

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Valverde Lawn Bowls Club held on

Monday November 7th 2016

Present

David Russell (President)
Maryanne Whitehead (Chairperson)
Peter Hollis (Captain)
Maria Romano (Treasurer)
Jen Preece (Secretary)
Terry Kerr (Fiscal Committee Chairman)

As well as the six officers of the club there were 32 voting members present and one proxy vote.

Apologies for absence

Margaret Wilson (proxy Peter Wilson), Mel Knickle, Sue Knickle, Ken Rawlins, Wendy Rawlings, Irene Kerr, Dante Ghini, Renato Bugalho

The meeting opened at 2.15pm

1. Introduction

The meeting was opened by Jen Preece, secretary, who welcomed everyone to the 8th annual general meeting of Valverde Lawn Bowls Club. She introduced the club president David Russell.

2. Minutes of the 7th AGM 2015

The minutes were approved by the meeting. No matters arising.

3. Presidents Address

David Russell, president, welcomed all members to the meeting. He made reference to the increasing membership of the club which now stands at 100. This is in part due to the sad demise of Vilamoura Bowls Club.

David emphasised that Valverde is a members club, including 25 founder members who lent funds to start the club in 2009. With the exception of Nick the green keeper the club is run by volunteers. David thanked the Management Committee and many others who all work hard to keep the club running smoothly. He also thanked Jorge and Flor who own the Don Camillo restaurant and provide our food and beverages.

This year the club has welcomed 40 tour groups. We have received many compliments for our friendliness and the slightly laid back approach to life which we adopt.

David commented on the difference in attitudes and style of our members. Some are competitive while others prefer a more relaxed bowling experience. We also have members who come and go through the year whilst others stay

here in all weathers as we never close.
Finally he spoke of the clubs wonderful spirit, and how well members get along. He hoped that we can continue to keep it that way.

4. Chairpersons Address

Maryanne Whitehead, chairperson, spoke of how she was approached by Henry Parlour, twelve months ago, and asked to take on the role of chairperson. This she found difficult at first, especially getting to grips with the rules. She thanked David Russell for his support and for agreeing to remain on the Management Committee.

Like David, Maryanne made reference to accommodating both social and competitive bowlers.

She thanked the Management Committee for their support. She also thanked Jeff Perry, vice captain, who is not standing for re election, and is also relinquishing some of the many duties he has performed for the club. These will be taken over by Jen Preece and Jenny Preza. Jeff will continue to run our website.

Maryanne offered a sincere welcome to members from Vilamoura who have joined our club. Our increased membership will put pressure on our single rink and especially on our roll ups. Hopefully we can accommodate everyone, but we will put a limit of 120 on our membership and see how it goes. For this year Vilamoura are keeping separate teams whilst they wait to see what happens to their old club.

Maryanne also commented on the difficult role of the club captain. She sees this as a massive job with responsibility for the green, club teams and competitions. This year we will appoint two vice captains to assist him. She thanked Paul Frampton for taking on the roll of deputy captain during the summer. She also thanked Ken Rawlins for his rink management.

Finally she thanked all the members for making Valverde such a great club.

5. Treasurers Report

Maria Romano, treasurer, reported that the club has had a good year. There were two large expenses but with 947 visitors to the club and an increase in membership our financial position is satisfactory. There is no need at this present time to increase subscriptions.

Maria distributed copies of the year end financial report and asked that members contact her if they have any queries.

6. Captains Report

Peter Hollis, club captain, stated that it has been one of his main jobs over his two year term to support Carol Barnes in organising the touring groups. This year we had 40 groups, a very busy schedule. Of the 17 groups we played this autumn the club only lost 3 matches. Although it is not just about winning, we played some very good teams so overall we did very well. Unfortunately we lost our special match against Bognor Regis by 5 shots. Better luck next year.

We already have 23 tour groups booked for next spring so a busy time ahead.

The club is competing in the Bowls Algarve League and their associated cup games. Last season, our first, we came a creditable joint third. We will also have two teams competing in a shortened CEAB League. We have our club championships and our Presidents Shield competition. Our Anniversary Pairs competition has just been held, sponsored by Ibex Insurance.

Peter stated that he has now completed two years as captain and is not seeking re selection. He thanked some of the many people who have assisted him in his role.

Firstly Terry Kerr for his hard work in setting up the leagues again this year, and the team Captains Margaret Wilson, Keith Henley and Alan Preece. He thanked his Vice Captain Jeff Perry for all his work behind the scenes and on the website, and Paul Frampton for his stand in role during the summer. The Australian Pairs competition was successfully run by Margaret and Peter Wilson, and the Summer Singles by Alan Preece, many thanks to them. Lastly he thanked the Management Committee for their support and hard work. Peter wished his successor every success for the coming years and thanked all the members for their support.

7. Social Report

Maryanne, chairperson, reported that despite repeated requests no one had come forward to take the vacant social secretary's post. Instead a small group of people will help with social events.

The club held a Valentines dinner in conjunction with the French boules group, and a fun bowls summer party and a pub run. Premier FX sponsored the Bognor Regis dinner at Menta Pimenta.

A planned treasure hunt for this autumn could not be held due to our many commitments.

8. Election of Officers

Captain

Peter Hollis has stood down as Captain

Alan Preece was proposed and duly elected as Captain, there being 39 votes for and none against.

Vice Captain

Jeff Perry has stood down as Vice Captain

It was agreed to elect two Vice Captains. Alan Hyatt and Paul Frampton were proposed and duly elected there being 39 votes for and none against.

Treasurer

Maria Romano has agreed to stand again. There was no opposition and she was re elected

Deputy Treasurer

Eric Brown has stood down as Deputy Treasurer
Ray Cansdale was proposed and duly elected as Deputy Treasurer, there being 39 votes for and none against.

Club Secretary

Jen Preece has agreed to stand again. There was no opposition and she was re elected.

Secretary to the General Assembly

Margaret Wilson has agreed to stand again and was re-elected unanimously

Fiscal Committee secretary

David Laing has agreed to stand again and was re-elected unanimously

Touring Team Co Ordinators

Carol Barnes and Peter Hollis have stepped down from their role after two years. Jen Preece and Alan Preece will take over, helped by Jenny Preza.

9. Any Other Business

1. There was a reprimand from the chair that players must not take cups and glasses onto the green.
2. There was a suggestion that bowling should commence at 9am during the summer months instead of 10am. There was some discussion. Alan Hyatt pointed out that a 9am start would affect the restaurant as players would be unlikely to stay for lunch if bowling was finished by 11.30am. There was a vote of members with 18 members wishing to remain with a 10am start and 4 in favour of 9.30am. The 10am start will remain.
3. The subject of umbrellas was raised. It was felt that these were needed to provide shade around the green. It was explained that the problem is installation. They would need to be set in concrete. It was agreed to look for possible sponsorship for the umbrellas.
4. Terry Kerr raised the issue of limiting the number of visiting teams. This issue was also raised last year. Carol explained that there was some limit in that we did not take weekend bookings and tried not to accept any afternoon bookings. Although open ended, the tour groups were by their nature limited to spring and autumn. Some members felt that it was unfair not to have roll ups during the tour season. This is so, but members can play in the tour matches and these are free for pay and play members. The tours are all on the website and members

who are unable to get to the club to sign the tour sheets can email their availability.
The tour groups provide a good and much needed income for the club.

There will be no changes at present, and weekends will, where possible be kept free.

10. Date of the next AGM

It was agreed that this would be arranged by the Management Committee at a later date.