

Bowls Scotland District 6 annual meeting minutes

Venue Bridge of Earn B.C. Date Sunday February 28th 2016 Time 2pm

1. Welcome and apologies.

Club President George Laing welcomed 41 members from 22 clubs to the 2016 District meeting – with one apology from Stanley.

Eddie, in turn, gave a welcome to Stuart Bell, the Bowls Scotland Regional Development officer for Central District, Tayside and Fife.

Stuart then gave a short update on his Development role including the Try Bowls Programme and Bowls Parc equipment.

He then went onto Funding which can be available for clubs – he left funding package information; which Eddie gave out at the end of the meeting.

Eddie thanked Stuart for his contribution which was applauded from those present.

2. Minutes of the meeting held 02 / 02 / 15. Circulated to clubs April 2015

Matters arising from the minutes:

A Constitution – for latest info go to "Help for Clubs" via Sport Scotland web site

B Bar Licenses – no information re any changes

C Food regulations – no-one has had a visit though all had advertised the info given re: Allergies and allergens

D. Eddie congratulated I.T.O's Alistair Cummings and Cathy Kinnear on their selection to officiate as umpires in New Zealand at the World Championships in November.

3. District Secretaries annual report

National Championships – no success for the men

Well done the Ladies Pairs Irene and Marie – Now ranked 6th in Scotland and as National Champions they now seeded through to last 32 at Glasgow in Super Series in Aug

C.H.A.S. Collection at semi-final and finals raised £187 40p

New draw sheets this year. No games at Ayr starting after 6pm. Latest information on footwear in the National Championships awaited; though at Ayr shoes must be predominately white. Check the B.S.2016 year book for clarification

Internationals – Chris McGready Did well in his first year; leading on the only rink to be undefeated – though England emerged as winners with Scotland second

Eddie was elected Vice President at the Bowls Scotland Agm in Aberdeen and now attends Board Meetings – he highlighted how much work the Directors do and time they put in for what is a voluntary position

B.S. Agm Sat Nov 26th at Bothwell Hotel, Bothwell, Lanarkshire – The B.S. Agm has now been moved to a Sat following requests from clubs.

Eddie said he had retired from Umpiring after over 40 yrs and also from the Scottish Bowls Umpires Committee which he has been on for the last 8 years.

4. Junior Bowls Account and allocation

From money donated, by clubs using the Junior bowls last year. Eddie purchased another 3 sets of Coloured junior bowls from Thomas Taylor.

District 6 now has 23 sets of Junior Bowls which are given out annually for a donation for clubs using them. These bowls were allocated and are now in use in 10 clubs in 2016.

