



# Tunbridge Wells YBC

@ Hollywood Bowl, Longfield Road  
Knights Park, Tunbridge Wells

## AGM Minutes 2018

Present:

Ollie Guimarey	Sarah Baughurst
Shell Leeke	Dave Salter
Lisa Watson	Nick Watson
Viv Wickenden	Oliver Baughurst
Delaney Hansford	Maddison Hansford
Harry Mitchell	Josh Mitchell
Sam Wickens	Maria Westlake
Lynn Truslove	Leigh Truslove
Simon Herbert	Karen Herbert
Philip Guimarey	Gary Pointer
Stephen Trevor	Peter Leeke

Apologies: Terry Connor Janet Connor

The meeting opened on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at 11:21

### Chairman's Report

The Chairman welcomed everybody and noted that the location in the bar was not perfect but that the bowl had turned down the music and hoped that people could hear clearly. He reported as follows.

This had been a challenging year at the bowl, the change from Bowlplex to Hollywood had really kicked in with a full refurbishment of the customer side of the lanes. In addition, the YBC and league lanes generally had moved from lane 1 upwards to lane 24 downwards.

As the YBC we were asked to reduce the number of lanes we use, we lost the training lanes, we lost extras after Saturday League and we lost the facility of having notice boards to publish scores.

There have been a lot of niggling problems between league bowlers and the Centre but as a YBC we have been able to keep these problems to a minimum for us.

Lane maintenance is generally not too bad though the scoring system leaves much to be desired for league bowling. The camera scoring system is not 100% accurate and score amendments are tricky or sometimes not possible. Generally, we can manage a workaround for this without calling for the technician though obviously splits or similar problems cannot be "judged".

There is a new group of technicians headed by Mike who are at differing stages of training, fortunately, they are all fairly willing to help with any problems. For the forthcoming season, they have agreed to retain the existing league oil pattern.

Being reduced to 10 lanes has been a nuisance but a maximum of 20 bowlers has been working so far apart from the lack of dedicated coaching lanes.

We have put out a questionnaire to the bowlers which I will summarise later and talk about how we can incorporate any suggestions.

Moving forward the bowl generally are happy with the YBC in its current format and are happy for us to be there at 09:30 and are prepared to discuss any expansion of the league but at a later date. They have agreed to maintain the current costs for this year. They are prepared for us to reinstate the use of an extra pair of lanes for training next season and will allow us to do further coaching after league, however, they can't promise not to put open play next to it and warn that during party season the lights may be turned off for moonlight bowling. Again like coaching they will charge us at £6 per hour per lane (though if we put more than one name in this will be more as the system won't take it)

The Chairman made a brief and basic presentation of how the handicap system works for the Doubles league (100% of 210 probably reducing to 200 for the next season) and the Singles leagues (lower for B division). It was suggested that we take out the maximum handicap as it could be unfair to lower average bowlers. He would be happy to write a basic outline of this for anyone interested.

While we could change to a trios league to allow for more players it was generally felt that to avoid extending playing time the existing doubles format should remain.

The chairman made a brief description of GDPR policies which are in place and advised that more detail would shortly be available on the website.

The WhatsApp group is fully functioning and a good way to contact parents (guardians etc) and should anybody decide not to be involved they are able to unsubscribe themselves.

Should you wish to contact the committee in a more private way we are always available to you and there is a direct YBC email which is [email@twybc.co.uk](mailto:email@twybc.co.uk)

Brief mention was made to Club Matters which was to be expanded on later in the meeting.

Simon had previously requested copies of the Club Constitution and the Chairman reported that we had never really had one as we relied on the Club rule book together with the BTBA rules. We would, however, rectify this and publish it on the new website as soon as possible.

### **Treasurers Report**

Sarah presented the financial report to the AGM. She reported that there was £3,452.00 in the bank out of which we need to pay for BTBA cards, NAYBC membership, trophies etc which should be around-£1,100.00 leaving a healthy balance which will cover us for the purchase of new shirts should our potential deal with a sponsor not happen. We are also covered for any proposed increase in league fees.

The books are now due for an Audit or, as discussed, a financial verification as that is all that is required and will go off next week for this.

### **Tournaments Report**

In his absence Terry reported that the club had entered three tournaments throughout the year:

- South of England Open
- BTBA Nationals
- British Team Open

We did gain a few trophies by a few bowlers, notably Nikkita but also some of the more junior bowlers who did very well for us.

## Election of Committee

With the existing committee members willing to stand for re-election and no other nominations, the committee was returned unopposed.

