

**NOTES FROM THE MEETING OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE OF THE VALVERDE BOWLS CLUB,
HELD AT THE RESTAURANT DON CAMILLO ON FRIDAY 25TH NOVEMBER 2011**

Present:

David Russell (Chairman)
Jeff Perry (Treasurer)
John Freeman, (Club Captain)
Tom Sanderson (Club Vice Captain)
Jan McGlynn (Secretary)
Gui Gomes (Facilities Manager)
Sue Hunt (Social Secretary)

The meeting opened at 10.00 a.m. David welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending.

1. Minutes of the last meeting – matters arising: We are still waiting for the architect to arrange a meeting with Loule Camara. Gui to chase. Tom sanderson will henceforth look after the supply of club bowls stickers, pens, key rings, etc. We understand that the Amendoeira club may now stay open until the end of the season; we have let them know that we may be interested in purchasing some of their equipment when they do close. John has acquired several copies of the new World Bowls Rule Book – one copy will be kept with the Club Umpires Kit. Jenny Jones has agreed to produce a sample embroidered name badge.

2. Monthly reports for November:

2.1 Club Captain's Report: John is concerned that scorecards for Club Championship matches are not being given to him promptly. Scorecards for BP Championship matches played at VBC need to be given to one of the club BP reps (Keith and Wattie). John noted that punctuality for club roll-ups is getting worse – Jeff to raise this in next newsletter. The Finals Day for the Club Championships was set for Saturday 31st March – Sue to discuss this with the restaurant. John said that the 3 club teams were doing well in the leagues at the moment.

2.2 Treasurer: Jeff said we had made 53€ profit from the Anniversary Pairs game, and 32€ from the raffle. Unfortunately this event was not sponsored. Regarding the recent letter from the JardimVista solicitor, Jeff reported that he wrote on 10th November, saying as far as we were concerned this matter is now closed and asked for their confirmation this was the case. No reply to date. Jeff said Helen Armour has agreed to take the post of Deputy Treasurer. Jeff will undertake to instruct Helen. We need to change our bank signatories, now we have a new committee. David and Jan to be added as signatories. Jeff asked how we should deal with renewals of memberships that have lapsed. It was agreed that where the lapse is due to a medical condition, renewal can be without MC review/approval; in other cases, a new membership application will be required. Jeff will review/renew the Club's Insurance policy, which has just expired. The green fee arrangements for the forthcoming BP Australian Pairs League were discussed, and it was agreed that, for home matches, our Full members should pay no green fee, and our PAYP members should pay the standard 6€ fee. Jeff reported that membership stood at 47, with renewals from Pat Purkis and Eileen and Bill Smith imminent, and a new membership application received from Maria Romano. Jeff reported that he had taken some soundings regarding the proposed Voucher scheme, and was sufficiently encouraged that it should go ahead. It was agreed to launch the scheme.

2.3 Secretary's report: Jan has recently had articles about the club published in the Portugal News, the Algarve Resident and the Central Algarve magazine, and has also had articles published on behalf of Bowls Portugal. She is arranging for an ongoing advertisement about our Club to be published on the Events page of the Portugal News. Jan said she had sent 2 Christmas Ecards, with downloaded photos of the club, to Personal Choice and Ron Scott, Bowling Abroad, and will send a Christmas Card on behalf of the club to each of the other clubs in the region. With regard to touring sides in 2012, we have 18 confirmed groups with 2 yet to be confirmed. We have also had a lot of enquiries by Email.

ON the topic of Christmas, Tom suggested that instead of giving Banners to our visitors, which cost £7 each, we consider making up our own Calendar, to include 2013, with a large photo of the club on the front. This would be attractive to visitors, to display in their clubhouse. John agreed to look into this.

