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| Glouc Bowls Assoc  TRANSPARENT | **GLOUCESTERSHIRE BOWLS ASSOCIATION**  **A Member of Bowls England.** |

**G.B.A Women’s Division**

**Notes relating to cancelled WD Delegate meeting of Wednesday 18 March 2020**

*A few recent comments (end of April) noted in grey*

1. **Secretary’s report (including GBA2010 matters)**  - Lindsay Collin
   1. **State of the County** Affiliations of women have fallen somewhat; 1159 as against 1207 at the same stage last year; though it might be expected that the final 2019 number would also rise during the coming season. The men’s affiliations are around twice this number, which will relate to allocations of affiliation income between the divisions. Numbers on the Women’s County List is slightly down, 116 as against 132 last year, which the Selectors will deem to be rather low.
   2. **General administrative matters** :

* + 1. New WD Yearbooks, GBA Club Handbooks and BE Yearbooks all available today. Apologies for any mistakes; an errata will be posted on the updated Gloucestershire Women’s Web site, but not for the next month. *Obviously, this distribution on the day did not take place, but I would like to thank clubs for collecting their Club Handbooks and Divisional Yearbooks on 21 March from the four sectional distribution points; only 4 clubs out of 60 didn’t bother.*
    2. The Portal and the WD Web site are being updated and will be more so up until the season starts. More work required in the next few weeks. County teams from last season still there, but will be replaced once the new playing season commences.
    3. In the WD Yearbook are outline details of the GBA Annual Presentation Luncheon. Sunday 25th October 2020. A flyer with menu will be provided in July; please ensure that this is displayed in your clubhouse in due course. *This year’s luncheon has now been cancelled, regardless of whether we finally get any play this season – no competitions, no winners, no presentations. Sunday 17th October already booked for this event in 2021, though; please put in your diaries.*
    4. Also mentioned in the Yearbook is the Benevolent Triples. Please note that there is still plenty of time to enter this competition. It is a very pleasant day, but also competitive and leading to a possible National title, which worked for us last year.
    5. Development sessions Must mention the work that has been going on during the Winter and Spring. Coaching sessions for Johns Squad members and those others on the County List who wish to be involved. Separate sessions, approximately fortnightly, in the Sections, I think much appreciated by all involved. Main development sessions due on 21 March, 11 April and 2 May, agreed with Team Manager Elaine Lewis. I’d like to once again give a massive vote of thanks to David for all his efforts on behalf of the Women’s Division.
    6. Markers courses. Several held this Winter. We are much indebted to umpire Mike Manns of Barnwood, who administers these courses, and all the other umpires involved. Mike is also now the County Administrator for the Umpires and he is the person who you should always refer requests to; do not approach umpires direct. See Yearbook for contact details. I’m sure that most of you will know that Mike shockingly and sadly passed away recently.
    7. I attended the Middle England League AGM in Coventry two weeks ago. Myra will report on this and other MEL developments. I have now finished my stint as MEL Secretary, despite them trying to persuade me to stay on longer ! All MEL activities now cancelled for this year.
    8. County and WD Information is still sent by the County Administrator/WD Secretary to the Club Secretary, as well as to the WD Delegate. Your WD Delegate should once again please ensure that club is kept abreast of general GBA matters, not just the WD-specific matters. Minutes of WD Management Meetings and the GBA Joint Executive Committee (which will again be on the new Web Portal) are a reliable and reasonably complete summary of recent information. Meetings suspended at the moment, but JEC taking decisions online.
    9. Officers, Officials and Presidential team urgently needed still. *I have actually removed the plea that I had written for the meeting – yet another of many such pleas. This was too important to be ‘lost’ in the middle of quite a long set of notes on all sorts of administrative things. So I am sending it – in another e-mail - as an entirely separate document that must please go to all the ladies in the County.*

* 1. **Comments on GBA meetings & developments** since last WD Delegate Meeting in October :

