

BUTBA 2013-2014 SOSM MFA Nottingham 3rd November 6:15pm

1: Welcome from the BUTBA Chairman.

2: Roll Call & Apologies

a) Attendees

Representatives from Imperial, Loughborough, Nottingham, Nottingham Trent, Portsmouth, Sheffield, Southampton, Warwick and Wolverhampton were in attendance.

From the executive: Darren Ellis (BUCS SAG Co-ordinator, Paul Williams (Tournament Co-ordinator), Craig Harmon (Treasurer), Tom Andrews (BUCS Club Development Officer), Charlie Baldwin (BUTBA Secretary), Louise Parker (Tournament Collator), James Larkin (BUTBA Press Officer)

b) Apologies

Apologies were received from Birmingham and Exeter.

Apologies were also received from Shaun Parsons and Tom Andrews

Unfortunately it was also announced that Leeds, Leeds Met and Manchester Universities tenpin bowling clubs had all folded.

c) Sanctions against non-attendees

It was decided that non-attendees would not be punished.

3: Approving the 2012/13 EOSM minutes.

Louise Parker approved the 2012/2013 EOSM minutes as being accurate. This was seconded by Curtis Berry.

4: Matters Arising From the Previous Minutes.

a) Things that BUTBA could do to support lower average bowlers. (Frazer Bowen and James Larkin)

James Larkin stated that the Nottingham Matchplay Trios tournament which had been targeted at new student freshers had been a huge success. A lot of teams made up of newer bowlers made the quarter

finals and semi-finals. In addition James announced that the tournament would also be going ahead again next season (2014-2015). James said that he would like to add another event aimed at freshers and that he was open to ideas in terms of event formats.

Paul Marks thought that ex-students should also be allowed to enter Nottingham trios. A viewpoint that James agreed with.

James also floated the possibility of a “random draw” tournament which he felt would help students and ex-students to socialise and get to know each other better and thus breach the student and ex-student “gap”.

b) Could a fairer averaging system (i.e. non-linear) be created? (Paul Turner, Leeds University)

- Paul was unable to attend the meeting. He hopes to be able to submit a report on this to the BUTBA committee by the end of the 2013-2014 season.

8: Committee Post Elections

a) Student President: Curtis Berry Matt Duncan

Due to personal reasons Tom Chuter had to abdicate the role of Student President which meant a vote to fill the position was required. Before the meeting Charlie Baldwin had sent an email out requesting nominations and Curtis Berry and Matt Duncan had nominated themselves.

Due to the upcoming vote on the changes to the format of the BUTBA Cup it was felt that it would be a good idea to have the Student President vote first as the Student President was part of the BUTBA Cup Committee.

Each candidate was given 30 seconds to make a short speech to the meeting in order to put forward their credentials for the Student President position.

Curtis said that he was the President of Nottingham Trent and that he wanted to make the student part of the tour the most important part of the tour. He also put forward his passion for the sport of tenpin bowling.

Matt stated that the old role was just a “backup for the role of chair” and that he felt it could be more defined and that he could define it. He also felt that the Student President needs to engage more with captains than they have in the past as well as understanding the balance between the need to support both smaller and bigger clubs.

A vote was then taken which went as follows:

Curtis – Nottingham Trent, Loughborough, Leeds Met, Rachael McKenzie, Paul Williams and 4 ex-students – 9 votes in total.

Matt – Warwick, Imperial, 1 Manchester Metropolitan honorary, Wolverhampton Louise Parker and 12 ex-students. – 17 in total

Abstentions – Portsmouth, Nottingham, Birmingham, Dan Vanniasingham, Charlie Baldwin, Craig Harmon, Tom Andrews, Frazer Bowen, Shaun Parsons James Larkin and 6 ex-students – 16 in total.

Matthew Duncan is voted in as Student President by majority.

Matt Warmington thought that in the future nominees for any committee position should have to present written statements. The committee was in agreement with this point.

c) Proposals for changes to the format of the Butba Cup. (Mike Hurst, Shaun Parsons and Tom Andrews)

As the only author of the new BUTBA Cup proposal in attendance Mike Hurst presented it to the meeting.

Mike started by saying that in the past the cup had been popular enough so that 16 teams with 16 players would enter. Last season the number of entries for the cup had been reduced to 8 clubs with 16 players per club.

Mike mentioned that feedback from his own club Loughborough had told him that members of Loughborough saw the BUTBA Cup as a “non-competition”.

Other clubs had also stated that they wanted more fixtures in the BUTBA Cup. This led Mike, Shaun and Tom to introduce “home and away” fixtures to the proposal.

Mike then said that according to the proposal group winners would advance straight to the BUTBA Cup final, whilst teams that finished second and below would be entered into a “wildcard” round for the final entry slot at the finals.

Instead of four teams of three the proposal called for the format to be changed to three teams of four.

Mike then opened up the floor to questions.

