

IRISH INDOOR BOWLING ASSOCIATION

The first Zoom Meeting of the 2022/23 season will take place on Thursday 12th May 2022 at 8 pm.

AGENDA

1. Attendance and Apologies
2. Chairman's Business
3. Notice of Any Other Business**
4. Minutes of the previous meeting
5. Matters arising from the Minutes
6. Competitions Secretary's Report
 - 6.1 National Championship Report
7. AGM Report
8. British Isles Update
9. Election of sub-committees
10. Clubs for affiliation
11. Correspondence
12. Any other notified business

** Notice of Any Other Business to be advised preferably by email to the Secretary by **Wednesday 11th May 2022.**

IRISH INDOOR BOWLING ASSOCIATION

A Zoom Meeting was held on Thursday 24th March 2022 at 8 pm.

1. Attendance

Mrs F McNally	A Rice	Ms C Adair	H Nixon	D McCullough
W Cassells	M Caughey	Mrs R Rice	W Clinghan	Mrs A Patton
S Carleton	Mrs C McKim	Mrs N Tanner	S Kyne	G O'Hare
Mrs A McKiver	C Mearns	Mrs J Parkinson		

Apologies

H Massey	D Doherty	E Irwin	I Kerr	D Witherspoon
Ms R Neely				

2. Chairman's Business

As the Chair was experiencing difficulty with his internet the President presided over the meeting.

3. Notice of Any Other Business

None.

4. Minutes of the meetings held on 24th February 2022

The minutes of the Zoom meeting were approved.

5. Matters arising from Minutes

None.

6. Competitions

6.1 Interzone Report

The Competitions Secretary reported that after the last meeting when it announced that there was only 16 mats, various phone calls were made and with the help of various people 32 mats were obtained which enabled the plate competitions to be played. She thanked the local clubs that assisted with mats and also Graham & Peter Christie who collected and transported mats from Shaws Bridge to Ballybrakes.

The catering was good although there was a problem with the ovens initially, but everyone got fed quickly. Time was lost between games as the cards came in dribs and drabs instead of being collected as originally requested by one person who would bring all 4 cards at the same time. The PA was not great due to the large number of players and the background noise. Internet was intermittent due to the numbers in the venue.

Men's Interzone: 16 Teams entered, and the Boomer Cup was won by Oriel who beat Western 40-25. The Men's Plate won by Donegal who beat Mid Ulster 33-30

Ladies Interzone: 8 Teams entered, and the McIlroy Cup won by Monaghan who beat Donegal 33-32. The Ladies plate won by Armagh who beat Mid Ulster 49-41.

The trophies and badges were presented by the Competitions Secretary.

The Competitions Secretary concluded that it was a long day for all concerned and if the competitions were run again in this format it would be best to keep the men and ladies competitions separate. On behalf of the Armagh Zone Mrs A Patton thought there was too long a wait between games for the ladies. The Competitions Secretary said this was because it was decided to hold all the finals at once.

6.2 World Bowls Report

The Competitions Secretary stepped into the role of Team Manager as G O'Hare was not available. The hotel was fine although there was a problem on leaving when the staff were asking for additional money. It was agreed that the Honorary Secretary would write to the hotel expressing the IIBA's disappointment at the way people were treated on departure. The transport between the hotel and the venue and lunches were good.

At the semi-final stage Niall Hand was in the fours; Mark Sproule and Andrew Leckey in the triples. Niall Hand and Andrew Leckey managed to reach the final of their respective competitions but unfortunately neither won. Overall, the players did perform well but with no competitive bowls for over 2 years there was just a "sharpness" missing.

There were plenty of photos and games streamed on Facebook over the 3 days. However, the Competitions Secretary stated that she would be unable to do it again from her private Facebook account as doing that just informs everyone that she is not at home. For future streaming she would require access to the IIBA Facebook account so she will liaise with S Kyne regarding this.

6.3 National Championships Update

The Competitions Secretary reported that entries have closed, and some players are still looking in but they have been refused entry. There are 259 Singles, 145 Pairs, 85 Triples and 70 Fours. For the singles the Competitions Secretary requested that Convenors be available to mark the initial games and hopefully the losing player will then make themselves available to mark following games.

