

**MINUTES of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
EATON BOWLING AND SOCIAL CLUB INC. held on 26th April 2016**

PRESENT

President Rick Lyon, *Vice Presidents* Anne Whyatt & Paddy Papalia, *Treasurer* Tony Fahey, *Ladies Captain* Elaine McDonald, *Men's Captain* Hedley Koch, *Grounds Director* Ken Morgan *Catering Convenor* Karen Cowin, *Social Director* Shona Glassey, *Secretary* Kerry Edwards

Members: As per attached Attendance Register .

APOLOGIES: As per attached Apology Sheet.

The President welcomed all Members and declared the meeting **open at 7.00pm.**

Returning Officer: Ray Ashworth, **Scrutineer:** Elaine McDonald.

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

Moved Karen Cowin **Seconded** Doug Wenn that the Minutes, previously distributed, and as amended, be confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting held on the **20th April 2015.**

CARRIED

MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

Barbara Hough queried Item 3 From General Business, "Dumping" President Rick advised that the Secretary had not followed up Bunbury Club regarding their policy on this matter, but the Club had developed it's own policy and the matter had been addressed within the Club.

REPORTS:

President (Written Report Attached)

Ladies Captain (Written Report Attached)

Men's Captain (Written Report Attached)

Convenor (Written Report Attached)

Grounds Ken Morgan gave a verbal report in which he advised that he was unable to re-nominate for the position this year, as he would be undergoing surgery on his knees. Ken also mentioned that he had taken over from Geoff Honeybone, who was elected to the position at last AGM, as Geoff had had some health issues that prevented him doing job properly. Ken thanked Geoff for his assistance throughout year. Ken also thanked all those other Members who had also helped during year. Ken asked that Lady Members consider becoming involved with Club garden maintenance. He suggested that the female touch was needed to look after the gardens properly. Ken also mentioned that the greens needed reticulation, the Club had received quotes to complete this but as we were short on funds, had applied, unsuccessfully, for a grant from 'Holden Home Ground Advantage.' Ken said that watering of the greens was essential, but was too difficult for Club Members to continue with in long term. In Ken's opinion it was therefore imperative that Club seek funds to complete this project.

House House Director, Peter Self, was unable to attend.

President Rick mentioned that Peter had completed extensions to all the Club house tables, Rick said that Peter had done an excellent job, in his own time, and deserved the thanks of all Members.

Social Shona Glassey also gave a verbal report in which she thanked the Management Committee, especially President Rick, for allowing her and her committee 'free reign' to organize social events for the year. Shona also thanked her committee members, Pauline Jolly, Michelle Birrell, Ray and Peter Ashworth for their assistance. Events organized during year were; a Fashion Parade, two Quiz nights, two Roast nights, two Major Raffles plus numerous smaller raffles. Shona said that the events had been very successful, some more than others, and Members who did not attend, missed out on some fun nights. Shona advised that; Ray had made up pamphlets and advertising for all events, he organized meats for roast nights, and purchased the fairy lights. Peter had organized the Social Club shirts, put together the

raffles and chocolates etc. Michelle cooked the roasts, prepared the veggies and meats, which were very delicious. Pauline made the pumpkin soup for roast nights and, along with Hedley Koch, ran the quiz nights. Anne Strachan had cooked the chicken and corn for several events. Orest and Robyn Skraha had donated the wine for quiz night and Orest also assisted with shopping for raffle prizes etc. Shona thanked them all. Shona also thanked Ken Morgan for donating money for Social shirts. Shona also advised that she would not be re-nominating this year, but would be prepared to assist whoever took the position on.

Men's Captain Hedley Koch added that Eaton had done very well at Men's Country Week this year and that several Eaton teams made it to the knockout finals. With eight teams in the pairs comp, 4 teams in the fours. Mark Mills, Geoff Whyatt, Shaun Heasman & Gordon Twist made it through to the Grand Final, Geoff Whyatt got down to last 4 in Singles, Rick Lyons & Hedley Koch got down to last 8 in Pairs. These were very good results, and Club was well represented. Hedley congratulated the Ladies Country Week teams for their success also.

Moved Ray Ashworth **Seconded** Paddy Papalia that all reports as presented be accepted.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM REPORTS

Nil

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Treasurer, Tony Fahey, presented, and spoke to, his (Un-audited) Report for period 1st March 2015 to 29th February 2016 (Copy of report is attached).

Tony explained to meeting that, Club had decided at last year's AGM, to move Club financial year to end on 30th June each year, Tony also advised that an Audited report could not be done until after financial year ended, and therefore could not be presented at this (April) meeting. Tony also said that an Auditor's report would be completed following the financial year end (30 June) and would be available for Members, if required, at that time.

Tony went on to explain the report, pointing out that bar sales had dropped \$77,000 over last 4 years, while wages and superannuation had stayed relatively steady. As a result, Bar trade profit was down \$78,000 in that time. Another factor that affected bar profit was that although Liquor and beer purchase prices had risen, the Club had not put prices up for some 18 months. As a consequence, profit margins had suffered. Bar prices had since been raised and margins were now on the improve.

