

COWPEN & CROFTON WELFARE BOWLS CLUB

SPRING MEETING 7th April 2019

Present: P.Wise – President B.Turner – Treasurer L.Wise – Secretary

Ladies Section: Chair - I.Cummings Mens Section: Vice-Chair - W.Allen
Vice-Chair - H.Christie

1. The meeting was opened at 10.00am by the President who thanked everyone for their attendance.
2. In attendance there were 34 members. Apologies received from 5 members.
3. The president requested members to observe a silent period of remembrance in respect of deceased members H.Raisbeck, G.Scott and M.Doran.
4. Secretary's Report:
 - a. The Club will participate in the following leagues in 2019:
 - Monday 2pm: Blyth Valley Veterans League.
2 teams of 12 players each required (Cowpen and Crofton teams)
The league is open to players of any gender. All members are encouraged to take part. Minimum age 55yrs.
 - Tuesday 2pm: N.East Ladies Bowls League.
3 Rinks of 4 players. 12 Ladies only.
Tuesday 7pm: BNMS Knight Cup.
4 Rinks of 3 players. Men only.
 - Wednesday 2pm: Collins & Shipley League.
4 Rinks of 3 players. Ladies only.
Wednesday 7pm: BNMS Clegg Cup.
4 Rinks of 3 players. Men only.
 - Thursday 2pm: Northern Bowls League (Thursday Veterans)
2 teams of 6 players each (Cowpen and Crofton teams)

The league is open to players of any gender. All members are encouraged to take part. Minimum age 55yrs.

- Saturday 2pm: Northern Bowls League (Saturday League)
1 team of 6 players required.

The league is open to players of any gender. All members are encouraged to take part. No age restriction.

- b. Reminder: When a person has been selected to play and later becomes unavailable they should contact the nominated Team Captain to advise them. Reserves are expected to be present, ready to play, at the start of games (both home and away games).

- c. Northern Bowls League.

The registrations for League competitions has been extended to 1st May to allow time for more bowlers to support the league.

Those members who have already registered (and paid) for the 4 bowls singles and pairs competitions are already shown on the registration forms. More participants would be appreciated.

Registrations are requested for the 3 Bowl Triples competition and also the Over 55 Pairs (Hirst Park 3rd July) and the Over 55 Rinks (Hirst Park 17th July).

5. Treasurer's Report:

- a. Leagues fees and insurance paid.
- b. Building and Contents insurance paid.
- c. Ladies Section transport costs paid.
- d. Tournament licences applied for.
- e. Gift Aid application for 2019 was submitted by S.Drew in 2018.
- f. Business Rates relief has been confirmed.
- g. Internal Competition fees should be paid before 30th April
- h. The monthly draw will be administered by J.Dodd. Unless income increases it may not be financially viable.
- i. Annual Membership fee will remain at 25 pounds. Payments will be accepted following the meeting.

6. Management Committee Report: (LW)

a. The Management Committee met on three occasions during the closed season; 9th January, 27th February and 27th March. Details of the meetings and topics discussed are available to members in the minutes of the meetings.

b. Teams Selection procedures:

- A sub-committee of the Mens Section consisting of D.Richardson, R.Maule and J.Dodd will be responsible for teams selections of BNMS Leagues, Blyth Valley Veterans League and Northern Bowls League.
- This meeting should decide whether to retain or amend selection procedures used in 2018 and previous years – a majority vote will be accepted. If members decide to amend the selection procedures, the selection committee will be tasked with devising an acceptable system.

A vote followed with the majority of members agreeing to retain the current selection procedures.

c. Rinks Rotation:

The management committee have agreed to trial an amendment to the 2018 usage of rinks;

East-West Rinks: Rink markings/colour rotations will be retained.

North-South Rinks: Previous Rink markings have been covered and five replacement rinks marked out to allow regeneration of badly worn areas, while still permitting leagues fixtures to be played.

Rinks directions of play will be rotated on a weekly basis, i.e. North–South from Monday morning until Sunday evening, followed by East – West the following week. Colours will be rotated daily.

In Open Pairs competitions the Round Robin stages will be played on the East-West rinks. The knock-out stages will be played on North – South rinks.

d. Club website:

The Club website will again be sponsored by Melrose Funeral Directors and will be administered by Julie Turner, wife of Treasurer Bryan. The Club offers it's thanks to Julie for her volunteer role.

e. Members Votes required:

(J.Dodd) Do members wish to have an annual presentation night?

20 members voted to have a Presentation Evening arranged.

3 members voted against.

(W.Allen) Do members wish to have an annual Christmas Dinner?

No member voted for the proposal.

B.Knowles suggest combining both proposals. N.Smith stated a vote would be required to decide on the option. Matter dealt with under any other business.

f. First Aid.

First Aid certificates of all but one member (D.Richardson) having expired, a course has been arranged with Bowls Northumberland Coaching Association. P.Wise, J.Lovatt and L.Wise will attend the course. Course costs will be met from Club funds.

g. Council Property Services will be visiting in the near future to assess maintenance needs

h. Deanstown B.C. will be visiting us to play a friendly game on Friday 3rd May. It is intended to provide refreshments following the game. Any member wishing to play should add their name to the poster on the notice board.

i. The committee wishes to register it's thanks to J.Dodd and R.Maule for the maintenance work undertaken by them during the closed season, particularly their work on trimming the hedges, renovating benches and clearing weeds.

7. Any other business:

a. B.Knowles proposed that instead of a Presentation Night an event could be arranged combining both proposals in para 6 (e) – Presentation of Trophies could take place following a meal. A general discussion took place regarding the proposal. PW advised that votes had already been taken on Para 6(e) with nobody opting for arranging a Christmas Dinner and members desired a Presentation Event.

- b. BT suggested that a Sale/Exchange page could be included in the website. It was generally agreed to be a good addition to the facility. The web administrator will be informed. Security would not be comprised.
 - c. BT also suggested the possibility of a Facebook page being created to allow improved communications among members. G.Cooper suggested another option could be the creation of a Whatsapp account. It was agreed that J.Turner would create a Facebook page .
8. LW advised that the green would open officially on Saturday 13th April. J.Knowles offered to provide a replacement calendar to publish details of Rink Rotations and colours of the day.
9. No further business. The meeting was closed by the President at 10.26am.