

DISTRICT 16
MINUTES
Fall Meeting – October 4, 2014
Brockville Bowling Club

PRESENT:	Executive	6
	Delegates	20
	Visitors	15

The meeting, which was held at the Brockville Seaway Shopping Center, was called to order at 10:00 a.m.

1) Opening Remarks

- a) **Welcome by District Chair.** The Chair welcomed everyone on behalf of the District.
- b) **Welcome by Host Club.** Jane Parish, President of the Brockville Lawn Bowling Club, welcomed all those in attendance. She said that her club was pleased to see such a good turnout after a season plagued by so much rain.
- c) **Moment of Silence.** The President asked that everyone observe a moment's silence in honor of those members who are no longer with us and those who could no longer bowl.

2) Minutes of the 2014 Spring Meeting

- a) There were no errors or omissions. **Motion of Acceptance:** It was moved by Tony Bernard (Elmdale) and seconded by George Burns-Nichol (Goulbourn) that the minutes of the 2014 Spring Meeting be adopted.

Passed

b) Business Arising

- i) **Coaching Developments.** At the spring meeting Blaine Phillips (substitute 2nd VP) had spoken on behalf of Jane Maloney (Highland Park) and reported developments in the field of Lawn Bowls coaching. Jane stepped forward at the Fall meeting to report again on the latest developments.
Jane reported that she had been in touch with the OLBA new coaching coordinator, Dave Burrows. He is offering District 16 two coaching clinics for 2015. The first will be on Sunday, May 3, 2015 and will be a one-day clinic for Club Coaches if sufficient numbers including those from other Districts apply. This is for bowlers interested in coaching new members, novices, and bowlers who bowl at the jitney or social level. Jane expects that the cost of the clinic will be \$70 and is awaiting confirmation of this. The other coaching clinic will be offered on Saturday/Sunday, May 16/17 2015. This clinic will be for the Competitive Coach. The course is for those bowlers who want to coach lawn bowling athletes wishing to excel at the sport in Open tournaments, district and provincial play downs and even at the provincial and national levels. The cost of this clinic will be significantly more expensive and will only qualify the successful candidates as 'Competitive Coach in training'. A second level of training will be done with online courses at *coach.ca* after which the successful candidate will be a Qualified Competitive Coach, which is all that is needed to coach up to the Provincial level. The third phase consists of an evaluation of the coach by a Qualified Evaluator at the coach's club. If successful the coach becomes a Certified Competitive Coach.
- ii) **Umpires.** Dave Jefferies was unable to attend the meeting. However, he had sent a report which was relayed to the meeting by 1st Vice President, Ruth Duffy. The report stated that the District had five new level-1 umpires who had passed the

written, oral and measuring tests in May. These tests had been administered by Elmer Janzen and Dave Jefferies. The five new umpires are Garry Ross, Wayne Harding, Bill Sheffield and Malcolm and Pat Rose. After a couple of years the Level-1 umpires can apply to become accredited level-2 Canadian Umpires and can umpire at Provincial and National events.

3) Correspondence – The secretary reported to the Chair that there was no correspondence

4) Treasurer's Report – (Suzanne Erickson – Galetta)

- a) Ms Erickson reported that the District was in a sound financial position with a Bank Balance of \$2353.48 – a net income of \$788.76. No discussion was raised on the issue of changing the \$2.00 fee per member charged each club. Accordingly, that will stay unchanged.
- b) It was moved by George Burns-Nichols (Goulbourn) and seconded by Wayne Harding (Goulbourn) that the Treasurer's Report be accepted.

Passed

5) Reports

a) 2015 District Play Downs Scheduling

Alice Keiwan (Nepean) stood to report on the 2015 /District 16 Tournaments Schedule. She said that she had done an initial draft which was distributed to clubs. Initially, the draft was a simple copy from the 2014 schedule. Since then many changes had been made to reflect the changes that clubs required. She mentioned that clubs should not seek her services to change the generic description of the club such as directions to get to the club or how to contact the club. For that type of information the club would have to contact Jan Bauer at OLBA. Jan Bauer's contact information can be found in the Annual. There were three or four clubs that Alice still needed to hear from. She named the clubs and asked that their representatives see her at a location she indicated in the meeting hall once the fall meeting was finished.

b) 2015 Play Downs Hosting Clubs

Ron Harrison, the Chair, said that he would be getting in touch with clubs to ask them to host the various District play down events for 2015.

c) Report on the Governor General's Committee

Ruth Duffy, 1st Vice President, started this report by saying that the Governor General's play downs had good participation but the weather was poor. She noted that the event was attended by a representative from the Governor General's office, who was a grandson of a former Ottawa Tennis and Lawn Bowling Club bowler. The event was also honored by the attendance of the Governor General's representative and it was hoped that similar representation might occur next year.

Tony Bernard began his portion of the report by saying that the event had a net loss of \$71 which was less than had been the case in previous years. The reduction in the net loss was the result of there being no charge by the piper, the nurse or the singer. He noted that the Committee Account had an opening Balance on August 1, 2014 of \$1086.55. There were revenues of \$680 and expenses of \$715.36 which left a closing balance of 1015.19. He suggested that other means might be sought to top up the Tournament coffers.