The National Pairs have been completed: G Stubbs & R Stubbs, Ballinderry, Lisburn Zone beat J Rutledge & G McNabb, Fintona Pearses, Mid Tyrone Zone 8-7.

The Competitions Secretary then posed several questions that must be addressed: Can these events go back to the zones next year? If they do go back to Zone level, the zone needs to be running them in such a way that they at least "break even". This will be difficult with the increased cost in halls. Will all zones have access to halls or just a few? Will they be able to meet the minimum number required? What about the ladies, juniors and over-55 competitions? This will be further covered in the Finance Committee Report.

S Kyne thought that it would not be financially viable to run Nationals in some Zones. Mrs N Tanner thought there could be repercussions if the National Championships were not run at Zone level. S Carleton agreed with this stating that the majority of the players in his Zone would not travel to Shaws Bridge. G O'Hare thought that the price of halls could only go up due to the cost of heating etc. S Carleton and G O'Hare thought that a raffle could be run each night to offset the cost of the hall. S Kyne pointed out that this would not work in some Zones. It was agreed that the Interzone competitions would be run in the same format as this season with the Men and Ladies Competitions run on separate days in Shaws Bridge.

6.4 Competitions Committee Report

The Competitions Secretary reported on a Zoom meeting which was held to discuss some queries that had been raised regarding the Nationals:

1. The first one was what happens when 2 pairs are entered and each of them find themselves short either a lead or skip. The Competitions Committee agreed that each pair could find a substitute but cannot combine to make one pair. If this was done the question of where would you place them in the draw; can the opposing pair object.
2. The second query was more difficult: a convenor received an entry of 2 pairs via text message listing just the skips names. He completed the entry form and put in the names

for the leads however the convener got the names/teams wrong. One of the skips was not able to go but his lead was supposed to have played with the other skip originally but as in the first case the draw was already made. The competition committee pointed out that Rule 44 (c) clearly states that the players named on the entry form shall constitute the original players. Although this problem arose because of a “clerical error” we could not accept the change as it would lead to a lot of “errors” occurring on entry forms. The players did not attend even though they could each have got a sub and played “legally”.
3. Since the zoom meeting the Competitions Secretary received another query regarding a triple who had completed the form but now wish to change the order they play in. The Competitions Committee was consulted, and the consensus was that in light of previous decisions they would have to adhere to the order on the form.

The Competitions Secretary concluded that not everyone is aware of the importance of the entry form. They need to be completed extremely carefully, particularly if you are doing it on behalf of someone else. All players should be identified although the form already indicates this. Finally, some payments were still due as chequebooks are becoming rare and the Association is not set up for online payments and online entries which needs to be looked at. This is something that needs to be addressed.

7. Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee met on 21 March. The appointment of a new Treasurer was discussed but no names were put forward. There were 270 clubs affiliated. The format for next season’s National/Ladies/Junior/Over-55 Championships was discussed. With the uncertainty of how many clubs will reopen in September/October it was suggested that the Nationals be run in Shaws Bridge for another year. G O’Hare proposed that a rinks tournament be held at Shaws Bridge where the players selected for the International Teams could each bring a rink at £40 per rink and the money raised could be used to defray the cost for the players and the Association. As there was only one set of qualifiers from the 2019/20 Champion of Champions S Kyne proposed and D McCullough seconded that World Bowls Qualifiers for singles, pairs, triples and fours would be held in Shaws Bridge for the 2023 Championships which are likely to be held in Scotland. The Competitions Secretary will contact Shaws Bridge to discuss the number of Saturdays available.

The subject of payment to the Umpires Association was raised. The IIBA accountants require to see the accounts of the Umpires Association before the payment can be made and as, yet it is still forthcoming. S Kyne and G O’Hare to meet with D Connelly on Saturday.

8. AGM

The Honorary Secretary reminded the meeting that the AGM would be held in the Crowne Plaza on 19 April. The Affiliation Fee for 2022/23 was yet to be decided. It was suggested that the Affiliation Fee should be increased to £40 but no decision was made.

9. AOB

C Burgess of SMPT requested the hire of mats for the 2 competitions that they held in Shaws Bridge. This was discussed by the Executive and a fee of £1,250 was agreed.

Meeting closed 10.00 p.m.