

Minutes of North Midlands Ladies Bowls AGM Season 2023

23rd January 2024

1. Roll Call – All present

2. Minutes of 2022 Season AGM held 12th Jan 2023 – Via MB Bowls agreed as true record

3. Matters arising – None

4. Notices of motion/Rules

4 Received – to be voted on with 2 votes per club:

1 - 7pm Start – Griff – not carried

2 - 7 players to 6 players – Attleborough – not carried

3 - Players should be registered as a club not team - so any player registered can play for any team in only 1 fixture on the same date (original fixture date if game is rearranged). On the back of this any player can only play against the same team and venue once per season. This should prevent less rearranged games as teams can use any available player. Bedworth Ex – not carried

4 - Rule changes regarding cancelling/rearranging games – the League should be guided by the Coventry & District Rules – the following is an extract from their Rules. Bedworth Ex – not carried, room had noted the rule below had actually been revised and this was no longer the correct ruling.

F. Scheduling

Postponing Matches

3.

a. All matches must be played on or before the date in the handbook. The exceptions being if the green is unplayable or through exceptional circumstances with full agreement from the League Management Committee. In the event of postponement or adjournment, notice of such must be sent by the team responsible for calling off the match to the Match Secretary. Infringement of this beyond three days will result in a fine of £5.00.

b. If postponement of all or any part of a match is necessary due to green being unplayable, teams must agree and must complete the fixture within 28 days of the original date.

c. Any Match cancelled during the last four weeks of the season must be played within seven days of the end of the season.

4.

a. Should fixtures not be played as scheduled within the handbook then the NON-OFFENDING Team must send in a match sheet to the Match Secretary explaining why the match has not been completed.

b. The non-offending Team will then be awarded appropriate points by The League Committee and their players given scores of 21-11 at home and 21-15 away.

c. A re-occurrence in the same season may result in a Team being expelled from the League. – not carried

5. Secretary's report

A fabulous season was had by all and the weather (from memory) was very kind to us most of the time.

Team entries were requested and have been agreed as follows and as with previous years Bank Holidays will be avoided where possible when fixtures are created. Fixtures are expected to be released within the next 4 weeks and will be notified on the MB Bowls website and the Facebook page.

Division 1

Dunlop Lightning
Haunchwood A
Newdigate A
Bedworth Ex A
Attleborough A
Windmill

RELEGATED Atherstone Cons (to make both leagues 8 teams, if Attleborough C remain then this relegation will not stand.

RELEGATED Newdigate B

RELEGATED Griff A

Division 2

PROMOTED Griff Diamonds

PROMOTED Wagon

Haunchwood Hounds

Attleborough B

Attleborough C - DROPPED OUT

Bedworth Ex B

SAA

Dunlop Thunder

This season saw far more interaction as MB Bowls has now been embedded and every result was entered by teams swiftly and generally accurately. Delegates are reminded of the ability and responsibility of both captains to check and submit the results; home team should enter and then away team log in to check and also agree.

Please note AGM/Minutes/Comp details will be entered on the site along with the rules and fixtures when finalised.

Please can **only changes** to captains details and **only changes to players** names be submitted to Kate Williams by the end of February. To access club contacts for captains' information you must log into MB Bowls using your passwords.

To register new players, please contact Martin Dobson via <http://north-midlands-cgba.co.uk/contact-us/> telephone 07904 589480.

A reminder, it is the captain's responsibility to ensure their details are correct in the contact section and advise Kate Williams of any changes.

Finally, Kate wished all the bowls family a wonderful season which is hoped to be full of sunshine and laughter and many more successes.

6 - Treasurers Reports

Auditors were thanked for their assistance.

2022/23 balance sheet shared. We still have a strong position financially.

We are still awaiting insurance bill to come through.

Please submit treasurer details to Pat if there have been any changes.

7. Competition Secretary's Report - No secretary in post.

Pre - Season - Woolly Hat 2024 (and FREE Hot Chocolate) Pot luck Pairs- Saturday 13th April 10am £5 entry per person @ the Griff. Once the draw is made all players in the draw will be billed if they withdraw.

