



MARGATE BOWLING CLUB

18, Northdown Avenue, Cliftonville. CT9 2NW

Affiliated to: Bowls England, K.C.B.A., K.C.W.B.A..

FORMERLY:- Margate Bowling Club and Northdown Ladies Bowling Club.

*Minutes of the ANNUAL GENERAL .MEETING held at the Clubhouse
on
Monday, November 19th. 2007 at 6.30pm.*

23 x Members Present

1. *Paul welcomed everyone and said that he wanted to thank all those members who had worked so hard to make our season successful. He especially wanted to mention Roger who had turned around the fortunes of the Club and Bob, who had worked so hard for us in a way that was beyond anything that might be expected.*
2. *Apologies:- There were apologies from, Christine Greenidge and Stan Dudley.*
3. *Minutes of the Last meeting:-
All members had previously been furnished with a copy of the last A.G.M. Minutes for reflection.*

Accepted as a true account.

Proposed by Bill Gehrcken and Seconded by Jackie Hayes.

4. Matters Arising. -- None

5. Secretary's Report and Correspondence. *Hereunder is Ruby's report verbatim.*

SECRETARY'S REPORT A.G.M. November 2007

When I sat down to write my report for this meeting, I couldn't help thinking of how things were with us at this time last year.

I'm sure you will agree that there has been a remarkable turn around with the fortunes of our Club, and we have to thank some of our members here tonight for that.

I expect most of you realise how tenuous our position has been over the past few years. When the former Men's secretary -- Maurice Howard died, there was absolutely no one prepared to take his place. We were at that time almost at the point of no return with all the talk of doom and gloom -- but most of you will remember all that -- and want to forget it. But, just for a moment, I want to take you back a bit!

I was at that time, the ladies' secretary carrying out comparatively lightweight duties. When it was suggested that I become Secretary for the combined Club, I was very uncertain-- being a somewhat newcomer to Bowls. I could manage the paper work with no trouble, but had little knowledge of the intricacies of Bowls procedures. However, I was promised, if I took it on, full support from those who possessed the required knowledge -- which I have always received; and we struggled on. It was said at the time that I had made history -- being the first lady secretary for the men. Then John Lord, our treasurer, had to leave us because he was not going to remain in the area. Again there was a crisis with no one able to take over. You will remember that Stan stepped to help (which he did admirably) -- in spite of all he was already doing in the bar.

At the last A.G.M., he told us how it was impossible to continue because of his outside commitments, and, as I have mentioned, all the work he had to undertake with running the bar. Enter Roger -- rather reluctantly, being a very new member -- but, my goodness, aren't we glad he did. From there being a big question mark over whether we could continue, we have entered a new period of optimism. You only have to look around you to see how things have changed. Some of us here have no idea of the amount of work that Roger has put in to bring this about.

And mentioning the amount of work done, brings me to Bob. In my report at the last A.G.M., I mentioned how Bob had dug out all the earth and made functional again the drainage outside the Ladies toilet area. He might have said then, in the words of another well-known person, 'You ain't seen nothing yet!'

We had been granted £1000 from the K.C.C. for some improvements in that department -- and were being prevailed upon to provide facilities for the disabled if you remember. That amount of money would only cover the fittings, and so on, which were needed, and Bob took it upon himself to do all the work that was involved so that we could keep within the budget. Again, we can have little idea of the amount of work involved both from Roger, dealing with general help, and costing the project, and from Bob in transforming, not only the room itself but all around that area turning it from a virtual rubbish dump into a truly attractive and welcoming entrance to our property. Did everyone notice the disappearance of the old tank, I wonder? The fact that we now have those facilities for the disabled, has opened up other opportunities for raising money which I'll leave Roger to tell you about.

Then we come to the Ladies' Changing Room. Things were in such a state, that the ladies were unhappy about taking their visiting teams in there. It seemed to be crumbling about our ears. Committee decided that we had to do something to improve matters. There were all kind of inquiries made at that time as to how we could best go about this at the lowest cost. There was a great deal of time and trouble spent on just this kind of thing. Some of us came in and marvelled at the result when it was all finished. But just remind yourselves of what had gone on. The old structure had had to be demolished and taken away. Years of accumulated rubbish stored behind had to be sorted and disposed of. Bob was giving his time and effort far and away above what might have been expected of a Club member. That is not to say that there was not a very small band of loyal people helping wherever they could -- wielding paint brushes and so on -- and helping to clean up! But no words of mine here could possibly express all the appreciation that should be shown to Bob over all this.

As you know, he has again stepped in to take over George's duties as groundsman. Where would we be without him I ask myself? I'm sure Roger will want to tell you more about this side of things.

We've held some really good events this year when some of our ladies have excelled themselves in catering for a formidable number of people at times. Here we come to David C. -- hardworking for us as ever with organising so successfully such events. You'll agree that this is another area where we would come unstuck without all his dedication.

As I said earlier, look around you and see the difference -- even to the pictures back up on the walls (reminding us of our proud history) -- but previously mouldering away in dark corners!

