

# **OLBA District 16** **SPRING GENERAL MEETING**

Hosted by Prescott LBC at  
Walker House Adult Recreation Centre  
623 King Street West, Prescott

2018 April 28, 10:00 a.m.

## **MINUTES**

Present:       Executive:     5  
                 Delegates:   17  
                 Visitors:     8

**1. Call to Order and Welcome by District Chair (Garry Ross)**

Garry called the meeting to order and welcomed D.16 delegates and visitors. He reminded attendees to sign in, and to pick up the boxes of OLBA Annuals for 2018 and the envelopes with their clubs' names on them, which contained members' OLBA stickers for the year 2018, Tournament Posters, and information from the OLBA Spring Meeting. He indicated that if delegates wished to speak during the course of the meeting, they should first identify themselves and their club names. As Garry noted: *"If you love the sport, you cannot just take; you have to contribute"*.

**2. Welcome by Host Club (Mary Campbell)**

Mary welcomed delegates and visitors to Prescott. A tour of Prescott LBC was offered after the meeting, and information was made available regarding venues for lunch and places of interest to visit in Prescott. Mary noted that Prescott LBC was starting a youth lawn bowling club and was seeking small bowls for sale, should anyone have any available.

**3. Adoption of the Agenda (Garry Ross)**

**a. Additions to New Business**

There were no additions to New Business. Garry motioned that the agenda be approved as presented; moved by Bill Latham (Brockville); seconded by Jane Maloney (Highland Park).

**MOTION CARRIED**

**4. Moment of Silence (Garry Ross)**

A moment of silence was observed in honor of lawn bowling members who are no longer with us: Alex Bowes (Almonte); Charles Cadieux (Brockville); Helene Clavet (Goulbourn); Luigi Lolli (Goulbourn); Lindsay Blair (Nepean); Michele Harding (Prescott).

**5. Minutes of the 2017 Fall Annual General Meeting (Garry Ross)**

**a. Errors and omissions**

No errors or omissions were reported.

**b. Motion to adopt**

Garry motioned to accept the minutes as presented; moved by Dawn Voisey (Elmdale), seconded by David Jefferies (Galletta).

**MOTION CARRIED**

**c. Business Arising**

There was no further business arising from the minutes.

**6. Treasurer's Report** (*Suzanne Erickson*)

Suzanne presented the Financial Statement for the period 2017 May to 2018 May. The bank balance as at 2017 May was \$1,758.30; deposits for scorecards, memberships, handbook and interest earned amounted to \$1,439.16, whilst expenses for mailing, new bank cheques, District Executive booklets, OLBA fall meeting, steel tape, score cards and bank charges amounted to \$986.08, leaving a bank balance as at 2018 April of \$2,211.38. The latter amount, together with Money Market value of \$3,510.61 and \$1,260.00 in Scorecards made a total of \$6,981.99 in assets as at 2018 April. There were no questions regarding the Treasurer's Report.

Garry motioned to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented; moved by Jane Maloney (Highland Park); seconded by Ruth Duffy (Smith's Falls).

**MOTION CARRIED**

**7. Report of the District Chair – OLBA Meeting of 2018 April 21** (*Garry Ross*)

Policy changes and requirements: Garry had circulated to D.16 Presidents a Summary of the OLBA Spring Meeting. Policy changes are being made by Federal/Provincial governments and BCB that will affect clubs' operations:

World Bowls is pursuing having lawn bowling added to the Olympic sports and has set new standards that all national bowling associations must meet. BCB in turn requires provincial associations to implement the new standards on threat of withdrawing provincial certification. The recertification of umpires and the changes in number of bowls used in provincial championships and national competitions are all part of this. If sports organizations do not comply with its new policy direction it will not only withdraw the annual funding it provides to the organization (15% of OLBA's annual operating budget) but will also refuse provincial certification of the game as a "sport", which would remove any participation in national and international competitions and any ability to apply for grants.

The provincial government wants each organization and its component clubs to have homogeneous policies and procedures (P&P) that meet its policy requirements. The OLBA's current (revised) bylaws and policies that can be viewed on the OLBA website include updated and more explicit policies on codes of conduct, anti-harassment, equity and inclusion that reflect these new requirements. Each club must read the new OLBA P&P and ensure that its own P&P do not contradict or reverse the intent of OLBA's P&P; any direct contradictions in the club's existing P&P must be changed to at least equal OLBA's P&P.

