

THURROCK & DISTRICT BOWLING ASSOCIATION



FOUNDED 1946

Gen. Secretary: R Brewer; League Secretary: R Clark; Competition Secretary: D Haworth; Match Secretary: R Cornwell; Delegates' Representatives: T Mizen

Thurrock & District Bowling Association Annual General Meeting Held at Thurrock Bowls Club on Wednesday 10 January 2024 Minutes

Chairman

Rob Brewer opened the meeting by thanking all those present for attending and then called for a minute's silence to remember those members who had passed since the last AGM.

1. Roll Call

Executives Present:

R Brewer; D Haworth and T Mizen

Delegates Present:

Aveley; Corringham & Fobbing; Ford Sports; Grays Town; Orsett; Pitsea; South Ockendon; Thames Sports; Thurrock; United Services and VCA Riverview

2. Apologies

Executives:

Robbie Clark and Roger Cornwell

Delegates:

The Springhouse

3. Absentees

Delegates:

Gloucester Park

4. Welfare

Obituaries:

Bill Unwin, Dave Stubbs and Gordon Lucas - Corringham & Fobbing

Roy Clarke - The Springhouse

Brian Vanson - .Pitsea

Bob Norton and Roy Noble - Thurrock

John Mohan - Grays Town

John Barrett - Orsett

5. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of T&DBA AGM 2022 were passed unanimously.

6. Matters arising from previous minutes

Nil

7. Treasurers' Report

Not available.

8. Account Examiners' Report

Dave Haworth reported that the accounts had been examined and were concise, detailed, accurate and well produced.

9. Gen. Secretary and Correspondence

Rob Brewer reported that he had received no correspondence relating to the AGM.

10. League Secretary's Report

Robbie Clark was unable to attend the meeting due to ill health but asked Rob Brewer to state the following on his behalf:

He has nothing to add directly to his report as minuted in ExDM2023-10 which is reproduced below for the benefit of new club secretaries/delegates:

League Data 2023

The 2022 season went really well, all league matches were completed in all divisions.

League Fixtures for 2024

I will not be publishing the 2024 league fixture programme until early April 2024 I know that this is an inconvenience as clubs want to put the fixtures in their fixture books, but please bear in mind that it is a bigger inconvenience for the league secretary who spends many hours compiling the fixtures in January only to find after publishing them in February teams pull out in April after clubs have had their Spring meetings and then find they don't have the personal they assumed they had in the previous Autumn when they had their AGMs.

League Winners & Runners Up 2023

I would like to congratulate all the league winners and runners up which were as follows.

Premier Division Winners
Premier Division Runners Up
Division One Winners
Division One Runners Up

Thurrock A
Grays Town A
Thames Sports A
Corryingham & Fobbing & District

Division Two Winners
Division Two Runners Up

Ford Sports
VCA

As per the current association league rules at least one team must be promoted and relegated from each division per season.

The remaining promotion and relegation places from the Premier league and Division One will be decided when I know the structure of the leagues for the 2024 season, this of course totally relies on how many entries we get in the leagues, **all clubs must inform the league secretary no later than the 21st March 2024** of teams they wish to enter. This is normally done at the T&DBA AGM in December but because of my earlier point regarding the compiling of fixtures I will accept league entries no later than the above date.

This completes my report for the 2023 season, one I have enjoyed immensely; I would like to thank the association committee the delegates and the club team captains for their help in the past year.

Secondly, he asked me to mention the possible difficulties with the formation of Leagues next season. At the moment the one known quantity is that Orsett will drop out of Division 1 into Division 2. However, it is possible that Corringham and Fobbing may be able to raise the numbers required to take promotion from Division 2 into Division 1, in which case the status quo will be retained and fixture lists will look much the same as last year. In the event this cannot happen it will probably be necessary to look at a complete overhaul of the current system with the possibility of introducing triples or two rinks across all leagues. This cannot be decided until the true facts of where each club is in terms of available players is known. Once the true situation becomes clear it will be made known to all clubs with time to decide what form next season will take with a meeting to ratify that in good time for the season's start. As part of this he also wished to make it clear that Clubs entering teams in Division 2 must have sufficient numbers to be able to field two full rinks on a regular basis. I draw your attention to Section 12(a) of the Rules and Constitution which state **"Any team in Division 2 fielding only two rinks of triples more than 3 times will be withdrawn from the league for that season."**

11. Competition Secretary's Report

Dave Haworth was pleased to report that the 2023 competition programme ran smoothly throughout the season and there was no requirement for him to make any intervention to resolve any disputes. Again T&DBA competitions attracted continued good support in numbers from the majority of the clubs making up the Association, showing only a very minor reduction compared to that shown in both National and County competition entries for the 2023 season. Basically a 5.47% drop on 2021 numbers which equates to 14 fewer entries than in the previous year.

