

## SOUTH LAKELAND RURAL BOWLING LEAGUE

### Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held 16<sup>th</sup> November 2017 in The Athenaeum, Leasgill

**Present:** In the Chair **Tom Grindey**. Representatives from **Burneside** (J M Benn, W Atkinson), **Burton-in-Lonsdale** (John Mason, A Mason, Val Thompson, Chris Thompson), **Burton-in-Kendal** (David Raynor), **Crosthwaite & Lyth** (George Herd), **Heversham** (Mark Hutchinson), **Holme** (Ian Hayton), **Kirkby Lonsdale** (Monica Dodd, Hilary Lot), **Langdale** (Lynn Smith, Judy Ireton), **Milnthorpe** (William Morris, Fred Clowrey), **Netherfield** (Ian Woof), **Staveley** (Jim Garside), **Subscription** (Colin Howarth, Marge Park, M Hughes), **Victoria** (S Cornell) **Windermere** (Ian Edgar, J A Edgar, K Everson) (25 delegates representing 14 of the League's 16 clubs) Ms. K Edmondson (interpreter) and J D Smith.

1. **Welcome:** The Chairman welcomed representatives.
2. **Remembrance:** A minutes silence was held in remembrance of bowlers who had passed away in the past year. Mentioned by name were Hedley Stephens, former League Results Secretary and Bill Hunt, Milnthorpe.
3. **To receive apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from **K A Hale** (Brian Taylor) and Tom Baxter, County President.
4. **To receive Chairman's report:** The Chairman invited questions with regard to his report which, had been circulated prior to the meeting; none raised.
5. **To approve Minutes of previous AGM:** The Minutes of the meeting held 16<sup>th</sup> November 2016 which, had been circulated prior to the meeting were taken as read. Proposed by Staveley and seconded by Burton in Kendal and **AGREED** that Minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman.
6. **Matters arising from those Minutes:**
  - 6.1. **Minute item 9 Cumbria County President report:**' Request from Windermere that clubs be made aware of County wide contractors with certified operators with regard to application of pesticides'. This, it was believed, had still to happen.
  - 6.2. **Minute Item 7 Secretary's Report – intention to update League website;** The Secretary had continued to struggle with this and no updating had been done since January 2017. However, he had made another attempt yesterday; by changing his web browser he had at last been able to access the editing facility. Thus the 2016 and 2017 Trophy winners now appear.
- 7 **To receive the Secretary's Report:** This had been circulated prior to the meeting The Secretary apologised for date errors in recent documentation. He congratulated Robert Cartwright of Netherfield for having played 17 games and won them all. He noted Burneside's fast start to the season of 3 consecutive 8-0 wins. The Windermere v Sedbergh Skidmore match, played at Levens had been fascinating. The last doubles was a 'nip and tuck' affair which took nearly 3 hours. At one stage Sedbergh appeared to have a commanding lead but the Windermere pair, although eventually losing, kept chipping away to get the aggregate points needed to win the match when it was tied 2 games each.
- 8 **To receive Treasurer's Report and Accounts for year ending 31st October 2017:** Tabling the accounts the Acting Treasurer reported:-
  - i) Surplus for the year **£6.16**, compared to previous year's surplus of £81.16
  - ii) Balance in the League's Cumberland Building Society Account at year ending 31 October 2017 was **£645.38**. However, a cheque for Secretary's expenses of £181.14 had still to 'clear' at the year end. This cleared 3<sup>rd</sup> November and thus the true year end balance was **£464.24**.

CCCGBA

## SOUTH LAKELAND RURAL BOWLING LEAGUE – Minutes of AGM 16<sup>th</sup> November 2017 (con)

**Agreed:** Proposed by Subscription and seconded by Netherfield that the accounts be approved

**9 To receive report from Tom Baxter, President of the Cumbria County Crown Green Bowling Association (CCCGBA).** The following message from Tom was read: *Thanks for the invite to the AGM of South Lakeland Rural Bowling League, unfortunately I will be away visiting my mum and will not be able to attend. The AGM for the County will be held at the Gilpin Bridge Hotel on the Wednesday 6th December starting at 7.30pm. All clubs are invited with a voting power of two per club. Nominations are required for Vice President, a Secretary and County Team Managers. There will also be a discussion on a new county competition for the affiliated league champions. Hope your meeting goes well and hopes to see as many of you at the County AGM.*  
The Secretary to pass on the meetings thanks for the report.