**WD Management meetings**

* + 1. Just a couple of matters coming out of the above (most others form part of our agenda) :
* Responses from Clubs to WD Club Information Form. 10 out of 60 sent no response at all by the time of compiling the County List and also compiling the new handbooks; one of the things that leads to out-of-date and incorrect information in ‘handbooks’ and on the County List. A small number of ladies declined to provide an emergency contact, which we regret.
* Dress matters again worth emphasising :
  + Use the ‘flat soled bowling shoes’ only reference to shoes, to cover the (new) coloured shoe issue (coloured shoes now allowed and have become very popular).
  + Jeans style trousers not permitted. BE Appendix B to be referenced.
  + Headgear must be white. No longer any reference to a hat band. BE Appendix B to be referenced.
  + Sandals. Only with a medical note from doctor. BE Appendix B to be referenced.
  + Shorts fine. But members of a team must be the same colour below the waist. BE Appendix B to be referenced.
  + Coloured shorts, crops and trousers can only be from Aceit, BE’s supplier, nobody else. Proving to be a bit of a debate and may have put some clubs off from going down that route. Incidentally, even if club colours were accepted below the waist, white would still be needed for competitors in the National Championship Finals (as county shirts must be worn by all when representing Gloucestershire).

**Changes in GBA**

1.4 LC updated the meeting on the recent 2020 JEC positions :

Lindsay Collin – Now Acting Chair as well as Secretary to the JEC

Lindsay Collin - County Administrator; David Skeats - Deputy County Administrator

Myra Savage - GBA Unified Match Secretary

Craig Guthrie - MD new County Authorised Representative

1.5 County Treasurer (Jane Hawkes) has recently resigned (as from 31 March), so no County Treasurer at present.

* 1. GBA Roles more broadly. The new GBA Club Handbook gives a comprehensive summary. *Recent resignations now become crucial.*

**GBA general meetings**

* 1. **JCM** (9 November 2019) dealt with:
* Investiture of GBA Presidential teams completed
* No proposals for changes in either divisional administration nor GBA Constitution & Rules this year
* Matters mainly concentrated on, with considerable discussions on all four topics (see summary of that JCM meeting previously circulated) :
  + Safeguarding
  + County Coaching Development
  + Results of recent survey on GBA club needs
  + Unified GBA Competition Rules
  1. **AGM** held in 11 January 2020 at Whitminster Village Hall. Well attended, if relatively brief. Usual format and content.
* General thanks to all who have served the GBA in various capacities
* Usual reports by Officers
* All Joint Executive nominations accepted
* Open Forum. Mainly revisiting topics covered in JCM. Useful open meeting also held in February 2020 at Cotswold BC regarding Coaching Development, particularly in relation to young people, with some promising plans for this coming season.

**1.9 GBA Joint Executive Committee meetings**

Minutes will be on the Web Portal shortly.

1. **Treasurer’s report**  - Avril Hole

2.1 It is currently a quiet time for financial aspects so I will briefly refer to the Income and Expenditure to date and then comment generally on the year ahead.

2.2 Income - Competition entries are very much in line with last year, the amount received being £2712.00. A Committee decision was made to sell one of the trophies which had already been replaced and £88.00 was received for this sale. The only other receipts have been from an advertisement in our yearbook - £50, and refreshment money from our previous Delegates’ Meeting - £14.70. Total Income is therefore £2776.70.

2.3 Expenditure – For the maintenance and engraving of all the trophies plus the purchase of a small replacement trophy, we paid £278.05. The Committee have agreed that the trophy purchase will be taken from the remaining money held in the Barbara Overton legacy. Handbooks have cost £618.00; Insurance £184.00; Hall hire £153.00; Officer expenses £307.00; Stationery £81.74; Donations made £150.00. The Account I prepared at the end of last season has been examined at a cost of £132.00. As can be seen total Expenditure to date amounts to £1905.35.

