Minutes of a Meeting of the National Council of the British Tenpin Bowling Association
Held on 14th March 2020

Part 1
Part 1 – General

1.0 Call to Order
Meeting of the National Council of the British Tenpin Bowling Association held at Holiday Inn, London Rd, Markyate, Luton, St Albans AL3 8HH.

2.0 Roll Call
Present - Terry Searle (TS) Clerk to the Meeting, Martin Webster (MW) Chairman, Ian Oakley (IO), Jo Cundy (JC), Lisa John (LJ), Vicki Harman (VH), Mark Stoner (MS), Stuart Watson (SW).

Apologies - Ron Griffin (RG), Katie Tagg (KT), Paul LeManquis (PLM), Chris Hillman (CH).

3.0 Declaration of Interests
Stuart Watson (SW) as owner of both Talk Tenpin and UK Tenpin Hall of Fame websites.

JC to send relevant forms to all new National Council (NC) members to be returned to MW and LJ, distributed to NC, then content published. Outstanding action.

4.0 Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting
These had previously been approved by MW and there were no other live actions contained.

5.0 Office of the Chair – Martin Webster
JC to contact Rob Thurlby to establish contact with Tamworth asking if the BTBA certified the lanes would they take the league and events? MW to respond to Steve Winterburn.

MW to take BTBA membership joining forms to the next TBPA meeting to promote the Tastecard campaign. (meeting has been postponed).

COVID-19 – The Senior National Championships went ahead taking Sport England guidance, if anyone is either unable or unwilling to attend then we will refund following a request to the tournament manager, JC to respond to R Thompson.
We will continue to monitor and respond accordingly.

There needs to be a list of events that could be affected, sanctions to supply full list.

A note was published on Facebook pages explaining our response.

The decision to attend event that can still be run will be up to the bowler and the club, unless there is other government advice.

Succession planning was discussed, it was agreed the NC would propose LJ as chair, with MW as Vice Chair.

MW to write nominations flyer.

Other vacancies this year are Dir of Sport Development, Central region RO

LJ to advertise for Sport Development Director TS to review Sport Development job description.

IO suggested that at this year’s AGM we propose merging the Exec with the NC into one body

It was agreed we need to review the Time To Change document.

TS to postpone this year’s AGM from 16th May to the 18th July

JC to review roles and timeline to ensure not too many adverts all at one time.

Team England - the main possible change is the postponement of the Nationals, it is the 2nd qualifier for the 2020 team, we may have to pick the team for the Euro’s from the results of the first event.

A new manager is required for the Adults, advert is required (LJ).

We need an assistant to the manager at the national championship, IO to arrange

We are also in need of a manager for the seniors, the trials could be postponed, Advert to go out early MAY. LJ asked should all manager positions be advertised in May? Northern Regional Officers role was due in February, LJ to advertise when the time is right.

World Youth Championships - Under-22 events are now in Peru, the base budget request for the event could be £30k with £12k coming from the players. it was agreed that this event should be supported, and the budget request needs to be £6k

IO to send revised budget by 22nd March
LJ proposal on World Bowling events. From 2021 we will not support any World Championship events, this will be for a period of 2 years, this will free up funding for member support. It will also allow more support for ETBF events and ensure our bowlers will not have the financial burden the World events would bring. Unanimously agreed.

European Youth Championships and the symposium have now been postponed until July.

IO questioned why nothing was said about his budget request until 3 weeks ago?

SW explained and updated everyone on where the Email systems was and where it is now.

6.0 Membership Services – Lisa John

Tastecard - up to end February some 2,731 activation codes were sent out, we still have codes to issue this year until end May 2020.

Of the membership 725 juniors and non-playing officials do not qualify

July 18 to June 19 we had 608 new members, July 19 to Feb 20 we have already got 632 new members

Current membership is 3753 with 5887 names on the existing database.

LJ suggested a possible survey of new members to see if Tastecard was a factor.

Between now and end May all local association officers need to sell the outstanding Tastecard allocation. For each new supporter member, we will add £2 to that areas funds.

Membership services are happy with where they are now.

2021 fees to be proposed at the AGM - £11 Supporter membership, £21 Junior membership, £26 standard membership, £46 Gold Card membership.

LJ is to review the printing of Gold Cards with RG to work out what is more cost effective.

Still no response to the advert for a Central Regional Officer, LJ asked MS and VH if the role of RO is still working, both replied “Yes”

JC - It is getting harder to find people to work in County Association roles, 3 Counties are now in danger of losing their charters.
A long discussion followed on volunteers, structures and requirements; it was agreed we needed more time to discuss this fully.