Depreciation on the new greens was also largely affecting the Club's bottom line.

Overall, Club had gone from \$ 62,000 profit, 4 years ago, to \$78,000 loss this year. Club Bank Balance had dropped from \$200,000 to \$100,000 in that time. There was also \$150,000 still owing on loan to be paid over next 30 months. Treasurer Tony said he was fearful for Club's survival if there were no changes made to running of Club. These changes to include; decreasing bar wages, increasing bar sales, increasing Membership fees, and increasing sponsorship.

Moved T Fahey **Seconded** Cheryl Hughes that the Financial Report as presented be accepted.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM FINANCIAL REPORT

Ray Ashworth enquired regarding Membership numbers. Tony advised that Member numbers were down, and that Membership fees had not been increased for last two years and that Committee would be recommending they be increased this meeting. Secretary Kerry Edwards advised meeting of current Member numbers.

Hedley Koch queried Treasurer Tony's statement that Club was in a dire financial state, as the loan repayments were to be made over 2 ½ years and that Club had Member fees and other income which should cover these overheads. Tony explained that he thought that Club's cashflow looked OK for next 18 months, but, in his opinion, Club would struggle after that, unless measures were taken now to rectify the situation. President Rick advised meeting that Committee were aware of and working on changes to how Club was run so as to change our financial circumstances and that he was confident Club would survive and work it's way clear. However, he warned that Members need to be also aware and support their Club.

Judy Edwards asked why Men did not have sponsors for all their events, as did the Ladies. Elaine McDonald explained that Ladies did not have ALL events fully sponsored, but several events covered. Meeting was advised that Sponsorship Director, Peter Bedford, was aware of this, and had said he would be working to have more Men's events covered by both outside sponsors as well as from Members.

ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS:

President advised that the following nominations had been received;

<u>Position</u>	<u>Nominee</u>	<u>Proposed</u>	<u>Seconded</u>
(Executive Committee – 2 year term)			
President	Rick Lyon	Paddy Papalia	Elaine McDonald
Vice President (Male)	Paddy Papalia	Kerry Edwards	Glenis Symonns
Secretary	Kerry Edwards	Paddy Papalia	Glenis Symonns
Treasurer	Tony Fahey	Elaine McDonald	Shona Glassey
(Management Committee – 1 year term)			
Director of Men's Bowls/Captain	Hedley Koch	Geoff Whyatt	Bruce McDonald
House Director	Peter Self	Elaine McDonald	Anne Whyatt

Moved Doug Wenn, **Seconded** Ed Ritchie, that the above nominations be accepted and elected to positions as indicated. **CARRIED**

There were no further nominations prior to close off date, And President Rick called for nominations, from the floor, to fill the remaining vacant positions.

The following nominations were received;

(Management Committee – 1 year term)			
Director of Ladies Bowls/Captain	Elaine McDonald	Ramona Curnow	Pat Gould
Grounds Director	Geoff Honeybone	Paddy Papalia	Ed Ritchie
Catering Convenor	Karen Cowin	Pat Gould	Cherryl Hughes
Sponsoring Director	Peter Bedford	Kerry Edwards	Shona Glassey

President Rick requested a show of hands to indicate if all were in favour of the above nominations being accepted and elected to the positions as indicated. **CARRIED**

President Rick advised that the position of **Social Director** remained vacant and requested Members to give some thought to assisting and taking on that position.

Rick went on to welcome all new and renewing Committee Members and wished them well for coming year.

APPOINTMENT OF CLUB PATRONS

Club Patron Michael Bennett (Dardanup Shire President)
Ladies Patrons (as elected at the Ladies Annual Meeting) Joy Bailey and Ramona Curnow

Moved Elaine McDonald **Seconded** Judy Edwards, that the above be appointed as patrons for coming year. **CARRIED**

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES

President Rick advised the meeting that the Management Committee recommend that Club Membership fees be raised as follows:

Full Membership	\$220.00 (including Capitation fee)
Restricted Bowler Membership	\$130.00 (Including Capitation fee)
Social Membership	\$40.00

All other membership fees to remain the same.

Moved Barbara Hough, **Seconded** Shona Glassey that Membership fees be raised as recommended.