2.4 Social secretary: Sue said she has paid the deposit for the Christmas break at the Holiday Inn, everyone now has to pay the balance on checking in at reception. Sue said she had several complaints regarding our recent Anniversary Pairs competition, with the restaurant opening late, and toilet facilities not being available. This will be taken up at the next Don Camillo committee meeting

2.5 Facilities Manager: Gui has had meetings with the greenkeeper who said the green had become compacted as a result of not being scarified etc. When the green is closed over Christmas, they intend to hollow tine, seed and sand the green. Some problems had occurred because of the wrong grass being used by the previous maintenance company. Gui said he wanted the green closed again next year, over a long weekend, for scarification, and light sand top dressing. Gui will liaise with John regarding a suitable weekend during Feb/March. Gui said the grass cut has now been lowered to 3mm. The green

will be closed from 19th December to 2nd January. Some discussion followed on the placing of the practice mats, and it was agreed these should be positioned at 2m from the ditch. David said that he is progressing the matter of screening in the area under the pergola for a reception area with more club notice boards. Gui said he would like to thank Pat Purkis and Irene Kerr for selling the raffle tickets at the Anniversary Game. Gui added his thanks to John, Jan and Jeff for arriving early on this day, to set up the rinks and for clearing up afterwards.

3. Sub Committee Activity:

3.1 Bowls Portugal SC: David said he had sent a letter to our Sub Committee regarding comments to be raised at the BP sub committee meeting on 7th November last. This concerned Valverde's views on the lack of competitive fixtures, particularly the limitation of one team only in the league games. We would like 2 teams in the BP Premier League and Supertens next year. BP had suggested that if Valverde wanted more competitive games, they themselves should arrange their own league competition. This idea was discussed.

3.2 Constitution working party: A new draft of the Club Constitution & Rules is in preparation.

3.3 Fiscal Committee: Next meeting is scheduled for mid January 2012.

3.4 Don Camillo Committee: a meeting to be arranged in the New Year.

4. Members' suggestions: No suggestions received. Sue queried whether it would be feasible for the club to buy their own mower, to save cost. It was explained that we had already researched this matter in the past and taking into account insurance, maintenance, storage etc. it would not be cost effective. It was advisable we stay with our present maintenance company who are doing a sterling job.

David Russell said he has worked on the design for the new sign for Don Camillo and the Bowls Club, and has shown it to Jorge. Jorge has taken the design to his graphic designer to obtain a quote. David said he will also get an alternative quote.

5. A.O.B.:

Members meeting

Jeff suggested we arrange another members' meeting. A date of Monday 16th January at 10.30 am. was suggested, before the roll up.

Sponsors

Jeff produced some flyers from the "Cheeky Chippy" shop in Almancil, which had been left in the club mailbox. A suggestion was made that a "fish and chip" day with match, be arranged – this would have to be on a Sunday, and only if the Don Camillo was not interested in catering for the event.

Jeff has received an Email from World Wide Brokers enquiring whether they could do business with our members. A possible sponsor? David thought we should try and find more sponsors. Our members should be made aware of the fact we need more sponsors. David asked those present to give some thought on what items we would like sponsored, i.e. shirts etc. It was thought this could also be put into the next newsletter. David asked those present to Email him with their thoughts.

Competition suggestions

Jan raised the possibility of a Patriotic Day competition, with bowlers wearing red, white and blue. We might need a sponsor for this. This to be discussed in the new year to fit around our touring teams. Poppy Day competition: we should make an effort to arrange our own next year to raise funds. Action: discuss at the next MC meeting.

Fixtures awareness

David said he thought there was a lack of club awareness on when club fixtures are going to be played. John Freeman said the whiteboard should be enough.

Bowls academy ?

David suggested a Bowls Academy to be held on a Thursday with an aim to coach our bowlers and deal with etiquette. Gerry Jones has already volunteered to help with this.

Umpires course ?

John said at the last BP meeting an Umpires Course was discussed, and he felt one of our members should be nominated for this. This can be discussed at a future date.

Eastern League ?

David talked about an Eastern League – this had been mentioned at the last BP AGM.

Home and Away Friendly games ?

Jeff Perry suggested more Home and Away Friendly games, with an aim to raise funds and to provide more inter-club games.

VBC hosting international teams ?

David Russell said he had made enquiries about our club hosting international teams. We can do this if we adhere to the World Bowls ruling.

6. Date of next meeting 16th December, 2011 at 10.00 a.m.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 12.30 p.m.