Two shot home player handicaps in all games where a Griff Club member is in a pair. No Woolly Hat no entry – names to Kate Williams by 15thth March – Live Draw to follow. This is open to all players, new, juniors, men and ladies and it is hoped the North Midlands delegates will show good support for this new competition.

Summer Bash 2024 scheduled at the Griff on Sunday 8th Sept 10am start – names required to secure place as will fill up quickly. Once the draw is made all players in the draw will be billed if they withdraw.

8. Election of officers - All post holders remaining in post with support of the room.

Kate Williams Notice of Resignation:

I took on this post for “a year” in a very spontaneous moment back at the start of 2015, making this my 10th season in post. When I took on the post, I made a promise that in my role I would do so for the benefit of our sport, the delegates and the community without bias or favouritism and that all decisions would be made using common sense and kindness and I would stay in post whilst this was the case. The delegates and players have always respected my viewpoint and decision making; however, this came into question this season. I made a decision this year to allow a player to sub into another team due to the team being short as a result of the sad death of a player’s husband. No promotion, relegation or averages would have been affected which I had checked first, this also meant another player was allowed to sub in to but yet this decision was deemed as “out of order” and “a complete overturn of our league rules”. The rest of the details are irrelevant however as I stated at the start of my tenure, I would not remain in post where people in our bowls fraternity choose to treat each other with such disregard and so with this and along with now being a grandma of 2 beautiful granddaughters and now having a wonderful holiday home to enjoy, I feel this is the right time for me to step back but don’t worry I will see this season through.

Looking back on the last 10 years, I feel exceptionally proud first and foremost and any small negativity should not be dwelled on. The North Midlands league has maintained its strong 2 division league and despite Covid we managed to bounce back unscathed and with renewed enthusiasm.

We led the way in the digital operations of the League, even before MB Bowls came about and we are now completely paperless whilst delivering information that is both timely and useful.

The League had no successful competition’s running and without the help of a competition secretary the players of the league have now supported the successful running of two competitive and fun competitions with spaces selling out almost immediately and overcapacity and the days themselves showing what our bowling is all about, friendship, kind rivalry, support of all players at all abilities and most of all, smiles and laughter. I really hope the Summer Bash and Woolly Hat continue to be so well supported and I look forward to actually partaking!!

The league presentation was in much need of a revamp and my goodness did we do that. We took on the concept of supporting local charities and the tickets and attendance was mind blowing. We have supported a number of local charities raising over £3,500 over the time we have run them. We have had race nights, cashino nights, drag artists and many crazy games which would never work without the support of each of the players, they say I am a bit wild but you guys prove that it is not just me!

The league has worked closely in recent time with the Nuneaton Ladies League and they have enjoyed being part of our evolution and they have been an absolute pleasure to work with.

My peers on the committee have always been trusting if not sometimes sceptical of my antics and personally Gina has always been an amazing counsel and a wonderful friend. The next postholder will be well placed and supported by her.

Finally, a huge thank you to each and every person who has just gone with it, supported me, taken on a job (of which there have been many). This job is not a solo flight, it works because we all work together and I am immensely grateful to you all.

I have bowled for approx. 36 years now and I don't think I will ever stop. I only encourage players to always to continue with their kindness to each other and continue to love the sport we all choose.

9. League Fees – Discussed and agreed in treasurers report – the one-off concession of £5 as a gift to support clubs during a year of hard economic times has come to an end the casino fees return to £7.

10. Honorariums – Remain same

11 – Presentation night

The 2023 presentation was an immense success and saw a huge and generous £843 raised for the charities – Doorway Nuneaton and Rallie for Hallie. Kath was busy grabbing bargains and delivered £422 worth of useful items to Doorway. The remaining funds are currently held by the League following the sad news that Hallie passed away just after the presentation evening. A decision needs to be made by the League as to how they wish for this to be donated. The criteria are that the charity needs to be local and preferably that we can make a tangible purchase.

North Warwickshire County Ladies continued to support our presentation and is another partnership which is greatly appreciated.

Dates for the next Presentation and charities to support will be discussed at the first league meeting.

12 - Next meeting - First league meeting of 2024 to be confirmed, will be after start of season, likely to be mid-May.