Leisure, MS has invited them to visit Barnsley YBC.

VH Feedback Forums, the first is in Lewisham Bowl on the 21st October 2019, she is looking at holding others over the southern region, **VH** to contact anybody who has expressed any interest.

MS asked if there is any chance of an increase in the rebate to the areas, LJ to review the cap for the rebate but at this stage the answer is no.

Next Meeting, Chris Hillman has kindly agreed to host the NC at his address in Rowstock Oxfordshire. (full details will be sent with agenda document) **4th December 2020**

Minutes submitted by: Terry Searle

Minutes approved by: Lisa John