



# minutes

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

Saturday 27 July 2024 10.00am

Mt Eden Bowls Club

17 Stokes Road, Mt Eden

### **1. Present**

#### **Board Members**

Greame Scott (President), Helen Blick (Vice President), Ian Dee (Chair), John Ross and Craig Pryor.

#### **Life Members**

Gary Fleming, Kevin Hickland (Patron), and Jeanette Sinclair.

#### **Club Delegates**

Rohan Bignell (Auckland Bowling Club), Graham Farley (Balmoral), Esther Eu (Blockhouse Bay), Garry Hawks (Bridge Park), Gerard Hulst (Carlton Cornwall), Roger Sutton (Central), Shona Hewitt (Epsom), Don McDonald (Glen Eden), Alan Brooks (Glendowie), Tony Lumb (Henderson), Brian Jago (Howick), Jim Jericevich (Kohimarama), Peni Panapa (Mangere), Charles Tapper (Maraetai), Nathan Haturini (Mt Albert), Russell Barrett (Mt Eden), Celia MacKiven (Mt Wellington), William Lee (New Lynn), Chris Stone (Oratia), Alex Marshall (Pakuranga), Murray Cotter (Papatoetoe), Kirk MacGibbon (Piha), Martin McKenzie (Ponsonby), Simon Munro (Pt Chevalier), Peter Bennett (Remuera), Colin Marychurch (Rocky Nook), Steve Fisher (Royal Oak), Greame Scott (St George), Sue Curran (St Heliers), Taffy Davies (Te Atatu), John Ross (Waiheke).

#### **Observers**

Gavin Brown (Royal Oak), Peter Blick (Carlton Cornwall), Garry Howard (Te Atatu), Gary Cotton (Mangere), Jill Compton (Kohimarama), John Clark (Papatoetoe), Graeme Bennett (St Heliers), Tony Pickering (Mt Albert), John Upton (Carlton Cornwall), John Boddy (Epsom), Mike Hanley (Mt Wellington), Doug McMamara (Blockhouse Bay), Mary O'Keeffe (Blockhouse Bay), Tere Brunton (Pakuranga), Murray Lander (Remuera), Mark Cameron (Bowls New Zealand) and Bob Croker.

#### **Bowls Auckland Staff**

Brendon Walton, Roz Murray, Leah Chan, Michael Anderson, Wendy Brown, and Dean Bartlett.

#### **Welcome**

The Chair confirmed with 31 delegates in attendance a quorum was present and so the 111<sup>th</sup> AGM of Bowls Auckland could proceed.

#### **Obituaries**

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

***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 Greame Scott | Auckland Bowling Club

Seconded John Ross | St Heliers

*Motion Carried*

## **2. Apologies**

Michael Feek (Board Member), Rikki Swannell (Board Member), Karl Andersen (Titirangi), Alison Rennie (Carlton Cornwall), Les Eagleton (Howick), Bryan Chapman (Howick).

Moved Greame Scott | Auckland Bowling Club

Seconded John Ross | St Heliers

*Motion Carried*

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

No items of General Business.

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

***Recommendation***

***That the minutes of Bowls Auckland 110<sup>th</sup> AGM meeting held on 29 July 2023 to be confirmed as a true and correct record with noted amendment.***

Moved Greame Scott | Auckland Bowling Club

Seconded Kevin Hickland | Life Member

*Motion Carried*

## **5. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the AGM**

Nil

## **6. Presentation of Annual Report for the Financial Year Ending 30 April 2024**

### **Chair's Report**

The Chair spoke to his report highlighting the following key points:

- Over the past year, considerable progress has been made in enhancing governance capabilities. The board members underwent an evaluation by Sports NZ and were awarded a governance mark rating, demonstrating a commitment to continuous improvement. The strategic plan and statement of intent were refreshed, emphasising the role of Bowls Auckland to support clubs to be the heart of their community.

