

BOWLS WAIRARAPA INCORPORATED
MINUTES OF THE 25TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT
CARRINGTON BOWLING & CROQUET CLUB ON
WEDNESDAY 18TH JULY 2024 AT 6:30PM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Garry Muriwai (Chairman), Gavin Hamlyn (Executive Officer), Stacey Smyth

DELEGATES PRESENT: Tracey Jacobson (Carrington), Pat Herbert (Greytown), Stephen Elliott (Lansdowne), Rozanna Muriwai and Gavin Hamlyn (Martinborough), Warren Fisher and Colin Hutchby (Masterton), Lorraine Liggins and Kevin Liggins (Masterton Park), No delegates from Featherston present.

OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Teresa Hogg, Karen Armitage

WELCOME:

Chairman, Garry Muriwai opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the 25th Annual General Meeting and thanked them for their attendance.

REPORTS FROM OFFICERS OF THE CENTRE:

Chairman's Report:

Firstly, a big thank you to our Board members who have ensured the smooth administration of the Centre once again. It seems to be the norm these days that a few people do a lot, which I know happens at the Club level as well. Special mention to the greens committee for ensuring we had appropriate greens for Centre play, and to Stacey and Gavin who took on extra work as controllers at Centre events.

Thanks to our EO Gavin for his tireless efforts in getting new initiatives underway and taking on additional responsibilities, including ensuring our Secondary School team and under-26 team were put in place and developed. Many of you would be aware of the introduction of Bowls Hub, a vastly improved website, a strong Facebook presence, and other online platforms, as well as the development of a sponsor pack. Gavin has also been working on our latest initiative, an online bowls shop. We have been accepted as an approved Henselite dealer and will be selling bowls and accessories, including second-hand bowls for those looking to trade in their old set for a new one.

Thanks also to our sponsors, who have been crucial in helping us continue to develop as a Centre. Please support them and make sure they know you are a Wairarapa bowler.

A big thanks also to our selectors, Tanya and Lester, for their time and commitment. We wish Lester all the best as he steps down from his role as selector. Thanks to our club delegates, umpires, markers, green teams, who ensured we played on good greens, and clubs for their hospitality during Centre events. Special thanks to Carrington for the use of their clubroom as needed.

This season saw the introduction of a new Mixed 2x4x2 Centre pathway event, which will be a Champ of Champ event going forward. For me, the highlight of the year was the performance of the Junior men and women squads, who both won the WKWM competition – a great achievement!

We managed to keep our costs down despite losing our long-term grant from ECCT due to a change in their criteria. It was pleasing to see higher entries in our Centre events, and we are delighted to finally have new representative shirts and jackets.

With the loss of the Eketahuna Club and the upcoming amalgamation of Lansdowne and Masterton Park, we will be down to six clubs. Additionally, we have seen a 5% drop in playing numbers, down to 224 members. As a Centre, we need to focus on growing our membership as our current members are aging. My question to all members is: What can you do to help us continue to grow and thrive? Please look at the Bowls Australia Recruitment and Retention brochure that will be sent to all clubs; it has many suggestions to consider.

The Board is committed to supporting our members and attracting new ones, but we all need to “do our bit.” There are several new initiatives that we are working on to further strengthen the financial wellness of our Centre, which I will report on during the coming year. The main initiatives are:

- Online Bowls shop
- New sponsorship package
- Junior Bowls Academy
- Use of technology to streamline many of the Centre’s activities

We need to work together to attract new members, so continuing to share ideas on growing our membership base is vital. We should also consider the types of membership and other uses of our premises, as well as other new ideas. I would like to see more people volunteering to help the Centre, whether in small ways like offering assistance at Centre events, helping with sponsorship, or in larger roles such as running for President, VP, Board, etc. We continue to rely on the same people for these tasks, and it would be great to have a larger pool of volunteers. Additionally, I encourage clubs to ask for help if they face any issues so that we can support them in thriving.

I look forward to the continued success and development of our Centre in the coming years.

Garry Muriwai, Chairman

MOVED: Warren Fisher

SECONDED: Pat Herbert

CARRIED & ADOPTED

REMEMBRANCE OF MEMBERS NO LONGER WITH US:

Everyone stood for a minute’s silence to remember those passed in the last year.

APOLOGIES:

Hayden Frew, Brenda Whitehead, Ray Cleary, Therese Meyrick, Roger Smeaton, Geoff Balmain.

MOVED: Kevin Liggins

SECONDED: Rozanna Muriwai

CARRIED & ADOPTED

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

A Masterton delegate commented that they didn't appreciate the remark about a burning ceremony for the old representative shirts, as it could be offensive to some people. The Chair clarified that it was merely a turn of phrase, meaning there was no need to wear the old uniform again. The minutes of the previous AGM were accepted as a true and accurate record.

MOVED: Stephen Elliott

SECONDED: Tracey Jacobson

CARRIED & ADOPTED

MATTERS ARISING:

There were no matters arising.

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS:

The Chair advised that a review has not been completed yet. The reason is that the previous person, Len Morgan, recently informed us that they have retired and had no interest in reviewing our accounts this

3. Representative fundraising. All players will be asked to support fundraising this coming year
4. Interclub fees – no change.
5. Entry fees – no change at \$20 per player
6. Grants – We are applying for another ECCT and Trust House grant to help cover the development of a junior academy and representative travel and accommodation
7. Sponsorship – We are committed to attracting new sponsors and this would result in an increased surplus.
8. Masters – players will pay \$100 each to cover evening meals and incidentals.
9. Bowls Shop – online shop will be launched this week.

