



BUTBA Start of Season Meeting
Saturday October 22nd 2016, MFA Nottingham, 17:00

Attendees

Committee:

Tim Hughes (Vice-chair, TH)

Paul Marks (Treasurer, Notes, PM)

James Larkin (Tournament Co-ordinator, JL)

Students:

Charlotte Richardson (Notts)

Ex Students:

Kian Mistry (who was informally acting as B'ham's representative)

Alex Lee

Phil Manning (PHM)

Damian Gray

1. Apologies, proxy and email votes

Apologies - Kirsty Ralph (Chair), Sarah Hood (Secretary), Joe Harrison, Sam Radcliffe

Proxy Voters – JH has designated PM as a proxy voter; SR has designated Charlotte Richardson

Email Votes – Sarah Hood has submitted votes by email to agenda items.

2. EOSM Minutes

TH asked for any comments or corrections to the minutes which were emailed out and posted online. None were received and the minutes approved.

3. 2015/16 Ranking Trophies

JL handed out the trophies from last year as there was no end of season ball. It is hoped that a ball will be revived next year to accompany the masters/challenge match fixture.

4. Chairs Report

TH read out a prepared statement from KR – this is attached to the minutes.

5. Treasurers report

PM presented his report which is available attached to these minutes and online. PM recommended two additions to levies for this year as detailed in his report –

- An increase of 0.25 to the club development and rankings levies, bringing them to £1 per player per event for each levy.
- PM also recommended that the BUTBA membership fee should be decreased to £1.

There were no objections to the proposals and they were adopted.

- PM stated that the committee would produce a document regarding how the club development and other funds would be used in the season in due course



6. 2016/17 calendar

JL laid out the calendar as on the website.

There would be 4 student-only events:

- Saturday 12 November – Worcester Singles
- Sunday 5 February – Diamond Trios (Venue TBC)
- Saturday 25 February – Student Championships (Nottingham) – Format TBC
- Saturday 1 April – Nottingham Doubles

There would be 4 ex-student events:

- Sunday 13 November – Worcester Singles
- Sunday 5 November – Stroud Trios
- Sunday 26 February – Ex-Student Championships
- Sunday 11 June – Mansfield Diamond Trios

There would be 2 joint Student/Ex-Student events:

- Sunday 4 December – Loughborough Diamond 5s
- Sunday 19 March – Birmingham Baker 5s (Nuneaton)

There would be 2 joint BUTBA/BTBA events (ex-student rankings only, but all can bowl)

- Sunday 29 January – Nuneaton Scotch Doubles
- Sunday 14 May – Airport Doubles

The End of Season masters/challenge match is schedule for 23/24 September to increase availability

JL asked for volunteers to act as TD/TS in the above events to contact him after the meeting. JL reminded the council that tournament officials got their BTBA membership paid for and for student clubs, there was a host contribution which could be put towards free entries or returned back to the club.

7. BUTBA Cup

PM announced the return of the BUTBA Cup. It would be a 10-week event with teams submitting a Baker game bowled at their home centre by video to PM. PM would then award points each week to the highest 10 submitted. The first 6 weeks would run from the week beginning 31/10/16 to 5/12/16 and the second 4 weeks would run from week beginning 30/1/17 to 20/02/17. PM would then invite the top 6 baker teams to attend a finals day.

There would be no entry fee for the qualifying rounds. PM would invite interest from Student clubs after the meeting. There are no restrictions on the number of teams a university can submit, only that in each week, a bowler can only bowl in one baker game (i.e. for 2 teams, a university must have 10 bowlers). The teams can be changed from week to week, so long as at the start of the video the game is designated 'A' Team, 'B team etc. before the game is bowled.

A team can replay the game as many times as they like, but only one video submission will be accepted, per week.



8. Constitutional Proposals – Representative Squad.

During the summer, both rep squad managers resigned their positions. There was a debate over the selection of the ex-student squad over a bowler which the committee and the manager did not agree on which resulted in the resignation. The committee have reflected on their position and would wish to extend an apology to Phil Manning. The committee accepts that the squad put forward was within the selection criteria specified and there should not have been any debate.

As a result, however, BUTBA were in a position where we had no representative squad managers.

PM has submitted a proposal to combine the rep squads to have one squad, selected from an equal number of students and ex-students, overseen by one manager.

TH split the proposal into several elements as effectively, although PM submitted one document; there were four fundamental changes to the current standing orders.

a. One Squad

PM put forward his reasons for the amendment so that the managers would be free to select a smaller overall squad (for example 12) rather than having 2 separate squads of 6 where persons might be unavailable for fixtures.

PHM stated that he thought this was unnecessary and particularly objected to the proviso that for each fixture, the number of students and ex-students selected should be the same. He believed this unworkable and where perhaps a team was selected for a scratch event, being forced to pick a lower average student because they were the only student available over a higher average ex-student who was also available was a too larger restriction on the manager.

CR also objected on the basis that forcing the student and ex-student squads to be mixed might have a negative impact on the student members, but at the same time saw the opportunity for the teams to bowl together as an opportunity for co-operation.

