



## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**(Meeting held at Sportscotland, Edinburgh on 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> October 2019)**

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### **PRESENT:**

John Bell (JB) – President/Chairman  
John McArdle (JM) - Regional Director  
Wayne Moffatt (WM) - Regional Director  
Garry Collins (GC) - Regional Director  
Hazel Wilson (HW) – Appointed Director  
Scott Roberts (SR) – Appointed Director  
Claudius Lam (CL) – Appointed Director

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Gary Smith (GS) – Chief Executive  
Roger Black (RB) - Minute taker

### **1. WELCOME:**

The President opened the meeting and welcomed all to the Board meeting. As there were very few opportunities to have a face-to-face meeting, he hoped we would make the best of the time available to thoroughly examine what the Board's functions were, were the Board doing the right things, how can WB improve and ensure priorities were right, taking into account that WB was not a big organisation and with limited manpower and financial resources.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

The President asked for declarations of interest not already recorded.  
GC was appointed Junior Vice President of the European Bowls Union (EBU) at their recent AGM.

### **3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

**Tabled:** Minutes of July 2019 Board meeting.

The minutes of the July 2019 meeting were approved unanimously as a true record with one small amendment – in paragraph 7, it was GC to provide access details for social media outlets - not GS.

### **4 BUSINESS ARISING**

GC confirmed that he had supplied the details to gain access to all WB social media outlets.  
JB reminded the Board that it would be helpful, when required, to provide feedback when asked for, eg feedback on the Australian Thread project.

### **5. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

The President provided a detailed report setting out the key actions and activities undertaken by World Bowls (WB) during 2019 and considered to be of high value to our organisation. One of the key actions is the provision of a programme of high profile world events which continues to be a very effective initiative to showcase the sport and provide a stage to which the top bowlers

in the world can aspire. The introduction of the World Challenge event due in November 2019 and new world indoor events brought about by the affiliation of the IIBC to WB, contributed to a continued upsurge. Such progress was seen to be good and the value high. Australia would host the inaugural World Challenge, to be played on a bi-annual basis with the next hosting ideally being in the northern hemisphere and the event alternating between southern and northern hemisphere venues being considered future events. Progress would be monitored, but the excellent venue of Moama Bowling Club in Australia was regarded as the perfect inaugural venue and launchpad for such a high profile, prestigious event. In future years, countries such as Hong Kong China, UK and Malaysia would hopefully come forward to offer to host a similar event. Publicity for the event would be through the usual media social outlets with an aim to obtain live streaming not only for the World Challenge but all WB events. Live streaming would raise the profile of events and it was thought that hosting bid documents for future events should include and incorporate the provision of live coverage.

JB also referred to another key action - to improve the profile and image of the sport of bowls which has the potential to be of high value and effective. Meetings continue with Australian consultants, Thread, with the work that had been done so far indicating that one of the best target markets worldwide was retiring participants from active sports, albeit it was recognised that progress was slow the potential value was high if successful marketing concepts are created. Future meetings (the next one due on 14<sup>th</sup> October) were arranged to discuss these matters and to take the concepts further. Different cultures would require different approaches and it was recognised that other sports were also in decline. The sub-committee would determine the options as to the best way forward and what the next steps were. Proper marketing of the sport was seen as a priority worldwide but, other than in Australia, financial constraints played a major role in achieving any progress in this area. The role of WB was seen as to globalise the sport and get as many countries playing the sport as possible but the administration in many countries was not always capable of undertaking marketing or other similar exercises. WB was concerned about the decrease in worldwide membership but the role of WB was to provide assistance, concepts and tools to assist MNA's in marketing the sport.

High value was also placed on the assistance available for the smaller countries. This is particularly relevant to the recruitment of new 'Development Members' and nurturing their progress to Full Membership of World Bowls – thus assisting in reaching the necessary numbers for eligibility to GAISF membership, which is the initial stepping stone to achieving IOC recognition. In any case the strengthening the infrastructures of existing smaller MNAs helps not only their survival but their performance at World events. The principle of supporting small member nations was hard to argue against. Coaching assistance, which is now widely available, enhances performance as shown in the representation of smaller countries in WB events with France in the recent 2019 European Championships an example. Nevertheless, it was his opinion that progress had been disappointing as, although discussions had been undertaken with several countries, no applications for active assistance had been recorded in 2019 other than in Europe and that efforts should continue to improve the current situation.