## Results of the questionnaire

- Ten people replied and didn't feel the need for any major changes to the way the club is run.
- The majority were happy to continue with the trophy presentation during play on the second week back for the new season rather than a trophy evening.
- The majority of bowlers wanted a return to dedicated coaching lanes during Saturday play. The Chairman confirmed that this would not be compulsory but that we are happy to do everything possible to encourage and improve members bowling. During this dedicated coaching, the team being coached would be awarded full points for the day. All our qualified coaches can be used for this but where possible appropriate coaches should be used to match the ability of the bowlers on the lanes, depending on availability.
- Several bowlers do not like position rounds much, however, we would prefer to keep them in as it gives the schedule some flexibility and allows us fun (free) weeks should many bowlers be away for any reason.
- The majority of bowlers do not want warm up drills led by the coaches before league. We should still encourage it though.
- Most bowlers would be happy for us to reinstate the optional extra hour of coaching after YBC.
- A large majority of bowlers would like more club competitions. It was felt that this may refer to more in-house competitions rather than bowling events which are already freely available.
- The majority felt that competitions should be handicap based.
- The majority of bowlers would like challenge matches with other local YBCs.
- The majority of bowlers did not want the Club to organise social events outside of bowling.
- Several bowlers had good ideas on how to attract new club members. Ideas included advertising in schools and the use of Social Media. The chairman suggested that any, for instance, a **Facebook** group would need to be monitored and suggested that he would prefer not to do that himself. Simon agreed that he would look into starting a **facebook** page and the monitoring of this. A bring a friend week was also an idea which was well supported. Posters were also felt to be a good idea.
- It was felt that an Ally Gators club would be good alongside the main club.
- The members requested more emphasis on badges and rewards. It was agreed that we should push this forward more. We could also include certificates for special effort or result.
- There was some support for a dedicated training day if we were able to schedule this in.
- There was a suggestion of a split league to allow for promotion/relegation on a competitive basis like a squash ladder style. It was felt that at present the software would not handle this easily but that we would look into it further. Gary thought he may be able to run a comparison league using our scores to show what differences it could make.
- The members would like to have visits from "celebrity" bowlers if possible as these would be a good example to us all. We all have "contacts" in the sport and hopefully, we will be able to arrange something through this.
- A bowler questioned the enforcement of behavioural rules on the lanes as some people can find such things disruptive. It was felt that we are lucky that generally we don't have a very great problem with this and any incidents can be and are dealt with quite simply at the time. It was asked that if any bowler has a problem with something that happens they should tell a coach or official so that we can help as quickly as possible.

- As to whether we should go somewhere other than the bowl at Christmas the vote was very divided but the Chairman noted that we do have some responsibility to support the Bowl as they are very good to us with most things.
- The majority of bowlers were happy to get trophies at the end of year presentation as unfortunately, we cannot do cash prizes for junior bowlers. Again mention was made of patches, badges, key rings and certificates.

#### **Items for discussion**

- It was suggested and generally agreed that should we be able to attract a new level of young bowlers we should run them alongside the league so that we can feed them into competitive play when they become ready.
- Simon made a small presentation of the results that had been found following a test night we held trying out different lane patterns. Unfortunately, the vote of the people attending was to retain the existing pattern which we both felt may not be the best thing.
- We have had preliminary discussions with London YBC over a potential challenge match.
- Lanes will be available to YBC members during the summer break but will be from 09:30 and will be subject to availability at the time. Wearing a YBC shirt would identify the bowler as a YBC member should the staff ask for proof.
- Generally, the bowl asks us not to do coaching during school holidays but this may be possible if we make sure to avoid busy times.
- Terry is away on holiday at present but has made it known that he would like to continue in the role as Tournament Manager. It was agreed that this would be a good thing but the general opinion was that it would be good if he could involve some of the coaches in the selection of teams for the bowlers.
- It was felt that as a Club we should still do the usual three to four tournaments each year but that we can also offer other tournaments which can be managed by our other coaches who are likely to be there anyway with their own children.
- The new shirts are still happening and we are still in discussion with the main sponsor. Karen offered an additional contact at Kent Fostering as we are having trouble speaking to people sometimes.
- We had offered several designs for the members to vote for their preference and they have chosen a suitable design by a huge majority, so this is what we will be going for.
- There was a discussion about what other items of clothing could be obtained in club colours and whether we could supply towels too.
- Simon made a presentation on behalf of Club Matters and the help they can be with generally running a club. He was also able to offer some insight into what may be happening with the NAYBC. He also emphasised the importance of training coaches and getting them suitably licensed. He also brought up the various training modules under Educare which are available via the BTBA and should be completed as general learning. This is free to BTBA coaches and free places are available to YBCs too.
- The BTBA Coaches website is down at present but will shortly be replaced.
- The Tournament calendar is shortly to be published and will show some changes from last year particularly with regard to Team England qualification. Simon is available to advise.
- The chairman reminded the meeting that we are always looking for people to volunteer in any capacity. Many of you have particular skills which can always be useful to us.
- The meeting was advised of an App available for bowlers/parents/coaches phones called Tenpin Toolkit. This was designed and sold through the app stores by a friend of ours called Simon Kimber. He has included many useful bowling functions within the app and for a small price, these can be very helpful to anybody involved in bowling.

### **Any other Business**

The chairman thanked the committee, helpers and the coaches for all their help and effort and gave special thanks to the parents as without their time and trouble in getting bowlers to YBC and to tournaments nothing would be able to happen.

As there was no further business the meeting was closed @ 13:20.

*Shell Leeke*

Michelle Leeke  
Secretary TWYBC

### **Handicap System 2018/19**

Doubles 100% of 200 with no maximum, so a bowlers handicap is 200 minus the bowlers current average  
Singles A 100% of 200 with no maximum, so a bowlers handicap is 200 minus the bowlers current average  
Singles B 100% of 140 with no maximum, so a bowlers handicap is 140 minus the bowlers current average