Matt Duncan asked about whether the extra space needed for more fixtures on the BUTBA Calendar was available?

Mike replied by saying that the proposal also introduced mid-week fixtures meaning that weekends were not really required so the BUTBA Calendar would not be affected. Mike further expanded by saying the authors of the cup proposal felt that bowling mid-week fixtures would give members of clubs who could not bowl tournament at weekends a chance to bowl competitively.

Warwick made a query about club members who were not initially included. Mike retorted that the proposal meant that club members could be substituted in and out of teams between fixtures.

Warwick then asked a second question wondering about the effect of extra transport costs due to the additional fixtures. Mike stated that he felt the use of neutral venues would help to control transport costs and also meant that three fixtures could be played on a single day.

Louise Parker then stated that she felt that the removal of the female quota would lead to less inclusion of female bowlers within BUTBA Cup teams as team captains would have no incentive to include ladies within their cup teams. Mike responded by saying that he felt the new substitutions system would allow all club bowlers to bowl including ladies.

Paul Marks followed up Louise's statement by stating that Mike had missed Louise's point and that clubs needed a reason to go out and recruit ladies.

Curtis Berry disagreed with Louise and Paul by pointing out that he felt the incentive for clubs to recruit female bowlers was still there because of the incentive of gaining BUCS points from the BUCS Championships.

James Larkin thought that dropping the female quota would not affect the tour but would affect the BUTBA Cup as clubs will generally recruit anybody to fill out teams.

Mike Hurst then stated that Loughborough had to recruit a "non-club member" in order to meet the female quota which meant that a club member was unable to bowl.

Curtis Berry then made a suggestion which became the proposal of a female handicap or "femicap" of 8 pins for all female bowlers.

This resulted in two votes.

Vote 1 – Proposal for the removal of the female quota (meaning technically clubs will be able to bowl with 0 ladies in their Cup teams). (Mike Hurst, Shaun Parsons and Tom Andrews)

For – Wolverhampton, James Larkin, Loughborough, Nottingham Trent, Leeds Met, Rachael McKenzie Edgehill, Birmingham – 8

Against – Portsmouth, Nottingham, Warwick – 3

Abstain – Imperial, Sheffield, Southampton, Dan Vanniasingham, Shaun Parsons, Charlie Baldwin, Louise Parker, Tom Andrews, Frazer Bowen, Craig Harmon and 22 ex-students – 32

By minor majority, this proposal is passed.

Vote 2 – Proposal for the implementation of 8 pins of handicap for all ladies who will bowl in the cup. (Curtis Berry)

Jonathan Spivey felt that more needed to be done to get female bowlers onto the BUTBA tour. He believed that the female handicap should be set at 15 pins rather than 8 pins.

James Larkin informed the meeting that in the past BUTBA had used a sliding scale of “femicap”.

Curtis agreed to change his proposal to a sliding scale proposal and Jonathan Spivey was also happy to alter his proposal, therefore the 8 pins proposal and 15 pins proposal were both scrapped and replaced with:

Vote 2 – Proposal to introduce a sliding scale of handicap dependent on average for female bowlers competing in the BUTBA Cup.

For – Loughborough, Wolverhampton, James Larkin, Warwick, Nottingham Trent, Portsmouth, Sheffield, DMU, Birmingham, Shaun Parsons – 10

Against – 0

Abstentions – Imperial, Southampton, Dan Vanniasingham, Nottingham, Charlie Baldwin, Louise Parker, Tom Andrews, Frazer Bowen, Craig Harmon and 22 ex-students – 31

This proposal is passed by significant majority.

A debate on to whether implement the Cup Proposal itself followed.

Paul Marks commented that he felt that it was wrong that group winners could choose not to play in the Cup final. Mike Hurst agreed to change this.

Paul Marks further stated that he felt the the wildcard round logistically may not work. Mike replied that he had changed the format so that the team that came 1st each game got 6 points, the team that came 2nd got 5 points and so on.

Mike was also happy to change the rule that teams which finished bottom of a group could make it through to the wildcard stage as it meant that a team could lose all its matches in the group round and theoretically make it through to finals day via the wildcard round.

Curtis Berry said that the Cup deadline needed to be extended so he could recruit more members for his university team (Nottingham Trent).

Paul Williams and Craig Harmon needed to know the cup format details and potential numbers of teams involved for budgeting/finance purposes.

Paul Marks asked that a team should have no blind scores if it fields under 12 members and he also requested that the option for group winners not to bowl in the final also be removed.

Craig Harmon then asked if members of the clubs that were in attendance had interest in entering the cup but made clear that this was no guarantee that said clubs would definitely enter.

Portsmouth, Sheffield, Loughborough, Imperial, Nottingham Trent – 6 clubs in total stated their desire to enter the 2013 – 2014 BUTBA Cup.

