



YORKSHIRE AREA OF BRITISH
TENPIN BOWLING ASSOCIATION
www.ybtba.org.uk

**Minutes of the 2011 Annual General Meeting of the Yorkshire Area of the
BTBA held on Wednesday 12th October 2011
at AMF Bowl, Firth Park, Sheffield.**

1) Chairman's Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2) Roll Call and Apologies

See Attendance Register for attendees.

Apologies received from Paul Noon, Carol Bruce, Neil Wadey & Kelly Claughton

3) Chairman's Opening Address

The Chairman presented his opening address. (See separate report)

4) Minutes of previous meeting

Copies of the minutes from 2010 AGM were provided for the attendees and they were allowed time to read through them. The following matters were arising and it was agreed that these would be dealt with under Any Other Business.

5) Actions arising

Area Championships
YBTBA website
Calendar
Fund raising.

The minutes were accepted as a true record

Proposed by Alan Bennett
Seconded by Wendy Grant

6) Reports of officers

Secretary
Treasurer

Report follows
Report follows

7) Reports of sub committees

Juniors
Tournaments/Selection
Fund raising/ Marketing and Promotion
Publicity/Marketing

Report follows
Report follows
Position still vacant.
Report submitted by Treasurer
Position vacant

Chairman's Welcome

I'd like to welcome you to the Annual General Meeting of the Yorkshire Area of the British Tenpin Bowling Association. I'm pleased to see all of you here, but disappointed there are not more of you. I know Alan Bennett sent out letters, Emails and posters to all sanctioned league and YBC's. I even visited a couple myself. All we asked was that each league of YBC sent at least one representative along tonight. But that said let's get on with proceedings.

Chairman's Opening Address

Firstly I must thank the existing committee for the work they have done since the last AGM. This year has been hard financially and is the first year we have asked our senior and adult bowlers to contribute to the County Finals. Our Treasurer has tried several methods of raising money but unfortunately did not get the support we had hoped for. We did not get enough takers in the lottery bonus ball draw, which by the way is still on-going. Both Senior and Adult squads ran raffles and did very well in raising over £100 and £80. We are sorely in need of fund raisers. We have had some excellent ones in the past but now we need help from you or your group.

I'm not ageist, but I have to say the average age of the current committee is way too high. Apart from our Treasurer and Vice Chairman the rest are fossils. Sorry of the older generation. We need to correct that. There should be an average age of under 40 and I'm allowing for a couple of old fogies on the committee as mentors. What I would like to propose that each major position on the committee such as the Area Secretary (that's the most important one), Treasurer (that's one where we do have the right age profile), Chairman (he's the real oldie), Tournament / Selection (I think he's been around for ever) should have an apprentice or trainee someone to help out and learn what the jobs all about. This would allow the committee to grow and some change posts to get a better understanding of each other's role within the committee. It's easy to stand on the outside and knock and criticize how things are done. If you want changes and you should all want changes then the best way is from the inside. We want people with ideas and not afraid to make changes but sensible enough to argue and discuss without making things personal and accepting there is always way.

Some of you are aware I have taken on the role of Director of Coaching for the B.T.B.A. I will be making some changes to the various qualification levels i.e. Phase I, II, III and IV. There will be additions such as two handed bowling and DVD's these will take time and help so won't happen overnight. From you I want to know how many courses do you need and at what level I intend to set up a minimum of one Phase I and one Phase II in the following months. I would remind you if it is a few years since you qualified you can sit in on any course at the level of your qualification or lower at no cost. But you must apply to do that and it will be dependent on the course presenter and available space.

I have tried to stay away from the areas my colleagues are going to report on so lots of information to come. You will be able to ask questions at the end under any other business, so I would ask you to keep your questions till then.

Les Grant
Chairman

Secretary's Report

Yet another year and a bit has passed since our last AGM and another interesting year for tenpin bowling.

My first comment is to admit that due to changes with my full time job, I am finding that I have less and less spare time to devote to working with the dedicated volunteers who run our local association.

I am sure that I am not the only one feeling this way as I fully appreciate that the majority of the committee are either in full time employment or if "retired" they have very busy lives outside bowling.

I feel that this year has been more of a problem than previously and that despite my best efforts; I have only just managed to stay in control of the Area Associations activities.

My work situation is unlikely to get any better and I have to say that if we have a willing volunteer who would like to take over the role of Area secretary, I would be happy to step down.

There are two main reasons for me feeling this way, firstly, I do not feel that the local area associations are receiving a satisfactory level of support from the BTBA head office and secondly, the lack of support for the local association shown by many of the bowlers in the Yorkshire Area is a serious cause for concern.

