

DESBOROUGH BOWLING CLUB

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22nd NOVEMBER 2023

PRESENT:

John Davis (President and Chair)
Jasbir Notay (Treasurer)
Bruce Adams (Deputy President)
Roger Wyatt (General Secretary)
Mark Peachey (Club Manager)
Chris Bowler
Brian Harris
Bob Forster
Angie Isaac
Linda Harvey
Mark Essex
Russell Dale
Tony Buckley

1.0 Welcome

1.1 The President welcomed all newly elected Committee members.

2.0 Apologies for Absence

- None

3.0 Reports from: -

A. Indoor Section

3.1 The indoor Leagues are well supported with all Ladies and Men's Leagues progressing as per the fixture schedules.

3.2 It is noted that evening leagues are becoming less popular due to the reticence of older members to drive in the dark. Members to be contacted to try to recruit new members to play in the evening league teams.

3.3 The possibility of forming a second Ladies league was discussed. It was agreed we would assess the potential demand for a second league.

3.4 The Indoor membership (12-month Indoor Membership) is now at 104 members.

3.5 The Saturday mornings Coaching Sessions have now been completed.

3.6 Organised roll-ups are being held Monday's and Wednesdays. Currently the sessions are very popular with each attracting 50+ members.

3.7 In the National Competitions we are now out of Top Club, Denny, Yetton, and the Egham trophies.

3.8 Several members are still competing in National Competitions.

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3.9 The home Friendly Match fixtures are being well supported however it is still a struggle to find teams for away matches. This appears to be a general problem, not only for Desborough, but also for many other clubs.

3.10 For future planning of Friendly matches, it was suggested that we should try to schedule only one match every weekend instead of 2 per weekend as we have at present. This may be more realistic/achievable in the future with several Clubs being unable to commit to as many friendly matches.

B. Outdoor Section

3.11 The Green Irrigation system has been drained down for the winter.

3.12 It was suggested that we should have more Open Days in the New Year to help recruit new members (especially ladies) for the Outdoors season. The Open Days should be followed by coaching/taster sessions held on the outdoor green.

3.13 The outdoor green has now been treated and re-seeded. Further damage to the surface from birds is a problem and the "kites" installed are not always effective at keeping them away.

4.0 Minutes of the last Management Meeting held on 25th October 2023

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

5.0 Matters Arising from the last Management Meeting held on 25th October 2023

6.0 General Secretary's Report

- 1) The full members Annual General Meeting was held Friday 10th November and the Officers elected for 2023/24. (John Davis was elected Club President and Bruce Adams Deputy President. (Management Committee members were also elected)
- 2) With the resignation of our Facilities Manager, Debbie Stavrou (ill health) we have now revised the Management Structure and recruited a new General Secretary, Jane Mulligan, who will start on January 3rd, 2024. Jane is currently Assistant Manager at the West Hill Golf Course at Brookwood, Surrey.
- 3) In addition, to replace Debbie, we have appointed Ellie Walsh (our current Receptionist/Administrator) as Facilities Manager effective as from 4th December.
- 4) With Ellie taking up her new post then we shall only retain one Receptionist/Administrator for the weekday mornings however Ellie will cover a reduced afternoon shift in addition to her new role.
- 5) The replacement of the defective compressor unit in the heat pumps has now been replaced and both heating and cooling systems are fully operational.
- 6) Following the Open Day, held on the 23rd of September, we have now completed the 6-week Coaching Course, which started on Saturday 14th October and finished on Saturday 25th

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November. Many thanks to all those members who assisted at the sessions. We recruited 14 new members from a cohort of 25.

- 7) We are now actively reminding any members who have not paid their subscriptions to date that they are overdue.
- 8) Members are reminded that if they pay by Standing Order then they need to change the SO to reflect the new subscription charges for 2023/24. New bank Standing Order Forms are available at Reception, if required.
- 9) Financially we are on budget - A copy of the September 23 Accounts is attached.

