



# minutes

## **110<sup>th</sup> AGM of Bowls Auckland Inc**

Saturday 29 July 2023 10.00am

Mt Eden Bowls Club

17 Stokes Road

Mt Eden

### **PRESENT**

#### **Board Members**

Ian Dee - Chair

Helen Blick - Vice President

John Ross

Greame Scott – President

Michael Feek

#### **Life Members**

Graeme Bennett

Kevin Hickland

Jeanette Sinclair

#### **Club Delegates**

Rohan Bignel – Auckland Bowling Club

Graham Farley – Balmoral

Colleen Pert – Blockhouse Bay

Gerard Hulst – Carlton Cornwall

Teresa Cassidy – Glen Eden

Tony Lumb – Henderson

Noeline Sadgrove – Howick

Margie Sorensen – Kohimarama

Nathan Haturini – Mt Albert

Garry Hawks – Bridge Park

Chris Stone - Oratia

Mike Rapson - Eilerslie

Lorrain Beazley – Grey Lynn

Ian Dee – New Lynn (Proxy)

John Clark – Papatoetoe HC

Jo McKenna – Pt Chevalier

Mark Cameron - Ponsonby

Marty Griffth – Pringle Park

Peter Bennett - Remuera

Steve King – Rocky Nook

Gale Ward – Royal Oak

Sue Curran – St Heliers

Rod Treadaway – Te Atatu Peninsula

Vivianne Young – Mt Eden

John Ross – Waiheke (Proxy)

Trevor Martin – East Tamaki

Peter Wagner - Glendowie

Charles Tapper - Maraetai

Tere Brunton - Pakuranga

#### **Observers**

Fleur Grenfell – Blockhouse Bay

Peter Blick – Carlton Cornwall

Damien Matthews – Pringle Park

Eddie Jones – Howick

Craig Pryor

Jillian Compton - Kohimarama

Geoff Priddy – Royal Oak

Fiona Matheson – Kohimarama

Wendy Brown – Minute Taker

## Apologies

Gary Fleming - Life Member  
Roger Seaton - St Heliers  
Shona Hewitt - Epsom  
Karen Kuzimski - Titirangi RSA

Rikki Swannell - Board Member  
Bryan Chapman - Howick  
Brett Proffitt - Otahuhu Railway

## Bowls Auckland Staff

Dean Bartlett - Chief Executive Officer  
Michael Anderson - Finance Manager  
Leah Chan - Club Partner Engagement

Roz Murray - Club Partner Marketing & Events  
Brendon Walton - Club Partner Operations

### ***Meeting started at 10.03am***

#### **Welcome**

The Chair confirmed with 29 delegates in attendance a quorum was present and so the 110<sup>th</sup> AGM of Bowls Auckland could proceed.

Ian Dee opened the meeting and welcomed life members Graeme Bennett, Jeanette Sinclair and Kevin Hickland, Bowls NZ CEO, Mark Cameron, club delegates, observers and Board Members – Greame Scott - President, Helen Blick - Vice President, John Ross, Michael Feek, and the Bowls Auckland Team Members, Dean Bartlett, Roz Murray, Michael Anderson, Brendon Walton, Leah Chan and Wendy Brown to the 110<sup>th</sup> Bowls Auckland Inc. Annual General Meeting.

#### **Obituaries**

A moment's silence was held for those members that had passed away in the last year.

Special mention was made of Ian Birch, Bowls Auckland Patron, Helen Stallard, Bowls Auckland former employee and Paul Stier, Glen Eden Bowls.

#### ***Recommendation:***

***That all motions are passed by a simple majority except those dealing with the changes to the Constitution that require a 2/3 majority.***

***That all votes are by a show of hands other than if a ballot is formally called for.***

Moved Michael Feek | Board Member

Seconded John Ross | Board Member

*Motion Carried*

## 1. Apologies

Gary Fleming	Life Member
Rikki Swannell	Board Member
Brett Proffitt	Otahuhu Railway
Roger Seaton	St Heliers
Shona Hewitt	Epsom
Bryan Chapman	Howick
Karen Kuzimski	Titirangi RSA

Moved Greame Scott | Board Member  
Seconded John Ross | Board Member

*Motion Carried*

## **2. Notification of any items of General Business**

Bowls Auckland contribution to travel costs for pathway events that club teams or players win and proceed to the national tournament | Jo McKenna Pt Chevalier

## **3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the previous AGM**

### ***Recommendation***

***That the minutes of Auckland Bowls Inc 109<sup>th</sup> AGM meeting held on 30 July 2022 to be confirmed as a true and correct record with noted amendment.***

Moved Greame Scott | Board Member  
Seconded John Clarke | Papatoetoe

*Motion Carried*

### **Correction**

Observer – Jeffrey Eskrisse (replace with Eskrigge)

### **3.1 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the AGM**

Nil

## **4 Presentation of Annual Report for the Financial Year Ending 30 April 2023**

### **Chair's Report**

Ian Dee spoke to his Chair's report highlighting the following key points.