- Financially, a small surplus was achieved while growing the balance sheet, enabling an investment of \$1.2 million in clubs and earmarking an additional \$1 million for covered greens in the future. This year, the Avondale Fund was introduced, working in conjunction with the Rawhiti Fund, which distributed \$800k among 14 clubs, benefiting a total of 32 clubs overall since its inception. These funds are vital in supporting clubs and enhancing their facilities and capabilities.
- Extended his thanks to everyone involved in the game, including dedicated supporters, umpires, committee members, and greenkeepers. He noted that their contributions are essential to the enjoyment and success of bowls in Auckland.
- Thanked the Bowls Auckland Board for their support and encouragement and acknowledged the CEO Dean Bartlett and his team for their outstanding work.
- Lastly, he expressed gratitude to Bowls NZ for their support.

### **President's Report**

The President took his report as read highlighting the following:

- This year marks his final year as President after serving for four rewarding years. It has been both a privilege and a pleasure to represent the board of Bowls Auckland. Reflecting on his journey, he started as Vice President and enjoyed every moment, emphasising the importance of everyone focusing on youth development and performance.
- One of the standout moments noted by the President was attending the Kitty Hawks U21 tournament in Wellington, where a Howick representative won the national U21 section. This experience reinforced the importance of nurturing the enthusiasm and skills of young players, as they are the future of the sport.
- Additionally, he was heartened by the success of performance players over the last 12 months. These experiences highlight the importance of having the right people playing for Bowls Auckland and passing their skills on to others.
- The President also expressed that he cherished the friendships and camaraderie experienced while visiting clubs throughout Auckland. He strongly encouraged club members to consider joining the board, as it was a rewarding experience, and there is a need for more volunteers to help continue the work.
- Lastly, he personally thanked everyone for their friendship and support over the past four years. Together, they have achieved so much, and he is grateful for the collective effort and dedication shown by everyone involved.

### **CEO's Report**

The CEO spoke to his report highlighting the following:

- In the past 12 months, the focus has been on articulating and understanding the organisation's "why," which resonates deeply: "We are because you are." Bowls Auckland exists to serve clubs, and this mission guides our strategic initiatives.
- The new vision statement, "A community for all, a game for life" underscores the above and speaks to the joint efforts of clubs, Bowls New Zealand and Bowls Auckland.
- There has been a positive increase in membership, with a 3% rise in playing members, 19% increase in first year members and a 20% increase in twilight players.
- Initiatives such as the Rangitahi Roll-Up program have been successful, and the Roll-Up campaign last year led to 300 physical visits. The focus on marketing and social media has also yielded positive results, with significant increases of over 20% in engagement across Facebook, Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube.
- Looking ahead, the plan is to double down on the three key pillars: capability, clubs and connection. Bowls Auckland will continue to listen to clubs and evolve offerings based on their feedback. The goal is to keep breaking through barriers and ensure that bowls is not the best-kept secret in town but a vibrant part of the community.

**Recommendation:**

***That the Annual Report for the Financial Year ending 30 April 2024 be received.***

Moved: Kevin Hickland | Life Member  
Seconded: Greame Scott | Auckland Bowling Club  
*Motion Carried*

**7. Presentation of Audited Statement of Accounts for the financial year ending 30 April 2024.**

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

- The budget is set up to support the implementation of the Strategic Plan, with targeted spending to build a sustainable future.
- Back-to-back small surpluses were achieved while growing the balance sheet, thanks in part to the Kimberley and Rawhiti funds.
- Income has also been diversified through various grants, including support from ACTIVE, which has helped fund the Rangatahi Roll-Up and school engagement programs.
- The balance sheet continues to be strong made-up in large part by the Kimberley Fund, plus the inclusion of the Avondale Fund.
- Moving forward, the aim is to continue diversifying income streams and sourcing new funding options for clubs as the Rawhiti Fund nears its end.

Bowls Auckland Patron, Kevin Hickland, congratulated the staff at Bowls Auckland, the Chair, President, and board for maintaining a healthy financial situation and growing the sport in Auckland. He moved a motion of thanks and appreciation for the wonderful work done and acknowledged the significant contributions made by everyone involved.

