



**VANCOUVER AND DISTRICT BOWLS ASSOCIATION**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**MINUTES**

**SATURDAY NOVEMBER 17, 2018**

**At the New Westminster Lawn Bowling Club**

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**Call to order:** - President, David Arnott: - called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Club Attendance:** David Arnott declared that a quorum had been achieved with 18 out of 22 clubs in attendance. Vancouver and District Board Members present: David Arnott, Sam Siu, Brooke Webber, George Cubiss, Bonnie Smith, Ken Sherlock, Laura Low, Myrle Lawrence, and John Aveline. Absent: Kion Wong, Sydney Hope, Sharon Cowie, Peter Lee, Mary Hargreaves

**Moment of Silence** was held in memory of the many friends who are no longer with us. A list of names provided by the clubs was read by Secretary Brooke Webber.

**Motion:** Motion was made by Jim Duholke that the agenda be accepted as read. All approved.

**Motion:** Motion made by Harry Carruthers that the Minutes of April 7, 2018 SAGM, be accepted as read. All approved.

**Correspondence** – Brooke Webber thanked the clubs for sending in their contact information and explained that up to date information goes towards keeping the Handbook Directory pages current. The clubs will be contacted shortly about providing any changes to their executive group.

**Treasurer's Report:** Sam Siu – reported a surplus for 2018 of \$1,600.00.00 V&D event entries were down a bit this past year with memberships up slightly. Motion by Bill Hartley to approve the Treasurer's Report as written. All approved. Sam reviewed the budget for 2019 noting the V&D fee increase from \$1.50 to \$3.00 will enable the V&D to pay financial support to clubs hosting V&D events, raise the Umpire fees from \$20 to \$25 per session and also increase green fees from \$14 to \$18 per rink per session. David noted that the cost of producing the Handbook may also increase in 2019. A question from the floor was raised about why there was no budget line for insurance. David responded that the V&D Board's insurance cost is reimbursed by Bowls B.C. as we are such a small group. Motion by Eva Murray to approve the Treasurer's 2019 budget. All approved.

## **Reports and Updates:**

**President** – David Arnott thanked his fellow Board members for their hard work over the past bowling season. David also recognized the club volunteers who put in so much time and effort to not only support and host V&D events but their own club tournaments as well.

Highlights of the 2018 season were noted as follows:

- V&D Bowling members: 2016- 2,246 2017– 2,217 2018 - 2,305 so this past year we saw an increase of 88 members.
- Club's which had membership increases of between 14 and 23+ were Coquitlam, Granville Park, Richmond, Stanley Park, West Point Grey, White Rock and West Van.
- V&D competition registrations were also showing an increase this year:  
2016-559 2017-586 2018-587
- Interclub competition registrations were down this year which might be attributable to the travelling distance and related traffic. As well, the tournament schedules were jammed packed.
- New Societies Act: New V&D Constitution/ Bylaws. The V&D filed theirs on Jan. 7 2018.
- Insurance for V&D Directors –V&D board members were not covered by Directors and Officers insurance for V&D events hosted by local clubs. We have now obtained the same D&OL coverage as club insurance and are described by BBC/Sport B.C. as 'Tournament Planners'. The \$350.00 cost is reimbursed by BBC due to the minimal number of V&D Board Executives and Directors.
- 2019 Handbook – the glossy paper used for the 2018 Handbook will hopefully also be used for the 2019 edition but this will naturally depend on cost. Again in 2019 the Handbook will not be posted on the website due to privacy concerns.
- Looking ahead to 2019 – We anticipate some big scheduling challenges as North Van will not be able to host any events as they are losing their two greens in 2019. We will be looking for other clubs to step forward and help out with hosting events.

**Handbook** – Kion Wong (absent) reported that “..he was pleased with the improved quality of the 2018 Handbook which was due in part to the heavy grade paper used by the printer – which also did not cost extra.” Despite losing an advertisement usually placed in the Handbook (Perky Bowls) Ken Sherlock reported that we gained a new advertiser with Bowls USA/US Open. He hopes that they renew their ad space in 2019. Ken encouraged clubs to continue placing ads and supporting the Handbook.

**V&D Events/Women's BC Week** – Sydney Hope (absent) reported: “Most V&D tournaments held their own except for some of the newer ones. (Intermediate and Senior Mixed) The Novice tournament for both Men and Women was well attended this year after a dismal showing last year. (50 entries - 30 Men 20 Women). It was promoted by the coaches and it made a huge difference.

Thank you, West Van, for allowing us to use your greens for the Novice Women for two nights when you were also running the Provincial Senior Triples during the day. It has been suggested to improve entries for the V&D Novice and Intermediate Tournaments that a sheet be included with the packages that are sent out with the V&D handbook. I will make sure that this is part of the package so that coaches can inform new bowlers of any tournaments outside their club that they can compete in at their level. There were problems with rules for some

tournaments particularly, the Novice and Intermediate. We will be discussing this at our next board meeting and make changes in the handbook so that new conveners have a full understanding of the format.

