

BUTBA Start of Season Meeting 2015/16

MFA Sheffield Firth Park

Sunday 15th November 2015, 2.30pm

Attendees

Committee:

Marie Smith (Vice-chair, MS) (Ex) (Chair)

Paul Marks (Treasurer, Cup Collator, PM) (Ex) (Minutes)

James Larkin (Tournament Coordinator, JL) (Ex)

Matt Fidgett (Student Representative, MF) (S)

Kirsty Ralph (Tournament Collator, KR) (Ex)

Frazer Bowen (Club Development Officer, FB) (Ex)

Louise Parker (Press Secretary, LP) (Ex)

Students:

Kian Mistry (Birmingham)

Joe Harrison (Birmingham)

Abdullah (Sheffield)

Charlotte Richardson (Nottingham)

Phillipa Relf (Loughborough)

Ex- Students:

Tim Hughes

1. Welcome

MS Opened the meeting by welcoming everyone. PM confirmed that no proxy votes or email votes had been received prior to the meeting. MS also gave apologies from SP for not being present and stated that she had a short statement from SP which stated the committee's works since the EOSM:

"First of all, I would like to send my apologies for not being able to attend the SOSM, sadly I am unable to take certain Sundays off work, this being one of them. The EOSM saw the biggest change in the committee personnel for several years and the transition has not been easy. As such, getting the bare essentials ready for the upcoming season has been our main priority, and took much longer than anticipated.

Having said that, this season sees us visit some new centres and brings some new formats to the tour. We're hoping that by visiting these different areas of the country we can attract new bowlers and Universities that have previously been unable to attend out events

We have been contacted by bowlers from 3 different universities who would all be new to the tour. MF has spent time speaking to each of these people and is hopeful that they will feature at some events this season. MF has also set up the club committees group on Facebook so that he can communicate effectively with all our clubs if you are not currently a member of

this group but should be, please speak to MF or any of the committee. So far this year, we have had a much better uptake of the club development fund by simplifying the application process and providing clubs with set options on how they could utilise the money, Hopefully, each of the three clubs which applied and were awarded grants money have found it useful and have benefitted from it.

One of the biggest changes we have discussed as a committee comes in the form of the U25's proposal. This is an idea the BTBA approached us with and whilst it is quite a big change, I hope everyone can consider the proposal with an open mind. Ultimately BUTBA is run in the best interest of its members and it is up to you all as members to decide what is best for BUTBA."

2. Confirmation of the EOSM minutes.

Members had confirmed that they had read the minutes and proposed no objections; the minutes were then unanimously confirmed.

3. Cup Proposal (PM)

PM outlined the proposal as stated in the Agenda. PM confirmed that Uni's could enter any number of teams, there would be no membership fee and that one recording from each entry would be submitted in each round. PM confirmed the league style and play-off event was proposed as this would form part of a strategy of getting back into BUCS.

CR asked about honorary bowlers, PM stated that no honoraries would be allowed under the proposal as once they were allowed; it would be difficult to remove down the line if we did get back into BUCS. Also as it was bowled at your home centre on normal training sessions, clubs should have sufficient bowlers to form at least one 5 person team.

A vote was taken of the students only with 5 in favour and 1 against.

The proposal was passed and PM would be in touch with the club captains to set a timetable in motion for the first round.

4. Confirmation of Calendar (JL)

JL stated that the calendar had been distributed; the only outstanding item was the venue for the challenge match/masters and EOSM but progress was being made on this.

5. Confirmation of Admin Fees,

PM stated these were currently £2 and were used to fund any losses from events as we never made a profit, but occasionally (such as for Sheffield) made a loss if the event was undersubscribed. PM asked if anyone had any proposed changes; none were received and the fees therefore remained the same for the current year.

6. Outstanding items from the EOSM:

a. University play-off

FB stated that the Cup proposal was kind of something he had in mind for the top uni's from the OOM table, and would wait to see if something else was required after the Cup was re-introduced; an update would be provided at the EOSM.

b. Election of Officers

PM confirmed no nominations had been received for the three advertised positions after the SOSM agenda had been advertised. As a result, nominations would be accepted from the floor.

i. Female Liaison Officer

MS confirmed this was a non-voting position. KR nominated Charlotte Richardson (CR), MS asked if CR accepted the nomination; CR agreed and a vote was taken from the floor which unanimously elected CR as Female Liaison Officer.

ii. Ex-Student Representative

MS confirmed that Phil Manning had stood down from this position and asked for nominations from the floor. KR was nominated and unanimously elected.

iii. Treasurer

PM had stated that after the EOSM he had some expressions of interest for this position and had agreed to stand down if those nominations were renewed at the SOSM. They were not, MS checked from the floor for nominations, but none were received. PM agreed to continue the role.

c. BTBA U25's Affiliation

FB outlined the benefits the BTBA were giving us:

- Entry to BTBA tour events on the affiliate cards which were centrally run by BTBA
 - (i.e. not those independently run but with a sanction)
 - (PM also confirmed that it would not apply to leagues which Midland Scratch and Southern Scratch events counted at)
- Entry to BTBA National championships and BTBA country championships (the latter not as part of a county but as an individual)
- Access to the BTBA contract benefits with MFA centres regarding locker rental and practice rates

In return, those BTBA members who were under the age of 25 would be allowed to enter our events.

MS ran through the 4 options in the agenda. An initial vote was taken regarding option a (not to affiliate) 12 were against this option with 1 abstention.

MS proceeded then to explain each of the individual options.

Option b (U25's separate section) - JH and Abdullah voiced their objections to the U25's having their own individual section on the grounds of detracting from the student tour and administrative difficulties.

A vote was taken with 2 in favour.

Option c was then discussed briefly (reserve teams). A vote was taken on this option with 7 in favour.

Option d was then briefly discussed (first-come first served); a vote yielded 3 in favour of this option.

With 7 votes of 12 of those wishing to affiliate, option b passed.

MS confirmed that our vote would be taken back to the BTBA for their approval; if they agreed with the reserve team route; then there would be no reason to return to a vote of the council; however, if the BTBA rejected this option, then it would either be referred back to the EOSM, or a separate EGM would be called in the new year.

d. Championship proposals

MS explained that PM had made an error in the new constitution docs in that currently; double ranking points should be awarded. This was not what occurred in the previous year and MS called for an agreement to suspend these provisions, pending discussions which could choose to reinstate them. This was unanimously agreed.

PM explained how the two championships which were ran last year were developed (student, by a committee of the TTC, plus student representatives; ex student, by JL – effectively the format we have used today at Sheffield trios, plus finals for individuals).

i. Student

MS opened up a discussion about the student event. There were various discussions regarding the points system used and team sizes. MS called for a vote then on either to keep the format exactly the same; or refer it back to a similar committee. The vote was unanimous in opting to refer back to a committee. CR and JH expressed an interest in participating.

ii. Ex-Student

MS then opened a discussion regarding the ex-student event and a vote was called. 4 were in favour of the same format; 2 wanted a similar committee to that of the students to decide and 1 abstained. With 4 in favour of 7 available; the motion as carried to keep the same format.

7. Any other business

There being none, MS thanked those in attendance for coming and closed the meeting.

Meeting closed at 15:05.