

Hawcoat Park Bowling Cub AGM – Held on Friday 17th October, 2025

Apologies: J Bawden, D Hodgson, B Kaighan, T Kaighan, J Lavender, R Sayle, R Woods, T Woods,

The Chairman opened the meeting, which was attended by 18 members, led a minutes silence for those who had passed away in the last 12 months and as the minutes from the 2024 AGM had been circulated by the Secretary, these were accepted as a true record and there were no matters arising.

The Treasurer gave his report on the season's finances in confirming a surplus of £1600 on an income of £11962 and expenditure of £10359 and proceeded to give an explanation on all areas of the balance sheet. The main items being:

- a) Due to the improving financial position of the Sports Club, the sections had not been requested to make a donation, which was £2000 last year
- b) Due to the good weather, tea & beer sales had made £200 more than the previous year.
- c) The ladies had covered the cost of food for the fun day, with the bowls only contributing £130 in subsidising the 'round robin' group prizes.
- d) Further cost savings had been made due to the use of voluntary labour for the end of season greens maintenance, albeit a late bill for £400 of seed has yet to be accounted for.

All other activities had seen similar levels of income and expenditure as previous years, with the Ladies contributing with a donation of £1636.

The Secretary proceeded to give his account of the season in first of all reading a summary of events presented by Jim Bawden for the Seniors.

- a) The 'A' & 'B' teams were relegated, with this giving both an opportunity for 2nd & 3rd div titles next season.
- b) Top finishers for the 4 teams, as follows: T Kneale (1st team) T Lashmar (A) J Tongue (B) and K Conway (C).
- c) Tony Wareing, who finished in 2nd place for the 'C' team went on to reach the final of the 3rd division playoffs.

Our season began mid-March, when Mike Procter in showing good early form saw off the challenges of Bob Stewart (Club handicap) and Roy Moxham (Championship) in taking both titles.

He then summarised results from the four 'Open' competitions, sponsored by Holden's for the Tonie Moxham Mem'l; Wesco Anixter the Spring Pairs; The

Over 60's pairs (no sponsor) and Tony Marklew for the Jack Marklew Mem'l Following which he offered the Clubs thanks to Nigel Heffernan, Brian and Tony Kaighan for their hard work and enthusiasm in running the competitions, all of which maintained HP as a popular venue and provided welcome funds.

The Furness league started in early April and saw all four teams perform well throughout, with the 1st team once again 2nd to the King Alfred, and the 'A' team maintaining their 1st division status. In division 2 the 'B' team finished in a creditable mid-table position and the 'C' team with some recruits and the help of lady bowlers, earned their best position for a while in finishing 5th in div 3. The team selectors must take some credit in juggling players availability due to illness and holidays, which saw 19 players used in the 'B' team and 31 in the 'C' team throughout the season.

Congratulations go to the merit winners – Roger Barrow, John Gill, Dave Hodgson and Kevin Robinson.

The Ulverston teams suffered from a loss of a few regular 1st team players, and with other teams importing new talent we had to settle for a mid-table position in both divisions. Once again congratulations go to merit winners Bob Stewart and Paul Davies.

Finally I would like to offer our vote of thanks to our Treasurer for his hard work in maintaining a healthy balance sheet, the Committee and ladies for their support, the grounds and greens maintenance squads in maintaining high standards, and the website administrator in providing up to date information on all Club matters.

In repeating previous requests, it is essential that we get more volunteers to help our grounds work team who meet on a Tuesday morning.

In closing, I hope to see as many of you as possible for winter bowling and the Christmas function, and wish you good health for the winter ahead, and look forward to seeing you in the Spring of 2026.

The Chairman then asked for nominations for the election of officers and the Secretary announced that John Lavender would prefer to stand down from his role as delegate to the F&DBL and Tony Woods from the Committee due to work commitments. The following were then elected: Chairman – A Kneale; Secretary – R Stewart; Treasurer – S Liddicott; Ulverston Delegate – B Kaighan; Competition Secretaries – N Heffernan, T & B Kaighan; Safeguarding Officer –

N Heffernan; Bonus Ball Secretary – B Kaighan; Chairman of Selectors –C Knipe; Committee – J Bawden, W Heywood, D Hird, C Knipe, R Moxham, R Parkinson, J Cairns. Auditor- R Barrow.

Following the meeting N Heffernan volunteered to take on the role of Delegate to the F&DBL; and John Costley volunteered to join the committee.

The Treasurer's honorarium was to increase to £80 with others remaining unchanged.

In the absence of both league delegates, the Secretary confirmed dates for the forthcoming AGM's:

- a) Seniors – 21st October (D Hird to attend) Alan Troughton raised the issue of the 'B' team being relegated, having won 3 more games but lost out to Roose on aggregate. The calculation followed league rules, but the matter would be raised at the AGM for review. No mandates had been received.
- b) F&DBL-28th October (N Heffernan to attend) no mandates
- c) U&DBL – 12th November (NH, BK & TK) to attend, and the committee would review any mandates prior to the meeting.

No proposed changes to the Clubs Constitution had been received, and the formal review had therefore been completed.

Next weeks opening of no.2 green for winter bowling was to be discussed with Lee, as the recent dry spell had slowed growth of the new seed, but with rain now expected, a decision would be taken during the coming week, with members being circulated with the start date. Friday afternoons would remain for casual bowling, with 'round robin' comps held on Saturday from 12.30 (report by 12.15 pm.)

The Secretary confirmed that the Christmas function had been organised for Friday 5th December, and that those attending should add their names to the list which was pinned up in the bowls pavilion.

In AOB:

- a) Allan Artis raised an earlier issue over the lack of grounds work volunteers, stating that whilst more were needed on a regular basis, the need was just as important when notice went out for extra members to cover seasonal work on the greens and hedges.

- b) Tony Lashmar asked who was able to play during the winter, it was confirmed that they needed to be members of the Sports Club.
- c) Jack Curphey asked why the Saturday winter bowlers did not pay for their teas. It was explained that tea money was included in the round robin entry fee, which was then subsidised by the Club to encourage new members.
- d) Further discussion took place over subsidies without any changes agreed, and the meeting closed with bowlers invited for a drink in the bar.