

## **SWF Committee Meeting 24<sup>th</sup> November 2022 7.00pm: Minutes**

### **Present**

Tony Mayer, Peter Kirby, Paul Francis, Stephen Custance-Baker, Linda Shaw, Andru Blewett, Brian Wilson

### **Apologies**

None

### **1) Minutes of last meeting - attached**

- a) The following meeting minutes were agreed as correct
  - i) Committee 19<sup>th</sup> October
  - ii) Extra finance 9<sup>th</sup> November

### **2) Matters arising not covered elsewhere**

- a) The following issues will be raised at the Feds Forum meeting next week
  - i) Paying expenses to teams representing the region nationally
    - (1) The consensus of this meeting is that it is not feasible but the views of other Feds will be sought
  - ii) Conversion of handicaps re: AC – SC and GC – AC
    - (1) Noted that GC – AC is not straightforward and a limit of handicap is more realistic than a conversion
  - iii) **Action: Tony & Paul**
- b) Agreed that notes of the Feds' Forum meetings be shared with this committee. **Action: Tony**

### **3) AGM feedback**

- a) Draft minutes were approved for putting on the website along with amended League rules
  - i) **Action: Linda**
- b) Discussion and action points from the meeting are incorporated into this agenda
- c) A healthy proportion of member clubs participated in the meeting
- d) Feedback was discussed
  - i) There is little that can be done to limit the number of proposals presented but discussions need to be managed to ensure the focus remains relevant and to ensure the process for clarifying voting on proposed amendments and the final proposal is followed
  - ii) Agreed that there will be no AOB item on the agenda – clubs will be asked to raise all matters (not just proposals and nominations) in time for inclusion on the agenda to avoid matters being raised which no one has had time to reflect on.

### **4) Committee**

- a) There has been no change in the Committee and current post holders were confirmed in their roles
- b) Agreed every opportunity be taken to encourage people to stand for co-option to the committee

### **5) Treasurer's Report**

- a) Peter confirmed that renewal fees and League entries were largely reconciled – missing membership fees will be followed up **Action: Peter**
- b) Noted that clubs not entering Leagues have not been invited to renew their membership yet. **Action: Peter**
- c) In future,
  - i) League Sec and Treasurer will be notified of current membership list prior to entry and renewal invitations being sent out to everyone. **Action: Linda**
  - ii) Clubs will be requested to let Peter know immediately if there are problems in making payment **Action: Peter**
- d) Noted that SC Tournament entries are just below capacity – John Grimshaw will manage entries once Stephen has informed him of current entries
- e) Agreed to open an interest-bearing account in line with Peter’s suggestions – this is not expected to happen with any speed. **Action: Peter**

## 6) League Secretary

- a) A few anticipated entries have not yet arrived but Stephen presented draft outlines for how each League will be set up
- b) An analysis of entries indicates AC going down, GC going up but overall not much change
  - i) SC restricted down Open up – B league up 1- Wellington back in
  - ii) Intermediate down a lot
- c) Stephen was thanked for all his work on organising these
- d) The idea raised at AGM of playing to a base in Intermediate will be presented as a topic for a future Zoom Action: Paul
  - i) It is not feasible to play Fed to a base as there is no lower handicap
- e) Principles of dealing with cancelled games due e.g. to extreme weather was raised at the AGM
  - i) It was felt we have sufficient discretionary powers at the moment and agreed that if ever there is a Met Office Red Warning, that matches may be cancelled or postponed with no penalty to either party
  - ii) The situation is less clear cut with Yellow Warnings
  - iii) This will be monitored throughout the season **Action: Stephen**
- f) AGC Zoom session was promised at the AGM and it was agreed to hold this on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January
  - i) The discussion will include
    - (1) Clubs’ experiences
    - (2) Consideration of the handicap range playing in SWF leagues
    - (3) Timed endings and calculating the score
    - (4) Possible implications for our League rules of the range and timed endings
    - (5) Holding one or two day-long events in the SW to trial the process
  - ii) **Action: Stephen and Committee**

## 7) Development Officer

- a) Swanage has now had to leave its lawns and is researching two alternatives and Paul is supporting
- b) Programme for Zoom meetings will be clarified **Action: Paul**

## 8) Coaching

- a) Things are looking very positive for 2023

- i) The CA has approved hybrid coaching which means we should be able to run Club Coach and Grade 1 courses
- ii) Relationship with coaching hub at Budleigh Salterton is developing well – they will be focussing on player development and SWF on coaching courses
  - (1) **NB** request following AGM for Referee training
- b) Survey results showed a lot of clubs are relying on just one coach so there is unlikely to be a huge depth of coaching there
- c) Noted CADB info on coaches is out of date – Paul will be raising this with the Coaching Committee **Action: Paul**

## 9) Handicapping

- a) Issues raised at AGM will be followed up at Feds' Forum as stated above.

