

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE LADIES' SECTION

Held at 11.00 am on Sunday 27th October, 2024 at West Wickham Bowling Club

Sandra Figg, who chaired the meeting, welcomed all the members. Thanks were given to Margaret Hewitt for serving the teas and coffees.

Apologies for Absence

21 ladies were present whose names were duly recorded. Apologies for absence were received from Pat Allester, Gail Barnes, Kim Blacker, Linda Brown, Shirley Corney, Eileen Evans, Barbara Huggins, Krystyna Martin, Irene McColloch, Eileen Pickering, Anne Simmonds and Jackie Willis.

Minute

The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on Sunday 23rd October 2023 having already been circulated, to be taken as read, agreed and signed. Proposed Karen Washington and Seconded Pauline Palser.

Matters Arising

None

Captain's Report – Gail Barnes

Good morning everyone.

It goes without saying, that I must start by thanking you all for all the support you have given me this season and again making it so enjoyable. Many thanks must certainly go to the ladies committee for their support, in all matters, and for making my job far easier.

It gives me great pleasure to report on another successful season. We achieved second place in the Jubilee league, with a note of thanks to Jeanette for running this league so admirably for all the participating clubs.

At County level congratulations must go to Eunice Pain for reaching the semi-finals and winning her badge in the pairs and Eileen Pickering who won through to the final in the 2wood singles and progressed to Leamington. Well done ladies.

Additionally, at County level, we had success in the 2 rink Mollie Cleggett competition finishing third overall to some very strong teams.

Well done to all the ladies who have played in any of the games and my utmost respect to the selection committee, who have had to make some very difficult decisions this year. It is not always easy to find enough ladies for some competitions or matches.

Over the last few seasons, the club has seen a strong influx of new members who are making excellent progress with the game and some have started to represent the club in matches and competitions. I would like to thank all these new ladies for their enthusiasm and support, and to our long-standing members, their willingness to guide and encourage new bowlers. These new members are the future of the club and we must always be looking forward to keeping the game of bowls alive.

At the start of the season, I had the privilege, along with the Men's captain, of choosing a charity to support for the summer. This year the Salvation Army was chosen and through raffles, books and

puzzles, plants, super social events and donations during the season, culminating in Captains' Day, you have raised over £2300. Thank you so much for your generosity. A superb achievement.

Mentioning Captains' Day, I must thank you all and guests for supporting the event with such enthusiasm for the day's programme and generosity for the chosen charity. Additionally, it would not have all come together without Pat and Jeanette helping me on the day. Thank you for your lovely emails with regard to the event and the beautiful flowers and gift. I'm glad you all enjoyed yourselves.

I would like to thank Sandra and Phil for all the work they put in to running the club competitions and congratulate all the winners and runners-up. Thank you to everyone who entered the competitions as without you there would be no finals. Also, I must congratulate Barbara Huggins on winning the Aggregate Cup. She has had an excellent season. Well done.

Finally, thank you to everyone who has supported the ladies' section in any way this year, especially the green keeping team and the bar volunteers. We certainly have a wonderful Green compared to other clubs.

Thank you to all the garden teams and especially Linda for making our grounds look so lovely.

It has been a great season. I can't wait for the next one! I wish all new officers a successful and happy season in 2025.

Secretary's Report – Sandra Figg

The Ladies Committee has met six times since the last AGM, once at my house and five times in the clubhouse.

We have welcomed ten new lady members in total, Krystyna Martin, Eunice Pain, Jocelyn Rodin, Shirley Corney, Jacqueline Willis, Sue Beynon, Linda Tullis, Linda Jacobs, Hansa Purohit and Pat Allester making 39 lady members in total.

I hold a small amount of petty cash to cover the cost of cards and flowers sent to members who have been unwell or had stays in hospital. During the year flowers and or cards have been sent on behalf of the Ladies to Pauline Palser, Val Shaw, Irene McColloch, Eileen Pickering, Margaret Hewitt, Sue Beynon, and Kim Blacker. After a top up of funds from the club treasurer, petty cash now stands at £90.87.

Over 120 new club shirts have been ordered throughout the season and they have been well received by our members and complimented on by other clubs. A further order will be placed before the start of next season for those who would like one.

Match Secretary's report - Jeanette Whitehead

Thank you all for attending this morning.

Gail's Captain's report covers most of the issues I would have raised and for this I am extremely grateful.

We had a very good season and it was great to see so many of our newer bowlers putting their names down for matches.

Over the last few seasons, the club that I joined has come on in leaps and bounds and it is great to see that the future of West Wickham Bowling Club will, hopefully, continue to go from strength to strength.

Our fixtures for next season are already starting to come in and we have a lot of prestigious matches to look forward to as well. Make sure you try and support these events if possible.

Next season we are hosting the Division 1 Kent Ladies Finals. Let's hope if you are not competing you will be there to support those who are.

Many thanks to all those who work so hard in keeping our club one of, if not the best, in Kent.

Competition Secretary's Report

Finals day was played on a lovely sunny day in September and spectators and supporters enjoyed very good competitive games. Refreshments were served throughout the day raising £149.85 for the club together with a further £27 from the sale of programmes. £122 raised in a raffle went to the club's charity, The Salvation Army.

Thank you to everyone who came along to support the players and to all those who provided the beautiful cakes.