On a more positive note, JB thought that 2020 would provide an opportunity to build on the paper "2019 Global Initiative for Coaching" paper. For example coaching was being organised for Argentina prior to the World Championships in the Gold Coast, Australia in 2020.

It was also anticipated that the WB Coaching Manual/Syllabus would be available shortly.

In conclusion JB was pleased to report a robust and highly effective financial management system continues in place with the CEO working in a close relationship with the former Director of Finance for Bowls England (BE).

JB's report also referred to the work and back-up provided by David Allen, World Bowls' PR & Communications Officer and that there was great value in having a professional officer producing a quality newsletters and releases which contained a wealth of new initiatives/news and topics.

**Action:**

JB to contact Simon Botha re Coaching/Manual publication

GC would investigate the possibility of live streaming for future WB events and obtain quotes and potential costs.

## 6. REGIONAL DIRECTOR'S REPORTS:

**Tabled:** Written reports from the Regional and Appointed Directors were circulated in advance of the meeting.

### **Africa:**

JM provided a detailed report to the Board on the MNA's in his area albeit no information was available on Botswana or Malawi despite efforts to contact their officials. JM attended the African States Tournament and took the opportunity of discussing various items and topics with delegates from each of the countries in attendance, including the matter of outstanding fines due from Kenya and Zambia and the frustrations caused by poor communications with World Bowls. GS confirmed that Kenya has now paid their fine.

It was recorded that Zambia were struggling administratively.

As regards providing assistance to MNA's within the area, despite repeated requests by JM, no applications for assistance had been received.

Mozambique was interested in becoming development members but the recent cyclones in the area had put this on hold. South Africa was willing to provide assistance to neighbouring MNA's, eg in coaching, but no requests had been received. The possibility of providing assistance prior to events was discussed but it was thought the added time required as opposed to the additional expenses incurred was seen as a potential drawback.

Included in JM's report were the details and results of the African States Tournament held in August in Nairobi, Kenya, in which six countries participated. The next African States Tournament is due in two years to be held in Namibia.

### **America:**

SR provided a detailed written report on the Americas to the Board covering the MNA's for which he was the Regional Director.

With regard to Argentina discussions were continuing between male and female based bodies to discuss merging into a single organization and a merging of their website has been done as a first step with further discussions planned.

In Brazil it was anticipated that a request would be made for a visit for coaching and umpiring assistance.

Canada was progressing with developing a Para Bowls initiative with the goal of competing in the 2020 IBD Championships and will be working with IBD to facilitate classification of athletes and training of classifiers.

A redesign of the Canadian website was due for release in March 2020 that will be accessible for users with disabilities, include a new "Safe Sport" zone for their members and will also have a section dedicated to club resources.

Government funding had been received to roll out new mandatory safe sport training for their immediate stakeholders and to deliver a leadership program targeted and encouraging more women to step up into leadership roles at all levels.

The MNA had also commenced the first steps towards implementing a regional coach network which will work with regional bowlers and identified national team athletes across the country.

A new blog “Biased Bowls” is gaining traction and belief is that it will continue to grow and serve as a collection of ideas, news and best practices related to bowls clubs in Canada.

The number of registered member bowlers look like they will be down for 2019, but the number of informal participants seems to be growing rapidly. The “annual membership” concept is not aging well and in many cases seems to be preventing people from playing the game. Canada’s Board of Directors has initiated a proactive process to explore new membership models that better address the realities of the 2020’s. Canada looks forward to sharing this work with World Bowls to ensure that whatever model is ultimately implemented still aligns with the global perspective of growth and sustainability.

In the USA, the National Championships were completed in September in San Francisco, CA and the MNA continued to update Policies and Procedures regularly.

Entries were full and waiting lists held for this year’s US Open in November in Arizona and planning was underway for next year’s US Open in Southern California. The National coaching program continued to grow and a recent “train the trainers” session was held to expand the number of coaching trainers that were available.

