

Bowls BC held a face-to-face board meeting on Saturday, November 14. The following matters were discussed and/or decided:

- Bowls BC is in the middle of an 18 month financial year as they move the fiscal year end from Sept 30 to March 31. For the 12 month period ending September 30 there was a surplus of \$35,000 (originally there was a deficit of about \$10,000 projected). The savings were from some budgeted items not being spent and some significant cost cutting (travel, book-keeper, meetings).
- A reminder that there is NO Bowls BC General Meeting this fall. There is only one AGM, which is now held in the spring.
- Both Bowls BC and Bowls Canada have been moving towards a very different governance model. Provincial and National executives are “policy” focused, rather than “hands-on” focused. This has allowed both organizations more time for planning and policy. It is very easy for us all to become consumed with the day-to-day, year-by-year running of our clubs. As a result, there is no plan in place for growing our clubs. The V&D and its member clubs might give serious thought to setting aside one meeting to focus on longer term planning.
- Membership and usage numbers show an increase of 50 (4,339 to 4,389). Also, the following was reported:
27 clubs reported 398 social members
12 clubs reported 353 recreational players
11 clubs reported 4,516 short-term players
11 clubs reported 296 volunteers

These stats are extremely useful for ViaSport, Sport BC and the Bowls community. If any clubs have had difficulty completing the forms which Bowls BC provided this year, please let me know.

- The Provincial Championships schedule has been confirmed and the events allotted to each district:

June 3-5	Fours	V&D
June 17-19	Pairs	V&D
June 24-26	Singles	South Island
July 5-7	Sr Triples	North Island
July 8-10	Jr Singles	South Island
July 22-24	Triples	North Island
Aug 5-7	Mixed Pairs	V&D
Sept mid/late	C of C	V&D

- Clubs will be awarded 100th anniversary plaques as they celebrate. Those clubs which have already celebrated their 100th (Little Mountain, Granville & Kerrisdale) will get theirs in retrospect.
- The \$1,000 Bowls BC sponsored tournaments will be discontinued. They have not really accomplished what they were created for. Bowls BC is looking at other ways to create a bridge between district and interclub events and provincial championships.
- The definition of a senior is up in the air. There was a strong reaction to the change from 60 to 65 and so Bowls Canada is getting feedback from each province. Bowls BC board voted to support the change to 65.
- Communication with the clubs still seems to be something of an issue. I am happy to try to facilitate things so that Bowls BC has the correct email for each club.

- Strobe (Steve Forrest) will be offering intermediate coaching courses through Bowls BC. Two V&D dates will be set, likely one at PIBC in March.
- The Bowls BC website will soon have a new webmaster. The new design is working well and it just needs someone to update it. A bowler in the Interior who is in the website business may take on this role.
- The Provincial Indoor Singles was so successful last year that they will be split into two separate weekends for men and women.
- Bowls BC will be requiring all coaches and chaperones of junior bowlers going to provincial and national events to have had their Criminal Records Checks. They strongly advise all clubs to set this same standard. The Department of Justice offers this service for free.
- The Asia Pacific Championships will be starting on November 24 and going to December 6. Steve Santana is on the team, playing lead in the pairs and skip in the fours. I will be following the action and results and posting on the V&D site. You can follow yourself and read player profiles, see the draws and get the results: http://www.worldbowls2016.com/Category?Action=View&Category_id=72