**10 To elect Executive Officers for 2018 (Rule C6)** No nominations had been received

**10.1 Chairman: Tom Grindey** was willing to serve for a further year and was elected

**10.2 Treasurer:** No appointment made. Secretary to act as Treasurer until vacancy filled

**10.3 Secretary: J D Smith** willing to serve a further year and was re-elected

**11 To appoint 2 representatives to represent the League on the Cumbria County CGBA Committee;** No appointments made.

**12 To consider making donations to the Cumbria County Ladies CGBA and Cumbria County CGBA Junior Section (Rule C10):** Proposed by Subscription and seconded by Victoria and **AGREED** that donations of £25.00 each be made to Cumbria County Ladies and Cumbria County Juniors respectively, the latter to support County Junior competitions.

**13 To set the League fee for Season and entry fee for the David Skidmore Memorial Competition (Rule C10.2).** The Secretary recommended that League fee be set at £25 of which £5.00 would be for the David Skidmore entry fee. Proposed by Netherfield and seconded by Kirkby Lonsdale that the fee remains at £25.00 as last year; this was **AGREED**.

**14 To set the prize money for the David Skidmore Memorial Competition: AGREED:** proposed by that he total prize money remain at £100.00; Winner to receive £50, Runner –up £25.00, loosing Semi Finalists £12.50 each.

**15. To consider Notices of Motion (Rule C14 Changes to the Constitution or Rules):**

**MOTION 1 – FROM THE LEAGUE SECRETARY –** ‘That the Constitution and Rules as amended by the League Secretary (Issue dated 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017) be approved’.

**Motion seconded by Holme and Approved.**

-----  
**MOTION 2 – FROM NETHERFIELD BOWLING CLUB - OPPONENT SELECTION – CHANGE TO RULE 8.3**

**Proposal:** - Delete Rule R8.3 Opponent Selection - lines 1 to 3

**R8.3 Opponent selection –** ~~shall be by a random draw by the two Captains for SLRBL matches. Team Captains can exercise discretion only to avoid gross mismatching of inexperienced bowlers. No form of “Merit Order” opponent selection shall be permitted.~~

For the “David Skidmore Memorial Competition”, the two Captains shall draw, in a random fashion, for pairings and for opponents, overseen by the Host Club organiser.

**Substitute:**

**Proposed Rule R8.3; Opponent Selection.** In order to assist in pairing opposition players of similar abilities, opponent selection by ranking order shall be tried in Season 2018.

8.3.1 Ranking order to be based on averages per games played, appearing on Mb Results service web site. Order of ranking

1<sup>st</sup> Order – Individual points scored divided by games played. (A player who wins all his games will have a ranking of 21).

2<sup>nd</sup> Order – Individual games won

3<sup>rd</sup> Order – Aggregate (points For minus Against) divided by games played

8.3.2 For the first match of the season players will play in the order they were ranked in 2017. Unranked new and young players will go in at the bottom of the team.

8.3.3 A player drafted in from a perceived higher league/team to make up a team to go in at the top of the team as No 1 with a ranking of 21 points (or 1 and 2 if more players drafted in; order to be decided by Captain). Thereafter average ranking will apply.

8.3.4 Players perceived as Rural League players who did not play in Week 1 will have a zero ranking for their first match. Thereafter ranking order will apply

8.3.5 Players in teams joining or rejoining the League at start of season will have a zero rating for the first week. Thereafter ranking order will apply. Perceived Rural League players playing in such teams who play for the first time in subsequent weeks to have zero rating for their first match. Thereafter ranking order will apply.

8.36 Final ranking at the end of the season will require a minimum of 25% games to have been played.

For the “David Skidmore Memorial Competition”, the two Captains shall draw, in a random fashion, for pairings and for opponents, overseen by the Host Club organiser.

**Reason for Proposal:** The reasons for Motion 2 are outlined in Netherfield Bowling Club’s letter dated 12<sup>th</sup> September 2017 (Appendix A)

Motion 2 was seconded by **Langdale**. Ian Woof Netherfield spoke to the motion. A general discussion took place about this and Motions 3 & 4. The Motion was then put to the vote; **VOTES FOR 3, VOTES AGAINST 8; the Motion was thus LOST.**

---

### **MOTION 3 FROM LEAGUE CHAIRMAN – OPPONENT SELECTION - CHANGE TO RULE 8.3**

#### **Proposal - Delete second sentence**

**R8.3 Opponent selection**— shall be by a random draw by the two Captains for SLRBL matches-~~Team Captains can exercise discretion only to avoid gross mismatching of inexperienced bowlers.~~

No form of “Merit Order” opponent selection shall be permitted-

For the “David Skidmore Memorial Competition”, the two Captains shall draw, in a random fashion, for pairings and for opponents, overseen by the Host Club organiser.

