**Minutes of General Meeting of the Sandbelt Bowls Region Inc.**

**Monday 7th December at 7.00pm at Moorabbin Bowling Club**

**426 South Road Moorabbin**

**Welcome to delegates –** Bob Baxter opened the meeting, 42 Delegates in attendance. New Delegates from Albert Park, Cranbourne, Coatesville and Edithvale introduced themselves.

**Apologies –** 8 Apologies recorded on attendance list, 1 apology from the floor.

**Minutes of General Meeting 2nd March 2020 as circulated**

Moved accepted: Mordialloc Seconded: Noble Park Carried

**Business Arising:** Nil

**President’s Report –** Great to be back on the greens after a torrid period, most clubs have bounced back but some are struggling and have pulled out. Elderly players still worried, resulting in late withdrawals from the competition, there are some bye’s happening.

**Financial Report -** David reminded Delegates that Sandbelt would not be charging the yearly fee this year. Sandbelt had obtained a $2000 grant and had approval for a further grant for umpire education. Total Equity $24647.36 Net Profit YTD $729.47

Moved Accepted: David Leverett Second: Mordialloc Carried

**Committee reports:**

**Championship** – David Crook – championships are underway some difficulty was getting people into the Bowlslink system. Having difficulty getting responses out of BA when David has an issue with Bowlslink. The events have not suffered, in terms of numbers they are 6% down on the same events last year, not too bad an outcome considering the situation that we are in. Expect that this will continue through the rest of the comps. Only a couple of clubs have rejected or have issues with the allocations of events at their club and replacement venues have been found. Would be interested if there are suggestions or improvements in the way things are being run.

Roger from Armadale, asked about the draw as Armadale teams entered in the over 60 pairs ended up playing each other. David explained that it is a random draw carried out by the Bowlslink program and it can’t be manipulated.

Claire from Hampton as what is the situation in regards to having protection? There is a player that would like to play in both club and Sandbelt and there seems to be some reluctance to give protection for the Sandbelt events, when there is a clash the championship conditions of play say 1 event a year. David advised that it is a club decision on how they choose to apply that. David is not happy about the clubs not providing protection and should be providing the help so players can play both events, however it is an internal club matter.

Margaret from Edithvale mentioned that the women’s O60’s had an issue at Coatesville when they were told it was only 12 ends. They played 12 ends then had lunch and were then told they had to go out and play another 3 ends because they should have played 15 ends. How clear are the instructions given to the clubs. David talked about the conditions of play which state the number of ends. The venue should display the draw and have conditions of play available. There were some issues with the men’s pairs, people were not aware of the start times of the games, David said to check the website and check the Bowlslink site, if it is not on the BL site or a separate communication from the committee then do not trust the information. If there is an error then the championship committee will email instructing to check the site again.

**Selection** – Nil

**Greens** – Kerry Disney - the last 3 weeks you may have seen people visiting the clubs doing green inspections, things like measuring the rinks, checking surfaces and checking ditches, these are checked and a report is left at the club, these go to BV and then they are used for selecting greens for pennant finals. They were mostly finalised today with 1 club to do which was locked up.

**Under 18 Development** – Gary Lasky – Combined with Coaching report

**Laws and Umpiring** – Neil Smillie - Neil stated that the Conditions of Play on BV website has been taken down as there is an issue with promotion/relegation. The new COP will be posted once issues finalised.

Umpire Accreditation courses have a lead time of about 4 weeks. Looking to run some in January, not much before Christmas at this stage. Rod Bates left the Region and now there are only 3 presenters and assessors. There are 3 more to be trained by BV this will make it easier.

Reaccreditation is coming up, have 15 applications who I have emailed several times and only 6 people who have responded. Of the 6 only 4 are re-accrediting. It highlights a couple of things that clubs need to consider. Make sure that the applicant is willing to do the course and the applicant wants to do it. It costs at lease $20 per course plus manual at $40, that is costing the clubs a lot of money and there are people who have applied and have been sent invitations 5 or more times and they don’t bother to respond. The club pays money for the courses and people are not attending, the applications should be vetted by the committee. It was suggested that CCO’s be copied so that they can follow up with the individuals. Kerry suggested that if Neil sends the list to Kerry she can send it out to the CCOs of the clubs involved. Neil stated he sends enough emails already without having to send it out to the CCO’s as well. Kerry is prepared to send these out. Bev Baxter Chadstone sent Congratulations to Neil for doing such a great job.

**Coaching** – Gary Lasky - Since the last meeting I have run another 2 zoom coaching sessions with 85 registered for 16th Nov. & 80 registered for the 30 Nov. The attendees were appreciative of both topics and Sandbelt hosting it. The final zoom session #10, is Dec.14th 6.50pm with Lachlan Tighe and a mystery guest. Last week David Leverett & I had been busy meeting with Paul Holtschke and Laurie from Eastern Ranges to discuss combining our U18 players and arrange coaching sessions either on a Friday night or continue on Sun mornings for next year.

I have been corresponding with Mat Ottobre from Yarra about U18 players, obtaining lists to enter a team at Daylesford on Jan 20th and a new combined regional U18 Rep. Challenge. A meeting was held last week at CPA between all regions to decide on where it will be held and other details. It is now at Hawthorn BC on Fri.29th Jan. with 9am rego.