There are major impacts from the new P&P. For example, clubs will have to be fully accessible to people with disabilities; people in wheel chairs will have to be able to access not only bathroom facilities but also the green at a club so that they can participate in the sport. The club will also have to be able to demonstrate its steps to have its membership reflect the demographic makeup of its community (age, ethnic origin, etc.).

Each club must be aware of the new requirements, have a multi-year action plan to move the club to compliance, and be able to demonstrate progress towards achievement of the action plan. It is not expected that a club will be fully meeting requirements by the end of 2018, but that 2025 would be a reasonable goal, given the provincial government's own target for its compliance. Grants are available and action plans make a good reason for a grant application; however, a club needs to have its own by-laws in order to apply for a grant. (*See also additional remarks on P&P by Wayne Harding in item 7(a), District Items*).

OLBA Annual Meeting: OLBA has reduced the number of OLBA meetings to one per year in the spring, cancelling the fall meeting. The current term of Directors has been extended for six months to accommodate this change.

Fees: OLBA is not proposing any fee increases in 2018, but BCB has already indicated that its fee (included in our annual dues) will increase by \$3 per member in 2019.

Conditions of Play: A few minor changes were made to Conditions of Play, which are available for viewing on the OLBA website. Clubs should be aware of the changes. For example, there are both singles and novice singles competitions this year. Seniors' competitions will play with only two bowls instead of three. Time allotted for a game is two-and-a-half hours, not three, except for Novice triples events, which is two-and-three quarter hours. With games involving wheelchair use, one wheel needs to be on the mat. The Ubi Launcher has now been approved by the OLBA.

OLBA 2018 Annual:

There are errors in the listing of 2017 District Champions for District 16 on page 53 of the 2018 Annual. The correct Women's Seniors champions and Men's Seniors champions are:

- Margaret Sutton, Tessa MacKechnie, Heather Stevens
- David Jefferies, Rico Silvestro, John Stevenson.

a. **District Items** (*Wayne Harding*)

New OLBA Policies & Procedures:

Wayne reiterated the need to comply with the new P&P. The policies listed on the OLBA website are policies that apply to OLBA events; they were not put there to apply to clubs, but now we have to be the governing levels; the policies have to flow down to the clubs. The OLBA will not be policing the clubs to follow the P&P, but clubs may want to look at adopting some of the OLBA policies. For example, practically, the screening policies are written exclusively for OLBA (OLBA does not want the clubs to be preparing screening documents for OLBA approval) but clubs should be looking at screening to attest that someone who handles money does not

have a criminal record. It is up to the clubs how far they want to go with adopting the P&P. OLBA has determined that P&P changes should be in place by 2025.

Novice Singles Tournament:

Wayne noted that the OLBA has created a Champion of Champions Singles tournament, which will take place at Elmdale on September 15/16. In order for singles to enter (players in 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> year), clubs have to determine their men's and ladies' novice singles champions in order to be eligible to enter the District Novice Singles' Playdowns. The club President (or other officer) should submit the names of its club's men's and ladies' champions to the convenor of the District Playdowns.

Club Incorporation:

Jane Maloney (Highland Park) asked what the cost of incorporating a club was. Wayne thought the cost was ~ \$400 for filing incorporation. Alice Keiwan (Nepean) advised clubs to review whether to incorporate federally or provincially.

At the OLBA meeting, the OLBA Treasurer had reported that the provincial government insists that all Not-for-Profits receiving provincial grants have an annual audit. In the past, the OLBA has been able to have Reviews rather than Audits, at less cost. As part of the audit process requirements, and to meet provincial standards, the OLBA has implemented accounting standards for Not-for-Profit organizations.

OLBA Newsletter:

Wayne is editor of the on-line OLBA Newsletter. He would be pleased to receive submissions from the clubs regarding anything to do with lawn bowling or club news.

Youth Programs:

Wayne noted that the OLBA was startled to learn how few young bowlers there are, and they would like the clubs to do something to remedy the situation. The OLBA Director of Youth is Steve Schuknecht.

b. **Short Mat Bowls** (*Wayne Harding*)

Wayne is endeavoring to create a short mat bowling club in Ottawa and has been offered a venue in Stittsville on two afternoons.

8. **Governor General's Tournament** (*Tony Bernard*)

Garry Ross presented the Financial Statement on behalf of Tony Bernard. The opening balance as at 2018 April 25 was \$2,552.05. The tournament will be held at Galetta on September 01, with playdowns at Galetta on August 04/05 (singles) and August 18/19 (fours). In response to a question from David Jefferies (Galetta) regarding expenses, Gerry Laporte (Nepean) responded that meals for the Ontario team are paid for by the Governor General's Committee; Quebec will pay for its own team's meals. Medals are already made for tournaments up to 2021. Flags, medals, shirts, etc., are stored at Nepean.

