

MINUTES

Of the Annual General Meeting of the Valverde Bowls Club, held at the Restaurant Don Camillo on Monday 4th October 2010

Present:

President of the Table: Henry Parlour

Vice President: Fran Parlour

Secretary: Sue Jepson

Fiscal Committee:

Chairman: Terry Kerr

Management Committee:

Chairman: Gordon Linford

Treasurer: Jeff Perry

Secretary: Jan McGlynn

Club Captain: Guy Gomes

Vice Captain: Tom Sanderson

The meeting opened at 10.30 a.m

Apologies received from: Bill Smith, Jack Romano, Geoff Drewer, Mary Banks, Gerry Jones, Carole Barnes, Lawrence Boni

1. Henry welcomed everyone to this our second AGM, and thanked them for attending. He asked if everyone would sign the signing in list presently being circulated. Henry requested that if anyone had any points they wished to raise, then they do this under A.O.B.

2. Minutes of last meeting and matters arising: **These minutes agreed, no matters arising.** Henry signed these minutes. Henry said this is the first opportunity he has had to speak to the club "en masse". He said we were all disappointed over the state of our green but added that we were working hard to restore the green, with the help of Jardim Vista. They have accepted responsibility of over fertilising the green and are working hard to rectify the situation. Henry said he had taken the opportunity to visit some putting greens recently and this visit had confirmed that we are not the only venue that is suffering from grass problems. Today, we are beginning to see a light at the end of the tunnel. We need to protect the club's reputation and a positive attitude from all members will be required.

Henry said he would like to thank everyone who has contributed time and money to make this club successful. This includes: gardening duties; astro turfing the walkway and carrying out works around the green; volunteering to man the Tuesday and Thursday sessions; keeping the area tidy/emptying bins/cleaning tables and chairs; arranging social events/catering; the committee who work tirelessly for the benefit of the club, sometimes with no thanks; those who have inputted advice on how to solve problems, setting up the green prior to play, and to Jorge and Flor for the many improvements around the green.

3. Chairman's Report and review of Management Committee and club rules: Gordon addressed this item. He welcomed everyone to this meeting and thanked Henry, the President, for all his help especially during the last 8 weeks with the crisis on the green. Thanks were expressed to the Fiscal Committee, especially Terry Kerr and the Management Committee for their support

during difficult times over the last 12 months. Fiscal Committee report attached to the original of these minutes.

4. Treasurer's report and review of club fees and structure: Jeff Perry, Treasurer addressed this item. His report is attached to the original of these minutes and copies were handed out. Said David Russell had proved invaluable over the summer period, when Jeff was on holiday. Jeff felt that David should be given the position of Deputy Treasurer, and to help out when needed with the Fiscal Committee. This position to be ratified later in this meeting.

Jeff said that originally membership fees became due on 1st September each year, but this has proved difficult in that if any new members want to join during the year, this became complicated. He recommended a rolling membership year, which will run through to the anniversary of their membership and will be more flexible. Terry asked if there would be any administration problems for Jeff. Jeff however, said he could deal with this.

Jeff proposed this system be adopted, and this seconded by Gordon.

A vote was taken, Unanimous decision.

Jeff admitted that a year ago, he realised that this was going to be a learning curve and what we considered was a conservative budget was set. In the middle of our touring season there was the problem of flight disruption due to the ash cloud, this had resulted in €600 lost income. Reduced income also during January/February/March due to bad weather. We purchased a Portaloo (€1,200), in order that we can use the green on Sundays. We also had costs connected with the cost of water used in the green construction (€1,200). Doubts over the storeroom resulted in €500 for building materials. However, we do now have an income of more than €3,000 over budget. As we had a large contingency, the expense was about €1,500 under budget. We have had more income from club memberships, PAYP members and casual visitors. Our club events have also generated profits. At the end of year one, the club is just over €6,000 in the black, with club debts to Founder Members of €95,000.

Jeff said taking into account this profit, he would have recommended we repay some of the debt to the Founder Members, but because of the situation with the green, this decision has not been made. Jeff recommended that we do not use this money to reimburse Founder Members at this time but that this meeting authorises the management committee to do this as and when the situation improves.

This was proposed by Jeff Perry and seconded by Margaret Linford

A vote was taken. Unanimous decision.

Regarding the budget for the coming year, Jeff considers our total income could increase by about €8,000. This is due to increased memberships, and the touring situation is much healthier than last year. He reckoned expenditure would increase, and there are water and electricity costs to consider. He gave a projection on the operating year of about €16,500 as a conservative sum.

Thanks were given to Jeff for this excellent report.

5. Report on sponsorship and publicity: Jan McGlynn addressed this point. She reiterated the fact that the volcanic ash problem had caused us some cancellations, but on the brighter side we were having touring groups returning to us for a second time, so we must be doing something right. From this date until Christmas, we have 12 confirmed visiting touring teams. We have 4 confirmed spring bookings, including a Bowls England team who have booked a game morning and afternoon, which should give everyone an interesting and memorable game. The damage to our green has resulted in a lot of sensitive correspondence with the Tour Company, but we were able to assure them that recovery was rapid, and we saw no reason to cancel the forthcoming tours. Relaxing after the game was an important social event for our visiting touring teams, and

Jan recalled one ex Vale do Lobo bowler making a statement that Valverde were like the Phoenix Rising from the Ashes, and complimented us on setting up what he considered to be a fine and friendly club.

Our club website is becoming known, and through this we are receiving enquiries for games, and thanks must go to Jeff for setting up and maintaining this website.