2.4 Additional comments:

* Some considerable time ago the Women’s Division contributed a sum of money toward junior bowls promotion but for a long time some money has remained in an account, unused. The account has now been closed and we have received £1062.85. I have set this aside separate from our Income account and it has already been agreed that this money will be put back into ‘junior bowls promotion’ in the foreseeable future. Discussion has also taken place with the Men’s Division, when it was agreed that we would be prepared to offer an additional contribution to this junior promotion, although to date no final decisions or specific plans have been made. It has also been discussed that promotions should not concentrate entirely on the junior section.
* As you are already aware some of our Past Presidents will attend matches etc. as required. It is extremely important that all their expenses are paid to them. Some items, for example gifts for winning rinks etc., will be purchased in advance by the County.
* Our Match Secretary has once again made every effort to keep meal and coach costs at an acceptable level.
* The financial outlook for our coming season is a positive one.
* I look forward very much to meeting up with you all again for a successful season. Many of you will already be aware that this will in fact be my last season in the role of Treasurer and I shall be very happy to offer any guidance I can in the future.

1. **Match Secretary’s report** – Myra Savage

3.1 All matches are now fixed and confirmed. As normal I do not have cost for many of the away matches as they don’t seem to provide these until nearer dates of matches. We have 6 Home and 7 away matches, 3 John’s Trophy matches, 2 home and 1 away, 1 Walker Cup home (neutral green), 1 Ladies v Gents and 1 celebration match at Gloucester Spa. The only club I don’t recognise as having been to before is Hayden Wick B.C. Matches are below:

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| **DAY** | **DATE** | **VERSUS** | **VENUE** | **TIME** | **MEALS COST** | **COACH** |
| Sunday | 10/05/2020 | JT Practice Match | Falcon B.C. | 2.00p.m. | £2.00 |  |
| Wednesday | 06/05/2020 | Somerset - FRIENDLY | Arrow B.C. | 1.30pm | £7.50 players. £5.50 non players |  |
| Tuesday | 12/05/2020 | Oxfordshire - MEL | Burford B.C. | 1.30pm | £7.00 | Coach |
| Friday | 15/05/2020 | Leicestershire - MEL | Hinckley B.C. | 1.30pm | £6.00 | Coach |
| Sunday | 17/05/2020 | JT Practice Match | Falcon B.C. | 1.30p.m. | £2.00 |  |
| Wednesday | 20/05/2020 | Worcs - FRIENDLY | Whaddon B.C. | 1.30pm | £6.50 |  |
| Sunday | 24/05/2020 | WC Prelim v Devon | Clarence B.C. | 1.30p.m. | £5.00 |  |
| Thursday | 28/05/2020 | Warks Mixed | Stratford B.C. | 2.00pm | £7.00 | Coach |
| Saturday | 30/05/2020 | Johns Trophy v Wilts | Barnwood B.C. | 1.30pm | £7.00 players & £4.50 non players |  |
| Thursday | 04/06/2020 | Cambridgeshire - MEL | Iver Heath B.C. | 1.30pm |  | Coach |
| Friday | 05/06/2020 | Berkshire - Friendly | Wotton under Edge | 1.30pm | £6.00 |  |
| Sunday | 14/06/2020 | Ladies v Men | Cheltenham Spa | 2.00p.m. | £6.00 |  |
| Wednesday | 17/06/2020 | Hereford - FRIENDLY | Falcon B.C. | 1.30pm | £5.50 |  |
| Saturday | 20/06/2020 | Johns Trophy v Dorset | Arrow B.C. | 1.30pm | £7.50 players. £5.50 non players |  |
| Wednesday | 24/06/2020 | Worcs (MEL) | Broadway B.C. | 1.30p.m. | tba |  |
| Wednesday | 01/07/2020 | Warks - MEL | Stoke B.V. | 1.30pm | £6.50 | Coach |
| Saturday | 04/07/2020 | Warks - JT | Lillington B.C. | 1.30p.m. | £7.00 | Coach |
| Sunday | 05/07/2020 | Glos Spa Celebration | Gloucester Spa | 2.00p.m. | £5.00 |  |
| Sunday | 19/07/2020 | Benevolent Triples | Glos City/Spa | 10.00am |  |  |
| Friday | 24/07/.020 | Northants (MEL) | Kislingbury B.C. | 1.30pm | tba | Coach |
| Wednesday | 19/08/2020 | Glamorgan - FRIENDLY | Glos Spa | 1.30pm | £6.00 |  |
| Sunday | 23.08/2020 | GBA (Mixed) v Wiltshire | Hayden Wick B.C. | 2.00p.m. |  |  |
| Friday | 28/08/2020 | Wiltshire - FRIENDLY | Box B.C. | 1.30pm | £6.00 |  |
| Tuesday | 01/09/2020 | Hampshire FRIENDLY | Cotswold B.C. | 1.30pm | £7.00 |  |
| Tuesday | 08/09/2020 | Somerset Mixed | Olveston B.C. | 2.00pm | £6.50 |  |
| Thursday | 10/09/2020 | Hereford mixed | Bishops Cleeve | 2.00pm |  |  |