North Van will not be hosting any V&D or Provincial tournaments in 2019 because they are not sure of the time line regarding the construction of their new artificial greens and clubhouse. Without their involvement it will be more challenging to put a schedule together. I am hoping that Clubs, if asked, will offer their greens this year for some of the tournaments that NV has done in the past.

Thank you, West Point Grey, for hosting BC Women's Week. It was well attended, but we will be looking for another venue because it is a lot of work for a club that has a small membership.

2019 will be here before we know it and I look forward to another successful year with the V&D."

**Men's B.C. Week** – Peter Lee (absent) reports: "Same as last year, we had good weather throughout the week which all the bowlers enjoyed very much. The entries for all events increased a bit and we had: 22 teams in Aussie Pairs, 24 teams in Pairs, 22 teams in Triples

We had another successful year as we attracted some good bowlers from US and Hong Kong to share the fun with our players. One of them even won two titles. I hope more and more good bowlers from overseas will join us next year.

Lastly, once again many thanks to Peter Cheong and all the volunteers from Granville Park Lawn Bowling club who contributed their efforts and made the event so enjoyable.

**President Cup** – David Arnott thanked the Granville Park Lawn Bowling Club for hosting this event once again. Great volunteers and another fabulous lunch. David confirmed he will be the convenor for 2019.

**Women's Pennant League** – Sharon Cowie (absent) reported "This year we had 14 teams from 7 clubs entered in the league. Unfortunately this is a decrease from previous years and created a bye for everyone. On the first night of play we had all the Ladies teams' play at New Westminster as we had a coffee and cake (baked by our own Myrle Lawrence) get together before the game. This was a nice way for everyone to meet each other.

The finals were also held at New Westminster and the results were 1<sup>st</sup> place – Richmond B (Vivien Chan, Zoe Chan and Lisa Cheung), 2<sup>nd</sup> place Richmond C (Rainbow Lung, Anita Lee and Gigi Chan), 3<sup>rd</sup> place Richmond A (Fanny Yeung, Alice Lam and Jody Yeh) and 4<sup>th</sup> place North Vancouver C (Sydney Hope, Marilyn Rich and Marie Murray). The Men's Pennant League finals were also played so we had many spectators cheering on all the players. Thank you to the New Westminster Bowling Club for the use of their greens.

A big thank you to all the teams that entered and hope to see you all back next year and hopefully some more teams will join us on the greens."

**Men's Pennant League** – George Cubiss reported "There are twenty seven (27) teams entered this year. The two extra clubs were Stanley Park and Vancouver LBC which is a step in the right direction. All games results

are being forwarded quickly allowing me to get the standing out to the players. Thank you to Bonnie and Robert Ascroft for the postings on the website.

Unfortunately two teams have been penalised for failing to follow the Conditions of Play re Substitutes but now they know.”

**Junior’s Program** – Mary Hargreaves (absent until Dec.’18) reported in October: “I don't have any major comments on the juniors at the moment; Emma who is now playing as an under 25 is leaving this Wednesday with Pricilla to play with the ten member Canadian team to play in California and that is really exciting for them.”

*David noted that Priscilla Westlake, due to time constraints, resigned from the V&D Board earlier this year. Mary will continue to represent the Junior program on the Board.*

**Top Ten Competition** – Kion Wong (absent) reported “There were 13 teams representing 10 clubs and that North Van was the new winner this year with Maple Ridge as runner up.”

**Rules Committee & Umpires** – George Cubiss’ report “Umpires: In May I held a Level 1 Umpire Training Course at New Westminster Lawn Bowling Club for six (6) candidates. As a result Wayne Hogg of Chilliwack LBC, Daniel Wai and Stephen Yung from Richmond LBC and Michael Leong from Granville Park have passed the course and are now Level 1 Umpires.

In July I held two Marker Training Courses and as a result New Westminster now has 15 new Markers and Ladner Lawn Bowling Club has 10 new Markers. The feed-back from players for these markers which Marked at the Provincial Singles and the Junior Singles was very rewarding.

Marker Training Courses, Rules Clinics and measuring clinics are available to all clubs. All they need to do is ask.

All Vancouver and District Events were covered by the umpires. The dress code by players was a vast improvement on the previous years.

On Presidents Day I presented Francis Lee from Granville Park LBC with a Certificate of Appreciation for twenty five (25) years of officiating. John Aveline has also completed the same number of years but unfortunately John was unable to attend Presidents Day so I have left the presentation of his Certificate to our trusted President who is also a member of Kerrisdale.

Thank you to all the Vancouver and District Board who put in many hours of work for all the players and clubs within the district. We are indeed very fortunate to have such dedicated people.”

**Awards Day** – Laura Low reported “This year's Awards Day was again hosted by New Westminster Lawn Bowling Club, and I wish to thank the volunteers who worked in the kitchen, set-up the meeting room, and Ed Logan who arranged the set-up and take-down of the greens – without the help of all these volunteers it would have been impossible to host the event.