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5. **Telephoning District Secretary** – call gaurdian.
Eddie’s home telephone has now a “Call Gaurdian” facility. Anyone calling must give their name otherwise they will not get through. This prevents computer generated and call-center calls for Double Glazing etc.
He asked that these instructions be given to all who telephone in competition results or seek to contact him. For information he bought a BT8500 telephone from Argos.
6. **Programme and dates of competitions** - during the 2016 season.
Capitation / competition fee were due on or before Feb 28th – two clubs still to pay
An information sheet was given out about the District 6 Bowls Scotland competitions.
To date no sponsor for the men’s competitions but **Dewars Aberfeldy Distillery** are continuing their sponsorship of the Mixed Pairs.
With incorrectly or unstamped mail costing £2 Eddie asked that all envelopes containing results be stamped correctly.
Semi-finals on Mon June 13th at Dunning (all Seniors 2pm) and on Tuesday 15th at Pitlochry at 7pm with all the finals at Kinnoull on Friday 17th at 2pm and 7pm.
The Mixed Pairs semi-finals are at 2pm and final at 4 45pm approx. on Sunday June 19th at Luncarty.
7. **Water Rates – Rates review** update.
Bowls Scotland sent out information leaflet re Water Rates and are lobbying the Scottish Government to have Sports club be water rates free.
Allied to this Eddie has been in touch with Tayside Assessors Dept. and provided them with an up to date list of Club Secretaries. Clubs are encouraged to complete the rate review forms – some have already completed them – as they will be used in the 5 year rate revaluation which comes into force in April 2017.
At present your water rates, for those who do not have a water meter, are based on your clubs rates which cover its ground and buildings.
8. **Super Series and ranking competitions**
The Tayside and Fife District play downs in the Super Series are: Singles Sat Aug 13th and Pairs Aug 20th. Entry via Bowls Scotland web site.
Clubs who hold an Open Competition over two or more days can apply to have that added to the list of Ranking Competitions – full details on B.S. web site – there no charge for holding a ranking competition but extra publicity could bring in more entrants.
9. **Web Site** www.bowls-perthshire
Charlie Speedie has had to give up maintaining this web site for health reasons. Eddie and some of those present thanked him for the many years he had provided an excellent information service to bowls in Perthshire. Eddie asked for a volunteer to continue with this web site – Steve Saunders (Blairgowrie) and Mary Fotheringham (Bridge of Earn) expressed an interest. Further information to follow.
It was discussed and agreed that if costs were to be involved money would be available from the Junior Bowls Fund and Alf Low intimated Perthshire County B.A. would also be prepared to assist financially.
- 10 **Club friendly matches** - vacancies raised – no takers

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11. Reports

Junior programs with schools discussed – problem getting time off as part of the school programs was raised which is down to each Headmaster/mistress. Good progress reported from Invergowrie and Dunning – Perth hoping to start sessions in 2017.

Try Bowling – six clubs participated last year - more considering it in 2016. Information on Try Bowling and Bowlsparc has been sent to club Secretaries and is also on B.S. website.

Perthshire Bowling Association news.

Alf Low gave out details of the County competitions – like Eddie still waiting for details of entries from some clubs. He highlighted the number of scorecards where he had sent/telephoned to him the wrong scores or without players names in full – Eddie said the same happened with the Bowls Scotland results. The P.B.A. competition for The Campbell Trophy is to be held on Friday June 24th at 7pm – no food supplied. The 2016 Semi-finals are at Caledonian on June 15th at 6 45pm and Rattray on 16th at 2pm with the finals at Comrie on Sat 23rd at 2pm.

12. Election of District Secretary.

When Bowls Scotland was formed in 2010 it was agreed all District Secretaries would be elected for a period of 6 years. Therefore an election for a male District 6 Secretary will be held this year; with voting forms out in Sept/Oct. Eddie intimated he would like to carry on for 2017, his Presidential year, but would then step down after doing the work of S.B.A. Councilor / District Secretary for 22 years.

13. Green spraying certificate.

A lively discussion took place on this subject with many views on what you could spray without a certificate and what chemicals/pesticides it covers. Anyone purchasing or using chemicals for their greens must have undertaking training. There are a number of companies (one company does so at Blackford B.C. contact their secretary for details) who provide training for the Pesticide Application Foundation course PA1 and PA6 knapsack spraying.

A useful web site for information is www.groundsmantraining.co.uk

Awards for all

Assistance can be given for this via Sportscotland (contact Andrew Kelly) especially with disability access and toilets up to £10000 with the club providing 50% of the total cost of the improvements.

Regional Academy.

Information on B.S. website for any under 25's who wish to go on this enhanced coaching venture.

Smaller bowls.

A discussion took place about bowls slightly smaller than 00 – Thomas Taylor are considering producing such bowls.

Junior Internationals.

The 2016 Junior International trial is being held at Blackford B.C. on Sunday July 17th – Eddie hoped for a good turnout of spectators to see the players who will represent Scotland at the B.I.B.C. series to be held at Elgin on 10th and 11th of Sept.

2017 Annual meeting of District 6 clubs Sun Feb 26th at 2pm in Bridge of Earn B.C.