

# Rainford Eagle and Child Crown Green Bowling Club

## Minutes from the AGM Agenda 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2023 at 7.30pm

### **Introduction and Welcome**

The Chairmen thanked everyone for attending and for the prompt start and acknowledged this was the first face to face AGM since COVID

### **In Memory – a period of silence**

A period of silence was observed for club members (and family members) who had sadly passed away during the last 12 months

### **Apologies**

Mark Holden/Alan Cross/Colin & Margaret Wilson/Dennis Cowley/Jim Finney/Trish Davies  
Ken Woods/Ray Bates/Bill Glover/Wendy Battersby/Tony Ford/Kathy Burkhill/Viv Smith  
Frank Grayson

### **Chairman's Comments**

The Chairmen offered a number of acknowledgements and thanks to the following:

- All members for supporting the Club
- Peter and Siobhan (Landlord and Landlady of Eagle and Child) for their ongoing support and use of their facilities
- Graham Fenney/Jim Sowler and Mark Holden/Keith Haskayne and Alan Oakes/John Pickavance for green and general surrounding area throughout 2022 and acknowledged the many compliments on the green from numerous external bowlers/sources
- The Team Captains for their hard work and organisation across a busy season
  - Geoff Lambert/Dennis Cowley/Keith Haskayne/Mark Holden
  - George Fitzpatrick/Gary Westerside/James Burkhill
- All members who assisted with hosting our Club/external competitions – specific mention to Alan Cross
- Committee Members – Geoff and Mike, with special mention for Tony Ford for his work on the Committee over a number of years. Tony has announced he is now stepping down from the Committee with immediate effect

### **Secretary's Report**

The Secretary gave an update on each League the Club enters with the current status and known information for the 2023 season

### **Monday Afternoon (St Helens Pensioners League)**

They are holding their AGM week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> February where we expect to get details for the season

### Monday Evening (Orrell League)

- Registration Fees - £50
- 8 teams with 8 players per team
- First match – 3<sup>rd</sup> April at 6.30pm
- Next meeting/further information – 15<sup>th</sup> March

### Tuesday Evening (St Helens League)

They are holding their AGM on 15<sup>th</sup> February and have presented us with a number of proposals to vote for/against as a Club on the night. The Secretary orientated our AGM attendees through each proposals for our internal vote which will then be represented as a Club on the 15<sup>th</sup> February:

Proposal 1 – Division 1 - 10 teams, Division 2 and 3 – 12 teams, 2023 only - 1 team from Division 2 promoted to Division 1, 3 teams will be relegated from Division 2. Note 2022 – D1 was 11, Div 2 was 12 and Div3 was 11. **AGREED**

Proposal 2 – A N Other facility to be abolished **AGREED**

Proposal 3 – Teams without floodlights in April, August and September will start at 6:15pm, May, June, and July, 6:45pm, this will strictly be adhered to **AGREED**

Proposal 4 - Teams in all Divisions to consist of 10 players only **AGREED**

Proposal 5 – Executive committee will determine each club's handicap but in addition, 2 points for home aggregate win and 3 points for an away aggregate win, also award a point for each winning player **AGREED**

### Wednesday Evening (Aughton League)

- League games start – 19<sup>th</sup> of April and finish – 30<sup>th</sup> of August
- Fees and Registration meeting 1<sup>st</sup> of March at Aughton Institute
- Scarisbrick NSC and Crossens withdrawn. 1 new team, Ormskirk Rebels – Captain Liam Gregson. They will play at Ormskirk cricket club, grass green
- Proposal is to have 2 Divisions of 6 teams each. To extend the league each team will play each other 4 times. APPROVED at Aughton AGM
- Pairs Comp – 6<sup>th</sup> of Sept, Final 13<sup>th</sup> of September
- Singles Comp – 20<sup>th</sup> of Sept, Final 27<sup>th</sup> of September
- Finals at Aughton Institute.

### Thursday Evening (Newton League)

- Estimated start date 13<sup>th</sup> April
- No rule changes
- Can't use COVID as an excuse to postpone a match. 4-point penalty
- Winner of each league will be promoted automatically; the runner up will depend on keeping team numbers even
- Next meeting 20<sup>th</sup> of Feb at St Patricks at 7:30pm, £30 (partial) fees to be paid on the night

### Friday Evening (Westhead League)

- Rule change – Any registration of additional players, deadline is 31<sup>st</sup> of July 2023
- Proposal to increase the team size from 8 to 10 players was voted against 13-7
- Players to be registered by the end of February
- Fees evening is 1<sup>st</sup> of March 7:30 at the Aughton Institute

The Secretary advised that we are aiming to open the green on 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023

The Secretary then advised the dates for our internal competitions :

- John Bancroft Trophy - Sunday the 28th of May 2023
- Dennis Houghton Trophy – Sunday the 25th of June 2023
- Past Players Trophy – Sunday the 6th of Aug 2023
- Ken Forber Trophy – Sunday 17th of September 2023

The Secretary then advised the dates for our external competitions :

- Gornall Singles – 30th of April 2023. – Full
- Open Pairs is being looked at with a possible date of the 16th of July 2023

All the above dates will be published on our website

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer handed out copies of the annual accounts and took the AGM audience through the highlights and associated information:

- Key one off expenditure for 2022 was the new Dennis Houghton Trophy Board
- Expected one off higher value expenditure for 2023 – full overhaul of the floodlights and home team canopy/covered area
- Proposal to amalgamate the (historic) mower fund money into the wider funds for potential repurpose **AGREED**

A question was raised as to whether our sporadic and specialist green maintenance activities (eg scarification etc) is done in-house or externally sourced. The motivation for the question was a potential money saving idea. It is currently externally sourced. The short and productive discussion indicated that the cost of equipment purchase and the high level of technical ability required may prove prohibitive to bring in-house. However, the Committee will explore further through 2023

### **Captain's Update (optional)**

Geoff Lambert and James Burkhill gave short updates about the Orrell League Team, the St Helens League A Team, the Westhead League Team and the Newton League Team

### **Subscriptions/Fees 2023**

The Committee advised membership subscriptions will remain at £25 for a single membership and £35 for a joint membership. However, some members felt that it should be increased to £30 and £40 respectively (reasons – comparison to other Clubs and the fees have not increased for a few years). The proposal to increase was voted on and **AGREED**. As a result - the membership fees for 2023 are £30 for a single membership and £40 for a joint membership. Membership fees are due anytime from now until the deadline date which is **7<sup>th</sup> April** (cash or bank transfer – details will be sent out via mail for the latter). Footer fees will remain at £2.

**Election of Committee Officers** – the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer were re-elected for 2023

**AOB** – there were no AOB items