



ESMBA 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Woodland Grange, Old Milverton Lane, Leamington Spa
Saturday 24 July 2021

President	Vacant
Chairman	Barry Hedges
General Secretary	Linda White
Treasurer	Simon Willies
Membership Secretary	Vacant
Competition Organiser	Brandon Whittaker
ICC Secretary	Steve Bailey
Coaching Director	Brian Baker
Umpires Director	Joseph Newsome
Development Officer	Vacant
Committee Member	Nicky Tresadern
Committee Member	Elaine Willies
Total Votes	9
Delegates from Counties	13
Grand total of votes	22

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been received from North Yorkshire, Kent, East Sussex, Derek Adams and Dennis Miller (Suffolk), Gordon Hughes (Somerset), Babs Morokutti (Essex) and Brian Nelson (Northants).

2. Adoption of Reports

a) Chairman's Report

The Chairman's report had previously been circulated and he said that over the past year it has made the ESMBA realise that they need to do more for the grass route bowlers. We need to look forward and build from the bottom up, helping counties in turn. Thanks were expressed to Lynn Dean and the Safeguarding Officers for all their hard work.

Barrie Chadwick asked that in future the full title of an organisation be used when referred to for the first time before it is abbreviated to initials. This was noted.

Martin McGregor acknowledged that the grass routes were important and said that giving them the Safe Bowls Certificate for clubs had helped them understand what the ESMBA was all about.

The Chairman talked about the Bowls Development Alliance and said they were developing a questionnaire which when completed by clubs would show how the club manages itself, long term sustainability and raise awareness as to where they need help. The ESMBA now need to sign up to the BDA.

David Millington Jones thanked the committee and said they had done an excellent job.

The Chairman's report was adopted.

Proposed - Robin Armstrong
Seconded - Peter Hore

For - 22 Against - 0 Abstentions - 0

b) Treasurer's Report and Approval of 2020/2021 Accounts

The relevant paperwork had already been circulated and Simon Willies asked if there were any questions.

Peter Hore asked whether there had been further thoughts on whether to charge membership for the last year.

Simon Willies said those clubs who had taken up Safe Bowls status had been able to play bowls. There were also expenses which still had to be met such as the two lots of Nationals, paying £1 per member to the insurers and we have to check the equipment as it has been stored for such a long time. Some replacement mats will be needed and we have to evaluate whether we want to go through claims, which could then change the insurance premium for everyone, or pay for new mats ourselves.

The Treasurer's report and the 2020/2021 Accounts were adopted.

Proposed - Peter Hore
Seconded - Barrie Chadwick

For - 22 Against - 0 Abstentions - 0

Simon Willies said a starter kit was being put together to encourage and sustain grass root clubs. Whether it will be a one off grant or loan will be discussed further before it is launched.

c) Registration Secretary's Report

The Chairman said he had received the Registration Secretary's resignation three weeks ago and he was grateful to Brian Baker for collating the information. A report has been issued on behalf of the Management Committee and comparison charts showing registration figures over the years have now been put on the website. He said we had picked up about 1000 new members who have not been registered with the ESMBA before. Part of this is due to clubs wanting to be on the insurance scheme, wanting Safe Bowls to get back to bowling and talking to Action with Communities in Rural England (ACRE) who advise trustees for village halls.

Brian Baker said that 11% of our current members are brand new and 63% of those have Safe Bowls. From the total membership 53.4% have been retained of which 66% have Safe Bowls. We now have 6000 members playing under Safe Bowls.

Martin McGregor agreed it is good that we are getting more clubs in village halls but in Staffordshire there are people who play in different village halls so how do they register. It was explained that members can only have one registered club even if they play at several others.

Barrie Chadwick asked what happens when a club is ESMBA registered and within their league they go to a club that is not registered. It was confirmed that they cannot play as a registered club cannot play a non-registered club in a league environment.

The Registration Secretary's report was adopted.

Proposed - Joseph Newsome
Seconded - Martin McGregor

For - 22 Against - 0 Abstentions - 0

d) Umpires Director's Report

The Chairman said that Joseph Newsome was having to stand down as Umpires Director and on behalf of the committee he thanked him for his service and wished him luck for the future.

The Umpires Director's report was adopted.

