

# SUTTON AND DISTRICT



# BOWLING ASSOCIATION

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Hon. Secretary : John Morton  
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8<sup>th</sup> January 2018

## To Officers, Delegates, Hon. Vice Presidents and Life Members

The 68<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held at Wallington Bowling Club, 13 Grosvenor Road, Wallington, on Monday, January 29<sup>th</sup> 2017, commencing at 7.30 p.m. when your attendance is requested. Any affiliated club member may attend but only appointed Delegates may vote on the Club's behalf. Recognising that one person may hold more than one office, voting is 'one person, one vote'.

Yours faithfully,

*J.D.Morton*

John Morton (Hon. Secretary)

### Agenda

1. Welcome.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Minutes of the 2017 Annual General Meeting (attached).
4. Matters arising (not covered by subsequent agenda items).
5. Correspondence.
6. Reports:
  - a. Hon. Secretary (John Morton)
  - b. Hon. Treasurer (Chris Ballard)
  - c. Outdoor Match Secretary (Don Davies / Geoff Garland)
  - d. Indoor Match Secretary (Peter Pankhurst)
7. Club Affiliation Fees and Competition Entry Fees wef 1/12/2018 – unchanged from current rates
8. Change of Rules to incorporate the new, Ladies Blesma Pairs competition (attached).
9. Election of Officers for 2018:- the nominations are  
President:- Tross Gibbons  
Hon Treasurer:- Chris Ballard. Hon. Secretary:- John Morton  
Indoor Match Secretary:- Paul Songer. Outdoor Match Secretary (Geoff Garland / Don Davies)  
Immediate P/President:- Don Davies. Committee Members:- David Ganney and David Gould.  
Any further nominations should be received by the Hon Secretary by January 15<sup>th</sup> at the latest.
10. Appointment of Auditors and Competition Secretaries
11. President's Remarks
12. Any Other Business
13. Date of Next Meeting - Spring Council, Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2018 @ Wallington BC

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## AGENDA ITEM 3 Minutes of the January 2017 AGM

### Minutes of the 67<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, held on 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2017 at Wallington Bowling Club

The Meeting was opened by the Hon Secretary at 7.30pm, with some 21 people present including officers. He asked for a moment of reflection to recall those bowlers who have passed away – these include former Presidents Vic Gould and Mike Doherty, and former Delegate and supporters of SDBA Eddie Marsh, John Baker and most recently Brian Fletcher.

**Apologies for Absence:-** Harold Ashfield (Epsom Court), Tracie Bailey (Ewell Village), Geoff Garland (Carshalton), David Gould, Graham Law (Ashtead), Babs Payne (Mitcham), Ken Shopland (Carshalton) John Willmer (Ashtead)

**Minutes of the 2016 Annual General Meeting** were agreed and approved (Proposed Peter Gammage, Seconded by Dave Ansell).

**Matters Arising.** We were delighted that Merton BC's campaign to remain open has been successful - their petition was the biggest ever seen by the Council – and we welcome their delegate Alan Painter here this evening.

**Correspondence:** since Autumn Council meeting in October, we have had letters from David Hobson (Blesma), Ken Shopland (Shopland Select [The Sutton branch of National Autistic Society]) and from St Raphaels Hospice thanking the Association for our donations.

**Reports: (a) Hon. Secretary (John Morton):-**

We have 24 Clubs who have affiliated this year – one less than last year, due to Hook & Southborough who felt unable to participate with a falling membership in order to prioritise their other commitments.

From the 24 clubs, we have entries for the Yonwin, Arthur Hughes and Paston Cups totalling 22, 22 and 23 respectively which is more or less the same as last year. Last year saw our first Lady entrant in the Paston Cup, representing Mitcham, and this will be repeated in 2017.

We were disappointed to learn of the closure of the S&D Ladies BA earlier this month, which I understand was due to a lack of Officers; it was a smaller Association with only 12 member clubs, and it fiercely protected its independence. With no notice of their demise, we felt unable to take-on any of the Ladies activities, but through our Delegates, we indicated that we would be willing to work with any lady who was interested – we felt that it might have been possible to incorporate a competition or two, in similar fashion to the Past Times Trophy, but no one has yet come forward.