DG stated that it seemed to go against the previous year EOSM where we looked to try and create a larger separation in the tour by having student only and ex-student only events; when we were merging the rep squads.

TH called for a vote. 2 were in favour, 8 against, 1 abstention

b. One Manager

PM stated that part of the issue that we had last year was that both managers were interpreting the squad selection in different ways which lead to conflict. Additionally, we had a situation where the student squad and ex-student squads were trying to achieve different things and entering different events. We also couldn't merge the roles in the past as the ex-student manager was 2 years into a 3 year term, whereas the student manager was only 1 year into a 3 year term.

PHM stated that having 2 managers was a good thing and the diversity should be encouraged. He also highlighted that his ex-student squad had been a success over the two years he had been in charge, highlight the sportsmanship games and the performance at the BTBA nationals.



CR highlighted a problem in that what if one squad liked the manager, but the other squad did not. PM stated then stated it would be up to council to decide whether that was a factor when the manager re stood for election and it would also be up to the squad to put someone else forward to oppose the current manager.

JL and TH both stated that they thought that having one manager would make things run a lot smoother between the two squads.

TH called for a vote. 7 were in favour of one manager, 2 against with 2 abstention. The motion was passed.

c. Term Limits

The current term limit was 3 years for the manager but this was mainly due to a holdover from the old BUCS manager who was appointed for 3 years by BUCS. This had been translated to the ex-student squad when it was incepted. A three term was also out of line with all committee positions who were voted in on a year by year basis. PM suggested that it should be brought into line with those. PM also stated that if you had a situation CR described, then it was easier to rectify within one year, than having to wait three years.

JL stated that three year terms had created problems in the past in other positions and was generally against them. Each position should be answerable to the council at the end of each year. Also, there was a problem of what if the existing manager disappeared two years into the three-year term, then we were stuck with a squad but no manger and no fixtures.

PHM thought that the existing 3-year term was a good thing as it allowed for planning. He said certain things weren't achievable within a year and it took a few years to get things underway. He also gave an example of the sportsmanship games where previous team captains were given first preference on the following years' entry. If you had only a single term, then you couldn't guarantee that position for the following year. Also, it was far easier to obtain sponsorship when sponsors were dealing with one person year on year, than a potentially different person each year.

JL responded that the term limit wasn't absolute – the incumbent would be permitted to re-stand; all the amendment was doing was ensuring that the council got a vote each year. History tells us that usually, incumbents are re-elected unopposed but the one year term had a way of overcoming problems a three-year term did not.

TH called for a vote with 9 in favour and 2 against. The motion passed.

d. Restriction to be added that wildcards must have bowled the current year in BUTBA.

PM stated that this essentially was what was caused the rift between the committee and the manager in the summer. The manager wished to select an existing member of the squad as a wildcard because they represented the squad well and they were entering the same event in the following season. PHM didn't wish to break up a winning team, if they were all available. PM stated that although the squad selection as within the criterion, there were complaints that people thought it was against the spirit of the squad – i.e. that it represented BUTBA.

TH stated that he thought that selecting someone who hadn't bowled in the year over someone who had done could act as a disincentive to bowl. Once you were on the squad and bowled well, there was no need to actively participate in BUTBA for the year.

PHM and JL both stated that they didn't like the restriction, particularly on the ex-student side where bowler have other commitments which mean they might not be able to attend BUTBA events, but represented BUTBA well and



were effectively being punished for not bowling. PHM further stated that under the selection criteria 2/3 of each squad were automatically selected from the current year's tour so there was still a large opportunity for those who bowl and bowl well to qualify by right.

TH called for a vote: 5 in favour, 4 against and 2 abstentions. PM stated that as the abstentions could make a difference to the final tally, he submitted to divide the house. A 2nd vote was taken with 7 in favour and 4 against.

However, JL pointed out that as the vote at a) was to determine two squads; there should be two votes; first for the student squad and second for the ex-students. The committee accepted this proposal and a revote was then called for.

TH called for a student vote: 3 for, 0 against – the motion passed for the student squad

TH called for an ex-student vote: 3 for, 5 against – the motion failed for the ex-student squad.

As a result, there shall be two representative squads run by a single manager. The manager shall be elected at the EOSM for a term of one year, which shall be renewable. The manager can pick ex-students who have not bowled the BUTBA tour in the current year, provided the other criteria are met but students must have bowled for BUTBA in the current year to be eligible.

9. Election of Officers

There being a vacancy for the newly created Representative squad position, TH invited applicants from the floor. PHM was nominated.

Before a vote was taken, PHM was asked to briefly run through why he wanted the position. PHM established that he had run a successful ex-student squad for two years and wanted to take it further. CR asked him regarding the student aspect and PHM stated that it would be unfair to judge him previously when he did not need to take particular attention to the student squad. If he was elected, he would take a greater interest in the students. PHM also saw this as an opportunity to enter more of the BTBA handicap events which previously, he hadn't done. He stated that he was quite willing to submit entries for events that the squads had identified and even if he couldn't actually attend some of the events, he was quite happy to organise the entry position and select teams to represent BUTBA at events.

TH called for a vote – 10 in favour, 0 against or abstentions.

10. Any other business

There being none, the meeting was concluded at 18.00