

## SOUTH LAKELAND RURAL BOWLING LEAGUE

### Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held 17<sup>th</sup> November 2010 in The Athenaeum, Leasgill

**Present:** In the Chair Mr Colin Burrow, Club representatives from Allithwaite(3), Bowness (2), Burneside (2), Crosthwaite & Lyth (1), Endmoor (2), KA Hale (2), Hawkshead (3), Hevershan (3), Holme (2), Kirkby Lonsdale (3), Lindale (4), Milnthorpe (2), Sedbergh (2), Staveley (2), Subscription (1), Victoria (2), Windermere (2) (38 delegates representing 18 of the 19 League Clubs), together with Mr K Ashcroft (also representing Levens), Mr G H Stephens and Mr J D Smith.

1. **Chairman's opening address:** The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
  - 1.1. A minutes silence was held in respect of bowlers associated with the League who had passed away.
  - 1.2. The Chairman spoke about the formation of the League and its development. He explained the reason for the letter he had written to clubs in October about the issue of 'strong' teams setting out his position and views which he re-stated.
2. **Apologies for absence:** None (It was noted that Burton-in-Kendal BC was not represented).
3. **Minutes:** The Minutes of the last AGM held 2nd November 2009 were taken as read and **APPROVED**.
4. **Matters Arising:** A letter of appreciation and thanks for his 12 years of service to the League had been sent to Bob Johnson, former Secretary. Abstracts from Bob's reply were read.
5. **Secretary's Report:** This had been distributed prior to the meeting. The Secretary reiterated his thanks to Hedley Stephens for all his work. There were no questions arising from the report.
6. **Treasurer's Report:** Presenting the Annual Accounts the Treasurer, Mr Ashcroft reported an increase in the end of year balance carried forward of £109 from £373 to £482. This was due to an increase in the number of clubs in the League and a reduction in expenses. The League would have a year on year ever increasing balance if no action was taken. He suggested that the League Fee could be kept at £15 and the David Skidmore entrance fee waived (see later item). **AGREED:** That the accounts be approved.
7. **Election of Executive Officers:** All the Officers agreed to serve and were **RE-ELECTED** en bloc thus:
  - 7.1. **Chairman:** Colin Burrow
  - 7.2. **Treasurer:** Ken Ashcroft
  - 7.3. **Secretary:** J D Smith
8. **Election of Press Secretary and Web Site Organiser:** **AGREED:** That Hedley Stephens be **RE-ELECTED**.
9. **Appointment of Representatives to serve on the Cumbria County Crown Green Bowling Association (CCGGBA) Committee:** **AGREED:** That J D Smith and Bruce Tyson (Heversham) be appointed.
10. **Affiliation to CCGGBA:** **AGREED:** That the League Affiliate to the Cumbria CCGB Association.
11. **Donation to Cumbria County Ladies Crown Green Bowling Association:** **AGREED:** On a proposal from Holme; that a donation of £25.00 be made.
12. **Donation to Cumbria County Juniors Crown Green Bowling Association:** **AGREED:** On a proposal from Holme; that a donation of £25.00 be made.
13. **League Fee for Season 2011:** **AGREED:** That the fee be £15.00.
14. **Entry Fee for the David Skidmore Competition:** **AGREED:** That the fee be waived for Season 2011.
15. **David Skidmore Memorial Competition Prize Money:** **AGREED:** Winner to receive £35.00, Runner-up £20.00, Loosing Semi Finalists £12.50 each. Total £80.00.
16. **Notices of Motion:**
  - 16.1. **Motion 1 - Constitution and Rules:** Proposal from the Secretary: 'That the Constitution and Rules as amended by the AGM of 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2009 be adopted AND that the League Secretary be required to produce and issue a revised set incorporating changes agreed at the AGM held on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2010'. Motion **APPROVED**

**16.2. Motion 2 – Date of Annual General Meeting.** Proposal from the Secretary: ‘That Rule C7.1 be amended to read ‘The Secretary shall give at least 21 days notice to convene a meeting of the Executive Committee to be ~~early in November~~ held after the 25th November each year. This will be identified as the Annual General Meeting (AGM)’. An **amendment was proposed** and **APPROVED** ‘That Rule C7.1 be left unchanged and the date in Rule C7.3 by which *matters which Clubs want to be considered at the AGM must be in written form and received by the League Secretary no later than ~~31 October~~ prior to the AGM be altered to 15<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER’.*

**16.3. Motion 3 – August Match Start times:** Proposal from the Secretary – ‘That Rule R4 **Match Start Times** sub rule R4.1 be amended to read ‘Matches shall commence at 7.00pm **EXCEPT** those played during April, or on or after ~~15th August~~ 8<sup>th</sup> August which will be scheduled for 6.30 but 6.15 for the first and last matches to meet daylight availability needs. (The two captains may agree earlier starts.)’ The Motion was **APPROVED SUBJECT TO AN AMENDMENT**; the deletion of ~~but 6.15 for the first and last matches~~ and substitution of ‘*will be scheduled for 6.30pm to meet daylight availability needs (However, the two Captains may agree earlier starts for all matches).*’

**16.4. Motion 4 – League Format:** Proposed by Kings Arms Hale Bowling Club – ‘That the League be divided into two divisions with all teams playing on a home and away basis during the season in each division and that there be relegation for the lowest two teams in Division 1 and promotion for the top two teams in Division 2’. Seconded by Victoria. Put to the vote but declared **LOST**.

**16.5. Motion 5 – Team Selection:** Proposed by Endmoor Bowling Club ‘That Member Clubs should follow a team selection procedure, by selecting players in the order listed:

1. Junior Members (**First**)
2. Novice members (**Second**)
3. Experienced Players who do not play in any other League (**Third**)
4. Experienced Players who play in other Leagues at one level only above Rural, example - Kendal & District ‘C’ (**Fourth**)

Clubs should restrict their use of the fourth selection option (see 4 above) to experienced players who play in other Leagues, to not more than 2 players.

**In exceptional circumstances** Clubs are able to **infill from experienced players from other Leagues, playing at any level**. The number of such players in a team is **strictly restricted to two**’.

Alice Waite, Endmoor spoke to the Motion explaining that some Clubs always played experienced players. This could be demoralising to opponents. She had approached the League’s Officers with statistics to show the effect of this on the League; these had been dismissed as ‘moans and groans’. Her letters, subsequently written to the Chairman, were not personal. The aim of the proposal was to try to achieve and maintain fair competition within the spirit of the Rural League. Various points were raised about the proposal. The motion failed to find a ‘Seconder’ and was declared ‘**LOST**’.

17. **Draw for the Season 2011 David Skidmore Memorial Competition:** The draw was made.

18. **Trophy Presentations:** The Chairman presented the 2010 League Cup to **Kings Arms Hale** and the David Skidmore Trophy to **Hawkshead**.

**19. Any Other Business:**

**19.1. Thanks:** Milnthorpe expressed thanks to the Officials for running the League

**19.2. Westmorland Gazette Reports:** Hedley Stephens said he **must** have results from Friday matches by the **following Monday** if League Results are to appear in the following Thursdays Gazette.

20. **End of Meeting:** The Chairman thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 8.25pm.