

BOWLS WAIRARAPA INCORPORATED
MINUTES OF THE 26TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT
CARRINGTON BOWLING & CROQUET CLUB ON
WEDNESDAY 14TH JULY 2025 AT 6:30PM

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

DELEGATES PRESENT: Nairn MacGibbon (Masterton), Warren Fisher (Masterton), Rozanna Muriwai (Martinborough), Tracey Jacobson (Carrington), Geoff Balmain (Carrington), Stephen Elliott (Lakeside), Danusia Leatham (Lakeside), Hayden Frew (Martinborough).

OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Fiona Alexander, Alanna Saunders, Karen Armitage, Carol Voller, Allan Renall

WELCOME:

Chair, Garry Muriwai opened the meeting and welcomed everyone to the 26th Annual General Meeting.

APOLOGIES: Darren Meyrick, Teresa Hogg

MOVED: Rozanna Muriwai

SECONDED: Warren Fisher

CARRIED & ADOPTED

The Chair confirmed that with 4 out of the 6 clubs represented, a quorum has been reached.

REMEMBRANCE OF MEMBERS NO LONGER WITH US:

The Chair acknowledged members who have passed away this season. A minutes' silence was observed in their memory.

REPORTS FROM CHAIR:

Firstly, once again, a big thank you to our Board members who again have ensured that the administration of the Centre ran smoothly. After giving many years of service to the Board the full Board Stacey, Hayden, Geoff and Darren have made the decision to step down. I want to personally thank them for giving their time and energy to supporting the Centre and wish them well for the future. They have made a huge contribution to the Board and Bowls in our Centre which I feel goes unrecognized by most people. I know that all four will continue to be involved through their Clubs and will continue to "make a difference" both on and off the greens.

I personally will also be finishing as Chair and Board member but will commit to ensuring that we have in place a Board or some alternative.

Thanks to our EO Gavin for continuing his tireless efforts in moving the Centre forward and taking on a lot of additional unpaid responsibilities. Thanks also to our sponsors which have been important in helping us continue to develop as a centre. Please support them and make sure they know that you are a Wairarapa bowler. A big thanks also to our selectors Tanya and Clint for the time and commitment they put into the roles. Thanks to our club delegates, umpires, markers, green teams who ensured we played on good greens, clubs for their hospitality during centre events, Carrington for the use of their clubroom as needed. This season saw the introduction of a new 60+ Triples which was very well supported, and we add another 60+ Centre event next season.

For me the highlights of the year were:

- The performance of all our Representative teams who continue to compete well against all the bigger Centres.
- The development of our Bowls Shop. It is my hope that more support will be received from bowlers as they think about purchasing bowls and bowls related goods.
- Keeping our costs under control with less and less funding available.
- Higher entries in our centre events
- Great online presence
- The further development of our Coaching programme and in future with the support of WBS we will further develop this initiative.

The future

- We are down to 6 clubs. This year saw a decrease in total playing numbers down to 214 players. As a Centre we must look at growing numbers as our current membership is aging. My question to all members is – What can you do to help us continue to grow and thrive?
- We need to get behind our Bowls Shop as any profits go back into developing our Centre.
- The new Board will need to continue to be committed to supporting our members and also to helping attract new members, but we all need to “do our bit”.
- There are a number of new initiatives that we are continuing to work on to further strengthen the financial wellness of our Centre which I will report to you on during the coming year. The main initiatives are:
 - Online Bowls Shop
 - New Sponsors
 - Bowls Academy
 - Use of technology to streamline a lot of the Centre’s activities

I wanted to finish my overview with this:

We need to work together to attract new members as we, as you would expect, we have members pass away every year...so continuing to share ideas on growing our member base with each other is vitally important.

I would really like to see more people putting their hands up to help the centre...it could be in a small way like offering to help at centre events, help with sponsorship, put their name forward for President, Vice President, Board, etc.... we continue to have the same people giving their time in doing these jobs and it would be great to have a larger pool of people. I also would like to see clubs ask for help if they have any issues so that we can support them to thrive.

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

Garry Muriwai, Chairman

MOVED: Geoff Balmain

SECONDED: Hayden Frew

CARRIED & ADOPTED

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING:

Taken as a correct and true record.

MOVED: Warren Fisher

SECONDED: Stephen Elliott

CARRIED & ADOPTED

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS:

The Chair advised the review is not yet complete and confirmed that Sophisticated Accounting, the same company as last year, will be engaged again.

MOVED: Hayden Frew

SECONDED: Alanna Saunders

CARRIED & ADOPTED

FINANCIAL REVIEW:

The review needs to be completed before the motion can be proposed.

