

# DESBOROUGH BOWLING CLUB

## MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

### MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 2<sup>nd</sup> NOVEMBER 2022

**PRESENT:** John Bucknell (President and Chair)  
Roger Wyatt (General Secretary)  
Mark Essex  
Paul Patel  
Bruce Adams  
Mike Whittingham (Deputy President)  
Maureen O'Reilly  
Jacinta Monteiro  
Brian Harris  
Mark Peachey  
John Davis

#### **1.0 Welcome**

1.1 As this is the last meeting for the current committee members before the annual AGM on the 11<sup>th</sup> of November, John Bucknell thanked all present for their support and work over the last year – much appreciated.

#### **2.0 Apology for Absence**

- Jaz Notay (Treasurer)
- Geoff Lofthouse
- Jennie Macleod

#### **3.0 Reports from: -**

##### **3.1 Indoor Section**

3.1.1 The Indoor Leagues are now all underway with the final Wednesday Evening Friendly League starting on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> November.

3.1.2 When the current 6-week coaching programme completes on the 13<sup>th</sup> of November those who wish to join will be allocated teams in the new league as part of their introduction to DBC.

3.1.3 It was noted that there were still problems being experienced with cancellation of Friendly match fixtures. It was agreed that where there were cancellations and/or vacant dates throughout the Winter that we would seek to arrange internal bowls event for our members.

##### **3.2 Outdoor Section**

3.2.1 The outdoor season has now been completed and the green has been given its final end-of-season treatments by Avonmore.

3.2.1 The ditch mats have been taken up, cleaned, and stored in the Machine Store for the winter.

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*Indoor and Outdoor Secretaries leave the meeting (if they were here that is)*

#### **4.0 Minutes of the last Management Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

4.1 The minutes of the last meeting were approved on a proposal from John Davis, seconded by John Davis and duly signed by the Club President as being a true record of those meetings.

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## 5.0 Matters Arising from the last Management Meetings held on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022

5.1 None

## 6.0 General Secretary's Report

The following items are noted:

### 6.1 Generally

6.1.1 With the Outdoor Season ending, the green closed on the 18<sup>th</sup> of September, the green has been given its Winter preparation treatments and dressings. Further investigations are ongoing to establish the cause of any potential drainage issues.

6.1.2 All Indoor league teams have now registered, and the fixtures have been posted on BowIR. The Indoor leagues commenced on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October.

6.1.3 The Wednesday Evening Fledgling League has now been reformed with a view to creating a new mix of experienced and less-experienced bowlers – all intended to avoid one or two teams being overly dominant.

6.2 The current membership as of 20<sup>th</sup> October 2022 is estimated as: -

Category	No of Members October 2021	No of Members October 2022		Total	Variance (+/-)
		Male	Female		
<b>Total Full Members</b>	109	80	32	112	+3
<b>Total Outdoor Only</b>	14	7	4	11	-3
<b>Total Indoor Only</b>	395	302	101	403	+8
<b>Life</b>	10	7	1	8	-2
<b>Social</b>	54	70	84	154	+100
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>466</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>+106</b>

6.3 The Indoor Handbook has been updated and distributed.

6.4 The Indoor Friday Club recommenced on the 7<sup>th</sup> of October.

6.5 The new shirts, part of the approved Competition Club kit order, have been delivered and are now being used for National and County Competitions.

6.6 The historical records for the new honours' boards have been completed. These records will now be mounted in display cases in the Indoor Bowling area. (w/c 7<sup>th</sup> November)

6.7 A review of the Club's Constitution, Rules, and The Deed of Trust, including Trustees duties and obligations relating to the new club operations, has been completed and the draft recommendations for changes to the Club Constitution were tabled for discussion and approval.

6.8 The Committee Members voted unanimously to accept the proposed amendments to the Club Constitution, with the only amendment being "to increase in qualifying age for "Junior" membership from 18 years to 21 years old". The recommendation to adopt the revised Constitution will now be placed before the AGM for final approval.

6.9 The changes to the Board of Trustees were agreed unanimously and these proposals will now be placed before the AGM for final approval and adoption.

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6.10 We have now registered our Trust details with HMRC, at the Trust Registration Service.

6.11 Details of the original Trust Deed have been received from our solicitors.

6.12 The Open Day was held on Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> September with 50 attendees.

6.13 Coaching sessions commenced on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> October, 9:30am to 11:00am with 25 potential new members attending.

6.14 Since the last meeting we have held two Bingo sessions and a Cabaret Night with profits recorded of £1,184. Further events are now planned, Bingo, Race Night, Christmas Songs and Carols Event. The Social Programme for 2023/24 is nearing completion.