In the Falkland Islands, it was hoped to get further indoor rinks to expand in their new facility. The impression was it was only a “roll-down” mat as opposed to a proper laws compliant green. As far as Jamaica was concerned, SR had a skype meeting with the Jamaican Olympic President in September 2019 who expressed the wish to grow the sport to become only second to track and field within the country. The possibility of establishing a green in Kingston was being investigated and an estimate had been received from the company that was involved in the construction of a green in France. SR was encouraged but the proof of the pudding would be in the eating. The question of the outstanding fines was raised, was met with a blank response but the withdrawals from the Atlantic Championships would be addressed. As six months had now elapsed it was essential the matter be resolved and something positive had to be produced from the MNA to resolve the matter. SR will contact the President, in a positive tone, with regard to his aspirations to establish the sport in Jamaica, but that the outstanding fine had to be addressed. No further updates had been received with regard to the potential of Mexico becoming a member.

### **Asia & Oceania**

CL provided a brief but detailed report on his area and once more the idea of providing coaching was of prime interest. Asian countries were in need of coaching, other than Hong Kong. No updates were available for Brunei, India, Macau or Pakistan. China had organised the Asian Open Championships and will organise the Asian Championships & Asian under 25 Championships in April 2020. Hong Kong will host their Classic in November 2019 (now cancelled due to the current unrest in Hong Kong China) and are to host qualifying matches for the Ultimate Bowls Championships (UBC). Both Japan and Malaysia are to organise open competitions in late 2019 and 2020 respectively and the Philippines will host the SEA Games of which lawn bowling is one of the sports being played. Thailand had employed an overseas coach in preparation for the SEA Games. Information had been received that there was a doubt over the use of the one green that was in existence in Angeles City, Philippines, and that correspondence had been seen that mentioned a new grass green would be constructed to accommodate lawn bowling in the SEA Games and that such a green would be constructed and ready within a 2-month period. GS expressed concern that bowls being showcased on a green built only 2 months prior to the Games would possibly be a farce and be a worry. It was important to ensure bowls

were played on a proper bowls compliant green and surface. Although WB was not required to sanction bowls as it was part of the SEA Games, a multi-sport event, it was incumbent on WB to ensure the game was played in accordance with the technical requirements of the Laws.

Potential development members included Vietnam and Taiwan, the later thought to be the most viable and being interested in establishing a proper laws-compliant green.

There were no updates available on the progress of membership from Korea, Sri Lanka or UAE, albeit the latter were in communication with WB and CL with regard to applying for membership again of WB.

A request from Japan for an expert on greens to visit the Kobe green would be further investigated by CL – Keith McAuliffe was recommended in this regard.

### **Oceania:**

WM advised the Board of the efforts to establish Oceania Championships. Several expressions of interest had been received from within Australia to host the inaugural tournament, in addition to one from Norfolk Island. It would be advantageous to have the Championships played around other World Bowls events and competitions to reduce costs and it was realised that to have the event hosted by Norfolk Island would be expensive and lack the required level of media and spectator interest for the launch of these championships.

Following on a detailed discussion on the pros and cons of staging the inaugural event in Norfolk Island, the Board unanimously agreed that it would be in the best interests of participating countries to have and to promote the inaugural event at a location that was the least expensive for participating countries.

The UBC was expected to be played in 2020 – television coverage was in place for the event this year with a qualifier taking place in Hong Kong. Promotion of the sport was to be encouraged, provided it did not clash with any WB events.

WM is on the organising committee of the World Championships in Australia in 2020 and the subject of MNA's enquiring about the potential for coaching was raised again.

This led to a lengthy discussion, on a suggestion from WM, that consideration should be given for WB to arrange coaching sessions/classes, at venue(s) to be decided, prior to the World Championships, and GC suggested a road show of coaches visiting different countries for a period of perhaps 2 days over a number of years, possibly just prior to major events, to train potential coaches. The global coaching and manual was at the later stages of completion by Simon Botha, and would be issued to MNA's.

PNG continued to be a concern and copies of correspondence between the PNG Sports Federation & Olympic Committee and PNG Lawn Bowls had been circulated to the Board. Kerry Clark CNZM, OBE, as Chair of the Laws Committee, had also been involved and had been trying to obtain an update on the current situation but without success.

The correspondence relating to the recognition of PNG was considered at the Board meeting and concerns expressed as to the current status of governance of the sport in PNG as it could jeopardise their participation in the 2020 World Championships. WM would contact the authorities for clarification on their position.

### **Action:**

WM to contact Norfolk Island to relay the Board's views on the timing and location of the Oceania Championships.

WM to contact PNG to clarify their recognition issues.

### **Europe.**

GC provided a written report to the Board, which included all the results from the 2019 EBU Championships played in Guernsey in September 2019. Full details can be found through the Bowls Guernsey website. 15 countries participated, with overall comments from the participating countries indicating that the event ran well with Guernsey considering hosting again in 2027. The next championships will be held in Scotland in 2021.