Tony offered several recommendations, some of which might reduce further the event expenditures. These included:

- i) Lunches should only be paid for the Ontario players.
- ii) No payment should be made for green fees.
- iii) Registration should be increased to \$20 per player for play downs.
- iv) The National Anthem should be sung in both official languages.
- v) Volunteers should wear name tags and club tops and be named in the program.

- vi) A standardized format should be developed for play downs and available prior to the event.
- vii) An annual cash sponsor should be found for the event who would be expected to donate \$500.

These recommendations raised several questions and a great deal of discussion amongst attendees. Included in the discussion was the need to change one of the trustee members. It was determined that two years had been decided as the time between member changes. Though motions were made no vote was held and the discussion finally ceased. None of the recommendations had received acceptance.

d) Report of the District Clubs

Almonte

The Almonte club had another excellent year with the recruiting of new members continuing. The highlight of the year was the Novice Day event run by Flo Barclay on July 6th. This event provided the novice participants with hands on tips on how to improve their game. Worthy of note was the demonstration of Bill Sheffield's drain pipe structure made to improve a player's delivery technique.

Brockville

The club has a membership of 40 members. It successfully held four invitational tournaments. The club has two new sponsors which are Chartwell Rosedale retirement Centre and Howard Travel. The club continued the goodwill "Special Needs" program for the government subsidized people. The club shared the greens this year with a Croquet Club on a rental basis. The greens were in good condition this year. Susan Irwin from Brockville won the District 16 Novice ladies Championship held in Smiths Falls.

Deep River

The club had a good season. The club held three Invitational Tournaments though with some difficulty. The club has always sought additional monies through events such as Thursday evening Bridge, and other events. Club publicity is handled through the local paper and this year the club was approached by four different groups who wished to hold a lawn bowls event for their group. Each group rented the greens and used club equipment and expertise. Each event was a great success and each group indicated an intention to return next year. The club has also found other ways to gain participation within its own members with Trivia nights, fun bowling tournaments as well as jitneys, league play and club tournaments. The greens are in excellent shape due mostly to a contract that the club has arranged with the greens keepers of the golf club next door. The club is active, enthusiastic and looking to the future.

Elmdale

The Elmdale club has a new President, Bob Elliott. The report was given by the past president, Dave Smith. Because of a turn-over of members, and a reduction in the number of Invitational Tournaments the club posted a substantial loss on the year. However the new members are mostly from the next generation and they all plan to return next year.

The club also hosted the District Mixed Pairs play downs in June and would have hosted the District Fours play downs in September but both the men's and women's teams were acclaimed. The club also had a three-day Croquet Tournament, which attracted players from several other countries. Next year the club will hold tournaments on weekends as well as expanded evening play to provide playing time for those who are employed during the day.

Galetta

Club bowlers continue to acquit themselves as amongst the best in the District with many of our members winning District play downs and going on to win at the Provincial levels. We had representatives at provincials in all categories except doubles and mixed. Our ladies' triples team of Pat Rose, Sandra Jeffries and Karen Oatman won provincial silver and went on to the Nationals in Winnipeg. Our senior men, Dave Jeffries, Rico Silvestro and Malcolm Rose won the provincial gold and went on to the Canadians in

Montreal. Flo Barclay won Provincial Silver in ladies singles. Club play was somewhat hampered by the excessive rain.

Goulbourn

The club had a successful and active year. Wayne Harding introduced evening mixed pairs which worked well. He also built new scoreboards for the club. Wayne skipped a District 16 Men's Novice triples to a win. He went on to win the District 16 Novice singles.

The club is currently raising funds to expand the club greens.

Highland Park

The club celebrated its 100 year anniversary with a strawberry social event. The four Invitational tournaments were generously sponsored. There was also excellent participation from District bowlers. An early June tournament was changed from three 12-end games to two 14-end games and, as a result, there were more participants. An analysis was done to see how new members were being attracted. We found that we had one new member from the Zoomer show, we gained very few members from the Saturday afternoon club promotion and most new bowlers came from the Tuesday evening promotional event. Clearly the club must continue to promote bowling in the evenings.

Iroquois

In 2014 the Iroquois club continued on a fairly even keel. Much effort was put into increasing membership. The greens have improved steadily since we took over responsibility for the maintenance and we are slowly overcoming the thatch and the ants.

Membership fees are not sufficient to cover costs and so the club is raising funds by offering a BBQ canteen at local events such as farm auctions. This effort has provided the club with cash and with exposure.

Nepean

Nepean Lawn Bowls enjoyed a highly successful season. Members totaled 75 this year. The club took a lead role in carrying out the district's display at the Zoomer Show. It also had an Open House during the first couple of weeks in May and added 12 new members. The club also has a great many social members. The club was active in Invitational tournaments, in-club events, daily jitneys and social events. It also hosted the 2014 Governor General's tournament. Rob Rienzo led his fours team to the Provincial finals and with Zack Steele captured the provincial gold medal for the men's pairs.