We have our own challenge - whilst we have a club membership of twice the size of S&D Ladies, we were unable to attract any volunteers in 2016 to help our own Officers. We look likely to be without a President in 2017, and are reliant on a small band of committed individuals to keep S&DBA afloat. More on this later in the Agenda.

Presidents Day was held at Rose Hill BC and our Finals Day was held at Wallington BC. Thanks to both Clubs for the use of their greens and facilities, plus the support of their members to ensure smooth and enjoyable days.

The Past Times Trophy was run successfully for the first time under S&DBA custodianship, with finals held at Sutton. Well done to Peter Gammage and Margaret Woods for taking ownership of the two competitions.

S&DBA continues to raise money for various charities – for Blesma and St Raphael's through the Mens and Mixed pairs competitions, and for our President's charity, which has been linked to the Shopland Select charity in 2016.

The Presentation Dinner was held at Sutton BC. It is our hope and expectation that as a minimum all finalists, or their representatives, are able to attend the Dinner to receive their trophies. It is an enjoyable occasion and will be held this year on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2017. Please note it in your diary.

We had an enjoyable Bowls Tour to Bideford in 2016, and managed to remain unbeaten in Cornwall!! Thanks particularly to David Gould, who has also organised our 2017 tour to the Isle of Wight which has been particularly well supported and is fully booked.

Thanks to Peter Gammage who is willing to put in the time to keep the S&DBA website up to date and he continues to develop its scope.

I continue to review our Constitution, seeking to simplify and clarify the content, and to ensure it remains fit for purpose; we will discuss later in the Agenda.

In addition to the various thanks above, I would also like to record thanks to:

- Wallington BC for hosting a number of our external fixtures and Finals Day, and for allowing their club house to be used for our meetings
- The Competition Secretaries who ensure smooth running of our competitions
- All clubs for your support of the Club competitions and your members who enter the pairs and singles competitions
- Individual members who have played for S&DBA in our indoor and outdoor fixtures
- All those who came to any of our matches, finals or other activities in support of S&DBA and our members.

**Reports: (b) Hon. Treasurer (Chris Ballard):-**

Annual Subscriptions :- At the start of 2016 we had entries from 24 clubs, however following the AGM in Jan 2016 we received a late entry, which brought us back up to the 25 clubs. However, this year (2017) we are down to 24 clubs as Hook & Southborough have decided not to re-join. Thanks to a concerted effort and the online petition for Merton they are still in operation, however we may have to go through the same back up campaign again for 2018, which I believe is when Merton Council will probably look at their cost cutting exercise again – I hope not but only time will tell.

Year-end Accounts 2016:- This year has been rather tiresome from my point of view, for example the receipt of cheques being extremely late, leading me to have to drop everything as some cheques were within days of being out of date! Other items have included incomplete information on matches receipts, where I have had to leave the data out, which I will be pursuing as there are some monies due to the Association. The accounts include a number of accruals and are currently unaudited.

This situation has to change and already it has been decided by your Committee that I will be the recipient of all affiliated Club entries into S & D's annual competitions, so that cheques will be processed a lot quicker. I am also working on a new match income and expenditure form, which will be available via email and should provide greater details and clarity.

The contributions received from entrants for our two supported charities were £290 for BLESMA & £255 for St Raphael's – this was rounded up/down by the committee to £300 & £250 respectively, resulting in a shortfall of £5 overall. Both charities entrants were £15 less overall than in 2015.

Future anticipated Costs for 2017:- The increase in costs that Safeguard Coaches made in 2016, for our two coach matches, was just over 3% more than costs in 2015 - we will probably have three coach trips this year, (Desborough, Egerton & Hythe) and our costs are likely to be around £1550. Based on historical costs I cannot see the costs being kept at the 2015 level - I'm assuming they will increase by at least 2.0%.

All other costs/income will be in line with those in 2016, with some reduction in income due to rationalising our fixtures during the season. After discussion, the Accounts were accepted (Proposed Tom Phillips, Seconded Allan Ivens).