GC advised that prior to the Championships coaching and umpiring courses had been arranged, initially geared to developing countries taking part in the Championships, but overall 50 + people attended and benefitted from the exercise which lasted over 4 days.

A general update was provided within the report on the reported and known activities of all the full members. France, an associate member were progressing, did really well in the EBU Championships and it was hoped they would host a 2020 small nation test match in France prior to the World Championships with again some coaching sessions being arranged beforehand for the newer countries.

Brief reports were to hand on the five Development Members with Sweden hoping to develop a laws compliant green.

Potential new members included Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Italy and Norway but updates on progress were proving difficult to obtain. In Portugal there were steps being taken to re-arrange the clubs and create a new body, after which membership of WB would be considered.

GC also provided the Board with proposed budget/plans for 2020 for Europe which would include a test series in France for a number (6) of the smaller and newer members, proceeded again with coaching classes and he proposed a visit to Germany to progress their application as they now have a green available, which was agreed.

There had also been an on-going exchange of correspondence between WB and Swiss Bowls, in which Swiss Bowls were asked to provide documentation that they were recognised by Switzerland's national sports authorities to govern and administer the sport in Switzerland. This was a requirement for full membership of WB.

There was a further discussion on the merits of having coaching seminars tagged on to events, with the thought that it would suit smaller developing nations prior to participation in their event but that for major events, there may not be the same interest as players at these major events were probably not interested in the coaching that was available. It was also fundamental that the requirements of each country were known in advance. Costs were also important to take into account.

**Action:**

GC would contact France regarding a small nation test match in 2020 with coaching and umpiring training beforehand.

**7. MARKETING, MEDIA & PR & SOCIAL MEDIA:**

**Website,**

**Social Media report-Website/Facebook/Twitter/Instagram**

**Newsletter**

GC provided the Board with a very detailed list of statistics appertaining to social media sites in which WB was involved, highlighting that traffic was always greater during WB events. There were now in excess of 4000 followers over the three social media platforms involving WB with an impressive increase in impressions from 2015 to date, reaching to date just under 1 million.

GS had included website statistics within his report.

The latest newsletter had recently been published and issued to all MNA's and was reproduced on the WB website.

The Board recorded their thanks and appreciation to David Allen for his continued outstanding media work on behalf of World Bowls and thanks and appreciation also to GC for his excellent Social Media coverage.

## **8. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT:**

### **Tabled:**

The Chief Executive's written, detailed report was circulated to all Directors prior to the meeting and covered a number of important issues.

### **Affiliation & Membership.**

Sweden's application for Development Membership had been received and no response or acknowledgement had been received regarding the termination of Iran's Development Membership. Malawi's fees for 2019 remained outstanding despite several reminders. Affiliation Fees for 2020 have been calculated (the 2019 level of fees plus 2%) and would be issued in October 2019 for payment by 15<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

Directors were furnished with copies of the correspondence relating to governance issues of the sport in Papua New Guinea. Kerry Clark was involved in these matters which was on-going. The Board noted that WB had been advised of the retirement of Tony Allcock OBE from his position of CEO of Bowls England in April 2020.

In relation to development matters, all enquiries received at WB from parties expressing genuine interest in establishing the sport in countries not currently in membership continue to be passed to the relevant Regional/Development Directors to respond and progress liaison.

The company's Annual Return has been completed and submitted to Companies Registry.

### **Laws Committee Report.**

Kerry Clark provided a written report for the Directors in advance of the meeting on matters dealt with by the Laws Committee since his previous report to the July 2019 meeting.

Mention was made of the unexpected passing away of Ian Munro, Laws Committee member since its inception in 2004, which, along with the demise of Trevor Davis (South Africa) resulted now in vacancies within the Laws Committee. The current workload was manageable until the 2020 Council general meeting but with the recommendation that Roger Black be appointed with immediate effect as a Member and Committee Secretary. RB had been associated with the Committee since its inception and had undertaken all umpiring/ITO enquiries and relevant paperwork, was familiar with the operation of the Committee as well as being a practising ITO and umpire, and, being based on a part-time basis at World Bowls, would provide additional secretarial services.