2019	53	29	31	52	33	20	10	18	15	17	278	
	-4	6	2	-5	4	2	-3	0	-3	-1	-2	-0.71%
2020	33	19	23	44	24	15	8	14	16	10	206	
	-20	-10	-8	-8	-9	-5	-2	-4	1	-7	-72	-25.90%
2021	35	19	24	41	25	21	7	16	6	10	204	
	-18	-10	-7	-11	-8	1	-3	-2	-9	-7	-74	-26.62% on 2019
2022	47	29	30	47	28	22	7	17	18	11	256	
	12	10	6	6	3	1	0	1	12	1	52	25.49% on 2021
2023	45	31	29	46	28	16	8	14	11	14	242	
	-2	2	-1	-1	0	-6	1	-3	-7	3	-14	-5.47% on 2022

Whilst this is good, I do ask the same thing as in previous years that all club delegates continue to positively promote and encourage their club members to support the competitions to ensure their future viability. It is through your efforts and encouragement that T&DBA can continue this tradition of providing a competitive environment for those who enjoy this aspect of our game. So, a big thank you to the delegates and please do take back to your clubs my thanks to all those who have taken part.

I'd just like to repeat some comments made in my September report. I would like to thank again, on behalf of the Association, Thurrock BC who hosted our second competition finals weekend, with a particular mention for Phil Johns, Paul Mager, Peter Bainton and their army of willing volunteers; who worked hard to ensure the success of the weekend, including the laying out and clearing of the rinks, the provision of breakfast and a copious buffet lunch, the manning of the refreshments bar and those individuals who marked games.

For the second year running, the T&DBA and TALBA finals shared the same venue and ran successfully side by side but this was the first year where the T&DBA Inter Club Knockout formed part of the finals weekend. Fortunately, results were such that this enabled me to programme this with minimal impact on competitors. However, until we have some evidence that this is sustainable, I do not currently propose to adopt this as the normal format at this time. Equally, whilst the joint event was very successful and I am happy to consider doing this again, I am not looking to propose this as a permanent arrangement going forward. Again, with time, this may well be a consideration for the future.

Because of the delayed AGM I have delayed sharing the competition entry forms. I will share these after tonight's meeting. These will need to be returned back to me by 31st March at the latest. Finals weekend will be on 14th & 15th September, venue to be advised.

I'd like to thank my fellow Executive committee members and delegates for the help and support they have given me during the year and for all the hard work they have put in both during and outside of the outdoor season. Please do remember, we all may play in competitions, leagues and association matches, but the Association can only function with a full complement of officers and the support of all of its clubs and, finally, I have to thank our League Secretary who has continued to provide increasing support to me over the last couple of years. He doesn't just organise and run T&DBA leagues, he also maintains the web site, then finds time to help me out with gathering the trophies and getting them to and from the engraver for the presentation evening. Even, after all this, he finds time to bowl and win in competitions. Thanks Robbie.

12. Match Secretary's Report

Roger Cornwell was not able to attend the Meeting but sent the following to Rob Brewer:

"Apologies for not being there in person but still having some mobility issues. All running smoothly and Outdoor Fixtures for next season arranged and passed to Robbie for publishing on the Web.

Currently dealing with arranging 25 indoor fixtures. I would like to finish by thanking members for support but help is still needed for most games."

13. Election of Officers for 2023 Season

Re-election of those officers, already circulated to all Clubs, willing to remain in their current posts for the 2024 Season. The list is attached at Annex 'A' to this Agenda.

PASSED

14. To Consider Motions

To consider a proposal from Rob Brewer (Ford Sports) seconded by Robbie Clark (The Springhouse) that the amended copy of the T&DBA Rules and Constitution circulated prior to and subsequently discussed at the Executives and Delegates Meeting held on 25 October 2023 be passed and taken into immediate use.

PASSED

15. Date and Time of Future Meetings.

To be confirmed as a date in April.

T&DBA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS
2024

POST	POST HOLDER	STANDING YES/NO
President	Vacant	
General Secretary	Rob Brewer	YES
Hon Treasurer		
Match Secretary	Roger Cornwell	YES
Competition Secretary	Dave Haworth	YES
League Secretary	Robbie Clark	YES
Delegate to Executive Committee	Terry Mizen	YES

T&DBA SUB-COMMITTEE MEMBERS
2024

POST	POST HOLDER	STANDING YES/NO
Account Examiner	Dave Haworth	YES
Assistant Match Secretary	Dave Jago	YES
Assistant Competition Secretary	Robbie Clark	YES
Assist. League Secretary	Rob Brewer	YES
Selection Committee	Roger Cornwell	YES
	Dave Jago	YES
Competition Committee	Dave Haworth	YES
	Robbie Clark	YES