- Last year, the Auckland bowls network faced challenges again with bad weather and flood damage, but support was still strong between the clubs.
- The strategic plan was refreshed and now focuses on governance and operational capabilities, with the objective of driving participation and sustainability.
- The CEO worked on reviewing the organisation and expanding its offerings to the bowling community, focusing on the club network, facilities to increase engagement.
- The Rawhiti fund played a significant role in supporting club facilities and development.
- \$500k was distributed to clubs for various projects as per clubs applications, with an expected increase to \$1.3m next year. This included eleven club carpet greens either being replaced or transitioned from natural.
- With the Rawhiti fund quickly being distributed to clubs, the Bowls Auckland Board are working on a long-term strategy to ensure financial maximisation for Bowls Auckland and support of club initiatives and development can continue.
- Congratulations were given to club volunteers, committees, winners, club boards, selectors, coaches, and managers.

- Bowls NZ's support and the positive relationship were acknowledged.
- Thanks were given to the Bowls Auckland Board for their support and dedication.
- The Chair expressed his gratitude to the CEO and Bowls Auckland team for their support.
- The Chair wished everyone success for the coming season.

### **President's Report**

The President took his paper as read highlighting the following:

- The President expressed his sincere appreciation for the hospitality and camaraderie encountered when visiting clubs throughout the season.
- The support from clubs had been amazing and greatly appreciated.
- Congratulations were extended to the clubs and volunteers for their hard work and dedication, both for their clubs and on the green.
- The President was looking forward to catching up on the green with clubs throughout the next season.

### **CEO's Report**

The CEO spoke to his report highlighting the following:

- Having the privilege to work in sports was not to be overlooked. Key stakeholders and the community made it a special place and enhanced the privilege for employees.
- In addition to the report, there was a need to amplify the role of key stakeholders both in the past season and moving forward. The focus should be on changing the narrative, emphasising the positive opportunities in the next 5 to 10 years.
- Participation numbers illustrate a positive trend, with an increase of 8% full members, 37% casual, and 32% twilight members, which is down to the club's excellent work.
- 3,500 participants entered centre events, which is the highest for four seasons.
- Modernisation of clubs and greens with the support of Rawhiti presented significant opportunities to welcome new generations of bowlers.
- Empowering and supporting clubs was a key focus, helping them improve and making it easier for volunteers to excel in their roles within the community.
- A refreshed strategic plan with pillars for catering to strategic intent and supporting clubs to be the heart of their community along with driving participation and engagement, and Bowls Auckland are committed to supporting clubs on and off the green.
- The organisation has a new management structure and team made up of the 'club partner' roles which will have a focus on supporting clubs.
- Infrastructure improvements, governance programs, and operational programs are being developed to strengthen club capabilities and social networks.
- The new Club is the Hub investment program, supported by Rawhiti, will be established in the 2023/24 season.
- A Digital Strategy is in place, focusing on driving digital engagement through continuing to change the perception of bowls, increasing the awareness of clubs, and creating online communities.
- There is a focus on engaging schools and invoking curiosity among the youngest members of the sport.
- The CEO expressed his vision that looking ahead, the organisation should be courageous and bold, building on its strong foundation and embracing trends, new approaches, and new people.

## **Recommendation:**

***That the Annual Report for the Financial Year ending 30 April 2023 be received.***

Moved: Kevin Hickland | Life Member

Seconded: Greame Scott | Board Member

*Motion Carried*

## **5 Presentation of Audited Statement of Accounts for the financial year ending 30 April 2023.**

The Chair acknowledged the good work done by Michael Anderson to ensure the financials met requirements.