Jan mentioned sponsorship and said our sponsor, David Hills Insurance of Almancil, had provided a strong promotional banner, which is now situated around the green. David Hills provides all the score cards for our club and are sponsoring our Anniversary Game on 18th October, with cash and wine prizes. She reminded bowlers that they could receive a 15% discount on any new insurance policies taken out, ranging from dental through to car and household.

She asked if anyone knew of an individual or firm, who might be willing to sponsor future events, to let the Committee know.

6. Club Captain's report: Guy Gomes and Tom Sanderson addressed this subject. Guy gave thanks to Tom for his assistance and also to the Committee for their help. Guy detailed events during the past year, in which Valverde had been successful, including the Bowls Algarve Interclub competitions. He said this year he hoped the League Teams would achieve more success. For this year we have the midweek league to play in, in which Guy hopes to use players who do not play in the Saturday league. We also have the Pedras Trophy to play for. We are sending 2 teams to play in the Poppy Day game at Pedras. The Bowls Algarve interclub competition: closing date 5th October. We have the Cameron Cup and Super Tens to look forward to also. Guy concluded by thanking all bowlers for their co-operation throughout the year.

Gordon thanked Margaret, Julie, Pauline and DJ for their help with social events.

7. Election of Club Officers: Henry asked if there were any bowlers present, who wished to stand for election from the floor, and to indicate this to the Committee. No response. Nominations we have received at the present are for: General Assembly, Vice President: Fran Parlour standing down and Jack Romano nominated for this position. **Proposed by Margaret Linford and seconded by Jan McGlynn A vote was taken. Unanimous decision.**

Secretary to the General Assembly: Sue Jepson standing down and Margaret Wilson has been nominated. **Proposed by Margaret Linford, seconded by Gordon Linford. A vote was taken. Unanimous decision.**

Management Committee Treasurer: Jeff Perry standing for re-election for a further 2 years. **Proposed by Jan McGlynn and seconded by Margaret Linford. A vote was taken. Unanimous decision.**

Social Secretary to the Management Committee: this is a position held at present by Margaret Linford but needs to be ratified at this meeting. **Proposed by Henry Parlour, seconded by Sue Jepson. A vote was taken. Unanimous decision.**

It was asked if any would like to volunteer with the social sub committee, but there were no offers.

Fiscal Committee: Lawrence Boni has resigned this post through personal circumstances. **David Laing proposed by Jeff Perry and seconded by Margaret Linford. A vote was taken. Unanimous decision.**

Deputy Treasurer to the Management Committee: David Russell has been proposed for this new position, which could also involve the Fiscal Committee, and which needs to be ratified by this Committee. **Nominated by Jeff Perry and seconded by Jan McGlynn. A vote was taken. Unanimous decision.**

8. A.O.B.: Henry addressed this item. Terry Kerr asked Jeff details about Architect's fees, as there had been no indication of this. At the moment we do not have any indication of these charges. Terry talked about the increase in IVA for the coming year, and Jeff said he had not made any allowance for this, but would take it on board.

Fred Hunt: Asked if there was going to be a future limit imposed on membership as he felt with increased membership this would affect bowlers' eligibility to play in games, particularly against touring teams. Gordon said the more members we have, the better, from the club's point of view. Guy said he had prepared a list to assist in the choosing of players who had put their names down and this was used in future preparation of teams to give everyone a fair chance. He appreciated that some bowlers wanted to play every game, but this could not be guaranteed. Guy pointed out that Alvor with over 300 members, also have this problem.

Judy Drewer: Questioned the recent Management Committee minutes posted online, and said she disagreed with the comment that a Valverde team playing on a particularly bad sandy green had been heard making specific derogatory comments to the opposition. She said that at one time, two members of the visiting team had wanted to leave the green because they were dissatisfied with the quality, but were appeased by changing and playing short mat. It was also mentioned that one of our teams, had a score of 47, and it was felt by some members, that the team should have "eased up". Judy not in favour of giving the game away, and did not agree with these type of minutes.

John Freeman: Said he was concerned about the state of the green and the effect on visiting teams due to visit. Guy said the green was still not 100% but getting there. Guy not concerned about league games at home, as only 3 rinks were needed, and these could be catered for.

Terry: Questioned Jeff and Guy who are Valverde representatives at Bowls Algarve and said we had to rely on feedback from these two persons. Minutes were never published. Said that Bowls Algarve continue to make decisions to the Management Committee, over which the members have no voice. Jeff explained we are in the minority and most clubs are commercial. Explained that quite soon it is expected that all of the bowling clubs in the Algarve will be invited to participate in a working party to formulate a Constitution that will be given to the Institute of Sport, and then on to World Bowls (in English). He hopes Valverde will participate in this, but we can choose to join or otherwise.

Guy answered and said if there was anything about Bowls Algarve anyone wished to raise, they should do so through himself and Jeff. Jeff added that he hoped Bowls Algarve minutes would be published online in the near future.

David Russell asked for clarification of Bowls Algarve. Jeff explained that it was an association of clubs, and not individuals, working towards involving all bowling clubs in the Algarve in a programme of events. They do have a Constitution which is available for anyone to see.

Julie Sanderson: said on 31st October the social committee were holding a Fun Day picnic to which everyone is invited to bring food and drink as the restaurant not open on a Sunday.

Margaret Linford: asked for everyone interested to put their names down for the Christmas event at the Hotel Gharbe.

9. Date and time of next meeting: this was agreed for Saturday 1st October 2011 at 10.30 a.m.

10 Henry closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their support over the year, and for taking time out to be present today.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 11.45 a.m.

Signed Henry Parlour, President of the Table

Signed Sue Jepson, Secretary of the Table

Date