

SOUTH LAKELAND RURAL BOWLING LEAGUE

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held 21st November 2019 in The Athenaeum, Leasgill

Present: In the Chair **Tom Grindey**. Representatives from **Allithwaite** (Bob Lear, Peter Watson) **Burneside** (Bran Potts, Carla Potts), **Burton-in-Lonsdale** (Tony Blacow, Chris Thompson, Val Thompson), **Burton-in-Kendal** (David Raynor), **Crosthwaite & Lyth** (George Swanwick), **Heversham** (Mark Hutchinson), **Holme** (Ian Hayton), **Kirkby Lonsdale** (Hilary Whitfield), **Milnthorpe** (Mike Hughes, William Morris), **Netherfield** (Graham Brooks, Ian Woof), **Sedbergh** (John Haygarth) **Staveley** (Jim Garside), **Subscription** (Colin Howarth, Marge Park), **Victoria** (John Foster, Jackie Foster), **Windermere** (Keith Everson) (23 delegates representing 15 of the League's 16 clubs), Lisa McQuire (interpreter) and J D Smith.

1. **Welcome:** The Chairman welcomed representatives.
2. **Remembrance:** A minutes silence was held in remembrance of bowlers and friends who had passed away in the past year. Mentioned by name were David Craig Milnthorpe, June Walker, Beryl Wilson Burneside, Bryan Swift, Tony Wakefield, Fred Hodgson Kirkby Lonsdale, and Gilbert Bainbridge Sedbergh.
3. **To receive apologies for absence:** Apologies were received from **Langdale** (Lynn Smith), Dave O'Callaghan Burneside, George Herd Crosthwaite & Lyth, 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 15th November 2018 which, had been circulated prior to the meeting were taken as read. Proposed by Holme and seconded by Sedbergh and **AGREED** that Minutes be approved and signed by the Chairman.
6. **Matters arising from those Minutes:**
 - 6.1 **Minute 6.1.** Secretary proposed deletion of this long standing outstanding action from 2016. (request for list of operators licensed to apply pesticides to be notified to Clubs).
 - 6.2 **Minute 7.1 General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR);** Action on Secretary to obtain written consent of individuals to agreement for League to hold personal data such as e-mail addresses. Approximately 30 requests for consent made, 14 received. Secretary to pursue obtaining consents in 2020.
7. **To receive the Secretary's Report:** This had been circulated prior to the meeting. Additional point; he thought the League should have a younger Secretary and would be pleased to hear from anyone interested in taking on the role.
8. **To receive Treasurer's Report and Accounts for year ending 31st October 2018:** Tabling the accounts the Treasurer reported that a surplus of £99.21 principally generated as a result of increasing subscription the previous year. The balance held in the League Account with the Cumberland Building Society was £570.41.

Proposed by Allithwaite and seconded by Milnthorpe and **AGREED** that the accounts be approved
9. **To receive report from Tom Baxter, President of the Cumbria County Crown Green Bowling Association (CCGGBA).** Tom was unable to attend due work commitments. However, the Annual General Meeting of the CCGGBA was to be held at The Smithy Inn, Holme on Monday 9th December at 7.30pm.

- 10. To elect Executive Officers for 2020** (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:** Jim Garside was willing to serve for a further year and was elected.
 - 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;**
The Secretary said he had endeavoured to represent the League in the absence of appointments being made last year. Meetings currently alternate between Dalton Cricket Club and The Smithy Inn, Holme. Good way to get involved. He had been able to attend the BCCGBA Rules meeting which he found fascinating. Cumbria would hold the British CCGBA Presidency in 2020 through Ken Howarth, currently Vice President. No volunteers to serve in 2020 so no appointments again made.
- 12. To consider making donations to the Cumbria County Ladies CGBA and Cumbria County CGBA Junior Section (Rule C10)** Marge Park pointed out that the County Ladies had merged with Cumbria CCGBA. It was reported that attempts were being made to get the County Juniors restarted. **AGREED:** Proposed by Subscription, Seconded by Windermere 'That donation of £25.00 be made to County Juniors should they restart'.
- 13. To set the League fee for Season and entry fee for the David Skidmore Memorial Competition (Rule C10.2).** The Treasurer proposed that the League and Skidmore Competition fee be merged having regard to Rule C10.2 (*The AGM will decide the SLRBL annual subscription required from each team, inclusive of the David Skidmore Competition.*). He recommended an increase in subscription of £1.00 making combined fee £31.00 for Season 2020. Proposed by Crosthwaite, seconded by Heversham and **AGREED** 'That League fee for season 2020 is set at £31.00'. There was one vote against.
- 14. To set the prize money for the David Skidmore Memorial Competition: AGREED:** proposed by Allithwaite seconded by Burneside that the 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 1st January 2019) be approved'. Seconded by Netherfield and **AGREED**.

