

LANCASTER, MORECAMBE & DISTRICT INDOOR BOWLING LEAGUE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

VIEWING GALLERY, SALT AYRE LEISURE CENTRE

4pm Monday 11 November 2024

- 1 Present:** Mark Norcliffe (Chair), Barry Axon (League and Fixtures Secretary), Julie Norcliffe (Membership Secretary), Pauline Townson (Treasurer)
Apologies for absence: Marilyn Osman, John Stubberfield, Linda Murie
- 2 The minutes of the previous committee meeting** (19 August 2024) had been emailed to each member of the committee prior to this meeting. These were accepted as a true & accurate record (proposed by Julie, seconded by Pauline)
There were no matters arising
- 3 The minutes of the Annual General Meeting** (11 September 2024) had been emailed to each member of the committee prior to this meeting. There were no matters arising
- 4 Chairman's report:** Mark raised a concern about games starting early ie before 10am, before 11.30am, before 1pm, and before 2.30pm. Mark also mentioned the letter from Mike Ellis (Robins Captain) regarding one of their players having to leave a game due to a medical emergency. This has been dealt with by the Fixtures Secretary by referral to the current League Rules and the matter appears to have been resolved.
There was also a discussion about the state of the bowling carpets regarding creases in the carpets and the fact that the staff at Salt Ayre do not always do a good job of taping down the ends of the carpets. It was noted that the carpets are always rolled up from the same end, thus exacerbating the curling of one end of each carpet.
- 5 League Secretary's and Fixtures Secretary's report:** Barry stated that he felt that the Leagues had started well and that the 5 minute had alarm had been generally accepted despite one or two early grumbles. Barry also felt that the reduction in game time had been accepted by the players
Barry highlighted two major concerns – one being that some teams are starting games early, the second being the number of errors and omissions that were to be found on the Match Results sheets on a regular basis, and by all teams. The Executive Committee members feel that games should not start early as this leads to a contravention of the 1hr 20min rule for the length of each game, and that offending teams should be penalised as per the League Rules
The Executive Committee members feel that the Fixtures Secretary should be vigorous in applying the rules where errors and/or omissions are found on the Match Results sheets, and that penalties should be applied as per the League Rules
Barry is to draft a document setting out the current rules with regard to these two matters, and also setting out how the Executive committee intends to penalise teams that contravene the League Rules. The draft document will be circularised to all committee members for approval, and when finalised will be sent to each team captain
Barry asked for clarification on the rule concerning measuring – do each team get a point if bowls are equidistant from the jack. The committee agreed that as in crown green bowling there are no points awarded to either team in such instances
- 6 Membership Secretary's report:** Julie stated that as of 5 November 2024 we have 159 registered players, three of whom are still to pay their membership fee. However, we are yet to receive a completed membership form from eleven players, and there are outstanding queries regarding the forms from three members. Two members have declined to provide information.
All of the completed forms are in a folder in the cabinet, which should be kept locked.
When all of the forms have been completed a summary sheet will be made available, for use only by Executive Committee members

- 7 Treasurer's report:** Pauline stated that the finances are in good shape, there being a profit of £937 over the opening weeks of the season. This gives us a current balance of £6700 in the League account.
Barry reported that the four Sunday Sessions had raised £102, and Julie reported that the sale of football cards over the first 6 weeks of the season had raised £120
- 8 Safeguarding Officer's report:** no report submitted to the meeting
The Executive Officers asked that a notice regarding Safeguarding, together with contact details, and a photo of the Safeguarding Officer, be posted on the notice board in the Viewing Gallery at Salt Ayre Leisure Centre
- 9 Pre-Christmas arrangements:** It was felt that the provision of mince pies on the final week of the year, prior to Christmas, was not an appropriate use of club funds. However, Pauline is to supply 6 tubs of chocolates on that day, and any player not wearing a Christmas jumper is to be requested to donate £1 to club funds
- 10 New players:** Barry reported that 35 new players had been attracted to play in our leagues, mainly due to the advertising that Julie and Barry had circulated to crown green bowling clubs prior to the indoor season starting, and due to the four Sunday Sessions that had been held. It was noted that some new players had gone directly into teams
It was agreed that further Sunday Sessions were not a viable proposition as they would require 25 players paying £3 per week just to cover the cost of the hire of the hall (£75 for 90 minutes)
- 11 Funding application:** Julie reported that her initial application to the National Lottery Community Fund had been rejected. Prior to this meeting Julie had asked the committee members for feedback prior to a second application being submitted. Julie had also received advice from fellow bowlers who had experience of successfully applying for funds. Comments from Janine Bebbington, John Wood, and Linda Murie had been gratefully received and these will be incorporated in Julie's second National Lottery application. A copy of the second application will be circulated to committee members prior to it being submitted
- 12 Date and place of the 2025 AGM:** It was agreed that the meeting should take place at 2pm on Friday 12 September 2025. Barry is to contact Skerton Liberal Club and Bare Village Club to ask if they would be willing to accommodate the AGM, and what the cost would be
- 13 Date and place of next Executive Committee meeting:** It was agreed that the next meeting should take place at 4pm on Monday 13 January 2025, the venue being the Viewing Gallery at Salt Ayre Leisure Centre
There being no further business the meeting closed after 1 hour