The CEO provided commentary to the accounts highlighting the following key points:

- Diversification of income is a priority, focusing on increasing sponsorships and connecting with partners to deliver benefits to clubs and members.
- Exploring ways to connect better with other funders like regional sporting trusts, which could open more opportunities for bowls.
- Expenses were slightly down, with significant facility enhancement's part funded by Rawhiti, including the addition of 11-carpet greens.
- The budget for the next financial year has been carefully curated to ensure it aligns with the refreshed strategy and puts Bowls Auckland in the position to achieve key strategic objectives.
- Bowls Auckland returned a moderate surplus for the financial year, mostly down to lack of expenditure in staff wages due to the transitioning nature of the last 12 months.
- Expressed gratitude for operational expense support from Blue Waters, noting there's a need to mitigate risk by diversifying income sources.
- Prioritizing wise spending and ensuring a greater return on investment (ROI) is essential.

In response to Jo McKenna's query re Bowls Auckland contribution to subsidise travel costs for pathway centre tournaments the CEO confirmed:

- The new budget includes extra spending on wages, marketing, and umpires.
- Requests for increased travel contribution for pathway events to players and teams, were approved by the Board at their last meeting and will be communicated to the clubs prior to the season.

Question Peter Bennett | Remuera

What is happening with the Blue Water Community Trust's situation?

Answer

The CEO gave an update acknowledging the Blue Water Community Trust currently only has one site that is seeking to relocate to a new venue in Onehunga.

The Chair pointed out that Blue Waters not only supports Bowls Auckland but also numerous Bowling clubs with various projects.

**Recommendation:**

***That the Audited Statement of Accounts for the Financial Year ending 30 April 2023 be received.***

Moved: Michael Feek | Board Member

Seconded: John Ross | Board Member

*Motion Carried*

## **6 Election of the President and Vice President**

It was confirmed in accordance with Clause 18.3 Term of Office that Greame Scott and Helen Blick have completed one year of their respective two-year terms and would continue their second year as President and Vice President.

## **7 The confirmation of any appointments to the Bowls Auckland Board**

In accordance with Clause 19.8 Term of Office of centre Board Members it was confirmed Ian Dee had completed a two-year term and retires by rotation

Applications for positions on the Bowls Auckland Board had been received and in accordance with Clause 19.5 applications for Bowls Auckland Board. The selection panel recommended the following be appointed to the Bowls Auckland Board for a two-year term:

- Ian Dee St Heliers Bowling Club
- Michael Feek Mt Albert Bowling Club
- Craig Pryor

Question Gerard Hulst | Carlton Cornwall

How many people applied to go on the Board?

Answer

The Chair confirmed four.

Question Gerard Hulst | Carlton Cornwall

Craig Pryor doesn't belong to a club. What qualifications and experience is he going to contribute?

Answer

Kevin Hickland responded as a member of the Selection Panel noting:

- The panel were looking for a good cross section of Board administrators.
- The panel were of the opinion it was important to meet the strategic plan and direction of Bowls Auckland that the already strong bowling experience of existing members was balanced with the business acumen and sports governance that Craig will bring.

Gerard Hulst | Carlton Cornwall

It would have been nice to have a profile of the person prior to the AGM taking place in future.

The Chair acknowledged it was a fair point and would be factored in for future recommendations.

### **Recommendation:**

***That Ian Dee, Michael Feek and Craig Pryor be appointed as Board Directors for a two-year term.***

Moved: Kevin Hickland | Life Member  
Seconded: Jeanette Sinclair | Life Member

*Motion Carried*

**The members of the Bowls Auckland Board are now:**

**President** – Greame Scott, **Vice President** – Helen Blick  
**Independent Board Members** – Rikki Swannell, John Ross, Ian Dee, Michael Feek and Craig Pryor.

## **8 The appointment of a Patron and Honorary Life Members**

### **Patron**

The Chair acknowledged the passing of Ian Birch as Patron.

In accordance with Clause 18.4 of the Constitution the Bowls Auckland Board recommended that Kevin Hickland be appointed Patron for the coming year.

Jeanette Sinclair, Life member spoke to the nomination acknowledging it gave her great pleasure and was a well-deserved appointment. Jeanette spoke about Kevin's significant contribution of his time and knowledge to bowls over many years, highlighting he had been a strong voice for bowls and brought so much to the game.

Kevin Hickland spoke and acknowledged the honour of the role of Patron and the many years of challenges and enjoyment he had experienced.

Kevin acknowledged and passed on his best wishes on behalf of the AGM to the bowlers representing Bowls Auckland at the World Bowls Championships on the Gold Coast.