This season 18 ladies entered one or more of the internal club competitions. The results were as follows:

Winner		
Ladies Championship	Eunice Pain	Finalist – Eileen Pickering
Ladies Handicap Singles	Krystyna Martin	Finalist – Barbara Huggins
Ladies Handicap Pairs	Ann Saunders & Karen Washington	Finalist – Sandra Figg & Eileen Evans
Ladies 2 Wood	Jeanette Whitehead	Finalist – Krystyna Martin
Ladies 100 Up	Eileen Pickering	Finalist -Barbara Huggins
Ladies Novice Trophy	Val Currie	Finalist – Julie Lockton
Mixed Handicap Pairs	Barbara Huggins & John Urie	Finalist – Eunice Pain & David Smith

Well done to all the ladies who entered the competitions and especially to all the winners and finalists.

My thanks are due to all the competitors, Phil Broomfield, the men's competition secretary, our umpire Ann Saunders and the markers Jeanette Whitehead, Gail Barnes, Pat Walkinshaw and Linda Brown.

This was my last year as Competition Secretary as I am handing over the reins to Barbara Huggins. Please support her next year by entering competitions by ticking the relevant sections on the membership renewal form which will be sent out in the next month or so.

NWK Kent League Delegate's Report – Pat Walkinshaw

This year at the start of the season we had a new Competition called the Charity Shield which was played between the winners of Division 1 and the Gladys Tyler winners of the previous season. The winners to receive £125 for their chosen charity. Last year West Wickham Ladies won Division 1 and South Hill Wood won the Gladys Tyler. We played the game at Orpington Excelsior.

Unfortunately, we lost but the hospitality and the meal provided by Orpington Excelsior members was great.

I would like to thank all the ladies that played not only in that game but all through the season come rain or shine and on some very challenging greens.

We had some good results and some not so good. In the Gladys Tyler we went out in the first round to South Hill Wood 2 Bowling Club.

I can report by the end of July we were in fourth position but by our last game against Sidcup we needed 6 points to come second but, unfortunately, we only managed to get 4 points on a very difficult green.

We ended the season in third place with 46 points, Coney Hall were second with 47 points and Petts Wood top with 59 points.

Thank you once again for your support and I look forward to playing with you all again next year.

Kent Delegate's Report - Ann Saunders

The County have held 2 meetings, one in April and the second in October this year. I was unable to attend the first meeting due to school holidays and I was looking after my granddaughter.

Carol Watt-Sullivan kindly brought home the County Year Books we had ordered.

October's meeting wasn't very well attended. A minute silence was held for the loss of members since the April meeting, one of which was Jean Randall a former member of West Wickham Bowling Club.

It was confirmed that the County will be wearing their new shirts next year with navy blue trousers.

The County's website is no longer fit for purpose and we will be having a new domain in 2025.

The County Presentation Luncheon is being held on November 9th near Maidstone and 5 of our members are attending. Eileen Pickering will receive the 2 Wood Runners Up Trophy and there will be a monetary prize for the club for coming 3rd in the Mollie Cleggett.

The County President for 2025 will be Claudia Carey who plays out of Thanet Bowling Club and Janice Munday of Empire Bowling Club will take over the role of Vice president. All other officers will remain the same.

A vote of thanks and flowers were given by Claudia Carey to Margaret Mortimer the 2024 President.

Kent County Ladies Benevolent Fund – Anne Bailey

Anne introduced herself to the ladies as the Secretary and Treasurer of the Kent County Bowling Association Ladies Benevolent Fund. She explained the purpose of the fund and that seven members of our club had received a voucher from the fund this year. She encouraged our members to enter teams in the Benevolent Triples Day on Monday 4th August to be held at Bellingham Bowling Club. Subsequently, Anne was asked to put in 5 Triples for next year. Members can support the Benevolent Fund by making a donation on the Membership Renewal Form.

Management Committee Delegate's Report – Ann Saunders

The Ladies have approached the Management Committee to look into the ladies' changing facilities. Our changing room is small and when we have visiting mixed teams we also have to accommodate usually 6 extra ladies. There are two options at the moment, one to see if the old summer house could be restored and secondly, to have a new shed placed nearer the Silver Lane entrance. (This will cost a lot of money but a better long-term solution.)

Consideration of any Proposals received from Member/Committee

None

The following officers have been unopposed and duly elected:

Captain	Jeanette Whitehead
Vice-Captain	Pat Walkinshaw
Chair	Anne Simmonds
Secretary	Sandra Figg
Match Secretary	Jeanette Whitehead
KCWBA Delegate	Ann Saunders
NWK Delegate	Pat Walkinshaw
Management Delegate	Gail Barnes
Competition Secretary	Barbara Huggins
Selection Committee	Val Currie, Karen Washington and Sandra Figg

Open Forum.

1. The Main AGM is on Sunday, 1st December.
2. In an effort to encourage members to enter external competitions Eunice Pain gave details of the BB & DBA League. Anyone interested in playing should either talk to her or John Urie, our club delegate.
3. A card from Krystyna Martin with the following message was read out -
'So sorry I will be away at your meeting. Thank you all for making me feel welcome at West Wickham. I have really enjoyed my first season with you all and thank you for all the games you have selected me to take part in. See you at the social events.'

4. Pat Walkinshaw thanked Jeanette Whitehead and the social committee for all the social events held throughout the year.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 11.45 am

SIGNED.....CHAIRPERSON DATE.....