***HILLS BOWLING ASSOCIATION***

**MINUTES**

**EXECUTIVE MEETING**

Monday 4th September 2023 at 7.30pm

Lenswood Bowling Club

1. WELCOME : Meeting opened 7.31 pm.
2. PRESENT: T. Stephen, D. Fuda, A. Reynolds, V. Deeble, A. Pobke, M. Guerin, B. Lenny.
3. APOLOGIES : Nil
4. Minutes of last meeting 3.7.23 accepted.
5. Treasurer’s report – as at 31.8.23:
   * + Cheque account $ 1,200.85
     + Online saver account $ 7,819.48
6. General business:

* Thursday pennant programming – TS has commenced preparing the program for the current nine sides who have nominated – will endeavour to have the Mt. Barker, Lobethal and Woodside sides play home and away together wherever possible.

* Saturday pennant programming –

We have 8 sides nominated for Division I, 11 sides nominated for Division II, and 11 sides for Division III.

If we prepare the program with the nominations as they stand, there will be incomplete rounds in every division, and byes in both Division II and III.

Ideally, we would prefer to have 10 sides (or 9 + bye) in each division – meaning two full home and away rounds in each division, followed by three weeks of finals.

Whilst all members of the committee acknowledge that the current number of sidesnominated in each Division makes programming uneven – the committee is reluctant to recommend alterations to side nominations (either promotions or relegations), given that:

* Any recommendation to alter side nominations may have an unforeseen negative impact upon a club, and
* There are no specific rules or guidelines to assist the committee in making such recommendations.

In the circumstances, the committee would prefer to raise the issue for discussion at the September delegates meeting, and abide the general consensus of the clubs.

* Wednesday pennant programming –

We have 6 sides nominated for Division I, and 12 sides for Division II.

If we prepare the program with the nominations as they stand – we could fit in three complete home and away rounds in Division I, but could only accommodate one full round, and a half round in Division II.

Ideally, we would prefer to have either 9 sides in each division, or three divisions of 6 sides.

Whilst all members of the committee acknowledge that the current number of sides nominated in each Division makes programming uneven – the committee is reluctant to recommend alterations to side nominations (either promotions or relegations), given that:

* Any recommendation to alter side nominations may have an unforeseen negative impact upon a club, and
* There are no specific rules or guidelines to assist the committee in making such recommendations.

In the circumstances, the committee would prefer to raise the issue for discussion at the September delegates meeting, and abide the general consensus of the clubs.

* Casual vacancy for position of Assistant Secretary – several people have enquired about what the role entails, but we really need someone who is prepared to learn the ropes, and eventually take over the main role as Secretary. TS will again ask for expressions of interest at the next delegates meeting. Val has agreed to assist Adrian with the Treasurer’s role this season.

* Side and player registrations – given that there have been two changes to side nominations since the last general meeting, it may be prudent for Adrian to wait until after the September delegates meeting before rendering the composite account to the clubs. Agreed.
* Rule 1.2 and 1.2(a) of the HBA Match Rules were altered last September, but TS overlooked to update the rules on the website. TS will attend to that. The rule should currently read:

*1.2 With the exception of all finals matches, the Harrison Shield ,the Patron’s Shield, and Champ of Champ regional play offs - all association events shall be assigned to each club consecutively, in alphabetical order, provided that, the venue is acceptable for approval by the HBA assessment sub committee.  The sub committee is to be chaired by a member of the HBA Executive Committee.*

*(a) The Harrison Shield and Patron’s Shield shall be assigned to the club whose team or side won the event the previous season – and Champ of Champ regional play offs shall be assigned to the club of the winning HBA competitors.*

The wording will need to be tidied up regarding approval by the HBA Exec.

We removed the section about clubs being able to swap between themselves.

Section 2 (b) regarding allocation of finals remains unchanged.

* TS has distributed a draft Calendar to committee members – some discussion re allocation of four nights for President’s Cup (17 & 24 Nov, and 1 & 8 Dec) – TS also in the process of working out alphabetical allocation of HBA events – but finalisation of the Calendar will need to await completion of pennant programming.

* Patron’s Day and Regional ladies events. TS has distributed the Regional Ladies (and Mens) Calendar to clubs, and advised clubs to contact Helen Lindner direct to confirm inclusion of a team for the Regional Gala Day on 15.9.23 at Murray Bridge. Patron’s Day pencilled in for Thursday 12.10.23 at Lobethal (to be confirmed).
* Selectors: expressions of interest as follows:
  + Talunga Shield – Val Deeble and Kevin Schulz.
  + Men’s – Anthony (Butch) Mik and Mike Guerin - note that TS will be available to assist if required re Division II players.
  + Women’s – Chris Jarman.

All appointed.

* Pennant reporters – Trap Daw of Mt. Barker has previously agreed to continue in the role of pennant reporter for Saturday Div I, and Wednesday Divs I and II. Ann Grist has agreed to continue as Thursday ladies’ reporter. No one put their hand up for Div III last year or this year, and no one has nominated for Div III this year. TS will call for expressions of interest at the next delegates meeting, but if no one offers – TS will do both Divisions … but a particularly cursory job of each.

* Sponsorship – Kloses and Warren Murdoch have both agreed to continue sponsorship. Yet again, Kwik Kopy have failed to respond to several emails, and expressed disappointment last year that they had not received adequate support/business from HBA. Given that they only supply HBA stickers, and we have enough for at least one more season, TS proposes that we leave Kwik Kopy off the program cover and insert Warren’s details on the cover. All agreed.
* Discussion re the various motions regarding the heat rule for consideration at the next delegates meeting. Everyone is reminded that the clubs at the last meeting expressed a preference for an early start over the Oakbank and Gumeracha proposals, but clearly did not support a 38C “cut in” temperature, with 7 of the 9 clubs supporting 40C. Therefore theoretically none of the motions should succeed – but will present them all in the same order as submitted.
* Review of HBA Match Rules – Mike, Geoff D, and Rob H have met, Mike discussed a draft set of revised rules with DF and TS, and has now prepared a further revised draft. TS only responded today, but all good, except for correction required re rule 1.2. These revised rules tidy up the formatting, numbering, and terminology of the rules – but do not change the substantive meaning of any of the rules. Mike to prepare a final draft for distribution to the committee.
* Other business:
  + Mike wants to consider a review of the rules and guidelines surrounding programming.
  + Mike queries whether responses are required to all emails from TS to committee – TS will attempt to make it clear in future emails whether a particular response is required.
  + Dora has been in communication with Bowls SA regarding a replacement umpires tutor given the pending retirement of Beth Young. Geoff Deeble has agreed to undertake the training in September – and thereafter Bowls SA to ensure consultation with HBA regarding these positons.
  + Val and Mike absent for next delegates meeting in September.
  + Barry queries whether the current umpiring courses are competency based – short answer is no – general discussion.

Next meeting:

* **Delegates – Monday 18th September 2023 at 7.30pm at Lenswood BC.**
* **Executive –** next meeting would normally be Monday 2nd October 2023, but as that is a public holiday, meeting deferred to **Monday 9th October 2023 at 7.30pm at Lenswood BC.**

Meeting closed: 10.19 pm.