

MINUTES OF OFFICERS' MEETING

HELD AT MID DEVON BOWLING CLUB ON 13TH APRIL 2024

There were 8 officers noted on the attendance sheet.

President, Mr C Fenner, opened the meeting in order to deal with the points below.

Apologies: Anthony Davies.

1. Torquay United B Team Suspension:

Mr G Coxwell stated that it was not in doubt that Torquay United's B Team did not want to play at Kingsley and they did not give any valid reasons even though Kingsley gave them three opportunities for play. The DCIBA did not have the power to ban them from playing next year and Mr Coxwell felt they should therefore be allowed to play next indoor season provided they adhered to the rules. As far as sanctions were concerned, they should revert to zero points.

Mr K Brenchley said the rules specified that all fixtures should be played. If clubs could not see their way to going to a specific club venue, they should not be part of the DCIBA. Mr Coxwell pointed out that there was no mention in the rules of the outcome should clubs fail to fulfil their obligations.

Mr I Turner proposed that in future a definite date should be agreed when all games ought to be played, with a spare date one week after the last match of the league. Mr Coxwell would consider a rule to cover this.

Mr Coxwell advised that he had spoken with Terri Kennard, Interim Chairperson at Torquay United Bowls Club, intimating there was a good chance that their B Team could re-enter the league but with zero points. He was happy to continue communicating with her and would tell her the results of the proposed vote to allow the B Team back into the league. Mr L Burston suggested a strongly worded email be sent to Torquay United to this effect. The vote was taken and all were unanimous with this decision. There was one abstention – Anthony Davies who was absent.

2. League Secretary's Right to Overturn Executive Meeting:

A vote was taken as to Mr A Davies' right to overturn an Executive Meeting. There was unanimous agreement that he could not do this.

3. Creation of a Sub-Committee to deal with Items 1. and 2. above in future:

Mr Coxwell advised that he had received two complaints from Mr G Hitching – one of cyber bullying and the second stating that Mr Coxwell was causing Mr Hitching such grief as to prevent him doing his job. Mr Coxwell admitted that he did say to Mr Hitching that he felt he was in league with Mr B McKimm. If no one felt able to deal with this, Mr Coxwell said he would take these matters to the EIBA. Mr M Al-Kordi mentioned that Mr Hitching had said that he had already referred this to the EIBA himself.

Mr I Turner agreed to put his name forward as the person Mr G Hitching could send future emails and paperwork to as in any case he would be the Safeguarding Officer next year.

Mr Al-Kordi queried whether a Sub-Committee was really necessary and Mr Brenchley pointed out that in respect of item 1 above, the rules did require reconsideration and would need to go to all clubs as a recommendation. The Sub Committee would therefore consist of Mr Coxwell, Mr R Sandercock & Mr Brenchley.

4. Roll of DCIBA Website Manager now and in the future:

A note was read out from Mr Coxwell's wife stating her concerns over his dealings with Mr Hitching and Mr Coxwell agreed he could no longer function satisfactorily with Mr Hitching.

Mr Fenner read out the contents of Mr Hitching's email of 10th April. Mr Coxwell said he felt Mr Hitching's main problem had arisen in respect of the Colts. Mr Hitching wanted to take over the running of the Colts and as such there was a process to go through. Mr Hitching contacted Mr Coxwell regarding this process but in actuality missed the deadline.

Mr Hitching had not attended any recent meetings or sent a representative from Torquay United. In fact no representative had attended any meetings since 2019.

Mr Burston requested clarification as to why Mr Hitching's access to the website had been denied. Mr Coxwell stated that it was felt that Mr Hitching could potentially cause problems with the website once he knew today's meeting was taking place and that he and Mr Brenchley had taken the decision in order to protect the website. Mr C Beer said this decision was made in good faith as a means of safeguarding. Mr Coxwell reiterated that Mr Hitching had not been removed as Website Manager but only revoked from the website.

Mr Hitching had not carried out members' website requests and had wanted to put detailed financial information onto the site available to anyone despite being asked specifically not to do so.

It was therefore decided to take a vote as to Mr Hitching's suitability to continue in the role of Website Manager. All eligible to vote were in favour of Mr Hitching's removal. An email would be sent to Mr Hitching attaching a letter on headed paper stating that the Executive Officers were no longer able to work with him. Should he so wish, he would have fourteen days from the date of the letter in which to appeal, in which case the matter should then be passed over to the EIBA.

5. Good Name of DCIBA Responsibilities:

In view of the numerous insults aimed by Mr McKimm at the Executive Officers, Mr Beer queried the possibility of him playing in Torquay United's B Team. Mr Coxwell confirmed he would advise Terri Kennard that due to the fact that Mr McKimm was no longer affiliated, he would not be eligible to play.

6. Any Other Business:

Although an internal issue, Mr Beer mentioned Kingsley and the President games. (Ken & George – do you want this internal argument minuted here?).

Mr Coxwell said that Mr McKimm had requested details of the data protection issues against him and Mr Coxwell confirmed he would be sending this GDPR information to him.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 11.55 am.