### ***Recommendation:***

***That the Board of Bowls Auckland recommends Kevin Hickland, be appointed as Patron for the coming year.***

Moved: Jeanette Sinclair | Life Member  
Seconded: Mark Cameron | Ponsonby Bowling club

*Motion Carried*

### **Honorary Life member**

In accordance with Clause 10.2 of the Constitution the Bowls Auckland Board approved the awarding of Honorary Life membership to Michael Feek for exceptional service to the game of Bowls at the Bowls Auckland level.

Kevin Hickland spoke to the nomination noting it was a great honour. Kevin spoke about the fantastic contribution Michael has given, highlighting his Constitutional expertise and ongoing significant involvement throughout many years, including his work with setting up Trusts.

Michael Feek acknowledged his appreciation to be nominated as a Life member, thanking everyone for their support. Michael recognized the significant contribution of the ever day people who volunteered and it was an honour to be a Bowls Auckland Life Member.

***Recommendation:***

***That the Board of Bowls Auckland recommend that Michael Feek be appointed as Life Member for exceptional service to the sport of bowls.***

Moved: Kevin Hickland | Life Member  
Seconded: John Ross | Board Member

*Motion Carried*

## **9 The election of a person to the Selection Panel**

In accordance with Clause 19.3 of the Constitution stipulates that the selection panel established to recommend suitable candidates for appointment to the Bowls Auckland Board by the Delegates at the AGM is made up of:

- The President of Bowls Auckland or his nominee.
- A person appointed by the Bowls Auckland Board.
- And a person elected by the Delegates at the AGM.

**Nominations:**

***That Graeme Bennett be reappointed as Club Delegate on the Selection Panel.***

Moved Michael Feek | Board Member  
Seconded Greame Scott | Board Member

*Motion Carried*

## **10 Fixing the Membership Fee (for the foreseeable future) payable by Clubs to Bowls Auckland, having regard to the recommendation of the Bowls Auckland Board**

In accordance with Clause 14.8 of the Constitution each year the membership fee shall increase by the rate of inflation as recorded by the CPI, which this year was 6.7%.

In accordance with Clause 14.1C the Board has set the membership fee at an increase of 4.7%.

**11 Fixing the maximum annual Honoraria payable by Bowls Auckland to the Bowls Auckland Board Members in accordance with 20.9 (Honoraria), only if a change to the current amount is being recommended by the Bowls Auckland Board**

The current maximum Honoraria is \$9,500 and the Board recommended no change.

**12 Considering and determining any notices of motion received which propose alterations to the Constitution.**

**MOTION ONE:**

That clause 19.6 (g) be changed to include 'diversity including ethnicity and gender' to replace solely 'gender'.

The new clause to read:

'The need for diversity including ethnicity and gender on the Bowls Auckland Board'.

Reason for the change: To ensure consideration is given to reflecting the demographic make-up of Auckland when the Selection Panel makes their recommendation/s for potential Board Members.

***Recommendation:***

***That Motion one is received.***

Moved Michael Feek | Board Member

Seconded Helen Blick | Board Member

*Motion carried*

**MOTION TWO:**

That clause 14 (b) be changed to include the date that the CPI is reported, previously there was no date for reference.

The new clause to read:

Each year the Membership Fee shall increase by the rate of inflation as reported at 31 March by the Consumer Price Index (CPI)

Reason for the change: To ensure consistency in the potential application of the CPI for Membership Fees.

Question | Margie Sorenson Kohimarama

Do we need to include the word annual as CPI is done monthly?

Answer

The Chair and CEO acknowledged and agreed should be by annual rate not monthly.

Motion Two to be amended to:

Each year the Membership Fee shall increase by the annual rate of inflation as reported at 31 March by the Consumer Price Index (CPI)

**Recommendation:**

*That Motion two is received, with noted amendment.*

Moved Michael Feek | Board Member

Seconded John Scott | Board Member

*Motion carried*

**13 Considering and making recommendations to the Bowls Auckland Board as a result of any notices of motion received (not related to altering the Constitution)**

No motions have been received.

**14 Items of General Business as notified**

Bowls Auckland contribution to subsidise travel costs for tournaments | Jo McKenna Pt Chevalier

Refer Agenda item 5 for response, which Jo confirmed she was satisfied with.

The Chair acknowledged and thanked all who attended, and Mt Eden bowling club for hosting the AGM.

***With no further business, the meeting closed at 10.58am***

***Chairperson.....***

***Date.....***