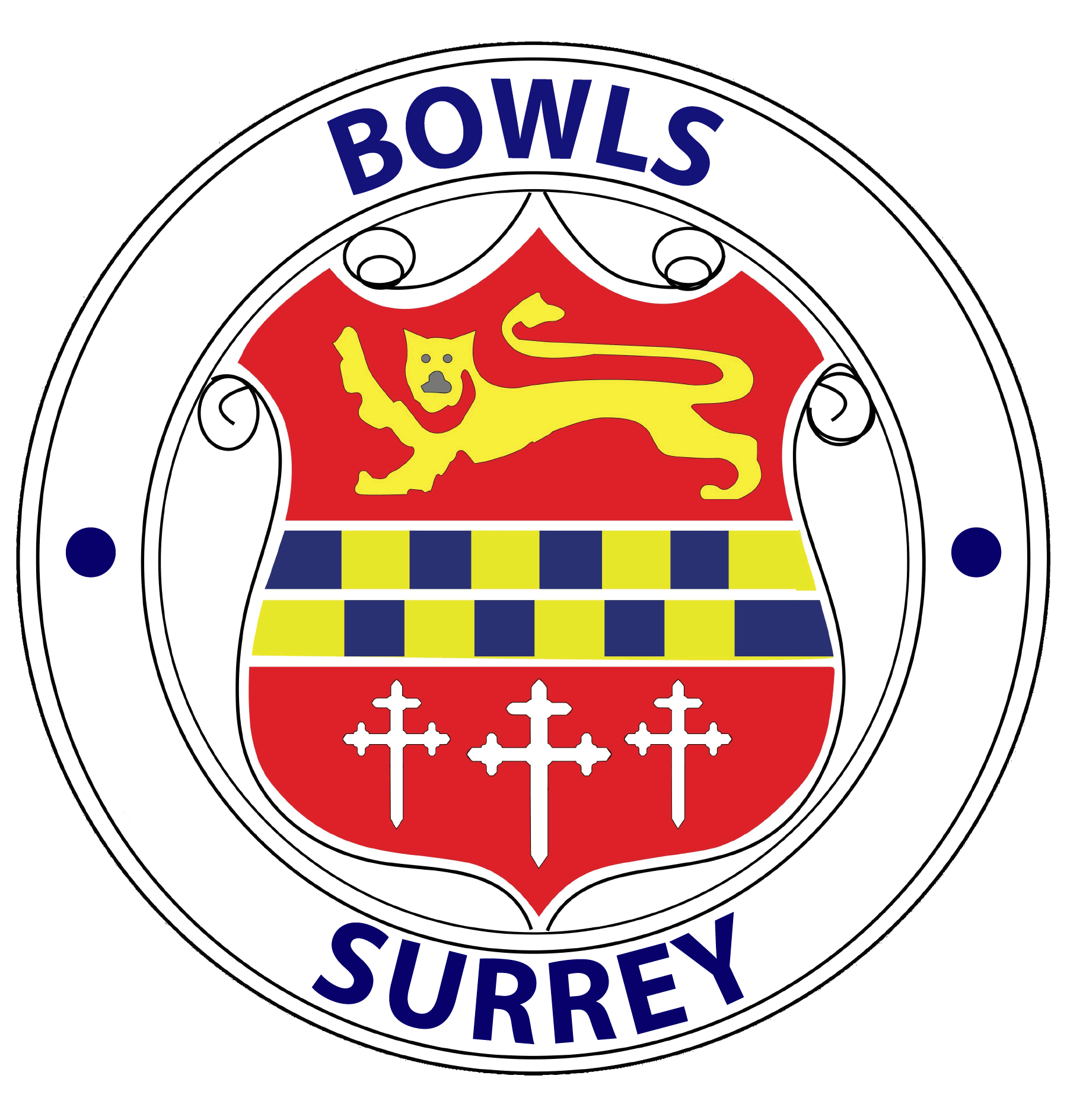
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**AREA 4**