My thanks to George Cubiss for organizing the umpires; there was, to my knowledge, no concerns this year.

There were 26 entries; the first game was started after discussions with Ed who is responsible for the greens; remarkably the weather improved considerably as the day progressed and the 3 x 12 end games were completed.

My thanks to Sam for organizing the prize money, and to Kion who assisted in the presentation of the 9 prizes (one third of the entries received a prize) and also handled the V & D events prize giving and trophy presentations.

Again, my sincere thanks to everyone who assisted in the hosting of this event.”

**Website** – Bonnie Smith reported ”The V&D Website (<https://www.vndba.com>) is updated each spring to get ready for the new season by moving all last year’s competition information to the Past Winners Page and updating any forms and publications. Once all of the changes are made the focus is on the year’s events and information. The updating of competition results has gone very well this year. Thank you to the conveners for sending the results and photos in a timely manner, Sam Siu for making sure I have the accurate results and Robert Ascroft for updating the Men’s Pennant League results again this year. It’s much appreciated.

The “count of visitors” from November 2017 to October 2018 was 5773 with July peaking at 1257 visits. The most popular pages, other than the Home page, are BC Week, Calendar, Forms and 2018 V&D Events. This website is for all the clubs in the Vancouver and District Bowls Association and the purpose is to keep the District Clubs up to date with the season’s events and results. I welcome any suggestions and appreciate your support by providing competition updates and photos. Please keep them coming.

The V&D Board has decided to create a webpage on the website for just the Novice and Intermediate players. The last couple of years there have been a bigger effort on promoting the Novice competitions and we have seen an overwhelming response. We want to encourage them to continue entering more competitions. We are hoping this page will help simplify what competitions they can play in and what to expect. We are also hoping they will experience how much fun it is to compete against players of their own skill level, visit new clubs and make many new friends.”

**Bowls B.C. & Bowls Canada Boulingrin** – Myrle Lawrence is the V&D Board representative with Bowls B.C. Harry Carruthers is the B.B.C. president and as he was present (as the North Van club rep) she deferred to Harry to provide an update.

- Harry noted that there is now a complete full Bowls B.C. Board although they lost a member just yesterday due to health and personal reasons. Myrle added that we were fortunate in that there are currently several V&D club members who are on the new Bowls B.C. executive.
- B.C. will be hosting the National Junior’s and U25 in 2019 at clubs on Vancouver Island.
- Due to communication problems with club email addresses BBC is not confident their messages being sent to clubs are being received. They have still not had any response from some clubs re: membership info. BBC uses the contact information the V&D provides yet some clubs do not action the BBC messages.
- Some clubs have been asking for more score cards while others have stock piles of unused score cards. Harry said that BBC will go out to clubs asking how many scorecards they need for the coming year.

- Harry commented on the BBC ‘Volunteer of the Year’ award program which he encouraged clubs to support.
- Banners were late last year due in part to the manufacturer’s backlog. BBC pays 50% of the cost and a club would pay the other. The manufacturer said the cost will depend on the size of the order that BBC submits so Harry couldn’t say how much they will be.
- Bowls Canada Boulingrin had recently notified BBC of a \$3.00 per member fee increase. Due to the brief notification period Bowls Canada provided, BBC, at their AGM held on Oct. 27, discussed whether to pass the increase along to the club members or pay for it themselves. Myrle Lawrence, as the V&D representative attending this AGM, made a motion from the floor that given the current surplus of BBC funds and the impact this ‘surprise’ increase will have on clubs, that the \$13,500.00 value of the increase be absorbed by the BBC. This motion was put to a vote but was defeated with 11 clubs in support and 17 clubs against.
- Harry said that BBC is going to approach Bowls Canada to split B.C. into two sections; Vancouver Island being one and the rest of B.C. the other. If approved by Bowls Canada then B.C. could send two representatives to national competitions instead of the single entrant B.C. is currently entitled to send.

**Nomination Committee Report & Election** – David Arnott (acting for Kion) presented the list of standing nominations for the Executive and Director positions and three times called for further nominations. None being received the nominees were declared elected as follows:

President – David Arnott

Past President – Kion Wong

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – John Aveline

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Myrle Lawrence

Secretary – Brooke Webber

Treasurer – Sam Siu

Director – Sharon Cowie

Director - George Cubiss

Director – Mary Hargreaves

Director – Sydney Hope

Director – Peter Lee

Director – Laura Low

Director – Ken Sherlock

Director – Bonnie Smith

### **Other Business**

Harry Carruthers/North Van asked that for the next AGM the list of nominations be sent out with the AGM agenda. David confirmed that this could certainly be done.

Brenda Golden/Chilliwack asked that when the V&D sends requests for club executive updates/changes that a ‘reply by’ date be included. Brooke noted that in the past there were response dates at the bottom of these requests and will make sure this continues. Brenda indicated that there has been difficulty in email being distributed amongst members at her club.

**Meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.**