

South Hams Indoor Bowls Club
Minutes of A.G.M.
7th. November 2021

Persons Present : E.Williams, W.McKimm, T.Lewis, D.O'Carroll, D.Fox, J.Fowler, J.Sherrard, T.Lewis, A.Hammett, P.Dainton, M.Dainton, F.Senft, J.Senft, W.Fielding, H.Higgins, B.Geldard, M.Geldard, J.Harding, V.Harding, B.Elson, R.Elson, C.Dunton, I.Yeabsley, K.Vane. A.Elliott.

1.Apologies : F.Ryan, A.Davies, P.Martin, N.Cox, P.Toms, K.Cross.

2. Chairman : E.Williams. Due to the unusual circumstances we have been under for the last year there has been little to report, but we hope to be up and running as usual from now on.

3 .Secretary : D.O'Carroll . These have been very difficult times . Several members have failed to rejoin the club, which is understandable. We owe a great big thank you to Bill McKimm for all the work he has put in ,in claiming grants from various bodies, which has put the club in a very healthy financial position. We must also thank David Fox for all the hard work in rearranging the internal leagues ,and streamlining the system to make it easier to manage the leagues.

4.Treasurer : William McKimm : Bank Balance £46,915.47. Cash Acc. £22.00
Total : £46,937.47.

With Covid and lock downs dominating most of the past 18 months I am only reporting on the current financial situation of the club. You have before you copies of the club's bank statements showing the club in a very healthy financial position. Considering we have purchased new carpets in the Bowls Hall, Balcony ,Stairs and Corridors at a cost of £7000,plus a new drinks machine and stock for £3500 . CCTV cameras together with a whole host of sanitising equipment and solutions we still show nearly £47,000.

The Club was very fortunate in its entitlement to a number of grants which has enabled the club to pass on some of that financial benefit to its members. Last year members received free membership and this year we were able to offer membership at a very reduced rate. Because of the financial the club received I did not request sponsorship from SABRE Financial. However I have written and asked them if they will be kind enough to sponsor Club Competitions,or a Club Tournament. I await their reply.

Can we thank John Sherrard on behalf of the club. John comes in religiously and hoover and sanitises the carpet on a regular basis. Membership of the 100 club is on break even at the moment and could do with more members.

5.Fixture Sec. None.

6. Membership Sec. : Barry Geldard : As membership secretary I keep the data supplied by all members for general data protection regulations. Your emergency contact numbers will be given to reception for use only in an emergency.
For Season 2019/20 we had 129 members (41 Ladies & 88 Men)
For Season 2020/21 we have 105 Members (33 ladies & 72 men)
I hope this will increase in time as some are still reluctant to return because of COVID.
It is proposed to do a mail drop later in the year in the TQ7 & TQ8 areas in the hope to attract new members for the 22/23 season.

7. Minutes : The minutes were agreed.

8. Sub Committees : a) Ladies : My report is very short .As we are short of lady members
V. Harding we are unable to play in the Foxlands League and the the National competitions. In the internal Ladies competitions Fran Ryan is through for the 4 wood singles . The 2 wood singles and pairs are to be finalised
Finally we need a new committee for the ladies section.
I thank everyone who has helped me as acting sec.
Especially John.
Val Harding.

b) Barry Geldard : This year the men's matches are back to normal ,but games being played in Grey trousers and club shirts.
We have entered the National Denny Cup which we played yesterday and lost. Against Plymouth.
We now go into the Denny plate and Play Newquay
We have 10 Interclub Games this year , we have played 1 and lost it.
We have 6 Over 60 games. We have played 1 and won it.
We have played 2 County knockout games. We lost to Plymouth in TOP CLUB, and lost to MADEIRA in the county trophy.
We have SIX men who have entered the National Competitions.
We wish them all the best of luck.

c) Mixed Section. None

d). Internal Leagues : David Fox : Much has changed since the last A.G.M. in April 2019 and although covid has presented many problems there has been a decline in the leagues since the end of the 2018/19 season. At the start of that season there were 5 Ladies Triples teams, 8 teams in the Men's Triples, 6 Teams in the Men's Fours, 6 Teams in the Open Triples , 6 Teams in the Open Fours, 5 Teams in the Ladies Triple sets and 8 teams in the Men's Triple sets.
At the start of the 2019/20 season I can recall that quite a few members left the area, but there was a decline with every league losing 1 team, apart from the Open Fours, which lost two teams and the Ladies Triple Sets collapsed completely.
Covid then struck in March 2020 with several rounds still to be played. I felt it was important to get the leagues completed if at all possible.
We didn't start to 2020/21 season till the 19th. October and managed to play 4 weeks before calling the season to a halt . Not everyone wanted to play but many thanks to those who did. Bill McKimm put in a lot of work to make this happen, and a vote of thanks goes to him. It was also a very

challenging time for me as I a situation of trying to finish the old leagues whilst dealing with the new leagues at the same time. Thankfully the old leagues were completed but of course the new leagues had to stop in November. At the time it seemed possible that the leagues might get going in January but a new strain of the virus and Tier restrictions put an end to that. The season therefore had to be abandoned. There was no Open Fours league during that period as this completely collapsed.