Prescott

The Prescott Lawn Bowling club held another successful season this year. Our membership roster has expanded from seven to twenty nine in the last two years. At the same time the greens have been much improved as well as the ditch boards. We partnered with the Iroquois club in hosting home and away friendly tournaments where we would mix the members of both clubs for a sporting and social evening. We hope to invite Brockville next season in the same manner.

The club now has a website (www.prescottlawnbowling.jimdo.com) which is linked to those of the town of Prescott and the South Grenville Tourism.

Smiths Falls

The club would like to emphasize that the club address is not 150 Elmsley Street. Mail should be sent to Patti Webster (Secretary) at 85 Merrick St K7A 4R7. Tournament information and contacts are in the Annual.

The club is experiencing a metamorphosis. It lost half of its older members due to age and health and gained the numbers back in a younger group. This change bodes well for the future.

The kitchen staff has mentioned that two games before lunch means a longer time for them to be on duty and seems to cost at least \$50.00 in nibbles and liquids. Perhaps that is not the way to go. The club will take it one tournament at a time in 2015.

e) Report of the District Chair

Ron Harrison stated that he considered it an honor and a pleasure to have served as District 16 President for the past season. He thanked the board members for the help they offered and, in particular thanked Ruth Duffy for her assistance as 1st Vice President. He noted the events of the year such as the Zoomer Show, the Governor General's Tournament as well as the two play downs and the two District Championships. However, the event that was the most memorable for him was the Novice Singles Championship played at Smiths Falls in the rain. He was impressed that the novice players made no complaints about the weather and just got on with their games. He commented that the clubs the Novices have joined are going to be very fortunate, having new members with the kind of drive and spirit these members showed that day.

6) District Lawn Bowler of the Year Award.

Ruth Duffy (1st Vice President) took the floor to point out that the discussion on this topic that happened at the spring meeting was very confusing. As a result there were no nominations. Consequently, it is proposed that clubs will be asked to put nominations forward through the winter and the 2014 award will be made at the Spring meeting of 2015. This spring presentation will be a one-time event and is not expected to be repeated. In answer to a question from Gerry Laporte (Nepean) Ruth said that the award will be made on the basis of performance as well as the amount of volunteerism shown. Ruth went on to say that a committee of three members will examine the submissions and come up with a winner of the award. Clubs will be sent more information on this later in the fall.

7) Ottawa Sports Award Lawn Bowling Nominee.

Ruth Duffy announced that David Jefferies was the Board's nomination for the Ottawa Sports Award for Lawn Bowling this year. She noted that it had been a toss-up between Dave Jefferies and Rob Rienzo who were very close. However, at the Nationals in Winnipeg, Dave finished sixth while Rob finished ninth and that made the difference. Gerry Laporte (Nepean) raised an objection saying first that Dave Jefferies had already won this award in 2004, 2007, and 2013. It was time that someone else was chosen. Further, the criteria applied should be the bowler with the highest level of competitive success in the Majors. It's the Majors that should rank first in the hierarchy of competitions. Novice and Senior competitions that do not include everyone should not be compared to the Majors. Consequently, Rob Rienzo should have been the Board's choice for this award.

Ruth Duffy said that the Board's judgment would stand.

8) Nominations and Elections

Flo Barclay, Past President, presented the election slate for Board Executives for the 2015 season:

Past-President	Ron Harrison
President	Ruth Duffy
1 st Vice-President	Jane Maloney
2 nd Vice-President	Wayne Harding
Secretary	Barbara Stephens
Treasurer	Suzanne Erickson
Scheduler	Alice Keiwan

The meeting was opened for new nominations. None were offered. The slate of officers was elected by acclamation.

Ruth Duffy took over the meeting as the new President. As her first order of business she thanked Wayne Daley for his years of effort as the District 16 Board Secretary and presented him with a gift.

9) New Business

a) Change in Payment Rate for Greens for Provincial Play-downs

Ruth Duffy proposed that the current policy of paying \$75 per day for the use of a club's greens for District events be changed to \$75 for the event regardless of the number of days the event takes. There was much discussion on this item. Some attendees noted that a club should make no charge for the greens since having the event is prestige and the prestige should be enough. Others said that these events caused extra work to be done and the work was an expense for the club and should be covered. In the end the motion was carried.

Motion Carried

b) District 16 WEB site

Jane Maloney, 1st Vice President, suggested that the District needed a WEB site to which those clubs who had a WEB site could be linked. However, there was need of a web master, someone to set up the site and to maintain it. It was mentioned that the maintenance of the site was most important and that there was nothing worse than a site that was out of date. Wayne Harding along with Jane Maloney and Mim Barry will look into this requirement and determine how it might best be approached.

10) 2015 District Spring and Fall Meetings

The spring meeting will take place at Galetta LBC on May 2nd, 2015.

The fall meeting will be held at Highland Park LBC on October 3rd, 2015.

11) Thanks to the Host Club

The Chair thanked the Brockville club for their hospitality in hosting the District fall meeting.

12) Motion to Adjourn

As there was no further business to transact, the Chair invited one of the delegates to make a motion to adjourn. Flo Barclay (Galetta) so moved. The meeting was adjourned at 12:43.

Respectfully submitted
Wayne Daley / Barbara Stephens