Bowler of the year - It was agreed that PLM should now be responsible

For any bowler to win any category of award then they must have won events in that category, any bowler can win any award they are eligible for.

TS to contact PLM to update.

7.0 Sport Development – Terry Searle
Coaching – The applicant for Head Coach has withdrawn.

8.0 Women’s National Council – Katie Tagg
By telephone - The WNC event now has 43 entries, 6 are non-members, 1 new, and 2 returning, the event is on the 25/26 July.

Can anything be done to stop events clashing, a discussion followed, and it was understood why events clashed.

KT asked why was the U12 county youth girls division removed, JC told her that we only had 2 teams and she agreed with the event manager to not run the girl’s division, there were further suggestions and JC explained we would have a county think tank later this year and that’s where the rules could be changed.

WNC funding, all funds raised by WNC will go into the main account and KT can then agree the account.

9.0 Youth Bowling – Terry Searle
Meeting set for this evening and following day to review

10.0 Technical report – Paul LeManquais
The number of certified centres is up one to 48 with the sanctioning of Newcastle. This includes one USAF base sanctioned by the USBC. Three other centres have BTBA certification, one in
Scotland, recently re-inspected, one in Wales and the other in Gibraltar. Gibraltar was re-inspected on the 5th March and are indicating that they will want to continue this way.

Altrincham is expected to be inspected as a new build but getting the pinspotters to run properly seems to be their priority at present.

Portsmouth is now a string centre and I will be comparing averages between freefall and string over coming months.

I have proposed amendments to the general playing rules based on the differences String pinfall has introduced. This is backed up by my own experiences. Terry and Jo have reviewed these, and I will introduce them as amendments into the rules before the end of the month for publication on the website.

Activities planned include - Consideration of another Inspectors Course, I have two names already, the publication of the revised BTBA rules with respect to pinfall on string machines and storage of Centre Reports and other lane inspection material on a ‘central’ server.

Issues / Challenges - Overcoming the ‘there is no need for inspections’ belief by many uneducated centre managers and now an area manager in Hollywood This is heard most from centres who say they don’t need it as we have no sanctioned leagues, and also although a difficult challenge, negotiating a companywide agreement would be a valuable step forward. A point to discuss at the TBPA meeting perhaps.

11.0 Finance/Treasurer’s Report – Ron Griffin
All NC members were reminded that when the treasurer send the monthly account statement, this should be checked to ensure you receive any allocated monies but also inform of any unknown or missing transactions from your section.

12.0 Legal – Jo Cundy
Review of Mem and Arts needs to be ready for AGM. JC – RG to review MEM and Arts and our Time for Change document.

13.0 Counties – Jo Cundy
Seniors - Entries closed on 29th February. Twenty-four male counties and 16 ladies counties will
participate. This allows four equal groups of six men and four ladies. Groups have been ‘published’ and venues will be confirmed early next week.

Qualifying Rounds will be on Sunday 7th June and the finals at Nottingham Bowl over the weekend 10th and 11th October. The dinner has been booked at the Double Tree Hotel, Nuthall Rd, Nottingham.

The next County Think Tank is scheduled for November 2020

Juniors, we had the sad news that Emma Ashton has resigned as ICC secretary

If the events go ahead the u16 in Guildford, April VH to assist, U12 Guildford, June TS, and u22 in Nottingham, July JC

Adults qualifying 5/6th September, finals 7/8th November with the banquet in the Doubletree hotel

14.0 Any Other Business

PLM-The version of the Mem and Arts downloadable from the Website are out of date (It has City Pavilion as the office address) and is clearly a work in progress document as it has a few suggested amendments in it. Should this be removed until it is updated? JC to review. SW to remove M&A from website

PLM - my wife suggested to me today that perhaps the adult county finals could have a Men’s and Ladies Hi Average award in memory of Pat Harries. This was agreed unanimously, and TS agreed to source the trophies (PLM has a supplier for this event)

AGM will be 2pm 18th July 2020, Currently in Crick TS to facilitate. Breakouts 09:00 to 1Pm each session to be 1 hour 30 minutes.

JC Safeguarding update, S Toop Youth Tournaments, LJ MS and VH Secretary best practice

Next Meeting, 16th May then 20th June 2020 Crick pre-AGM

Minutes submitted by: Terry Searle

Approved by: Martin Webster.