As there were alterations to be made to the initial BUTBA Cup proposal Mike in agreement with a majority in attendance would re-work the effected parts of the proposal with the other authors of the proposal and email it around to all BUTBA member clubs once the alterations were completed.

5: Committee Executive Reports (if any)

a) Chairman's Executive Report

Darren Ellis had again made an attempt to contact various companies about potentially sponsoring the BUTBA tour but he has this far received only negative responses.

Darren also announced that from now on BUTBA would be affiliated with the British Tenpin Bowling Association or BTBA for short. This meant that all current BUTBA members who were not already BTBA members would now be eligible for BTBA affiliated membership at the much reduced cost of £2.

As a consequence of this tie-in only BTBA members would be allowed to enter the BUCS Championships.

Portsmouth asked what was to be gained from this partnership. Darren replied that he felt it would lead to much stronger ties with the BTBA.

b) Press Officer's Executive Report

Rachael McKenzie stated that she had contacted both talktenpin.co.uk and badassbowling.com and that a report about “who BUTBA are” had already been written. Another in-depth report would be written for January.

Mike Hurst thought that BUTBA tournament reports should also go on to the BUTBA website which Rachael agreed with.

c) Ex-Student’s Executive Report

James Larkin said that he had only taken on the role recently but had already formed an Ex-Students Facebook page which had already generated a lot of interest. He was also looking to find out the views of ex-students about the BUTBA Tour throughout the season. James stated he would use these views to look at ways in which the tour could be improved.

d) Collator’s Executive Report

Louise Parker said that she had been looking through results over the past few years in order to update individual records. Her next aim was to update the records for each format i.e. singles, doubles, trios etc.

James Larkin queried whether Louise could update the records on a per decade basis?

Louise stated that she did not have the time to do this.

6: Discussions on the 2013-2014 season

Prior to the meeting no proposals had been received.

Darren Ellis had recently updated the constitution. These updates were to do with committee roles, BUCS Nationals as well as the implementation of a BUTBA Treasurer and Events Treasurer.

In order for this to be acknowledged as the new “up to date” constitution, a vote had to be taken to approve the changes made.

Proposal to approve the “updated” BUTBA Constitution. (Darren Ellis)

For - Imperial, Southampton, Loughborough, Wolverhampton, James Larkin, Warwick, Nottingham Trent, Portsmouth, Sheffield, DMU, Charlie Baldwin, Louise Parker, Rachael McKenzie, Leeds Met. and 22 Ex-Students – 36

Against – 0

Abstain – Birmingham, Shaun Parsons, Dan Vanniasingham, Tom Andrews, Frazer Bowen – 5

This proposal was passed by a very overwhelming majority.

James Larkin reiterated his suggestion from the previous EOSM of a “bite-size constitution”. Paul Marks agreed to create it.

7: Current BUTBA tournament calendar 2013/2014

<u>Date</u>	<u>ID</u>	<u>Tournament Name</u>	<u>Venue</u>
Saturday 2nd November	-	Nottingham Trios	MFA Bowl Nottingham
Sunday 3rd November	OOM 1	Nottingham Fives	MFA Bowl Nottingham
Sunday 17th November	OOM 2	Warwick Doubles	MFA Bowl Banbury
Sunday 8th December	OOM 3	Loughborough Diamond Sixes	MFA Bowl Ilkeston
Sunday 26th January	OOM 4	Coventry Singles	Tenpin Coventry
Sunday 9th February	OOM 5	Leeds Met Doubles	Hollywood Bowl Leeds
Weekend of 22nd-23rd February	BUCS	BUCS Championships	MFA Bowl Sheffield
Sunday 9th March	OOM 6	Birmingham Baker Fives	Rugby Superbowl
Sunday 16th March	CUP	BUTBA Cup Final	TBC
Saturday 29th March	OOM 7	Sheffield Quads	MFA Bowl Sheffield
Sunday 27th April	OOM 8	Airport Bowl Trios	Airport Bowl
Sunday 11th May	OOM 9	Chesterfield Fours	Chesterfield Superbowl
TBC		Masters	TBC
TBC		Challenge Match	TBC

8: Committee Post Elections

Please see section 4. The committee post elections were moved forward due to the vote on the BUTBA

Cup proposal.

9: Any Other Business

Craig Harmon stated that Warwick Doubles was already full but he was looking to expand the tournament capacity to 24 teams. There would be 24 hours to register interest and then a further 24 hours for any objections to be put forward.

Matt Warmington made clear his feelings that he felt the voting process needed to be made clearer. Paul Marks remarked that it had been advertised and publicised over the previous few weeks before the SOSM. Jonathan Spivey stated that he agreed with Matt.

Paul Williams stated that Frazer Bowen had confirmed with him that the 2013-2014 BUTBA annual "Tour" would be taking place at Salou fest between April 5th and April 11th at a cost of £250 per person.

10: BUTBA Cup 2013-2014 entrants and draw

See section 4(c).

The meeting was closed at 7:24pm.