#### **Substitute new second sentence – Rule to read**

**R8.3 Opponent selection**— shall be by a random draw by the two Captains for SLRBL matches-**Team Captains MUST endeavour to avoid gross mismatching of inexperienced bowlers.** No form of “Merit Order” opponent selection shall be permitted-

For the “David Skidmore Memorial Competition”, the two Captains shall draw, in a random fashion, for pairings and for opponents, overseen by the Host Club organiser.

**Reason to for proposal:** to hopefully FULLY avoid mismatches in every fixture by making the ability matching compulsory.

Motion 3 was seconded by **Burton in Lonsdale**. Tom Grindey spoke to the Motion. After the general discussion on Motion 2, 3 and 4 the motion was put to the vote; **VOTES FOR 3; VOTES AGAINST 8. The Motion was thus LOST**

-----  
**MOTION 4 FROM SUBSCRIPTION BOWLING CLUB – OPPONENT SELECTION - CHANGE TO RULE 8.2**

The Notice of Motion being Delete Rule R8.2 Handicapping **of players** is forbidden for SLRBL and for “David Skidmore Memorial” games

And replace with: - “Players should be Handicapped if they play in divisions 1. 2. 3. or 4 of the Kendal & District Bowling League.

- Division 1 players to give a handicap to their opponent of 5
- Division 2 players to give a handicap to their opponent of 4
- Division 3 players to give a handicap to their opponent of 3
- Division 4 players to give a handicap to their opponent of 2
- Division 5 and 6 to carry no handicap.

**The reason being:-**

The Rural League was originally started to give new and inexperienced bowlers confidence and experience to the game, this no longer happens in lots of Rural games, there is often 2nd and 3rd division bowlers playing to make up a team and are playing against completely new bowlers which puts new bowlers off the game and losing any confidence in bowling again. Marg Park, Assistant Secretary, Subscription Bowling Club.

The Motion was **seconded by Milnthorpe**. Marj Park spoke to the Motion. A general discussion took place about this Motion and Motions 3 & 4. The Motion was then put to the vote; **VOTES FOR 1: VOTES AGAINST 10. The Motion was thus LOST.**

-----  
16. **To consider application from Allithwaite to rejoin the League. AGREED:** That Allithwaite be re-admitted to the League.

17. **To consider application from Lindale to rejoin the League** (provisional application subject to confirmation following their Club AGM on 15th November). An e-mail from the Lindale Secretary had been in received following their meeting which says *‘the vote at our AGM, for whether Lindale should apply to enter a team in SLRBL, was not carried. This was mainly because, at this stage, we do not know whether we will need to take a team out of the Kendal and District League. It was hoped that we might be able to reconsider the decision for the 2019 season.’*

18. **To i) allocate new team(s) (if admitted) to geographical group. AGREED:** That Allithwaite be placed in the ‘South’ Group.

ii) **To consider fixture list format.** 8 team North Group to play each other 3 times, as last season, giving a 21 week season. South Group would have 9 teams. To play each other 3 times would require a 27 week season which was not practical having regard to 4 weeks required for the Skidmore competition. 9 teams playing each other twice gave an 18 week season with one team having no match each week. It was

## SOUTH LAKELAND RURAL BOWLING LEAGUE – Minutes of AGM 16<sup>th</sup> November 2017 (con)

decided not to have extra friendly fixtures, in order to give the South group more matches, as this had not worked very well when tried in Season 2016

16. **To make the draw for the 2018 David Skidmore Competition.** Langdale asked not to be included. A preliminary round was therefore not required and the competition would be played over 4 weeks rather than 5. The draw was then made, 16 clubs being entered.

17. **Presentation by the Chairman of the 2017 League Cup;** The Chairman presented the League Cup to **Crosthwaite and Lyth** to be held jointly with **Kings Arms Hale**, respective winners of the North and South groups for 6 months each.

**18. Any Other Business:**

**18.1 Chairman:** Heversham Bowling Club have a Christmas Coffee morning in The Athenaeum, Leasgill on Saturday 2nd December from 10am to 12 noon.

19. **Close the meeting:** There being no further business the Chairman thanked all for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.53pm.

\* \* \* \* \*