## 10) Safeguarding

- a) Andru noted that Ron is stepping down from his role as national SO and Beatrice approached Linda and Andru to take on the role
- b) Beatrice is planning to setting up a three-strong team to take on the role and Linda may be involved in that
- c) It is not known if Ron has actually stood down or intends to do so

## 11) Update from Rep to CA Council

- a) Update from Brian
  - i) Next council meeting 10<sup>th</sup> Dec – notify any issues for discussion to Brian
  - ii) He will be raising Safeguarding and targets for competitive play
  - iii) CA have answered questions from the Charity Commission and await their reply
  - iv) There is currently a vacancy for a SW rep – agreed to take no further action as representation from our region is likely to be reduced to two with the new structure
  - v) Noted feedback that it could be helpful to develop tighter connections with Exec Board
    - (1) Agreed the Feds Forum has a link through Paul Brown already but noted that not all Feds share the outward looking approach that we have so results might be slow to emerge

## 12) AOB

- a) None

## 13) Dates of next meetings

- i) 26<sup>th</sup> January – **NB Change of date**
- ii) 23<sup>rd</sup> March
- iii) 18<sup>th</sup> May – Paul and Peter away – we may need to re-arrange this
- iv) 20<sup>th</sup> July – Brian Council
- v) 21<sup>st</sup> September
- vi) Oct tba – Stephen will be away a lot – requires careful planning nearer the time
- vii) AGM tba
- viii) Follow up to AGM tba

## Analysis of clubs attending AGM

Club	Yes	Apols	No reply	Club	Yes	Apols	No reply
Abbey	1			Llandaff		1	
Barnstaple			1	Llandovery			1
Bath	1			Lym Valley	1		
Beckford	1			Moreton-in-Marsh	1		
Bradford on Avon	1			Mumbles	1		
Bristol	1			Nailsea	1		
Broadwas		1		Palace Wells		1	
Bude		1		Plymouth	1		
Budleigh Salterton	1			Sidmouth	1		
C&P	1			St Agnes	1		
Cary Valley		1		Swanage	1		
Charlton Horethorne			1	Swindon	2		
Cheltenham	1			Taunton Deane	1		
Cornwall		1		Tisbury: Bowls	1		
Dowlish Wake	1			Wareham		1	
East Dorset	1			Wellington		1	
Exeter	1			Weston Super Mare			1
Fowey		1		Winterborne Valley	1		
Glamorgan (Dyffryn)	1			Worcester Norton	1		
Kington Langley	1						
<b>Yes</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>Apologies</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>No reply</b>			<b>5</b>

## Participants' feedback on AGM

### Positive

- Thanks for all the work
- Well run and interesting
- Managed well despite technical difficulties
- Useful seeing wide range of members, understanding links to CA and progress with Charitable status
- I am in awe of Paul who manages to pull all the technology together
- Zoom is fine for me
- All-in-all, I thought that it was a good meeting.

### Room for improvement?

- Discussion on proposals difficult – were there too many?
- Pity the polling didn't work
- Voting got into a routine eventually thought might have been better to do single voters for, against, abstain, and then double voters etc.
- Chairman needs to understand voting procedure if there are suggested amendments to the written and circulated proposals. We need to vote on the amendments to agree the final version of the proposal and have that final version spelt out. It was not clear to me what we were voting on sometimes.
- I thought that there were a couple of aspects which I think could have been improved. Stephen's proposals were a bit too loosely defined. He seemed to be trying to give those attending options/choices on what to select. Doesn't make it easy for the meeting or the Chair to manage and it does tend to lengthen the process. Also, the Chair was a bit lax on procedural matters as Dave and Chris Williams pointed out on occasion. Apart from that, I thought that he handled it pretty well.

### Suggestions

- Develop the idea of Int / Fed playing to a base
- Have someone whose sole responsibility is to manage any amendments and make sure we know what we're voting on
- Voting instructions could be circulated with agenda papers to aid comprehension

## **Development roles**

Klim Seabright, Brian Wilson and Paul Francis  
October 2022 meeting

Our first meeting to discuss new roles and action points

### **Action points**

1. PF to introduce the changes at the AGM
2. Follow up with information (including contact details) to all clubs via chairs and secretaries.
3. PF to distribute list of clubs

### **Message to clubs**

What we can help you with.

**In essence, a contact point to help clubs source expert advice, training and development opportunities. Dealing with 'challenges'.**

- Grant applications - advice on what the CA needs (club plans, fund raising initiatives)
- Lawn management
- Recruitment of new members
- Coaching and refereeing
- Handicapping
- Planning for growth/change
- CA Club awards
- Communicating CA initiatives to clubs

### **When will we meet?**

On a needs basis e.g. when there is significant news from the CA, when there is a club seeking help/ making a grant application (three heads are better than one).

We will use Zoom but can arrange to catch up informally when paths cross!

### **Allocation of Clubs**

Definitive list to follow but the principles are:

1. To avoid conflicts of interest, home clubs to be allocated as follows:
  - Paul will take Cheltenham
  - Brian will take Bath and Bradford on Avon
  - Paul will take Camerton and Peasedown
2. Brian has established good working relationships with Abbey, Lym Valley and Tisbury and so will retain these three.
3. In general, the federation will be allocated on a geographic basis.
  - Klim: North and Wales
  - Brian: Central and East

- Paul: West and South