Whilst I appreciate that the BTBA head office has experienced problems over the last couple of years, the absence of such basic information as membership figures and details plus the absence of any information at all about our sanctioned leagues is a major cause for concern.

As area Secretary, I am required to maintain records relating to the bowlers and leagues in the Yorkshire Area and for the last few years I have been unable to do this.

In addition, the failure of our sanctioned league secretaries to submit an end of season standing sheet has meant that I have not been able to retain any league records. Something that is also part of a secretaries duties.

Communication with the leagues has been one way. I write to them asking for their help and nothing comes back.

I recently sent out all the league sanction renewal documentation and enclosed a letter explaining why the issue had been delayed, apologising for the absence of full details of the bowlers in their leagues and asking them to send me a copy of their completed league sanction application.

I have not had a single reply.

I have also sent out details of this AGM to both our centre manager and sanctioned league secretaries. I enclosed a letter inviting them to attend this meeting and asking them to let me know if they would be attending.

Once again not a single response.

OK. So that's the frustrations out of the way so I had better stop moaning and complaining as it won't solve either of the problems and may prevent a volunteer stepping forward to take over from me.

Bowling Year

- 1) Lots of changes to bowling centres. Quite a few changed hands, one or two closed and on a positive note some new ones opened but only one in our area in Barnsley Metrodome.
- 2) The demise of AMF on the tournament bowling front is something that has had a really detrimental effect on senior bowling in particular. This coupled with the reluctance of centres to want to host bowling tournaments is a concern as it is severely limiting the number and types of centres where tournaments are being held which is not conducive to bowlers developing good bowling techniques and execution.
- 3) Our bowlers still continue to be successful. We have bowlers playing on the US PBA Tour, the European Tour and also being successful in tournament's in the UK. The number of high games being rolled also continues to rise.
- 4) The county has had some success in the various Inter County Competitions and I am sure that Paul Noon and Phill Daggett will be giving us details in their reports.
- 5) Our relationship with Matchroom Sport continues with the return once again of the Weber Cup to the Barnsley Metrodome.
- 6) This year has seen a change for Yorkshire YAC, Adult and Senior bowlers that I did not think I would ever see happen.

The Area Associations finances are at such a level that for the first time since I became involved in county affairs, bowlers representing the county are going to have to pay for their own hotel accommodation at Inter County Finals.

Despite the committees best efforts, trying to raise enough income to continue to pay for the accommodation has proved impossible. Efforts to secure a sponsor have been unsuccessful. We even had for a short time a Fund Raiser/ Promotion person but nothing ever came of their efforts and they just stopped attending our meeting and dropped out of site.

Although some fund raising has been carried out by running raffles etc. at our local tournaments, the level of income raised was far too low.

We even tried to run a lottery style bonus ball draw where members of the committee were charged with "selling numbers" to friends and family on a monthly basis. There were allocated 12 numbers to sell and although a number of the committee did their bit others could not be even bothered to try and sell any at all.

I am sure that our treasurer will be telling us exactly where we are with our finances but I know before we hear her report that it is not going to be good news.

It seems that all I have been able to tell you about is bad news, well on a positive note, bowling in Yorkshire continues to thrive despite all the hardships it is facing from various sources.

This is good news but we do have to try and resolve some of the problems it is facing before it dies altogether.

Finally, can I express my usual thanks to my fellow committee members especially Les for his support, Katie for all her hard work on the finances under difficult conditions and for continuing to shout and scream at us on occasions, to Paul Noon for his professionalism in running tournament and to Phil Daggett for his work with the juniors.

Alan Bennett
Area Secretary

Treasurer Report

Unfortunately my report this year is once again negative, the association has yet again spent more than we are bringing and as I have stated now for the past two years very shortly we will have no funds to support our County teams.

Our current balance as of 30th September was £937.64. With the actual figure being £1,072.44 taking into account all transactions still outstanding. However since the last AGM in June 2010, to the end of September we as a County made a loss of just over £1600.

It is sad that we have for the first time in a long time, this year had to notify both the Senior and Adult Teams who made the County Finals that we could not finance any overnight accommodation for anyone as there are just no funds available. This unfortunately will be a decision that will be echoed to the YACs in February and the Under 18s in July 2012.

Whilst a contributing factor for the decrease in funds can be linked with the current economic climate and lack of disposable income, the main reasons for our continued lack of funds in my opinion is the lack of support and commitment from the committee and current squad members.

It is well known that everyone is very quick to criticise the committee, informing the committee of what we shouldn't do, but never offering to volunteer to help, but it has to be said that the committee and squad members themselves are also showing a lack of commitment and support for the County, with the exception of a couple.