- The source of donations was confirmed as player contributions.
- Concerns were raised regarding the high cost of events for player representatives and the level of club support. The Chair noted that Delegates had voted in support of contributions, which are intended to recognise and support volunteers such as umpires and tournament controllers. Funds may be returned to the Centre if not required.
- Player contributions towards representative fixtures, including the Masters, were discussed. While some other centres do not request contributions, this is not the case locally. Historically, there was a coach budget and travel payments for umpires, which are no longer provided, though renewals continue. Greenkeepers also have funds in reserve for support purposes.
- The Chair advised that a coach budget may be considered in the future with support from a WBS grant for the Academy.
- A Trillian Trust grant of approximately \$700 was returned due to a procedural error.
- A query regarding a grant/donation appearing double was addressed, with the Chair explaining ongoing efforts to secure and increase grant funding.

MOVED:

SECONDED:

CARRIED & ADOPTED

FIXING THE MEMBERSHIP FEES:

The Chair advised that a 4% increase is proposed, equating to \$2.02 including GST, based on slightly lower membership numbers and increased costs.

MOVED: Warren Fisher

SECONDED: Geoff Balmain

CARRIED & ADOPTED

PRESENTATION OF THE BUDGET 2025/2026:

- The Chair presented a bare-bones budget, noting increased travel costs and the need for all representative players to be involved in fundraising.
- Fundraising ideas discussed included quiz nights hosted by clubs (with proceeds to the representative fund and a small share of bar profit retained by the host club) and raffles (e.g., approaching Henselite for a set of bowls). Estimated profit of \$3,000 from two quiz nights per year.
- Delegates agreed to take back to clubs the idea of waiving green fee hire for representative fixtures.
- Discussion noted that if sufficient funds are not raised, players may be required to contribute directly to travel costs.
- Budgeted representative funding has increased from \$2,000 to \$3,000. This has been reallocated from donations back into player contributions.
- Engraving costs have increased from \$1,200 to \$2,000. A grant for new trophies has been received, and options such as barcodes/technology are being considered to reduce future engraving costs.
- Representative fixture costs noted at \$8,000 for quad and octagonal events, with Intercentre costs now listed separately. Travel to Auckland will require cost-saving measures such as driving rather than flying.
- It was agreed that increased revenue would allow greater investment in recruitment with clubs.
- Discussion took place around whether there was a need to increase in EO remuneration to match increased cost of living costs; this will be referred to the Board.
- Handbook printing will be reduced, with a view to transitioning further towards online access.
- Coach support – Centre to consider financial assistance for coaches.

MOVED: Nairn MacGibbon

SECONDED: Stephen Elliott

CARRIED & ADOPTED

CONSIDERATION & DETERMINATION OF NOTICES OF MOTION:

Motion 1

Constitutional Change: Appointment of Club Delegates as Board Members.

That each affiliated club appoint a maximum of two official delegates who shall also serve as members of the Board of Bowls Wairarapa, with full voting rights and board responsibilities.

MOVED: Carrington Bowling and Croquet Club

Following discussion, the motion was put to vote:

For: 1

Against: 7

Abstentions: 0

Result: Motion not carried.

Motion 2

That the change to the awards criteria for Bowls Wairarapa Player of the Year, be unwound to no longer include results for Centre events outside the Wairarapa region.

The Chair noted that this is a normal resolution; it goes back to the Board and is not binding. A survey is already underway.

MOVED: Masterton Bowling Club

For: 3

Against: 5

Abstentions: 0

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT AND VICE-PRESIDENT:

There were no nominations received.

ELECTION OF PERSON TO A SELECTION PANEL:

The Chair noted that last year members were happy with John Harman and asked if everyone was comfortable with his re-appointment.

All were in favour – none against, subject to John confirming he is willing to accept the role.

MOVED: Warren Fisher

SECONDED: Hayden Frew

CARRIED & ADOPTED

GENERAL BUSINESS:

- The Centre currently has no functioning board. Delegates will consult with their clubs regarding nominations to form a new board. Until a board is established, the Executive Officer (EO) reports directly to Bowls NZ.
- Nominations will be reviewed by a selection panel. The board will consist of board members and the Chair in the absence of a President.
- Bowls NZ has offered temporary support during the transition, noting associated costs. Bowls NZ will not recruit board members directly.
- Delegates' meeting to be scheduled within 2–4 weeks to progress nominations. Delegates have voting rights even if not formal board members. Board membership is open to non-playing members.

- If insufficient nominations are received, Bowls NZ may administer the Centre temporarily, without local control, for a period dependent on costs and funding. Clarification on responsibilities, costs, and duration will be sought from Bowls NZ.
- Delegates will be contacted by email to confirm a suitable meeting date and are encouraged to forward any ideas or suggestions to the EO.

Meeting Closed: 8:10pm

Next AGM to be held: Before 31 July 2026