I have obtained some sponsorship from Adam from Taylors bowls re. caps, shirts and a set of bowls for an U18 girl and boy.

The $2000 grant which I applied for- equipment and assistance came through during Nov.

RMGC requested a vote of thanks to Gary for arranging the on-line coaching seminars and there was a round of applause. Kerry advised that the sessions were recorded and she would find out if they can be viewed and advise of the link.

**Website & Media** – Kerry Disney – Website and Facebook are being kept up to date with Region Championship winners. There is a point scoring system attached to the Championship as each event is completed the points are updated. This is for the new selection process for the coming year, the top 20 people will be asked to trial for the region teams. If anyone asks about what is happening in the Region, check out the website. John from Mordialloc asked if Kerry is taking over from Rob – yes for the short term. Bev wanted to acknowledge that the Night Pennant results are going onto the Sandbelt site and Facebook.

**BV Pennant: N/A**

**BA Paul Holtschke update** - Congratulations to the board who held monthly meetings on zoom. Spent a lot of time on the phone, it was a testing time and good to see us all back, good to be back on the green and that there is some normality, 2 clubs have not survived, SOC and Darebin City. Neither would probably have survived. Do not know what is going to happen with Darebin City, the facility might have looked good from the outside but from the inside it was a white elephant, there was limited toilet facilities etc. The council have been difficult to deal with, the greens are not being maintained, it is the state bowls centre until 2034, the council as to maintain that until 2034 and they are reneging on it.

Promotion and relegation might be 1 up or down, as for what happens next year, they might keep it the same and get used to a 14-week season moving forward.

The pennant committee have not met yet. Talking to Jimmy Whitehead the plan is what we do this year will be mirrored next year and then potentially change after that.

Grants, hope that clubs were able to get some grants, lots on offer if you had payroll, but if not it was slim pickings, there was a survival one, the license venue grant, had to have a full club license and have a food handling certificate, did have to have GST or get or signed off by an auditor. One club was struggling and could not get the grant as it was limited fund license. Had to be full club license.

Brochures on the table, from BV for roll back the clock program, to bring in new members. It is designed to try and bring in people over 60 to be active, it is a fitness-based program and will incorporate different bowls activity and then go out to the green, designed to bring non bowlers to the venue and working with council to promote activity. For more information ring Michael on the back of the flyer or contact Paul.

On BV website bowling with babies, a lot of things went into recess, another way of bringing younger people into the club, mostly younger women into the environment, safe and clean space, good parking good access, brings grant opportunities, this is a good avenue to apply for, grant likely to come out again early 2021.

Also, a good avenue for grants is U18 participation.

BPL cup has gone ahead thanks to Beaumaris, Dandenong Club.

The Australian Open entries have been released the first 50 registrations will get a $25 voucher from Aero bowls.

Bowls Australia has released a promotion with Audika where you can host and event with the club, they will do fee hearing tests, might be good for after pennant and will give $250 to the club and if someone books a session, they will give $10 back to the club.

Signed a partnership with Cancer Council using the suncare sunscreen products and there is a discount of around 30% off if bowling clubs buy through them.

Hopefully we have been enjoying the bowls show. If there is any club that is struggling and needs a helping hand BA has set up a helping hands fund, they can help to provide some money. Eastwood golf got $800 to buy sanitizer and cleaning. Another got funding for a security camera.

A question was asked from the floor in regards to insurance for clubs and do you need to be a member of the BCIB. The question was in regards to an email from BCIB Insurance Kerry forwarded to CCOs, BCIB provide insurance for committees and boards. The Regions are all with BCIB and Kerry thought that a lot of bowls clubs may also be signed up with them. Even if you are not with them you should be able to check your insurance policy as there may be a loss of profits clause in the policy. If you have any sort of insurance it might be a good idea to take a look as losing your profits may be covered.

Bowlslink, BA would like all bowlers to sign up to Bowlslink. Go into bowlslink.com.au reset your password and go in and update your details. If the email address in your details is not the same as the one you are trying to log in with, the log in will not work. Events and club championships can be run using Bowlslink. No score cards in the future it will be done on your phone, 2-5 years. BV have spent $7K-$10K on score cards, that is the way that we are moving an becoming more tech savvy, live scoring.

Links:

Sun screen discounts

<https://shop.bowls.com.au/product-category/sunscreen/>

Audika Hearing

<https://www.bowls.com.au/bowls-australia-partners-with-audika/>

Bowling with Babies

<https://www.bowlsvic.org.au/bowling-with-babies/>

Roll Up Program

<https://www.bowlsvic.org.au/play-bowls/junior-bowls-p-12/roll-up/>

Helping Hand Fund

<https://www.bowls.com.au/oxley-and-bright-given-a-helping-hand/>

Roll Back the Clock program

<https://www.bowls.com.au/get-involved/rollbacktheclock/>

AO registration

<https://www.bowls.com.au/secure-your-place-in-the-2021-australian-open/>

BowlsLink

<https://www.bowlsvic.org.au/clubassist/bowlslink/>

**General Business**

Nil

**Next Meeting**

Monday 1st March 2021

**Close of meeting:** 8.10pm