We have had several opportunities this year to raise funds, several ideas of how to raise more funding and we have been very slow to utilise these opportunities and ideas (if at all).

We have for two years now run a bonus ball scheme where the winner every month wins £25, out of 98 numbers we have 18 numbers regularly paid, and as such I intend to stop this scheme.

We have had several tournaments in the County this year and to my knowledge only three have had a raffle of any sorts run at them. I have countless raffle / tombola prizes and large soft toys available but no-one willing to run it. We need Volunteers!!!

It would seem we are still relying on the "old ways" of obtaining funds, through the BTBA rebate which is ever decreasing due to a loss in members and a lack of funds within the BTBA, and contributions from tournaments which again due to the lack of participants is declining. It is time that the County, committee and members, think outside the box and provide funds. As without these funds I predict that during the course of 2012 we will have to make all bowlers who get selected to represent their County pay to bowl as we will not be able to afford it

Therefore I would like set some goals for the committee and squad for the forthcoming year. I would like to see a minimum of £500 be raised through fundraising over the coming year, this is only £100 per Age Group, I would like to see a permanent fundraiser to come on board and I would like new ideas brought to the table

for funding so we can stay one better than most other Counties and be able to continue to support the squads in the County Championships!

Now for those interested in the figures I have broken down the year into an actual AGM year June to May and then May onwards, as otherwise some Age Groups will look irregular as they will have paid for two events due to the timing of this AGM.

Whilst most is self explanatory, I must point out that the Trials figures look irregular due to the Junior paying (most of) their lineage out of their own funds and not the BTBA account, but the majority of the entry fees were addressed to the YBTBA and as such paid into the account.

June 2010 – May 2011

	In	Out
Adults		£683.40
Seniors		£1,028.60
YACS		£964.00
Juniors		£520.00
Trials	£1,587.00	£252.00
Areas	£763.00	£1,230.00
Expenses		£32.00
Fundraising	£446.20	£38.00
Shirts	£285.00	£467.00
	£3,081.20	£5,215.00

June 2011 – October 2011

	In	Out
Adults	£26.00	£228.00
Seniors		£197.00
YACS		
Juniors		£320.00
Trials		
Areas	£1,281.00	£987.00
Expenses		£78.74
Fundraising	£281.64	
Shirts		
BTBA	£827.10	
	£2,415.74	£1,810.74

Treasurer Report
As of the 30th September 2011

The total balance of the account as of the 30th September 2011 is **£937.34**

The following significant transactions have taken place since the last meeting:

<u>Reason of Transaction</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
BTBA Rebate		£300.00
Area Champs	£35.00	£136.00
Adult Counties Lineage	£150.00	
Fundraising		£153.40
Total	£185.00	£589.40

The following significant transactions are estimated to occur before the next meeting:

<u>Reason of Transaction</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
BTBA Rebate		£227.10
Adult Counties Banquet Tickets	£78.00	£26.00
Expenses	£40.00	
Total	£118.00	£253.10

This will make the total balance as of the 31st October should no more transactions occur as **£1072.44**

Katie Jowsey

Area Treasurer

TOURNAMENT & SELECTION

TOURNAMENTS

2011 TRIALS

We held the trials throughout January when 122 bowlers participated from which the junior bowlers went forward to a second trials for Junior Selection and the YAC, Adults and Senior squads were selected from the results.

2011 AREAS

These were held as usual in May when 73 bowlers participated at 1st Bowl at Hull

YAC COUNTIES 2011

After qualification both teams progressed to the finals when both teams bowled well and both teams reached the round robin finals. The Ladies finished in silver medal position but the Men failed to get a medal..

ADULT COUNTIES 2010

Again both teams qualified for the finals were they again could not manage to win gold.

SENIOR COUNTIES 2010

Again both teams qualified for the finals and both teams won gold.

SENIOR COUNTIES 2011

Both teams have qualified for the finals this weekend and the teams have been selected for the finals, although we have struggled to get a team together for the ladies.

ADULT COUNTIES 2011

Both teams have qualified for the finals in November. The teams have been selected for the finals and rooms booked.

Paul Noon

Tournament/Selection

Junior Report

We held our trials at Sheffield Firth Park this year.

There were 70 entries in total for the Junior Squad, 65 bowlers of which some entered in 2 age groups.

Not all bowlers took part in both trials, but we invited everybody into the squad, to bolster the numbers and get them to join in training sessions.

Our numbers were very low for the girls squads, especially Under 17 & 19.

Our first event of the season was the Yorkshire v Lancashire held at Blackburn. Unfortunately we lost overall.

We were bowlers short due to other commitments and also put out a very young team.