Expenditure:

1. Administration costs remain similar to last year
2. Centre fixtures - Green fees remain the same although Greytown made to decision not to charge green fees to support the Centre last year.
3. Representative fixtures. Costs are lower as we will travel instead of staying where possible. Travel costs will be discussed further by the Board and may be reduced with players bearing some of the costs
4. Scorecards are to be re stocked at a cost of \$700
5. Coaching equipment of \$2,000 has been allowed for.
6. Other costs remain similar to last year

The Masterton delegate suggested that people could cover the costs of their own travel to representative games, and other players could contribute to paying the driver. The delegate also mentioned that the centre has coaching equipment but was unsure of its location, except for some flapjacks housed at Masterton BC.

The Lansdowne delegate expressed annoyance over the mat fee adjustment being introduced late, near the end of the financial year. The EO apologized and acknowledged that the error was spotted late, and the adjustments were communicated as soon as they were discovered.

The Masterton delegate asked what was going to change this year to avoid a loss. The Chair responded that if they achieve what they think they can achieve, then they will make a profit.

The Masterton delegate noted that the replacement flags were not included in the budget. The Chair said they would continue using the current flags for this season. The Masterton delegate expressed dissatisfaction with a potential black replacement flag. There was a discussion and clarification on the flag's colour. Board minutes had stated that a new flag would match the colours of the uniform. The Chair explained that this comment didn't mean that the flag would be black, as the uniform includes red and green. The delegate affirmed that the colours are red and green.

MOVED: Pat Herbert

SECONDED: Tracey Jacobson

CARRIED & ADOPTED

CONSIDERATION & DETERMINATION OF NOTICES OF MOTION:

No remits were received

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT:

There were no nominations received. The Chair asked if anyone had shown interest in either of the roles. If we find anyone who would like to help, we can add them later. The Masterton delegate said he would bring it up during their upcoming club AGM. Additionally, the Masterton delegate requested that the board forward a job description and responsibilities for the roles.

ELECTION OF PERSON TO A SELECTION PANEL:

The Chair advised that delegates could elect a person for the Selection Panel. The person can be chosen by a delegate but cannot be a delegate. The Masterton delegate mentioned that Jon Harman had performed the role before. The Chair asked if there were any objections to Jon's appointment, subject to his approval, and there were none.

The Masterton delegate said this would be discussed at their upcoming AGM.

The Carrington delegate asked who else was on the panel. The Chair said it is normally the president and the board.

MOVED: Warren Fisher

SECONDED: Lorraine Liggins

CARRIED & ADOPTED

APPOINTMENT OF SUITABLY QUALIFIED PERSON TO COMPLETE AN ANNUAL REVIEW:

The Chair would like to evaluate the report from Sophisticated Accounting. If they do a good job, the board will recommend their appointment. The board can provide this update at the next delegates meeting.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

The Carrington delegate inquired whether the representative selector would be a sole selector or part of a panel. The Chair responded that the board would interview and select the selectors and would determine the most effective approach to move forward during that process. The intention is to avoid having a selector working in isolation, without support or input from others.

The Lansdowne delegate inquired about a recommended supplier for uniforms. The Chair advised that the centre uses Knockout Sport and has been pleased with their service. Muzzy Shirts and Dynasty Sport are also other options to consider.

The Chair mentioned that for centre events, players are not required to wear matching tops. Instead, they must wear whites or club colours/bowls-specific shirts. When asked if anyone opposed this idea, no one voiced any objections.

The Masterton delegate asked how many board meetings were held this year. A board member confirmed that there were six. The Masterton delegate also noted that some of the minutes on the website did not read correctly. The EO responded that the website links might be incorrect and would correct them if necessary.

The Masterton delegate requested that for centre events, the draws be printed in hard copy and posted at the respective club in a timely manner before the start of the event, in addition to being available online.

The Greytown delegate said the minutes should be adopted and not just approved. The Chair agreed and the minutes were adopted.

Teresa Hogg commented that the U26 players conducted themselves very well and inquired if the centre was planning any initiatives with local colleges. The EO responded that Brady Amer from Bowls Wellington

is helping to create a college bowls competition for Term 4 this year. The Masterton delegate then asked if there were any flyers available, as Masterton is currently working with two colleges.

The Masterton Park delegate inquired about the plans for this year's gala considering the amalgamation of Masterton Park and Lansdowne. The Lansdowne delegate responded that discussions are ongoing. The Masterton Park delegate suggested considering the cancellation of the New Year gala, as it is very difficult to fill. The Lansdowne delegate proposed leaving all the galas in the program for now and removing them from the website or updating on Facebook once decisions have been made and the confirmed galas are known.

Lorraine Liggins stated that her number needs to be corrected in the centre programme. There is a 0 missing at the end. The Lansdowne delegate advised that we should continue using the current contacts for Masterton Park and Lansdowne, and will inform us when an update is necessary

The Chair asked whether it would matter to the clubs if their closing days were on the same day/weekend. There were no objections.

Meeting Closed: 8:00pm **Next AGM to be held:** Before 31 July 2025