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**BOWLS**  
NEW ZEALAND  
INCORPORATED

## MINUTES OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF BOWLS NEW ZEALAND

HELD AT REMUERA BOWLING CLUB, 6 MARKET ROAD, REMUERA, AUCKLAND

ON  
MONDAY, 23<sup>RD</sup> MAY 2016 AT 10.10AM

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### 1. OPENING AND WELCOME

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming those present and extended a special welcome to Maria Clarke our Legal Advisor and Sarah Dunning our Relationship Manager from Sport NZ. The Chair then stated the purpose of the Special General Meeting.

### 2. PRESENT

#### **Delegates:**

**Region 1** – Peter Kelly, Greg Johnson, John Morgan.

**Region 2** – Gerry MacGregor, Robin Jefferson, Don Christensen.

**Region 3** – Phil Cross, Adrian Robins, Maurice Symes, Ruth Grant.

**Board:** Cushla McGillivray (Chair), Mike Spring (President), Jeanette Sinclair (Vice President), Matt Benson, Craig Bruce, Tony Lepper.

Maria Clarke (Maria Clarke Lawyers), Kerry Clark OBE (Chief Executive Officer), Nicki Patrick (minute taker).

### 3. APOLOGIES

Apologies received by Board Member Hayley Jones, granted leave of absence and Region 2 Delegate Rangi Johnson whose flight was cancelled.

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**4. CONSIDERING AND DETERMINING ANY NOTICES OF MOTION WHICH PROPOSE ALTERATIONS TO THE CONSTITUTION OF WHICH DUE AND PROPER NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN**

The following motions are proposed by the Bowls NZ Board under Rule 22.3.2 of the Constitution of Bowls New Zealand Incorporated ("Bowls NZ") for consideration by the Members at a Special General Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2016.

***Explanation for Proposed Motions***

The motions, if approved, would result in:

- a fixed Membership Fee payable by Clubs to Bowls NZ, with a new process for determining that fee; and
- the requirement for all members to have their member information on the Bowls NZ Database in order to participate in bowls competitions.

The principles of this new fee structure are:

- each Club pays a fixed annual fee for its membership of Bowls NZ;
- the fee is fixed based on number of playing members the Club declared in its annual return as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2014 multiplied by \$31.50 plus GST;
- the fee will not be changed, other than for a CPI adjustment, which adjustment cannot be done for three years ie; the first adjustment would be made for the financial year ending 30<sup>th</sup> June 2020 and then each year thereafter;
- the fee is paid directly by the Club to Bowls NZ, rather than via the Centre;
- the fee is to be paid by 15<sup>th</sup> December in the same financial year to which the fee relates eg; fee paid on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2016, is for the financial year 1<sup>st</sup> July 2016 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017;
- if a Club merges or amalgamates with another Club, then their membership fees are added together;
- if a new Club is formed, the fee will be calculated on the number of all of its members;
- as the fee is fixed it will not be a matter that is brought to an AGM, other than any special purpose fee which remains unchanged;
- the new fixed fee will take effect for the 2016/2017 financial year, with the first payment being due 15<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

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The principles of the Bowls NZ Database are:

- every Member must have the prescribed member information entered onto the Bowls NZ Database;
- the prescribed information will include name, address and other information and will be set out in a Regulation;
- the information can be entered by the Club or the Centre, depending on the technology and system available. The details for doing this will be set out in a Regulation;
- no person may participate in any bowls event whether at Club, Centre or national level unless they have the prescribed member information entered into the Database;
- the existing exemption process for providing personal information as set out in the Bowls NZ Constitution under the Privacy Act remains in place.

It should be noted that nothing in this proposal prevents Clubs and Centres from having membership fees calculated on whatever basis they see fit.

#### 1. Motion 1

THAT the Constitution of Bowls NZ Incorporated be altered in accordance with the marked up Constitution attached to the notice. On 2<sup>nd</sup> May you were also sent an amendment relating to rule 13b and student membership fee. Therefore motion 1 becomes;

“THAT the Constitution of Bowls New Zealand Incorporated be altered in accordance with the marked up Constitution attached to that notice as revised on 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2016.”

#### 2. Motion 2 (if Motion 1 passed)

“THAT the alterations to the Bowls New Zealand Constitution in motion 1, take effect from registration of the alterations with the Registrar of Incorporated Societies, so that it is effective for the 2016/2017 financial year.”

"The Board has been made aware that there have been meetings in a number of Regions regarding these NOMs and delegates have been instructed to vote no. These NOMs should not be contentious and if there are issues to be further discussed then it is in the interest of the sport to withdraw the motions at this time until such time as all questions can be

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addressed. It is disappointing that a communication from one large Centre was circulated to all other Centres for discussion and never sent to Bowls NZ. The Board only became aware of this communication through a third party. The Board will be proposing that the motions be withdrawn followed by an informal discussion immediately after closing the Special General Meeting.”

“THAT the motions tabled by the Board for this meeting now not be put and be withdrawn.”

**MOVED:** Mike Spring                      **SECONDED:** Craig Bruce

The Chair invited any discussion or comments from the Delegates. Region 3 Delegate Phil Cross commented that it would have been better to hold a discussion first, then present the Notices of Motion.

The Delegates then voted on the procedural withdrawal motion by a show of hands.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 10.15am.

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**Chair**

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**Date**

An informal discussion on the membership fee model was then held after the Special General Meeting was closed.

The Chair opened the informal part of the meeting by inviting the CEO to address the meeting who clarified points that had been raised in earlier correspondence. He highlighted the information that had been delivered at forums and the Q/A information sent to all Centres. Region 1 Delegate John Morgan read out the paper that had been circulated to all Centres. That covered what they opposed but still advising that there are a number of

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potential benefits to the proposed system. He sought a clear and concise document that Delegates could discuss with their Centres and clubs about the proposal.

The Chair welcomed the views put forward and considered there was positive feedback from Delegates subject to further consultation. The requirement for a comprehensive database was acknowledged as critical for the sport moving forward.

The Board members then each expressed their views on the comments received.

Maria Clarke reminded the Delegates that categories of membership have not changed.

In a leadership way, Delegates and Centres need to educate the community and spreading the message is critical.

In conclusion, the Board welcomed the positive feedback. They will consider the matter further at its Board meeting the next day and a response to Region 1 paper will be prepared.

The Chair closed the meeting at 11.10am.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

*With thanks to:*