3.2 We have 7 coaches booked. We are still with Eagle Line this year as they have still given us a very competitive price for coaches. Please encourage visitors to come with you on coaches, cost is only £6.00 and this helps with costs, especially as Avril our Treasurer has allowed us to have this many coaches.

3.3 Our home clubs are still trying to keep costs down for meals, etc. but obviously I have no control over away fixtures, although I do emphasise that we try to keep costs down.

3.4 Lindsay attended the MEL meeting at Stoke B.C. There were no controversial matters arising from this meeting although there is some concern that Cambridgeshire might pull out of MEL if they can get involved in another league nearer to them.

3.5 Once again could I ask you to pass on to your county players that they should be aware of when the selection dates are and to check their computers for invitations to play if they have made themselves available for matches selected. Players have not returning invitation slips until the last minute sometimes and this makes it quite trying for our Treasurer who is trying to get all the monies in and also for selectors if players pull out at last minute. I know there are always extenuating circumstances that cannot be avoided, but please be vigilant when invites go out.

1. **Bowls England (BE) Delegate’s report** - BE County Authorised Representative Lindsay Collin
   1. Since the last Delegate Meeting, both the BE Women’s and BE Men’s Presentation Dinners have been held. At the Women’s Dinner in November, Sally Rolls, Pauline Gunn and Kay Gent (Gloucester Spa and Caer Glow BCs) received a trophy for 3rd place nationally in the Women’s Benevolent Triples competition. At the Men’s Dinner, Joan Surman, Penny Callaghan, Lee Williamson and Nathan Kitchen (Cheltenham BC) received their trophy as Winners of the National Mixed Fours Competition (see photo of front of yearbook)
   2. BE Counties Meeting on 23 November 2019. Widely ranging meeting in Coventry, attended by Lindsay Collin and David Rolls for the GBA, covering the following :

* Bowls Development Alliance programme and priorities for next 4 years
* Commonwealth Games 2022, Birmingham (and Leamington for lawn bowls). Major Presentation by Games Director of Sports
* National Championships and National Competitions review
* Audit & Review Committee remit
* County Proposals received in advance of the AGM
* Club & County Support, including: Greens maintenance; coaching services; umpiring services; third-party funding
* Major thanks to retiring Chair of Board David Mitchell-Gears
  1. BE AGM was three weeks ago, in Coventry, with Secretary attending as one of Gloucestershire’s two Council Members. Various matters came up at the AGM, including :
     + New President is Paul Robson (Hampshire). SVP Terri Keen (Buckinghamshire). New JVP is Deepak Tanna (Leicestershire). *Note, later decided by BE that the 2021 team would be the same.*
     + New Chief Executive from June 2020, Jon Cockcroft
     + Two new BE Directors : Foster Johnson, Director of Governance, and Harry Nijjar, Independent Director of Marketing and Communications
     + All fees remain unchanged for yet another year (£5 per member). Affiliation still the same since 2005 - an increase must happen soon. *Note that all BE affiliation fees for 2020 will be refunded*
     + The only proposition remaining from the November 2019 Counties Meeting was the Norfolk proposal for an Amy Rose Plate competition. Defeated
     + Major presentation about the basis of and the process for the new National Membership Register
     + Major thanks to retiring Chief Executive, Tony Allcock
  2. BE West Regional meeting in Clevedon last week, attended by Lindsay Collin
  3. National competition draws not yet available on Web (BE Competition Portal) *Note that all BE Championship Competitions and National Competitions for 2020 later cancelled. All related entry fees will be refunded*

