

Malpas Seniors Bowling League. Minutes of the AGM held on 5th March 2025 at Malpas Farmers BC.

In attendance:

Gill Chesters, John H Jones, Bob Charlesworth (Chair), Jim Quinlan, (Vice Chair), Gerard Brook Bennett, Jean Roberts, Jen Roberts, John Hogan, Peter Young, Colin Jones, Ian Williams, Roger Done (President), Richard White, John Dixon, Maureen Gell, Chris Nevitt, Hazel Nimmo, Jan Wruzek, Margaret Rigby, Eddy Broad, Richard Mottershead, Dot Whalley, Alan Pimm, Ann Leonard, Eryl Jones, Christine Quinlan (Secretary).

1. The meeting was opened by the Chairman, Bob Charlesworth at 2:02pm. Bob welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Apologies.**
Ann & John Mitchell, Richard Sheasby, Trevor Roberts. Gresford Village.
3. **Remembrance.**
A minute's silence was held for those members who had passed away during the year. These included Ess Jones from Malpas BC&I and Robert Jones from Gate Hangs High.
4. **Minutes and Matters Arising from 2024 AGM.**
The minutes were agreed as a true record. There were no matters arising.
5. **Chairman's Annual Report.**
Bob remarked that we had had a good year in which we had experimented with a different format and that this would be judged later under item 9.
6. **Treasurer's Annual Report.**
The treasurer unfortunately couldn't be with us but had submitted the accounts for approval along with some recommendations. He confirmed that we are on track to reduce our account balance to £2,000 which he believes is adequate for a League of our size. He recommended that there should be no changes to fees and charges with small increases to some prize money to be considered under item 12.
Agreed: The accounts were accepted and Richard's recommendations regarding prize money noted.
7. **Secretary's Annual Report.**
Christine said she had nothing particular to report other than that from her point of view the previous season had gone well.

8. Election of Officers.

All existing officers were willing to stand again and there were no new nominations.

Agreed: That the current officers should continue for another year.

9. Teams in the League and Bowling Format.

Christine advised that Johnstown had submitted an application for a second team which was welcomed. This will take the League back to 24 teams. However, she also advised that Gresford Village was struggling to find a captain for their team but recommended that we should keep them in the League until the last possible moment. She undertook to liaise with Gresford.

The meeting discussed and considered at length, options for the bowling format moving forward. Clubs were divided on which formats they preferred and a first round of voting was inconclusive. Gill Chesters then proposed that we should vote solely on whether we want 2 divisions or 3 divisions. This was seconded by Garden Village.

Carried: by 7 votes to 6, that we should have 2 divisions.

There were only 2 feasible options with 2 divisions – 1(a) and 1(b). These were then put to the vote with 5 votes in favour of 1(a) and 7 in favour of 1(b). Therefore:

Resolved: That the format for 2025 should be format 1(b) i.e. 2 divisions of 12 teams with each team playing every other team in their division twice in singles (home and away).

Doubles knock-out matches on neutral greens would be available as in 2023. Participation in the doubles would not be mandatory. The doubles knock-out tournaments would be competing for the Cliff and Mary Cup in Division 1 and the Jim and Ivy Trophy in Division 2. Knock-out doubles matches would be played on Wednesdays spread throughout the season on dates to be determined. The League competitions i.e. The 2 Colin Paxton qualifiers, the Ann Guinney Cup and the Dick Allen Cup along with Finals Day would be moved to Thursdays.

As a consequence, the season will start on Wednesday 2nd April 2025.

10. Amendments to the Constitution.

The following amendments to the Constitution were agreed:

a. Clause 10 Applications to join or withdraw from the League

Delete from Clause 10a the words “or withdraw from” Insert a new Clause 10b “Clubs wishing to withdraw one team from the League must inform the Secretary 28 days before the AGM. Clubs with more than one team can only withdraw their lowest designated team. Teams withdrawing after the season has started will still be liable for all fees due that season.”

Insert a new clause 10c “Clubs wishing to withdraw completely from the League must inform the Secretary 28 days before the AGM.”

b. New clause re safeguarding.

A new clause to be inserted after Clause 7 with all subsequent clauses renumbered:

The Malpas Senior Citizens Bowling League adopts the BDA/BCGBA current policy (2022) on the Safeguarding of Vulnerable adults and its associated

guidance in its entirety. Acceptance of any updates to the policy shall be delegated to the Management Team.

The Secretary to make the agreed amendments and have the new version of the Constitution signed by the Officers of the Club and added to the Bowls Results website.

11. Amendments to the Rules

The following amendments to the rules were agreed:

- a. **Rule 13. Marking of games.**
replace “the score shall revert to the end when the cards were last checked and agreed” with “the score shall revert to the end where both score cards show the score to be in agreement.”
Add rule 13a “Markers shall ensure that they check and agree the final score at the end of each game.”
- b. Rule 15 – clarification that only the lowest *designated* team of a club may play players twice provided all the other criteria are met. Please refer to the actual rule for the detail.
- c. Rule 19. Replace the existing rule about promotion and relegation with:
“In seasons where Divisions comprise 8 teams or fewer only one team in each division shall be either promoted or relegated as appropriate. In seasons where divisions comprise 9 teams or more, then 2 teams in each division shall be promoted or relegated as appropriate.

The Secretary to make the agreed amendments and have the new version of the Rules added to the Bowls Results website.

12. Fees and Charges

Fees and charges to remain the same and the changes to prize money proposed by the Treasurer were accepted. These are as follows:

Winners

	2024 £	2025 £
Cliff & Mary Cup	100	100
Jim & Ivy Cup	100	100
Jeff Carter Cup	100	100
League Division 1	100	100
League Division 2	100	100
League Division 3	100	100
Dick Allen Trophy	15	30
Anne Guinney Trophy	15	30
Colin Paxton	15 each	30 each

Runners Up

	2024 £	2025 £
Cliff & Mary Cup	50	50
Jim & Ivy Cup	50	50
Jeff Carter Cup	50	50
League Division 1	50	50
League Division 2	50	50
League Division 3	50	50
Dick Allen Trophy	10	20
Anne Guinney Trophy	10	20
Colin Paxton	10 each	20 each
Colin Paxton qualifiers (4)	7.50 each	10 each
Total	£1,030	£1,140

Entry fees for competitions: £1 each.

13. Venues for competitions

Colin Paxton 1 to be played at Farndon BC.

Colin Paxton 2 to be played at Malpas Farmers BC.

Ann Guinney to be played at Malpas BC&I.

Dick Allen and Finals Day to be played at Malpas Farmers BC.

All dates to be confirmed.

14. Shropshire Champion of Champions

An email had been received by the Secretary from the County regarding reintroducing the Shropshire Champion of Champions competition. Our League has been invited to join and enter a player at the end of the season. There was little appetite for this and it was agreed not to enter.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 3:10pm

THE SEASON WILL START ON WEDNESDAY 2ND APRIL.