**MINUTES OF AREA 4 MEETING HELD ON**

**Wednesday 9th April 2025 AT 7.30pm**

**AT WEY VALLEY INDOOR BOWLING CLUB**

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| **ITEM** | **TOPIC** |
|  | **Present**  **Area 4 Committee:** Eamon O’Flynn, Barie Emanuel, Jan Pedersen  **Bowls Surrey Representatives:** Will Mathews, John Tucker and Jeff O’Leary  **Area 4 Club Delegates:** Burpham, Camberley, Castle Green, Cranleigh, Godalming, Horsell, Knaphill, Mayford Hall, Merrow, Mychett, Stoke Park, Windlesham, Woking Park and Woodbridge Hill  **Plus:** 18 Members from clubs |
| **1** | **Apologies for absence**  Carolyne Stevens and Ewhurst |
| **2** | **Minutes of Meeting held on the 19th March 2024**  Having issued before the meeting the minutes were approved as a true record and signed by the Secretary. |
| **3** | **Maters arising**  There were no maters arising |
| **4** | **Two Wood Days**  Eamon O’Flynn confirmed that the Two Wood Days for both the Ladies and Men will be on the 13th July 2025.  The Ladies will be played at Knaphill B.C and organized by Carolyne Stevens.  The Men’s will be played at Merrow B.C and organized by Mark Jones.  Both days starting at 9.30am and all competitors should report at 9.00am. |
| **5** | **2025 Competitions and Late Affiliations**  **John Tucker reported**  **2025 BS Competitions**  Men’s entries down by 37  Women’s entries up by 12  Reminder that any one playing a non-affiliated player will be disqualified.  **Late Affiliations.**  It is important that you add all your new members as and when they join the club to the online system.  You will be asked to pay their affiliation fees at end of August.  **Safeguarding.**  I am pleased to announce that Sheron Mitchell has been appointed as Safeguarding Administrator until the 2025 AGM, by which time the board will have made a decision as to whether or not it becomes a permanent position, she will be reporting to Diane Double the County Safeguarding Officer.  We currently have 40 clubs that have not produced all their documents, we have 8 clubs without a safeguarding officer, we also have two clubs that refuse to comply with BE regulations.  BE will be introducing sanctions within the next 12 months, they are likely to be the following, Suspension leading to disaffiliation, which would mean no affiliated club would be allowed to play against them in any form of match or competition.  **BE update.**  **Affiliations.**  Men down by 15,739 14%  Women down by 7,894 24%  **County uniform.**  BS have registered both White & Dark Navy Blue shorts & County shirt.  BE have put back the rule regarding County jackets at National finals.  **Vacancies**  Administrator, Development Officer, Assistant Treasurer and Chandler.  John Tucker’s time in office comes to an end at the 2025 AGM, we are looking for anyone willing to take over the role. John will continue as the IT contact.  **Code of Conduct**  BS now have a code of conduct that covers Officers, Members, Visitors, Umpires & Coaches.  **IT**  We now have 25 clubs using the system for their own matches / rink bookings / competitions.  We are currently working on the Club Management system that will eventually deal with your club registration for all classes of membership. It is hoped to have this in place by the end of the year, in time for 2026. We will be looking for a guinea pig club to test it.  We also hope to have a system for indoor clubs as well for 2026.  We have 8 Counties using the system, with Middlesex coming on board in 2026 & I will be going to Devon on 25th April & Durham later in the year as they have both asked for a demonstration.  I am always willing to do a demonstration at your club if you are interested in the club modules. |
| **6** | **2026 Competition Format**  With the New Competition Format proposal having been issued to all the competitors and secretaries before the meeting Eamon O’Flynn asked those present if they had any questions and views on the proposal.  Ann Rapley asked want would happen if a game was cancelled by bad weather and they had a game already arranged for the next day. Eamon O’Flynn and Jeff O’Leary pointed that this was the same in the current system if have games fixed all week but they said that they make a note of this and discuss at the management meeting.  Eamon O’Flynn stressed to the meeting that the Management Committee were not trying to force this proposal through and stressed that it was important that everyone should vote either way  John Tucker advised that he had sent out 1062 email to competitors and to date he had only received 143 replies with 75% being in favour.  Eamon O’Flynn asked for an informal vote to see the view of the people at the meeting only 4 voted against it 28 in favour. |
| **7** | **Bowls Surrey Chairperson**  Will Mathews introduced himself and gave us his views of what he would like to achieve with Bowls Surrey. |
| **8** | **AOB**  Eamon O’Flynn announce that Arae had a game against Old Dean on the 27th July 2025 at 2.00pm and that he would send out an email asking for players in June |
|  | There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.15pm |

**Signed as a true record by: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**