1. **Competition Secretaries’ report** - Jan Lee-Cooper
   1. The start of the new outdoor season is just around the corner and with it, the start of our competitions. What you probably don’t realise is that, over the winter months, several dedicated people put a lot of effort in behind the scenes to prepare for the coming playing season. One of the most relevant tasks that has been undertaken is the compilation of new Unified Competition Rules, which have to be taken onboard by us all. Thanks especially go to Christine Magee/Ian Gauld (Olveston B.C.) and Lindsay, without whom this arduous task would not have happened.
   2. The new Handbooks should now be in your possession and subsequently you will be handing them to your Club’s competition entrants. As always at this meeting, we urge you and them to pay specific attention to the accuracy of their contact details and in the event of there being any changes whatsoever including email addresses – especially since the entry forms were completed last year (or if they change during the year) – PLEASE LET YOUR SECTION COMPETITION SECRETARY KNOW IMMEDIATELY, as well as our Women’s Division Secretary – Lindsay.
   3. For clarification, in respect of the Top Club competition (which is a National Competition and outside our remit), in the event there is a County Winner and/or Runner-Up in Regional Play then the appropriate Trophy will be awarded. However, if there is not a County Winner and/or Runner-Up in a year, then no Trophy will be presented. The same criteria will also apply should any other National Competitions for which the County gives trophies be run in a similar manner (i.e. rounds being played out of County).
   4. It is very important that everyone involved reads ALL the new rules in order to prevent any potential slip-ups but we would like to point out some of the more significant changes :

* Section 3 covering Match arrangements: under which is the offering and accepting of dates for competitions with ‘play by dates’, together with guidance for timings. The most significant change for us is that a time scale has been given within which to offer and accept dates. Failure to adhere to these may result in a ‘walkover’ being awarded. It is stated that the challenger offers a minimum of three dates which, unless agreed to by the opponent, SHALL NOT BE DATES ON WHICH CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITIONS, COUNTY COMPETITIONS OR COUNTY MATCHES ARE BEING PLAYED.
* Please note sub-section 3.4.1 - The start time of games will be 6.15 pm but an earlier time may be arranged by mutual agreement. Games played on a weekend must start no earlier than 9:30 am.
* It is also important to highlight sub-section 3.6 – All singles competitors drawn at home in a competition shall be responsible for providing a marker. FAILURE TO ABIDE BY THIS RULE SHALL MEAN AUTOMATIC DISQUALIFICATION.
* Section 4 covering Substitutes and withdrawals: under which we should like to highlight sub-section 4.5 – Where a substitute will need to be used in a game within the Sections, the appropriate Section Competition Secretary MUST BE INFORMED as soon as possible
* Sub-section 4.6 – Deliberate intention not to play in later round(s)
* Section 5 covering Notification of results: reminder for prompt notification to the appropriate Section Competition Secretary on the day the game is played. Score cards should be signed by both players/skips and the winner shall retain them until the Quarter Finals in case of any dispute or protest.
* Section 10 covering Stoppages or Postponements: under which section is covered what to do in the event of exceptional bad weather.
* Section 11 covering National Championships Qualifiers: which explains what will happen in the event of a competitor be it a Singles, or a Pairs/Triples/Fours team who, having qualified for the National Championships, does not then represent GBA at those Championships.

It would take far too long to go into all the details included in the new competition rules, hence the need for everyone to read them thoroughly BEFORE starting to play their competitions. If there are any that perhaps need further clarification, then please refer to your Section Competition Secretary in the first instance.

* 1. We’d like to take this opportunity to thank in advance all those Clubs who have kindly agreed to accommodate this year’s Play Offs/Semi-Finals and Finals.
  2. Please bring this Report to the attention of your County Competition Competitors.

*Next Delegate Meeting : Wednesday 14 October 2020, 1.30 pm at Whitminster Village Hall*

*July Meeting cancelled*

Signed : Date :