

**MINUTES OF THE 33rd ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE STAFFORD 55 BOWLING LEAGUE
HELD ON THURSDAY 6TH FEBRUARY 2025 at 2 pm LITTLEWORTH COMMUNITY CENTRE**

Members Present	Mike Bosson	Chairman
	Colin Dempsey	Treasurer
	Brian Belfield	Secretary
	Ken Hunt	Vice-chairman

65 Members

The meeting began with a minutes silence in memory of absent friends and then the issuing of league and competition prize money and shields. (Most of the competition shields were kept ready for the competitions)

1 – The chairman opened the meeting

2 – Apologies

The following apologies were received: John Andrews, Mick Hill, Del Milgate, John Sly, David Bayliss, Ken Williams.

3 – Approval of 2024 AGM Minutes

The minutes were approved by Ken Hunt and seconded by Lynne Outhwaite.

4 – Matters Arising

Dealt with below.

5 – Correspondence

Lea Hall have resigned from the league and Stafford u3a have requested to join the league.

6 – Chairman's Report

2024 was another successful season. There was much competitive bowling and, apart from minor niggles, generally excellent standards of sportsmanship. Let's make sure both those positive continue in 2025.

Well done to all the league winners and competition winners. Special congratulations go to champions Rowley Park and to Penkridge B who won Div 2. Also, we note a remarkable achievement by Mike Thompson of Silkmore A who was undefeated in 17 singles game.

We're sorry to lose Lea Hall but welcome u3a who we hope will do well and enjoy their participation.

I would like to record huge thanks to Brian for all the excellent, untiring work he does for the league and also in running competitions.

Said competitions went well with good turnouts; sincere thanks go to the organisers and their helpers.

To conclude, I hope everyone enjoys the upcoming season

Mike Bosson

7 – Treasurer's Report

Well, I am pleased to report that for the financial year ending the 31st December 2024, we made a profit of £292.22. This was due to an income of £1,473.00 against expenditure of £1,180.22. This leaves us with a healthy bank balance of £1,488.39. I therefore recommend that the £40 team membership and the £1 competition entry fees remain the same for the 2025 season.

Colin Dempsey 6/2/2025

8 – Secretary's Report

This is now my 10th year as league secretary. I shall definitely not continue after 10. Sadly my wife is showing signs of demetia.

I welcome new captains Tom Lowbridge (Amasal P), Peter Jordan (Phoenix A), David Wilkinson (Phoenix B), John Cooper (Fieldhouse C)

League

Congratulations to Rowley Park for winning the league and Amasal Uni as runner up.
Congratulations to Penkridge B and Stafford B for winning Division Two and thus for promotion to Division One.

Commiserations to Lea Hall and Phoenix B who are relegated to Division 2.

This season

Lea Hall have resigned from the league but we welcome a new team Stafford u3a who will bowl on Fieldhouse 2 green.

We have 11 teams in each division. And so, both divisions will have a full season with each team having two byes.

No fixture cards will be printed for issuing. Instead the division fixtures will be emailed to the captains along with the individual team schedule with dates and greens and post codes. The two separate division fixtures will also be on the web under folder 'Fixtures Card' along with green details and are in a suitable form for printing.

The competition details along with previous winners will be published in a document on the web.

Following the general web principle of not publishing telephone numbers unless behind passwords, the captain's numbers will be emailed only to the captains.

They are still also visible to the captains after logging in. Also the competition details sent to the captains will have the organisers phone numbers.

I will also issue to the captains one printed copy of the above so that in the event that the captain or team member has no printing capability, the sheets can be photocopied.

Captains, you can make own changes until 1st April or advise me of changes by email, text or phone.
Can add during season, say by the Monday of playing week, but check on web before playing!

Refreshments

If any teams will not be providing refreshments, then if captains let me know, I will publish a list on the web of those not doing so.

Bowlers

Everyone should make themselves aware of the changes to the BCGBA rules from January 2025. The full new rules are on the web and so are a list of the changes.

The difference between rules 7.1b and 7.4 should be noted. (Disturbed bowl)

John Andrews can explain if necessary.

Bowlers are reminded to avoid walking across the green against the line of other games.

Competitions

The non-winners is a drawn doubles with 1st/2nd division pairing and anyone who has never won a 55 League competition is eligible. The entry form lists those in your team who are not eligible.

Until after the end of the season when Thursdays become available, the first four competitions will be on Mondays and Tuesdays, the rest then on Thursday and Fridays. You have until 25th July to register for competitions on your captain's entry forms, when your captains then submits the forms at Fieldhouse BC.

The competition entry forms have already been printed before learning that Wilma is unable to assist and so new assistance is sought at Stafford BC.

The details are on the web under competition details.

Sponsorship

Thanks to efforts by Ken Hunt our sponsor from last year Energy Saving Windows at Astonfields has agreed to sponsor again for this year. But this is their last year. So, we shall need a new sponsor for next year!

General

No questions were asked.

9 - Constitution Changes

The proposal is to introduce the playing 3 times limit as a rule as per the Vets league :-

[A player may only play twice if there are no other eligible team members present. Any player doubling up more than 3 times during the season will forfeit those subsequent games 21-0 with the aggregate recorded as 21-10.](#)

The proposal was agreed by Helen Williams and Ken Hunt and all were in favor.

10 – Election of Officers

The following officers currently :-

Chairman – Mike Bosson

Vice Chairman – Ken Hunt

Secretary – Brian Belfield – the above were approved by Nev Ward and Russ Turvey.

Treasurer – John Hartley – Approved by Colin Dempsey and Nev Ward.

Competition Secretary – John Cooper (late volunteer)

11 – Appointment of Account Checkers

Mick Hill agreed to be the checker for this next year and to do it for free.

12 – Dates

Collection of paperwork - Fri 7th March 10.30 at Fieldhouse

Start of season - Thu 3rd April

Competitions closing date – Fri 25th July 10.30am at Fieldhouse

Last League match - Thu 28th August

Frank James requested a vote of thanks for the committee.

The meeting was closed at 2.50pm.

STAFFORD 55 BOWLING LEAGUE RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR
ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 2024.

INCOME	£	EXPENDITURE	£
Membership fees	880.00	Prizes	550.00
Sponsorship	300.00	Printing	225.00
Competition fees	278.00	Honoraria	150.00
Donations	15.00	Insurance	53.34
		Engraving	34.00
		Secretarial Expenses	74.84
		Room Hire	22.00
		County Fee	43.00
		Website Fee	28.60
		Surplus for 2023	292.22
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>1473.00</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>1473.00</u>

ACCUMULATION FUND AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024

Accumulated surplus	£1,197.17	Bank Balance	£1,489.39
Surplus for 2024	£ 292.22		
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>£1,489.39</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>£1,489.39</u>


Checker

Mick Hill



Treasurer

Colin Dempsey



8/11/25.