CARRIED

LIFE MEMBERSHIP

President Rick announced that Life Membership, to both **Karen and John Cowin**, had been proposed and voted on, in a secret ballot of Members attending this meeting,. Rick advised that the nominations had been accepted by a majority of those present, and they were duly appointed. Rick Congratulated them both and asked Karen and John to come forward and receive their Life Membership badges, which were presented by (Life Member) Ramona Curnow.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Colin Hughes **moved**, Glenis Symonns **seconded**, that a letter be sent to League Management, complaining regarding the state of Busselton's greens. Colin advised meeting that the rinks at Busselton were 2 metres shorter than normal and, in his opinion, ran at excessive speed and were very difficult for visiting teams to compete on. Colin also advised that League President had advised him that a formal complaint had to be made before any action could be taken by League. Geoff Whyatt spoke against the motion, saying that it was not right for us to tell other Clubs how to manage their greens. Ray Ashworth asked if the League officials inspected the greens before each pennant season. Paddy Papalia advised that the League grounds Committee carried out inspections each season, but this was a random inspection, not every green was checked. Glenis Symonns spoke for the motion, saying that the Busselton green was too short, and was illegal, and they were supposed to have had it fixed. Hedley Koch said he believed that League were responsible for quality of greens and it should be left to them. Barbara Hough also spoke against the motion. The motion was voted on and was **DEFEATED**.

Elaine McDonald raised subject of 'Club Affiliation Fee' saying that she had a SWBL letter advising that WA Bowls Capitation fees were to be replaced with an Affiliation Fee. This letter advised that Clubs in South West League were to meet and discuss the proposed fees at a meeting to be held at Bunbury Club on 16 May. Secretary Kerry advised that he had not been advised of this. Secretary said that he would follow up and obtain details of the meeting and advise Committee Members so that Club will be represented at the meeting.

Ray Ashworth said he thought that Club put too much emphasis on urging Members to support their Club. Ray said that, in his opinion, Club should be opened to more functions from outside parties and the public, including making clubhouse available for events for younger people .There was money to be made from these types of functions which would assist Club to raise more income. Neville Woods responded, saying that, Club already was used for some outside functions, which he had no problem with, but, Club licence restricted entry to Members and Guests of Members, and if we opened our doors to too many functions we would be competing against local taverns and possibly outside our licence. Neville also said that he thought Club Members needed to support the club more, by patronising the bar and Tab facility here instead of at local taverns. President Rick also said that Club was restricted in it's licence and could not open doors to general public. Barbara Hough said that she thought that many Members were on a limited income and could not afford to spend a lot of money and time at the Club. She went on to say that Club needed to be open to more outside functions which would bring in more money to Club. Rick added that Club needed to diversify more and Committee needed to look into it more. Karen Cowin suggested that maybe we should look into opening premises for 18th and 21st birthday parties, but have security staff on site to control. Rick said he would be opposed to that idea. Anne Whyatt agreed with Rick and said she thought it was too dangerous to allow young people to hold functions here.

Ed Ritchie suggested that Corporate Bowlers should be all be charged an extra \$10 each per year, and make them Social Members of Club. This would raise income and increase Membership. Which could then encourage them to visit Club and bring their friends. Paddy responded that he thought that to charge

the Corporate bowlers more was wrong. They already were charged \$160 per team for a six week season and they should not be charged any more. Club made extra money out of raffles and over bar from these events and by charging them more, could turn some of them away. President Rick said that he agreed that Corporate Bowls should be left alone, it was a very good money earner for Club and should be left to those who ran it. If anything, more Club Members should offer to assist in running the event.

President Rick raised subject of Winter Trading Hours. Rick advised meeting that Club Bar Committee met with Neville recently and composed a ‘Winter Bar Opening Schedule’ which would see the bar open on restricted hours. The intention is to not have staff employed unnecessarily, and save on over payment of wages. Rick read out the roster for winter, explaining that it was only proposed at present and open to suggestions and discussion. Rick went on to advise that the rostered hours were paid staff hours and that it was intended that any opening of bar outside these hours, except for functions, would be staffed by volunteer Members. Six to eight volunteers would be needed. There was some discussion as to how TAB would be affected. Neville suggested that restricting bar opening hours would be to Club’s detriment. President Rick said that bar would not be closed, but would be run by volunteers during quieter periods and staffed by paid staff at strategic hours. Doug Wenn queried as to who would set up the TAB prior to opening hours. Ray Ashworth asked who would look after money at closing times. Elaine McDonald queried if TAB operators needed to be trained and licenced. Rick advised that paid staff would be on hand to set up bar and TAB facility and to close up at end of day. Paddy Papalia said he thought that this should be left to Bar Committee to work out and decide. President Rick agreed saying that Bar Committee would work on it and would come up with plan for Winter Trading Hours.
(A copy of Winter Bar Opening Times is attached)

Anne Whyatt advised meeting that new Incorporations Act meant that Club would need to review it’s Constitution. Anne said that there were contradictions within our constitution’s wording and suggested that Committee and any other Members who felt that could assist, review the Constitution over the next 12 months and report back to next AGM with any required alterations.

President Rick raised subject of Reticulation of greens. Rick said that although it was badly needed, the Club could currently not afford it and it would be put on hold. Committee were seeking help with applications for grants to assist, but without such financial help it could not be done in near future.

There being no further business, President Rick declared the meeting closed and advised that Club would buy all attendees a drink for participating tonight.

Meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

Chairperson - (Rick Lyon).....Date.....

Secretary – (Kerry Edwards).....Date.....