Proposed - Irene Ballam
Seconded - David Millington Jones

For - 21 Against - 0 Abstentions - 1

e) Coaching Director's Report

Brian Baker said that a more advanced coaching module will be running in Surrey in August with 16 people on the course, all Coach Bowls registered coaches. There were no questions on his report and it was adopted.

Proposed - David Millington Jones
Seconded - Martin McGregor

For - 22 Against - 0 Abstentions - 0

3. Proposals

3a.1 This proposal was withdrawn as it was approved in the 2020 AGM.

3a.1a After discussion this proposal was also withdrawn.

3a.1b This change is to make sure County constitutions are up-to-date and current.

Barrie Chadwick said that the ESMBA cannot approve the constitution of a County Association only the county themselves can do that. The Chairman explained that if there were any points in that constitution which needed looking at it would be sent back to the county with suggestions of how it should be changed.

For - 20 Against - 0 Abstentions - 2

3a.1c This change is in respect of Public Liability Insurance.

For - 20 Against - 2 Abstentions - 0

3a.1d Change to the number of days given as notice for Management Committee meetings.

For - 22 Against - 0 Abstentions - 0

3a.1e Alteration of wording in respect of implementation of fee increases from 1 September following AGM.

For - 22 Against - 0 Abstentions - 0

3a.1f Revised wording that it is Association members who submit motions.

For - 22 Against - 0 Abstentions - 0

3a.1g Reworded to state that only full member County Associations can call an EGM.

For - 22 Against - 0 Abstentions - 0

3a.1h This part of the proposal was withdrawn as it had already been dealt with in the 2020 AGM.

3b To remove sub paragraph c) under 2. Objects.

For - 22 Against - 0 Abstentions - 0

3c Amendment Paragraph 5 Administration & Structure sub paragraph b.

For - 22 Against - 0 Abstentions - 0

Amendment Paragraph 4 Fees & Subscriptions sub paragraph d.

For - 22 Against - 0 Abstentions - 0

3d Proposal withdrawn as already dealt with in the 2020 AGM.

Constitutional changes will come into force on 1 September 2021, an update sent to County contacts and will be posted on the website.

4. Management Fees

It was proposed that the management fees be the same as those agreed for 2019/2020.

Proposed - Barrie Chadwick

Seconded - Irene Ballam

For - 14 Against - 0 Abstentions - 8

Robin Armstrong asked that a payment be made to Lynn Dean for all her safeguarding work. This was something that the Management Committee would review and a decision will be made.

5. Membership Fees

No increase was proposed. Barrie Chadwick asked whether the Sutton Winson proportion of the membership fee was likely to increase. The Chairman said it wouldn't.

Proposed - Lynn Dean
Seconded - Barrie Chadwick
For - 22 Against - 0 Abstentions - 0

6. Election of Officers for 2021/2022

The Chairman read out the names of those willing to stand and they were unanimously voted in en bloc. These were:-

President - Brandon Whittaker
Chairman - Barry Hedges
Treasurer - Simon Willies
ICC Secretary - Steve Bailey
Coaching Director - Brian Baker
Committee Member - Elaine Willies
Committee Member - Nicky Tresadern

There were no volunteers from the floor to be General Secretary but the Chairman said that Linda White was willing to stand again.

Proposed - Irene Ballam
Seconded - Joe Peters
For - 21 Against - 0 Abstentions - 1

There were also no volunteers for Registration Secretary but Brian Baker and Simon Willies will cover the position.

Martin McGregor suggested it might help if people had job descriptions so they knew what the jobs entailed. It was agreed this was a valid point and relevant paperwork will be produced.

No-one came forward to take up the position of Competitions Organiser and Brandon Whittaker agreed to continue.

Richard Bemand had been nominated for the Umpires Director's position.

Proposed - David Millington Jones
Seconded - Barrie Chadwick
For - 22 Against - 0 Abstentions - 0

One tentative enquiry had been received about the Development Officer's position but no nomination materialised. The Chairman said that the BDA looked like the best route to follow to cover this area.

7. Appointment of Auditors

Simon Willies recommended that we stay with the current auditors, Murray Smith.

Proposed - Barrie Chadwick

Seconded - Simon Willies

For - 22 Against - 0 Abstentions - 0

8. Date of 2022 AGM

The date of the 2022 AGM - to be advised.

Irene Ballam asked if the start of the AGM could be put back from the usual 10am start and it was agreed that this would be looked at.

DRAFT