**Reports: (c) Outdoor Match Secretary (Don Davies):-**

The Match Secretary Role continued to be split between Geoff Garland (fixture dates and details), and Don Davies (organising teams and match day activities).

On the outdoor matches for 2016, we played 14 – winning 6, losing 8 and two were cancelled. Eight of these matches were played against Clubs, and here we won 4 and lost 4.

The 2017 Programme has been reduced compared to 2016 – 3 regular matches less, against Beckenham & Bromley BA, New Romney and S&D Ladies BA; we are seeking a mutually convenient date to play Auriol to celebrate their 50th anniversary, which numerically would replace the Carshalton anniversary match of 2016. The reduction has been implemented pragmatically, ultimately to provide more 'space' in the programme, and there remains only one date 'hotspot' – in August, with matches vs Banks and Surrey Masonics.

**Reports: (d) Indoor Match Secretary (Peter Pankhurst):-**

We struggled with the early indoor fixtures and may need to look at rescheduling some of these matches going forward. Future matches are well covered, other than for Arun (19/2/2017). I am actively planning to host Desborough in 2018, and am discussing dates with Sutton BC.

All indoor fixtures will be Mixed. Thank you to all players and Clubs for your support of our fixtures, especially to those ladies who played when we were short of men.

**Club Affiliation Fees and Competition Entry Fees wef 1/12/2017** – it was agreed to maintain the fees at the current rates.

**President's Remarks (Don Davies):-** The Association links all clubs and provides an alternative for their members to enjoy a game of bowls with a different group of players and with a different emphasis than might be the case when playing for their club.

Thanks to my fellow officers for their efforts and conscientious support in the past year – they do a magnificent job and members are lucky to have such a conscientious group acting on behalf of the Association. Additionally, the Competition Secretaries are key people, often carrying out more than one role, which can occur when jobs get aggregated.

Regarding indoor and outdoor matches, these are always played with the understanding that the result is not important, only that all players enjoy their participation. Although we expect some success with the outdoor matches, indoor matches are much harder for an outdoor association and we look for winning rinks as small victories! In fact, a number of these matches have been close entering the home stretch, although our final performance fell away.

We need anything between 16 and 28 players for our matches, and some games have proved difficult to field a full team – particularly the earlier matches. Please inform your club members that S&D provide opportunities to play at all standards of bowling.

In the Summer, S&D went on tour to Bideford. The weather was mixed and results showed that practice helps, winning 1 rink in the first match, which had increased to 5 rinks out of 6 by the 5<sup>th</sup> and final match. We will be going on tour in 2017, literally pushing the boat out as we go on a cruise – well, a ferry to the Isle of Wight! This tour, as all the recent ones, has been organised by David Gould who does a magnificent job – and he's not a bad bowler, either!!

I was pleased to see how various the Competitions evolved, overseen by our Competition Secretaries, leading to a successful Finals Day at Wallington BC. Thank you to Wallington for the use of their green and club facilities, and supporting our Officers throughout the day.

I would remind you of the S&D website, which is the main means of information for all aspects of the association. Peter Gammage does a great job of keeping the website up to date, eg with current fixtures, rules, competition draw sheets etc.

Currently, there are vacancies for President, Senior and Junior Vice Presidents. The role of the President is not as onerous as some other Officer roles, so please take this message back to your Club's and seek possible candidates for the future.

I have enjoyed my two years as President, and will move into the Immediate Past President's position. Thank you for your support.

### **Election of Officers for 2017**

The following are willing to stand for office:-

President:- vacant; Past President:- Don Davies  
Hon. Treasurer:- Chris Ballard; Hon. Secretary:- John Morton  
Hon. Indoor Match Secretary:- Peter Pankhurst;  
Hon. Outdoor Match Secretary:- Geoff Garland / Don Davies  
Committee Members:- David Ganney and David Gould

Honorary Vice President:- David Ganney

The above were Proposed (Pete Willis), Seconded (Dave Ansell) and agreed unanimously.

