

SUMMARY NOTES FROM THE MEETING OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE VALVERDE BOWLS CLUB, HELD AT THE RESTAURANT DON CAMILLO ON FRIDAY 21ST OCTOBER 2011

PRESENT:

David Russell (Chairman)
Jeff Perry (Treasurer)
John Freeman (Club Captain)
Tom Sanderson (Vice Captain)
Jan McGlynn (Secretary)

David Russell as the new Chairman, welcome those present and thanked them for attending.

1. Minutes of the last meeting: no comments, minutes approved.
2. Facilities, utilities & supplies: Gui has been asked to discuss rolling the green with the gardener. Water usage is being monitored and has shown a marked reduction, with no waste water seen on the road recently. David is reviewing the use of notice boards/whiteboards and intends to re-site these to the reception area under the pergola. Weather protection will be necessary. David will discuss, with Jorge, new signage at the front of the site to give more prominence to the Bowls Club. The stock of club pennants is running low – an alternative (local) source will be sought. We have a good stock of pens (as gifts for all visiting tour sides), but the stock of keyrings and enamel club badges needs to be reviewed. Replacement of the club's bowls pushers is also being reviewed – sponsorship for these will be considered. Pat Purkis has taken over the acquisition and resale of club shirts, etc.
3. Captains report for October: John Freeman expressed his thanks to the club membership for the support given in fielding teams against nine touring sides in a very short period of time. He reported on an encouraging start to the club's participation in the winter league programme, but pointed out the difficulty of satisfying the demand from the membership for competitive play, particularly as we are only permitted to field one team in each competition. He has to juggle the needs of selecting appropriate players for the differing playing conditions and the wish to give all those who want to play a fair share of the action. He suggested that some priority in selection should be given to Full Members, and to those who most support the club. The committee agreed with this policy. We need to improve the information flow between the MC and the club's Bowls Portugal reps.
4. Treasurers Report: Jeff outlined the financial position of the club. We currently have a healthy bank balance, as the majority of membership subscriptions have recently been paid, but this will inevitably decline somewhat as the club year progresses. Membership currently stands at 49, compared to 50 at this time last year. The committee unanimously approved an application for 3-month membership, to start in January 2012, from Paul Rawlings. Several bowlers, who make several short visits to the area over the course of a year, have pointed out that the existing 3-month and PAYP membership options do not really meet their needs. In response, Jeff tabled a proposal for a Voucher scheme – a set of prepaid green fee vouchers could be purchased at (say) €8 each, to be used at any time over the following six months. The committee agreed in principle to try this scheme. Jeff will put together a detailed plan.
5. Secretary's report: Jan said it had been a successful season, and added that we already have 17 confirmed tours for next year, probably with more to come. Jan reported that she has recently had three direct enquiries from UK clubs about visiting the Algarve, and asked if the club should offer more of a service in arranging bowls tours. After some discussion, it was agreed that (at least for the time being) we should leave that to the professionals. We could explore setting up an agreement with a tour organising company so that any leads we pass on produced some benefit for the club. We have

been trying to get some feedback on tours through the PT and BA reps, with little success. In future we will try giving a brief “customer satisfaction” questionnaire to the captain of a visiting team.

6. Appointment of new club officers: It was proposed and agreed that Sue Hunt be asked to take on the role of Social Secretary. David will talk to Sue. It was also proposed and agreed that Helen Armour be asked to take on the role of Deputy Treasurer. Jeff will talk to Helen. Gui Gomes has agreed to take on the role of Facilities Manager, reporting to the MC via the Club Captain.

7. Catering and Social Report: Minutes of the regular meetings with the Don Camillo will be circulated to the MC members, and also copied to Jorge & Flor. Sue has taken over arrangements for the club Christmas Celebration at the Holiday Inn (10th & 11th December).

8. Proposed new club structure: David wants to see the MC reduced to four regular attendees, with each having a back-up who would stand-in if the primary attendee was unavailable. Club Captain and Treasurer already have deputies, but we need to identify deputies for Chairman and for Secretary. The regular MC attendee is to be responsible for keeping his/her deputy up to speed on matters. This structure was agreed. .

9. Constitution and Rules: A working party, comprising David Russell, Jeff Perry and Gui Gomes, will address the issue of revisions needed to the Club Constitution and Rules. Input from the club membership will be sought, and the working party will aim to produce new draft documents for review and ratification at a General Meeting.

10. AOB:

- Although we thought we had finished our dealings with Jardim|Vista, further communication from them has recently been received and needs to be followed up

- Club Championship Rinks competition: it has been suggested that this be discontinued in view of the difficulties of arranging fixtures. A decision will be made once the final entry numbers are known.

- Handicap Competition: To be discussed at next MC meeting.

11. Date of next meeting: Friday 25th November at 10.00 am.