MOTION 2 - DAVID SKIDMORE COMPETITION – FROM LEAGUE SECRETARY

'That Rule DSR-1 be amended **by deleting words crossed through** and **substituting words underlined thus** i) *This 'knock-out' 'doubles' competition shall be open only to the Clubs participating in the SLRBL and for players who have played in 50% of the League games in the current season* **at least two League games in the current season.**

Speaking to the Motion the Secretary said the eligibility qualification requirement of 50% caused problems and clubs to withdraw from the 2019 Competition; they found they had insufficient players whilst others played with less than 8 players. In addition new players starting to bowl in the League were effectively barred because they could not play enough games to qualify. The purpose of the Rule is simply to establish the principle that to play in the David Skidmore Competition the player should have

played in the League. The level proposed is intended to meet this principle whilst ensuring the majority who play in the League are also eligible to play in the Competition. After discussion an **AMENDMENT** was proposed by Netherfield, seconded by Allithwaite that *Rule DSR1 i)* read.

*'This 'knock-out' 'doubles' competition shall be open only to the Clubs participating in the SLRBL and for players who have played in 50% of the ~~at least~~ **at least FOUR** League games in the current season. **BOWLERS NEWLY REGISTERED IN THE CURRENT SEASON WILL QUALIFY IRRESPECTIVE OF THE NUMBER OF GAMES PLAYED'*** The Amendment was then voted on and **AGREED**

MOTION 3 - HANDCAPPING OF NEWLY REGISTERED BOWLERS – FROM LEAGUE SECRETARY

That Rule R8.2 which reads '*Handicapping of players is forbidden for SLRBL and for "David Skidmore Memorial" games*' be amended to read '*Handicapping of players is forbidden for SLRBL and for "David Skidmore Memorial" games*' except *that BCGBA Registered Players who were first Registered in the previous two seasons and current season may receive +3 'chalks' on the card in all their League games in the current Season.'*

Speaking to Motion the Secretary said the background to this proposal was as outlined in the Secretary's Report dated 31 October 2019. The intention is for less experienced players to be encouraged, by endeavouring to avoid them experiencing 21-0 & 21-1 defeats which have occurred in past seasons. In Season 2020 this Rule, if adopted, would apply to players who were newly Registered in Seasons 2018, 2019 and 2020 and who would receive +3. Discussion took place; it was felt it was up to captains to try to ensure, that wherever possible, new and inexperienced players were 'protected' through pairing up prior to the main draw being made. The Motion failed to be Seconded; **MOTION LOST**

MOTION 4 – TO CONSIDER AN APPLICATION FROM AMBLESIDE BOWLING CLUB TO JOIN THE LEAGUE.

The County Registrar, Colin Haworth commented that Ambleside had Registered 12 new players in 2019. Proposed by Netherfield and seconded by Staveley and **AGREED** that Ambleside be admitted to the League.

16. To consider Season 2020 Fixture format:

North Group will have 9 teams following admittance of Ambleside. This gives an 18 week season, one team having a no match week each week. Season would start on 24th April and end on 21st August 2020

South Group now has 8 teams following Hale's withdrawal. A 21 week season was proposed with each team playing the other clubs 3 times. Season to commence on Friday April 10th which, is Good Friday and end on August 28th. The League Rule R3.2 states *If 'Good Friday' falls in April it will be a scheduled match date, but with the proviso that a Club may agree with their opponents to play the game on another day within the same week.*

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David Skidmore Memorial Competition to be played on neutral greens, as last season, using 2 Wednesdays and 4 Fridays. Preliminary Round not required, Langdale not wishing to be included. Holme placed in bottom half of draw to play on Friday's only, to avoid clash with start of new school term which, affected them in 2019

- 17. To make the draw for the 2020 David Skidmore Competition.** A draw was made of 16 clubs, with matches allocated for Rounds 1 and Quarter Final on neutral greens.

- 18. Presentation by the Chairman of the 2019 League Cup:** The Chairman presented the League Cup to **Burnside** to be held jointly with **Burton in Lonsdale**, respective winners of the North and South groups for 6 months each.

- 19. Any Other Business:** None

- 20. Close the meeting:** There being no further business the Chairman thanked all for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.59pm.

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