

Hawcoat Park Bowling Cub AGM – Held on Friday 18th October, 2024

Apologies: J Bawden, A Troughton, D Hodgson, A Pike, B Strickland, R Woods, T Woods

The Chairman opened the meeting, which was attended by 19 members, and asked the Secretary to read the minutes from the 2023 AGM. 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 loss of £1178 on an income of £12106 and expenditure of £13284 and proceeded to give an explanation on all areas of the balance sheet. The main items being:

- a) £2300 contractor fees carried over from Oct'23 for the end of season work performed on no.2 green
- b) £2000 donated to the Sports Club to ease cash flow problems.

All other activities had seen similar levels of income and expenditure as previous years, with the Ladies contributing with a donation of £1950 largely through the sale of refreshments at the Club competitions.

This year, the end of season's work had been performed by the groundsman and volunteers resulting in material costs only, which will appear in next years accounts.

The Secretary proceeded to give his account of the season in first of all wishing those members on long term sick, a return to good health and our hopes of seeing them around the greens next season. He then proceeded in congratulating those who had won both 'Club' and 'Open' competitions along with those who had finished in the merit positions in the F&DBL; U&DBL and Seniors leagues, giving special mention to those who had won or gained 'final' places in their divisional play-offs..

Congratulations also went to the Senior's 1st team in retaining the 1st division championship and the 'A' team in gaining promotion from the 2nd division. The 1st teams maintained their position in the Furness league finishing runners up to the King Alfred in division 1 and in 3rd place to Lindal and West Shore in the Ulverston league.

The Clubs thanks go to the team captains and selectors in dealing with a shortage of players at times, due to holidays and illness, in managing to field all 10 of our registered teams with the help of a few new recruits and the ladies.

In a busy season on the greens, the Secretary summarised the results from the four 'Open' competitions and thanked the sponsors, Holdens, Wesco Anixter (new this year), T Ward & Sons (sadly their last year) and Tony Marklew along with our competition organisers Brian and Tony Kaighan and Nigel Heffernan, as well as joining the greens maintenance team during the season.

The Club also had the honour of staging the Ladies BCGBA Senior Merit competition in July and the F&DBL 'Grand Masters' at the end of September, may I thank all those who helped in making them a success, both in the preparation of the facilities and on the day.

He then closed his account of the season in offering a vote of thanks to the Treasurer for his hard work, the Committee and Ladies section for their support, the maintenance team in providing two excellent greens, the website administrator for maintaining UpToDate information on all Club activities and the Tuesday work squad (who still remain in need of recruits) in sustaining a high standard of facilities around the greens.

The Chairman then asked for nominations for the election of officers, which resulted in the following: Chairman – A Kneale; Secretary – R Stewart; Treasurer – S Liddicott; Delegates – J Lavender (F&DBL) and B Kaighan (U&DBL); Competition Secretaries – N Heffernan, T and B Kaighan; Safeguarding Officer-N Heffernan; Bonus Ball Secretary- B Kaighan; Committee – J Bawden, W Heywood, D Hird, C Knipe, R Moxham, R Parkinson, T Woods, J Cairns, P Heron. Auditor- R Barrow.

All honorariums were to remain the same for the 2025 season.

The Delegates were then requested to report on any league matters. Brian reported that the Furness Seniors AGM was to be held on Tuesday 22nd October when a proposal to allow 'Ladies' into the league would be voted upon. The meeting agreed to vote 'no change', and that Club's 'stronger' teams were to play if a postponement was necessary due to a player shortage, the meeting agreed with the motion. Brian was to attend.

John confirmed that the F&DBL AGM was to be held at the Coop SC on Thursday 24th October, when two mandates were to be submitted. 1) Mandates and other items to submitted to the League Secretary 'no later than 4 weeks before the date of the AGM'. Motion carried. 2) Club's 'stronger' teams were to play in the event of a postponement due to shortage of players. Motion carried. John to attend.

Brian reported that the U&DBL AGM was to be held on Wednesday 13th November, when he, Tony K and N Heffernan would attend.

The meeting were then advised that the Club's Constitution, displayed in the Bowls pavilion, was to be reviewed at tonight's AGM. No amendments had been received prior to the AGM.

Winter Bowling: Bob reported that a decision on no.2 green would be made next week, the seed had started to germinate but further progress was needed before play could resume for the winter. Bob would circulate an email when a decision had been made. Friday afternoons would remain for casual bowling, with 'round robin' comps held on a Saturday from 12.30 pm. It was agreed that entry would remain at £3 with beverages included, and the Club would continue to contribute to the prize money.

The Club's annual 'Social' evening was to be held in the Sports Club Bar on Friday 6th December from 7.00 pm; and included a quiz, bingo and pie & pea supper, members were encouraged to advise numbers attending, to enable arrangements to be completed by the end of November.

AOB: Allan Artis raised the need for volunteers to come forward in support of an ageing Grounds Maintenance team, which meet every Tuesday from 9.00 am in performing essential tasks in the up keep of the greens surrounds. The Chairman supported this request in confirming that it was another essential element in the existence of the Club, and suggested that if individuals could not make it on Tuesdays, then tasks could be given for bowlers to do on a day when they are available.

Jack Curphey raised an issue with team selection, which would be looked into at the start of next season.

Steve Hughes asked whether we still expected to receive a contribution from the Cricket and Tennis sections for last year's purchase of the scarifier. We believe that due to a cash shortage with these sections, it was very doubtful. Paul Cain asked if we were purchasing beer from the Sports Club, Steve confirmed that we had purchased £630 worth during the season.

The Chairman then confirmed that the Ladies had been granted a £10 subsidy per person attending their annual dinner.

The meeting closed at 8.15 pm with bowlers invited for a drink in the bar.