And on that note, I end my report for 2007.

*Acceptance of the Report was Proposed by Alf Pockney
and Seconded by Beryl Stapley.*

6. Treasurer's Report:-

All those present were furnished with comprehensive Statements of Accounts by Roger which included helpful 'pie' graphs and a forecast for 2007/2008. He clarified one or two points and mentioned specifically

Working Party

£65 Sub.

Rate relief

Roof

Grants (Mike Barnes)

Mats and 'Pushers'

Full details, if required, can be found in the copies of minutes kept in the clubhouse folder for all members to see.

*Acceptance of the Report was Proposed by Terry Coker
and Seconded by Sheila Taylor*

7. Other Reports

COMPETITION SECRETARY'S REPORT 2007

David reported on the I.of T. A.G.M. as follows.

- a) The fees for 2008 were to remain as present.*
- b) The Club has applied to enter team in Combination League for 2008. Players are eligible for both leagues.*
- c) There were questions about 'bona fide' members who were apparently not paying the full fee. David would take the matter up with County.*
- d) It was also said that some players were using more than the one substitute allowed.*
- e) The I. of T. finals would be held in Thanet on Saturday September 6th.*
- f) There will be no cancelled League matches. Except for inclement weather, League matches to be played as per programme.*
- g) Changes will only be allowed prior to May 1st.*
- h) Mo Pagett (Birchington) elected Vice-President.*

Report on the Catherine Wheeler A.G.M. 2007

- a) Pfizer to host the end of season one day competition -- followed by Walpole Bay, Thanet, Westbrook, Ramsgate and Whitstable.
- b) David has offered to help Pfizer with the Finals day.
- c) Walpole bay had doubts about hosting as no clubhouse and hotel being expensive, David offered help from Margate.
- d) Format used by Margate this year to be adopted as standard as it was considered to be a 'terrific day'.
- e) No applications from new clubs to be elected to league.
- f) Subscriptions to stay at £10 per club and sent to John Ireland as soon as possible.
- g) Two named club representatives to get copies of fixtures
- h) John Ireland elected as Secretary.
- i) Players can only play for one club.
- j) Coloured club shirts can be worn if registered with County.

Jackie's report.

Club competitions had gone well with most played by the due date. Entries, however, were low. Following David's example, I posted a print-out of the Ladies' results.

A copy of the notes from the K.C.W.B.A Council Meeting held on October 12th., and for the A.G.M. held on November 9th., may be seen in the clubhouse folder.

Jackie read out some of the pertinent points.

8. Election of Officers

Nominations for office as follows had been made keeping in mind the stipulations set out in the new Constitution.

Chairman suggested election of officers en masse by asking for a Proposer and Seconder and show of hands from the floor.

<i>President (not committee)</i>	<i>Mr. Fred Brasington</i>
<i>Chairman (Executive Officer)</i>	<i>Mr. Paul Proctor</i>
<i>Hon. Secretary (Executive Officer)</i>	<i>Mrs. Ruby Holmes</i>
<i>Treasurer (Executive Officer)</i>	<i>Mr. Roger Hayes</i>
<i>Committee (Captain)</i>	<i>Mrs. Jackie Hayes</i>
<i>Committee (Competition Secretary)</i>	<i>Mr. David Carman</i>
<i>Committee (Match Secretary)</i>	<i>Mrs. Beryl Stapley</i>
<i>Committee</i>	<i>Mrs. Marjorie Ashford</i>
<i>Committee</i>	<i>Mr. Stan Dudley</i>
<i>Committee</i>	<i>Mrs. Sheila Taylor</i>

Acceptance Proposed by Bob Taylor and Seconded by Alan Lawlor with unanimous agreement from membership present.

9. Propositions.

AGM Propositions:

- 1. *The name of the Club should be changed from Margate, Northdown Bowling Club to Margate Bowling Club:*

Commentary: The name Margate Bowling Club (ladies) previously used by the ladies club playing at Cliftonville has been dropped by them in favour of a unified Cliftonville Bowling Club. The adoption of Margate Bowling Club unified for both men and ladies will avoid the confusion for visiting teams. It is understood that the KCWBA will add "formerly Northdown Ladies BC" in the Yearbook so the history of that name should not be lost.

- 2. *Apart from the major club competitions all other competitions should be open to all irrespective of gender. Major club competitions are defined as: Men's Singles Championship, Ladies Singles Championship, Men's Handicap Singles and Men's Pairs.*

Commentary: This open format for "minor" club competitions such as Mixed Pairs, Yard-of-Jack, and 2-wood Singles recognises the club's unification and aligns with other unified local clubs.

These were voted on and accepted unanimously with just two exceptions to the first proposition.

Before the close of the meeting which was at 8.05pm., Bob wanted it put on record that he was opposed to the subscription being lowered to £65 as had been decided at the Management meeting earlier. He felt it was too low and that it would adversely affect our funds.