With the possibility of a further review of the Laws following on the 2020 meeting, Kerry Clark recommended that the Laws Committee should be strengthened to include two further appointments, preferably based in Asia and South Africa (both currently without any representation) and also to be thoughtful of gender, as there were currently no female Committee Members. It was also important to have a skill set that included either experience on a judicial panel/committee at MNA level and/or currently an active ITO.

ITO appointments had been made for the 2020 World Championships in accordance with World Bowls policy and all successful applicants advised accordingly – all had confirmed acceptance.

In relation to referrals dealt with by the Laws Committee, an electronic scoring device had been viewed by Committee Member Mark Cowan and BA Officiating Chair, John Roberts and it had been agreed that a decision on its use should be made by BA as a domestic issue.

Changes to Domestic Regulations had been approved on a submission from Bowls USA.

GS represented World Bowls at the funeral of leading Laws Committee Member Ian Munro, a very sad loss to our sport and to World Bowls and an appreciation for all his years of outstanding, dedicated service at all levels is duly recorded.

**Action:**

The Board agreed the appointment of Roger Black to the Laws Committee.

Further additions to the Laws Committee to cover vacancies would be considered at the next Council meeting.

The Board agreed that there was no requirement at present to have a full review of the Laws of the Sport.

It was agreed to look into potential demand from ITO's for an ITO shirt – similar to that worn by the Laws Committee but with the inscription “International Technical Official” printed below the WB logo. The possibility of sponsorship by Aceit and/or purchase at cost price would be investigated.

**Manufacturing & Testing Matters.**

A new model of Aero bowls was tested and approved by Dr Bruce Barry in October 2019.

Dr Ron Barron confirms that he has had a conversation with Rob Curran at Drakes Pride to progress the take over by Rob of Ron's World Bowls duties.

There has been no further progress regarding the currently ‘moth-balled’ testing facility in Malaysia.

**International Bowls for the Disabled (IBD).**

A short report from IBD advised that their World Championships would be held in New Zealand in 2020, with the formats mirroring the two events that are used in the Commonwealth Games.

Member countries continue to receive support from IBD and two board members attend the 2nd Asia Para bowls tournament in Malaysia where they presented courses for classification and coaching. Contact had been made with the organising committee for the 2022 Asia Para games to have lawn bowls included.

**World Anti-Doping Association (WADA)**

Throughout 2019 in liaison with Dr Colin Reid GS have been dealing with completion of a detailed WADA compliance questionnaire and resulting action requirements. These matters are ongoing.

**Events**

With regard to the 2019 World Singles Champion of Champions, Adelaide BC, Australia, all arrangements in place despite some late withdrawals causing the several frustrating and annoying issues.

The playing dates for the 2020 World Singles Champion of Champions at Adelaide, Australia have been confirmed and entered on Calendar of Events on the WB website.

World Singles Champion of Champions-Correspondence from Bowls Australia re NSW gender issue affecting their National Championships used as qualifier for our event. Reaffirmation that we run separate Men's and Women's disciplines at the World Singles Champion of Champions.

All Member Authorities who qualified from the 2019 Atlantic and Asia Pacific Championships have confirmed their acceptance of their qualification places for the 2020 World Championships to be held in the Gold Coast, Australia. The application process for International Technical Officials to officiate at these Championships has been completed and both successful and unsuccessful applicants duly notified. The efforts and assistance of Andrew Howie, the BA Host Organising Committee Event Manager, Technical Delegate Kerry Clark CNZM, OBE and CEO's assistant RB in relation to their respective roles in relation to this event is recorded and



appreciated.

The Board added the appreciation to Bowls Australia for all their assistance and promotion of World Bowls events being hosted in Australia.

**Action:**

Sweden's application for Development Membership formally approved.

GS to write to Malawi regarding their outstanding 2019 fees – numerous requests have already been made – to advise that unless payment is made within 30 days, Malawi's membership will be terminated.

JM to write to Zambia regarding outstanding fines and that they will be suspended if no payment is made within 30 days.

CL to contact Brunei regarding an outstanding fine of £2500 - invoiced on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019 - and advise them that their participation in all future events, including the Asia Championships, will be suspended should there be no contact by them on the matter within 30 days.

The Board agreed at the request of GS that in future MNA's entering WB competitions would have to confirm entry two months before the event rather than the current one month.

**Articles of Association amendments proposals.**

Following on the 2018 Biennial Council Meeting held at Club Helensvale, Australia the Board is required to present amendments to the WB Articles of Association relating to member voting rights and Regional structure to take into account the change to the annual affiliation fees no longer being levied on a registered member basis.