9. **Umpires' Report** (*David Jefferies*)

David reported that Garry Ross, having completed the national umpire training, will lead us in testing the rest of the D.16 umpires so that all will then be national umpires. There are six umpires to be tested, based at Galetta, Highland Park, Goulbourn and Elmdale. Jason Currie would like to have a minimum of five new candidates. David will be retiring and nominating a new head umpire. Garry thanked David and all the umpires, and encouraged other members to become umpires if they were interested. Jane Maloney thanked David for setting a high standard in umpiring, noting that we owe him a great deal of gratitude, to which delegates applauded.

Lastly, David noted that a Greens Keeping Workshop will be held on May 17 at Smiths Falls LBC. Every club is sending a representative(s).

a. **Travel Fee for Umpires** (*Garry Ross*)

Garry reported that, for umpires travelling to provincial events, there will be a flat fee of \$50 upon request for return trips over 100 km.

10. **Novice Day** (*Larry Myers*)

Novice Day will be held at Nepean on Sunday, July 08, starting at 9.00 a.m. A flyer announcing the event was included in the package of posters for each club. The format will be a workshop approach in the morning followed by a game in the afternoon. Participants should bring a bag lunch. The assistance of any coaches that would like to come along that day would be appreciated.

11. **New Business**

a. **Marketing Committee Report** (*Larry Myers*)

Larry reported from the Marketing Committee. Members are Larry Myers, Suzanne Erickson and Ruth Duffy. The committee met during the winter to discuss a few ideas:

- The committee is planning an inter-club play, e.g., at Nepean, with clubs in the vicinity, and the suggestion has been made to coordinate charitable events, focusing on one day. The editor of the Ottawa Sports page has invited Larry to put in an article with pictures.
- The Nepean club is doing a lot of things to increase signage, and has invited bowlers in the district to come and play at Nepean until the end of May, free of charge. The benefit to Nepean of this initiative is increasing visibility.
- The Committee is considering Youth Bowling.
- The possibility of funding a bowling demonstration area at the 55+ show has been discussed. It is a two day event. It would cost ~\$3k to put up a large demonstration area, the advantage being that people could try it right there. D.16 still has a lot of that equipment from the Zoomers show (Zoomers show does not operate in Ottawa any more). Larry pointed out that we could not afford \$3k, but we could try to get a grant and get the event sponsored. Larry has talked to some companies about sponsorship and proposed that, if we could get the money, we could do a 55+ show if it is held next year. The Nepean club would be responsible for looking after some aspects of it, and helping to run it, with all the clubs working together. Although

some clubs are located far from Ottawa, this initiative would be carried out on behalf of all the clubs in the District, with input and promotional material from all the clubs.

A motion was put forward that we pursue, through the Marketing Committee, funding to participate in the 55+ show in 2019; moved by Larry Myers (Nepean); seconded by David Smith (Elmdale).

**MOTION CARRIED**

- National Bowls Day takes place on June 02. BCB's goal is to have as many clubs as possible participating on the same day. Clubs should register with BCB if they are having an event, as BCB is offering free resources and promotional support. Clubs that are unable to run an event on June 02 can still run an event on a different day and let BCB know. The event will get media coverage.

**b. Replacement for 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President** (*Garry Ross*)

Garry reported that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Wayne Daley, has withdrawn from his position for health reasons but hopes to come back in the future. Wayne Harding has stepped in to cover for Wayne Daley for District Playdowns and Championships events. The Board has decided to leave open the 2<sup>nd</sup> VP position should Wayne Daley choose to come back in the Fall but will still pursue a nominee(s) for the Fall. Wayne Harding will also be taking over the Novice Governor General Playdowns on August 04-06, although Flo Silvestro will still take the entries.

**12. Fall Meeting** (*Garry Ross*)

The Fall meeting will be held on 2018 September 29 at the Deep River LBC.

**13. Thanks to the Host Club** (*Garry Ross*)

Garry thanked Mary Campbell for hosting the meeting.

**14. Motion to Adjourn**

Garry motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11.45 a.m. Moved by Tina Dutta (Elmdale); seconded by Bill Latham (Brockville).

**MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Stephens  
Secretary D. 16  
2018 May 27