The Under 14 & 17 County Championships and unfortunately I have no record of how we went on.

I have lost my paper work, there is no information on the website and also the information I saved is in my son's computer which is now in America.

The Under 19 County Championships, both our teams came 4th.

We only took 5 girls with us and unfortunately one of them became ill on Sunday afternoon, we would have got into the final with a full squad as we only lost by 50 pins in the semi final against 5 bowlers.

Jake Daggett was Boys high average bowler.

Under 14 & 17 County Challenge, we did not enter a under 16 girls team due to other bowling commitments (2 of our bowlers were away on England training).

Under 14 boys struggled against good opposition.

Under 14 girls were a very young team with an average age of just 12, they managed a team average of 160.

Under 17 boys dominated this competition.

Training sessions have been held on a monthly basis for the first 6 months of the year.

A good, keen team of instructors have been involved from nearly all Yorkshire YBC's

I would like to thank

Katie Jowsey
All instructors

Who have put a lot of effort into Yorkshire Junior bowling this year.

Phill Daggett

Any other business

1) Area Championships Format

The format of this tournament continues to present problems. It was felt that entry numbers were being affected by the format and that it needs to be changed.

The Chairman asked for ideas to be brought to the next meeting.

2) YBTBA website

Although the website was considered to be a good communication medium, it was felt that we were losing the opportunity to improve the communication with the members due to the format of the website.

It was agreed that the present format was a throw back to the dys when John Egan had been involved in it but it was felt that it needed to be updated and improved.

The Chairman asked for suggestions on how it could be improved.

3) Calendar

It was agreed that since the demise of Go tenpin, there had been a distinct problem with the non-availability of a comprehensive bowling calendar.

Although some information was available across various websites including the BTBA, NAYBC, Team England websites, the information was not really consolidated.

It was suggested that efforts should be made to try and consolidate the information available.

4) Lottery numbers/bonus ball

The treasurer explained that although this fund raising effort was a simple concept that did not place a great deal of responsibility on the committee members to promote it, it was not being well supported.

Committee members were asked to "sell" a small number of numbers to friends and family but despite the small amount of work involved, some had failed to sell a single number.

The treasurer explained that she was looking for ideas/suggestions how it could be improved.

5) Tournaments

The Chairman explained that there had been a reduction in the number of bowling centres prepared to organise/run tournaments and suggested that the Yorkshire Area Association had sufficient expertise and experience to run them ourselves.

He suggested that we should take every opportunity we could to run tournaments.

6) Trials

The date and venue for this years Area Trails needs to be set. The Chairman asked that this be done at the next meeting.

7) Selection process

Eddie Rowe asked a question concerning the process that went into selecting bowlers to represent the county.

The Chairman explained that the selectors used our selection criteria to determine who should play for the county at any particular level. He also explained that once the squads had been chosen following the trials, the final selection process for each team was the responsibility of the respective Team Manager and Team Captain with the Selection Chairman having a watching brief over the process.

It was emphasised that the ability of a bowlers and how well a bowler could integrate into a "team" were the most important areas and that personalities and friendships were not considered to be an issue.

Every attempt was made to make sure that we fielded the best possible team but it was accepted that on some occasions this might not be possible due to injuries, holiday and other absences.

Election of Officers

Chairman	Les Grant	Proposed by Jon Wadey Seconded by Eddie Rowe
Vice Chair	Jon Wadey	Proposed by Alan Bennett Seconded by Peter Navern
Area Secretary	Alan Bennett	Proposed by Les Grant Seconded by Jon Wadey
Assistant Area Secretary	Eddie Rowe	Proposed by Les Grant Seconded by Katie Jowsey
Treasurers	Katie Jowsey	Proposed by Alan Bennett Seconded by Eddie Rowe
Junior Chair	Phill Daggett	Proposed by Alan Bennett Seconded by Jon Wadey
Tournaments	Paul Noon	Proposed by Les Grant Seconded by Alan Bennett
Selections	Eddie Rowe	Proposed by Alan Bennett Seconded by Les Grant

(It was decided that the roles of Tournaments and Selection should be split to reduce the workload on a single individual. Initially, the Selections role would be taken on by Eddie Rowe under the overview of Les Grant, Paul Noon and Alan Bennett. Eddie would also receive some admin support to facilitate distribution of letters etc. The position would be reviewed to ensure things were running smoothly)

New Committee members

Peter Naven	Castleford Bowl
Catelin Orme	Castleford Bowl
Brent Sharp	Firth Park Bowl

NB All nominations were unanimously agreed

The meeting was closed at 21.00hrs

Date of next meeting 9th November 19.00hrs Firth Park Bowl, Sheffield