7.0 Treasurer's Report

7.1 Monthly Accounts

7.1.1 A copy of the September dashboard and Profit & Loss sheets was tabled, and it was noted that revenue was down by £4.8k against budget.

8.0 Social Update

8.1 Over the last month we have had 3 events, Bingo, the Quiz and Race Night, which together raised £1,541 for Club Funds.

8.2 We continue to advertise the forthcoming events, Bingo and Christmas Songs and Carols and the New Years Eve party.

8.3 The November 200 Club Draw took place on the 7th of November with Jenny Dozell winning the top prize of £50.00. The next draw will be on the 5th of December.

8.4 Andre Davis again provided a free disco on Saturday 18th November with 20 members attending. The next free disco to be held in conjunction with the Friday Night Club on 22nd December.

8.5 The new "cash" raffles have been introduced after the last two friendly matches.

9.0 AOB

9.1 It has been reported that there are several instances where members playing on the indoor rinks are not wearing the correct bowls shoes. A notice to be sent to all members advising that there will be random checks next year on members' footwear. Notices are already displayed adjacent to the entry point to the green advising that "bowls shoes only allowed on the green."

9.2 The use of "Grippe" or similar products applied to bowls for better grip is NOT allowed when bowling on the Indoor carpet.

9.3 It was agreed that we would progress the fitting of the display area in the wall bay adjacent to the History Wall. Creative Signs to be invited to attend a meeting at the Club to discuss our requirements and then to submit design proposals for this area using our existing photographs, bannerettes etc.

9.4 The question of leasing car park spaces was again discussed. The market to be investigated to establish the rent achievable per space (initially 4 spaces adjacent to the recycling centre) together with the initial costs of providing signage, entry fobs etc. A formal proposal to be submitted to the January Management Meeting for further discussion.

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- 9.5 It was suggested that we could earn additional revenue by promoting advertising boards situated in the main bowling rink area. Areas above the new Honors Boards were suggested as being a suitable location. Do we want them, how do we approach sponsors and the likely revenue p.a.? Creative Signs to quote for a selection of suitable frames, sized appropriately to accommodate any advertisements provided by advertisers.
- 9.6 Thank you to Bob Forster, Mark Essex and Bruce Adams who have all volunteered to carry out locking-up duties during the week. All will be shown the locking-up procedures and will then be included in future weekly schedules.
- 9.7 Kitchen opening hours to be prominently displayed in Lounge area.
- 9.8 More volunteers are required/encouraged to assist other members in moving furniture as required for any event PLEASE.
- 9.9 The quality of some of the catering dishes was again discussed. Whilst some of the match meals were found to be satisfactory some did not meet expectations. Further discussions will be held with Anna to ensure we maintain the quality and variety of food on offer.
- 9.10 Christmas lunches will be held at the Club on Wednesday and Thursday 13th and 14th December. The menu + price is to be circulated to all members no later than Monday 27th November. A sample meal to be prepared for selected members of the Management Committee to try and hopefully be reassured as to the quality to be provided on the day.
- 9.11 A rolling information, events, and advertising screen to be introduced in the Lounge area. The software is already installed on the iPad however it is currently not commissioned, and no data loaded.
- 9.12 A notice advising us as to emergency contact numbers to be displayed in Reception. Particularly the emergency number of the local Electricity supplier in case of a power cut.
- 9.13 The Committee decided by a majority vote to cancel the subscription to TNT Sport (Was BT Sport) to save a monthly charge of £235.62 (inc. VAT). We will retain Sky Sports however will not be able to screen the European Cup matches next year.

10.0 Date of Next Meeting (start 10:00am)

Wednesday 20th December 2023

Roger Wyatt
General Secretary
24th November 2023

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MANAGEMENT MEETING DATES 2023/24

(N.B. ALL Meetings to be held in Club's Conference Room commencing at 10:00am)

Month	Management Meetings
December 2023	20th
January 2024	24th
February	21st
March	20th
April	24th
May	22nd
June	19th
July	24th
August	21st
September	18th
October	23rd
November	20th
December 2024	18th