Move forward to the start of this season and the problems created . I all the 5 years that I have been doing the job I have never encountered so many difficulties , which have me mentally exhausted and one of the reasons why I am standing down from my role at this AGM.

Covid of course has presented lots of problems with people unsure as to whether to play and this season and has made it difficult to put leagues together.

During the time we did play some games last October I introduced two emergency rules to make the league function and decided in view of uncertain times now and possibly in the future to continue with these this season. These rules as you know relate to players from other teams helping each other out and also that there would be no postponed games.

I found myself in a situation approaching the start of the new season that I could really only say for certain that two leagues would take place i.e. the Men's Triples on Monday afternoon and the Men's triple sets on a Thursday evening. The Ladies Triples on a Monday morning was particularly precarious. Many thanks to Maureen Geldard for rallying the ladies and making the league happen. However, this league is down 'to bare bones' and hanging by a thread. More ladies are needed from somewhere. The Men's Triples on Monday afternoon is popular and has 8 teams . The Men's Evening Triples on Monday , which used to be men's 4's also became precarious and I was down to 3 teams at one point, but thanks to players moving from teams to form another team, called Mystery the league has survived. The open Triples on a Tuesday morning was also at one point down to 3 teams and had it not been for the Outriders following some negotiations with me agreeing to play then I would have been asking all of the other 3 teams to lose players to form another team. The Men's Triple Sets on a Thursday evening remains popular, although there are only 6 teams. At one point I would have had 8 teams as the Buckaroos and the Outriders would have played if the start time been 5.30 pm as was the situation in the games played last October as the Leisure Centre closed at 8 pm. That of course put a restriction on games lasting 2 hours to allow time for cleaning etc. afterwards. This time limit on games may become important in the future should we get in a similar situation again.

This season it was decided to play to a number of ends rather than use the buzzer which sets starting and finishing times and has caused some problems in the past. It was felt 15 ends was realistic as after all most of you are used to this on a Thursday. There was some initial teething problems and the ladies triples was adjusted to 14 ends as they tended to play a bit slower than the men anyway. It doesn't matter to me that you run slightly over the allocated time period as I am not the wiser that you did anyway. It is important to allocate a time period as other sessions need to be booked.

As mentioned before I am standing down from my role as I need a complete break from committee work but if no one comes forward to take on my job then I will as a non-committee member prepare the score cards ,keep the tables up to date and send these out to Team Organisers. I just won't be reporting on any matches or dealing with any issues relating to the leagues, as these will have to be dealt with by the committee. Your excellent website ,put together and managed by Paul Martin provides you with the information you need to know in any event. Please have a look at it.

I have been in the job 5 years and hopefully during that time you have found the changes I have made beneficial to the efficient running of the leagues. During that time I have allocated as an important contact a team Organiser to each team, prepared score cards for the teams and made various league rule changes following discussion with you. Mu biggest problem has been getting people to get used to change and in particular the continuing hassle of postponed games. I could not believe that when I took over the job that at the end of each season there was over a dozen games still outstanding despite the leagues supposedly being finished. There appeared to be an attitude by some players that we will play the postponed games at some point or not bother. Due to the covid

circumstances I have now got to the point where I want to be all along, and have no postponed games.

Some of the aspects I have mentioned, like helping each other, no postponed games and playing a certain number of ends will have to be put permanently in the rule book but I decided there is no point changing them now as it better wait until the end of this season and see whether they have been successful and then make the changes, The early indications are that all these aspects are positive and in fact I have no matches outstanding , so thank you for your commitment in making this happen. It just shows you what can be done when you ‘concentrate the mind’ on the problem in front of you.

The leagues are on a sound footing and it’s a good time for my successor to take over the role as most of the work was done pre-season. All that is really required now is keep the leagues up to date and deal with any problems which may arise. I will of course provide some assistance ‘from the sidelines’ if required.

e) Junior & Disabled : None.

f) Bar & Social : Jan Senft : Due to covid the bar and social side of the club has ceased to operate but we hope to be up and open soon.
We hope to organise a race night on 17.11.21

9. Adoption of sub-committees reports. : Agreed

10. Election of Management & Sub-Committee Members.

Chairman : E.Williams
Secretary : D.O’Carroll & T.Lewis
Treasurer : W.McKimm
Fixtures Sec. None
Lockers : B.Geldard
Mens Sec. B.Geldard
Ladies Sec. V.Harding
Membership Sec. D.Dain
SocialSec. J.Senft & F.Senft

11. Motions :

E.Williams : Proposes that we change the dress code so that ‘Smart Casual’ may be worn on internal league nights instead of whites & grey trousers. The matter was discussed and a vote taken.

In Favour of smart Casuals : 5 votes.
Against . 15 votes.

C.P.R. Defibrillator : It was propose that the club should have a defibrillator in the hall. We could either purchase it at £1,200.00p + VAT or Rent one at £1 per day for 5 years
(Which includes training & maintenance ,£2100 for 5 years)

In Favour of a Defibrillate : 18
Against : 0
In Favour of Renting : 18
In Favour Buying 0

David Fox : It has been suggested that we have a Wednesday morning Roll Up and Coffee morning at 10.30 am. Starting at 10.30 am. Beginning 1.12.21.

It was agreed to put a notice on the board to see how much interest there would be.

Meeting was Closed at 11.30 am.