### **Change of Rules (J Morton):**

- a. Part I – Constitution – various updates to reflect current practice. Agreed
- b. Part II – Matches – simplification to reflect current practice. Agreed
- c. Part III – Competitions – clarification regarding communication between teams for the preliminary and/or first round matches, especially the Arthur Hughes and Yonwin.

Following discussion, it was agreed that the text should distinguish between the 'private entry' competitions (ie Blesma, St Raphaels etc) – within 7 days of the draw being distributed - and the 'Club competitions' (ie Yonwin, Arthur Hughes, Paston) – within 28 days of the draw being first made.

The above changes were Proposed (Maureen Stanley), Seconded (Paul Beeson) and agreed unanimously.

### **Any Other Business:**

1. **Top Rink Prizes** – a request was made for prizes of a 'reasonable quality'
2. **Possible impact** following the Closure of Sutton and District Ladies BA – we would not take on the previous competitions run by the Ladies, but would be supportive if any Ladies showed interest in being involved. We have welcomed ladies into our match programme and would like to see this grow. We have asked our delegates to make contact with ladies within their clubs, whether a specific ladies club or a mixed club.
3. **Finals Day**, Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2017: We are open to holding the S&DBA Finals at any S&DBA Club that would like to host the event and that can offer a good green, club facilities, parking etc. Keith Woods and Dave Ansell offered Wallington and Epsom Court BC respectively. Further offers would be accepted for consideration until February 28<sup>th</sup>, after which the Officers would meet to discuss and decide the venue for 2017.

**Date of next meeting:-** Spring Council, Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017 @ Wallington BC

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## AGENDA ITEM 8 Change of Rules; Part III –

### Section A – Applicable to all Competitions

3. (referring to entry forms) **Change** ‘Entries for the Blesma Pairs, the St Raphael’s Mixed Pairs and the Ted Peirce Singles ...’ **to** ‘Entries for the Blesma *Ladies and Mens* Pairs, the St Raphael’s Mixed Pairs and the Ted Peirce Singles ...’

4. (referring to newly admitted clubs) **Change** ‘... clubs may also enter the Blesma Pairs, St Raphael’s Pairs and Ted Peirce Singles ...’ **to** ‘... clubs may also enter the Blesma *Ladies and Mens* Pairs, St Raphael’s Pairs and Ted Peirce Singles ...’

10. (referring to the preliminary or first round matches) **Change** “Blesma Mens pairs” **to** “Blesma *Ladies and Mens* Pairs”

14. **Change** ‘The start time for the Semi-Final matches in the Yonwin Cup, Arthur Hughes Triples, Blesma Pairs, and St Raphael’s Pairs ....’, **to** ‘The start time for the Semi-Final matches in the Yonwin Cup, Arthur Hughes Triples, Blesma *Ladies and Mens* Pairs, and St Raphael’s Pairs ....’

### Section E – Blesma Pairs Regulations

Title to be changed to Blesma *Mens* Pairs Regulations

#### INSERT New *Section F – Blesma Ladies Pairs Regulations*

1. The Cup to be played for is an annual Ladies Pairs Competition. The draw will take place in conjunction with the Blesma Mens Pairs and St. Raphael’s Mixed Pairs Competition. The Association’s Hon. Secretary or other Officer will observe that the draw is made fairly.
2. All players must be current members of Clubs Affiliated to the Association. The number of Pairs entering is unlimited. A pair may consist of members from the same or different Affiliated Clubs.
3. Each match shall be played over 21 ends and the winner will be the Pair with the highest number of shots scored. However, should the scores be equal at the end of the 21<sup>st</sup> end an extra end shall be played to determine the winner.
4. All Competitors shall pay an entry fee as laid down at the Annual General Meeting of the Association. The proceeds shall be donated to Blesma.
5. The dates by which all entries must be received and paid for, and the closing date of each round will be set by Management. The rounds closing dates will be the same as those for the Blesma Mens Pairs, St Raphael’s and Ted Peirce Competitions.
6. The two players named on the official entry form should normally play together throughout the Competition. One substitute may, however, be used provided she has not already played in or entered the Competition. The substitute may play in either position.