The structure of the Board in relation to the number of Regions and Appointed Directors has been reviewed by the Board resulting in the current formation of the Board. Resolutions to amend the current Articles of Association are able to be processed by postal vote as agreed at the 2028 Council meeting.

GS outlined to the Board the specific paragraphs where changes were proposed:-

Paragraph 18 on voting rights;

Paragraph 20 on the composition of the Board;

Paragraph 21 on the election of Regional Directors;

Paragraph 26.3 on the quorum for meetings

The Board agreed after discussion on all the changes required which will be promulgated to MNA's.

**Action:**

GS to present the Board's agreed amended Articles to MNA's with a deadline date for receipt of votes of 15 December 2019.

**2022 Commonwealth Games – Birmingham, England.**

Kerry Clark reported on on-going discussions with the Director of Sport Birmingham 2022 and with the head of Sport Competition 2022 on various operational issues including venue renovations, which were now underway. The competition format for 2022 would be decided following on decisions made by the CGF Sports Committee and would be relayed to World Bowls in due course.

**2023 Asia Pacific Championships, China and 2024 World Championships, Hong Kong, China**

GS added that for the 2023 Asia Pacific Championships, China & 2024 World Championships, Hong Kong China, World Bowls requires official notification from the hosts regarding details of

proposed playing venues, proposed dates etc and formal hosting agreements require to be prepared and executed by World Bowls and the host member authorities.

### **2019 World Under 25 Championships.**

All arrangements are progressing satisfactorily with the 2019 Under 25 Championships to be held at West Denton Indoor Bowling Club from 2 December 6 December 2019 with encouraging participation from Member Authorities for this revised WB/IIBC event. The event consists of Men's Singles, Women's Singles and Mixed Pairs disciplines

### **2020 World Bowls Indoor Championships**

The inaugural revised 2020 World Bowls Indoor Championships, to be played at Bristol IBC, England, event will be held in April 2020. This follows the agreed cessation of our World Cup and IIBC'S Indoor Championships following the review of events. This event will consist of Men's Singles, Women's Singles and Mixed Pairs disciplines and details of the event including entry form will be issued during October 2019. GS would consult with the IIBC Secretary regarding the entry criteria for MNA's and Indoor Associations.

#### **Action:**

GS to liaise with the IIBC Secretary regarding the entry criteria and invitations for the revised World Bowls Indoor Championships.

### **Other event matters.**

The Board considered and agreed a proposal from GS that an increase in the time limit in relation to late withdrawal penalty from events such as our Champion of Champions, Indoor Championships etc from one month to two months. Allowing withdrawal without penalty to be received with only one month to go before the start of events is too short for programming, accommodation and scheduling amendment requirements.

St Johns Park BC have found the Women Singles trophy and box they mislaid following their hosting of the 2017 event. This is now being updated with the 2017 & 2018 winners and being forwarded to Adelaide BC.

It was agreed that live streaming broadcasts should be included as a mandatory item in future tender documents for all major WB events.

## **9. FINANCE REPORT:**

### **Tabled:**

The Board were furnished with all the usual financial documentation for the current financial year up to end of September 2019.

The company's Corporation Tax Return relating to our financial year ended 31 December 2018 has been submitted to H.M. Revenue & Customs and payment duly settled.

GS advised that correspondence continues with the Welsh authorities regarding the indicated reimbursement from Welsh Government of World Bowls' official's accommodation, daily allowances paid to ITO's by World Bowls and ITO accommodation costs in relation to the 2019 Atlantic Championships.

The Board accepted the financial figures shown and were advised that the financial forecast and budget for 2020 would be updated.

**10. GENERAL BUSINESS:**

The subject of “transgender” was raised by HW and what the policy of WB was in relation to this subject. It was agreed that the laws within the relevant country where there was an issue would require to be followed.

Each Director would be allocated an email address with a worldbowls.com address. GS to arrange with website administrator.

**11. STRATEGIC PLAN & OPERATIONAL PLAN 2020 - 2024**

The Board thoroughly reviewed the current Strategic Plan and will publish a revised plan to cover the period 2020 – 2024.

**Future Meetings:**

The next go-to-meeting was confirmed as 16<sup>th</sup> February 2020.

Roger Black  
25<sup>th</sup> October 2019