**Recommendation:**

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

Moved: Greame Scott | Auckland Bowling Club  
Seconded: Kevin Hickland | Life Member  
*Motion Carried*

**8. 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 had completed their two-year term as President and Vice President, respectively.

Nominations for the vacant roles were received.

- Kohimaramara Bowling Club nominated Helen Blick as President.
- Pakuranga Bowling Club nominated Tere Brunton as Vice President.

As there were no further nominations, in accordance with clause 18.2 (e) Helen Blick was declared as President and Tere Brunton Vice President.

## 9. 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 Rikki Swannell and John Ross had completed a two-year term and retire by rotation.

John Ross was not seeking re-election.

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:

- Rikki Swannell
- Karl Andersen – Titirangi Bowling Club

### **Recommendation:**

***That Rikki Swannell and Karl Andersen be appointed as Board Directors for a two-year term.***

Moved: Kevin Hickland | Life Member  
Seconded: Greame Scott | Auckland Bowling Club  
*Motion Carried*

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

**President** – Helen Blick, **Vice President** – Tere Brunton

**Independent Board Members** – Ian Dee, Michael Feek, Craig Pryor, Rikki Swannell and Karl Andersen.

## 10. The appointment of a Patron and Honorary Life Members

### **Patron**

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

### **Recommendation:**

***That the Board of Bowls Auckland recommends Kevin Hickland, be appointed as Patron for the next two years.***

Moved: John Ross | St Heliers  
Seconded: Craig Pryor | Board Member

*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 Bob Croker for exceptional service to Bowls Auckland.

Kevin Hickland spoke to the nomination highlighting Bob's service:

- Member of the Remuera Bowling Club, serving 7 years as Treasurer.
- Integral in the Covered Green project at the Remuera Bowling Club.

- Founding Trustee of the Blue Waters Community Trust (2003).
- Founding Member and Chair of the Bowls Auckland Finance Committee.
- Founding Member of the Kimberley Investment Committee serving from 2003 to 2024 (21 years).
- Integral to the establishment and delivery of key funding arms (including Blue Waters Community Trust and Kimberley Committee) providing clubs and Bowls Auckland financial stability.

***Recommendation:***

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

Moved: Kevin Hickland | Life Member

Seconded: Craig Pryor | Board Member

*Motion Carried*

## **11. 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 John Ross | Board Member

Seconded Greame Scott | Auckland Bowling Club

*Motion Carried*

## **12. Fixing the Membership Fee (for the foreseeable future) payable by Clubs to Auckland Bowls, having regard to the recommendation of the Auckland Bowls 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 at March which was 4%.

In accordance with Clause 14.1C the Board has set the membership fee at an increase of 4%.

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

The current maximum Honoraria is \$9,500 and the Board recommended a change to increase the maximum to \$14,250.

Greame Scott and Kevin Hickland spoke to the motion in support.

Question | Gerard Hulst, Carlton Cornwall Bowling Club

Where in the accounts is the honorarium recorded?

Answer | Dean Barlett, CEO

Under 'Board Expenses' in the financials.

Question | Esther Eu, Blockhouse Bay Bowls

Does the fixing of the membership fee need to be voted on?

Answer | Chairperson

As the recommendation was to align with CPI, no vote is required as per the Constitution.

***Recommendation:***

***That the Board of Auckland Bowls recommend that the new maximum of honoraria for Bowls Auckland members be \$14,250 (previously \$9,500).***

Moved: Greame Scott | Auckland Bowling Club

Seconded: Kevin Hickland | Life Member

*Motion Carried*

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

Nil

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

No motions have been received.

## 16. Items of General Business as notified

The Chairperson acknowledged the contributions of Greame Scott and John Ross to the Bowls Auckland Board and community.

The CEO presented awards to Greame Scott and John Ross for their services.

The Chairperson thanked all attendees and acknowledged Mt Eden Bowling Club for hosting.

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



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

***Date.....26 July 2025.....***