

FLEET SOCIAL BOWLING CLUB

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - FEBRUARY 19th 2023

Opening Remarks: Lou opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the AGM after what has been a more normal year.

1. Apologies Received from: Steve Clarke, Tim Kite, Geoff Bowron, Jeff Bevins, Ian Shrimpton. There were 36 present. Lou then asked for a minutes silence to remember those who had passed away since the last AGM. These were: Roger Peck, Roger Barrett, Fred Gardner and Brian Gale.

- 2/3. Minutes of the Previous AGM

The minutes of the last AGM were proposed by Peter Hudson and seconded by John Eade. There were no matters arising from the 2022 AGM minutes.

4. President's Address

Lou reported that this had been fantastic year for recruitment, with BBW seeing over 70 people visiting the green. This resulted in several new members including some new lady members. He thanked all those who played a part in delivering leaflets or helping over the weekend.

He also thanked the Committee for all their work, and also those involved on running the A&D teams namely Bill and Ben Steve Pape, Jeff Davis and Mike Gilbert.

He thanked Mike Wilkins for all his work on the green and for organising the group of volunteers who help with the mowing of the green. He also thanked all those who helped at the start and end of the season. He thanked Judy and Peter for their work on the garden and also the rink markers, and Margaret Hankin for organising all the competitions. He thanked Ben for the fund raising activities, the skittles, BBQ and the dinner and more recently the breakfasts. Also Dave Bacon for the plants sales. Adding, the future looks bright for the club.

5. Secretary's Address

Maggie thanked the Bowls Committee for their help, for Audrey for dealing with the ladies matters. We remain affiliated to: Bowls England, Bowls Hampshire, North Hants Womens Bowling Association, Aldershot and District Bowling Association, the Stan Hardman league and the Blackwater Valley. Competitions were entered with varying degrees of success. Members were reminded that although it is now too late for the County competitions, there is still time to enter the A&D competitions. Congratulations to all who entered the Club

competitions, entries are made when you enrol although there will be a chance for late entries at the beginning of May. This year we have introduced a mixed pair's competition. Members are asked to remember that finals weekend is Sept 16 and 17th so you should be available if entering the competitions. The drawn triples will be on Saturday 29th July.

There is a full season of friendly matches and as this year is the centenary there are 2 special matches; June 13th when Bowls England are visiting and July 9th when we have 6 local Clubs sending a team. We are going to need a lot of help with these occasions so please help wherever you can.

Members were reminded to volunteer to play in the friendly matches and the Stan Hardman.

Information is sent out by e-mail; please do let me know if you don't receive any.

6. Treasurer's Report

Tim was unable to attend the meeting but had previously sent out the financial statement. It will be attached to the minutes. There were no questions, despite Stephen Major being available to answer any queries. He had audited the accounts.

Lou stated that the subscriptions will remain the same for this year.

7. Club Captains report

It was a surprise to Bill that he was taking on the role of Captain last Feb but thanks to the support of the Committee believes we had a very successful season. He thanked Mike Wilkins for his work with the contractor on the green and although the green is not perfect we are seeing gradual improvements. He reminded members that we need to look after the green and use the mats when necessary as well as looking after the equipment. The main problem currently is the fox and birds which we continue to try to find solutions for. He thanked the mowing team and the 'swishers' as well as all those who made the pre-season work and end of season clear up so enjoyable.

On the playing side friendly matches are enjoyable and just by having a drink and crisps does not deter from the overall experience of the matches. We played 14 friendly matches, with 7 wins and 7 losses including a good win over Kirkby.

Open Weekend was very successful and all new members are welcome. Ben has also led some fantastic social events and kept us all in touch over the winter. Thanks go to him.

He thanked all the Committee and Maggie for keeping everything running smoothly. Steve Pape undertook to be vice Captain and Bill thanked for all his support both on and off the green.

Looking forward to 2023 it is going to be a momentous year and we hope everyone will help to make it both memorable and enjoyable. He thanked all those who have already stepped up to help in the coming season. Again looking ahead we need to ensure that we have people ready to step into roles if needed.

8. Lady Captains Report

Janice thanked all the ladies for their continued support despite the lack of numbers. We do have some new lady members thanks to the every successful open day last year. We were unable to field a team for the Blackwater Valley but hope to join this year. As always we took part in the County and North Hants competitions. Congratulations go to Judy, Kathy and Margaret who won the NH triples competition. Margaret also reached the final of the 2 wood singles in the NH competition. A great effort from them all. The ladies supported the Stan Hardman league. She also thanked everybody in the Club for their hard work and special thanks to Bill who has worked hard for the benefit of the Club.

9. League Matches

a) A & D

With both teams gaining promotion in 2022, we achieved our aim of staying in the new higher divisions albeit it went to the last game of the season for the B team. With a large number of newer bowlers I think we can be proud of our achievements.

The A team finished 5th of 8 in Div 1 and B team finished 6th of 8 in Division 2. Bill gave thanks to all who captained matches and the selection panel of Ben Mike G and Jeff Davis who led the administration so well.

This year all matches will start at 6.30 with only 18 ends, and ladies are able to play this year since some teams were struggling to fill their teams. The selection team will be Bill, Ben, Dave Bacon and Dave Gale.

b) Stan Hardman

We were sad to lose Roger Peck this year who took on the team and was running it successfully. He will be greatly missed. These are very enjoyable afternoons and this year will run under the Guidance of Peter Hudson and Peter Sunderland.

10. Fundraising Report

Ben had sent out his report earlier in the week to all members. He had 2 main objectives; for members to have some fun and ability to socialise and, to raise some money for Club funds. He made nearly £600 last year. There are more events scheduled starting with a final breakfast session very soon and thanked everybody for supporting the events and looks forward to continued support. He is grateful to Kathy, Dave and Peter now helping with organising these events.

11. Fixtures and Competitions

The fixture card shows a full list of all friendly and league matches.

12. Centenary Celebrations

Maggie advised members that with their Fixture card they will receive a Centenary badge and also Centenary stickers for their bowls. There are also some new shirts and they too have the Centenary badge on.

The 2 important matches are on June 14th when Bowls England will bring a team and July 9 when we are inviting 6 local teams to send a team. They are Farnborough Gate, Fleet Utd, Pyestock, Cove, Yately and Crondall.

She requested that we need members to not only play on these days but also to help with the preparations both on and before the day.

13. Election of Club Officials

There were no new nominations for any of the posts, therefore the Committee members at present in post all agreed to continue. Kathy proposed that the Committee be kept in place, and Betty seconded the proposal. All were therefore voted back in from the floor.

Officer Posts are confirmed as follows:

President - Lou Foulger
Vice- President - Judy Brown
Secretary - Maggie Marsh
Treasurer - Tim Kite
Fixtures Sec - Margaret Hankin
Club Captain - Bill Moore
Ladies Captain - Janice Fleuty
Comminications - Mike Gilbert
Membership - Dave Bacon

Non Committee Posts:

The A&D league will be run by a committee consisting of Ben Holt, Bill Moore, Dave Bacon and Dave Gale.

Stan Hardman League: Peter Hudson and Peter Sunderland.

Fund Raising – Ben Holt

14. AOB

Bill said that the green preparation will start on 1st and 2nd of April.

Maggie proposed that the constitution be changed to state that the AGM will be held by the end of November, (currently it states the end of October) this was agreed by the floor.

Bill presented Lou with a bowl that had been carved from a Bowl by a member of the Social Club. Bill presented it to Lou in appreciation for all he does and has done for many years for the success of the Club.

The meeting ended at 11.15.