6.15 Christmas lunches are scheduled for two days, Wednesday December 21<sup>st</sup> and Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> December. Menus and prices to be published asap.

## **7.0 Financial**

7.1 The completion of the Club's historical Corporation Tax /VAT submissions, in relation to the last 4 years accounts, have now been finalised by Ellora.

7.2 When we have settled the outstanding issues, completed the tax returns, and agreed the latest audited annual accounts, these will be reported to members at the next Annual General Meeting (November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022).

7.3 The general increase in ALL costs relating to Utility charges, food and beverage and inflationary service costs have resulted in a projected increase in costs for the Club. The approved increases in subs etc. were introduced as from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022.

7.4 The 5-Year Plan has been amended to illustrate a scenario, whereby we achieve a break-even point after 3 years and with manageable losses over the next 2 years. All very necessary to ensure the Club's financial position is viable and sustainable in the future.

7.5 The 5-Year Plan referred to in 2.4 above to form the basis for the new operating budget for the next 3 years. Jaz has now completed the budget forecast and the results will now be incorporated in future accounts and financial reports.

7.6 It was agreed that the budget set for 2022/23 was "challenging", particularly in relation to meeting the sales targets. An ongoing review of the operational costs is also considered to be essential to ensure we achieve value for money for essential services.

7.7 The Desborough Ladies' section Lloyds Bank account has now been closed and the money held on deposit in this account has now been paid into the Club's Treasurer's account. Ladies' finances will, in future, be administered through the Club's accounts in the same way all other Club transactions are dealt with.

7.8 The recruitment of the Commercial Manager and the second Receptionist has started with initial advertising via existing membership and through the Club's Facebook account. To date we have received limited response and we will now advertise externally. The Maidenhead Advertiser team to be approached.

## **8.0 Treasurer's Report**

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8.1 RW presented the August accounts which show improvements in both the sales and profit figures year -on-year. Some of the increases shown are due to changes in the phasing of both costs and income, however we are currently benefiting from the increase in revenue overall.

Sales are £2k down on budget, which is driven by Lettings being £6k down on budget. Bar sales and events are trading well ahead of budget. Lettings are down due to non-recruitment of Commercial Manager. There is a potential risk to revenue of £49k if this role is not recruited.

The club was in a deficit of £6k in August against a budgeted deficit of £9k and this was savings made due to non-recruitment of the 2 roles. YTD the deficit is £39k, which is £11.5k below budget. From October onwards we have budgeted to make profit each month. If sales do not come in, then there is a risk to this.

8.2 The Club's accounts for 2019/20 have been submitted to HMRC and we are awaiting their response. Once this is received we shall then be able to calculate any roll-over relief on losses accrued in previous years and finalize and submit the 2021/22 accounts.

## **9.0 AOB**

9.1 Whilst we intended to ban the "tri-colour" bowls in future, the EIBA have agreed they can be used, and therefore we feel we are obliged to follow their guide so no ban.

9.2 It was agreed that we would add a Nominated Mixed Pairs category to the Indoor competitions this year.

9.3 A proposal to move the pool table from its current location was discussed however, rather than move it, we agreed that we would retain the table and try to create more "pool related" activities and encourage more use.

9.4 With the FIFA World Cup in Qatar, due to start in 3 weeks it was agreed that Mark Essex and Bruce Adams would formulate a promotions programme to encourage members to enjoy the matches at the Club. The match times to be supported by the bar and catering offerings on the night.

9.5 It was noted that Rivermead IBC are due to close this year. Colin Brown had written to Rivermead, on behalf of the County, and suggested their members who wish to continue bowling, would be most welcome to join Desborough or Whiteknights once their centre closed.

9.6 A new banner has been ordered for permanent display on our neighbour's fence (Stafferton Link Road) and it was suggested that we should also have a display banner mounted on the Western elevation of the Club.

9.7 It was agreed that we would create a social evening/event around the Club's Indoor Cup draw – to be held later this year.

9.8 ME enquired as to the process regarding the nomination of members to Life Membership status. RW to forward the Club's Procedures.

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## **10.0 Date of Next Meetings (all start at 10:00am)**

### **Wednesdays**

7<sup>th</sup> Dec 2022

18<sup>th</sup> Jan 2023

22<sup>nd</sup> Feb      22<sup>nd</sup> March

26<sup>th</sup> April    24<sup>th</sup> May

28<sup>th</sup> June     26<sup>th</sup> July

23<sup>rd</sup> Aug      27<sup>th</sup> Sept

25<sup>th</sup> Oct      22<sup>nd</sup> Nov

20<sup>th</sup> Dec

Roger Wyatt  
General Secretary

**Date:** 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2022