



# FAB MALÁGA DELEGATION

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2021

1900 pm

<b>Present:</b>	FAB Chairman	Ron Jones
	FAB Secretary	Bill Neal
	FAB Comp Sec	Robert Wright
	FAB Team Malaga	David Mainwaring
	Benavista	Roy Saunders
	La Posada	Jeff Rowe
	Lauro	Jane Richardson
	Mijas	John Wilson
	Miraflores	Carol Frost
	Saydo	Tom Maclean

Apologies: Julian's unexpected absence was due to his wife suffering a fall and being taken to hospital just prior to the meeting. The Chairman wished her a speedy recovery on our behalf. Post meeting apologies were received from Craig Lewis (Santa Maria).

The Chairman welcomed all the members to the meeting conducted remotely once again, as we are still following COVID protocols.

Unfortunately, the connection with Jane proved intermittent and without a picture, but she confirmed she could hear the members and could communicate via SMS if needed, direct to Ron.

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed to be a true and accurate record.

### **Matters Arising.**

Carol asked if the recently opened 'whatsapp' group (Lawn Bowls Andalucia) could have protocols published to allow quicker access without the need to trawl through many messages, most of them simply acknowledging other messages.

Ron reminded the meeting that the group was set up to allow the easy dissemination of news between the Lawn Bowls Clubs and the FAB headquarters and as such was used infrequently, but agreed that when it was used there were often "spurts" of activity. He said he would look to see if there were ways to limit those replies that may be unnecessary but as they **were** usually acknowledgments of the main

message it was important that those distributing information were sure that it had been received.

John Wilson asked whether the previously mentioned COVID protocol sheet for clubs to submit fortnightly had been made available. Ron confirmed that they had not but would seek an update on what was happening with them.

Jeff informed the members that La Posada were very fortunate to have the services of an ex pat who was a publisher by trade and experienced in proof reading articles for possible use in the press and on the radio, if there was any need for this to help publicise our sport on the coast. Ron thanked Jeff for the input and said he would contact him (Jeff) offline to discuss this venture further.

### **Treasurer Report.**

A copy of the financial statement had been distributed by Julian for all to see and Ron added that Julian confirmed there was only one addition to the previously published account, which was a bank charge of 50 euros.

All members agreed that the account provided was a true and accurate record.

### **Chairman Announcements.**

Ron then informed the meeting that notices had been sent to all members for dissemination within their clubs, regarding the positions on the committee ahead of the AGM to be held in the next few weeks. Ron was happy to inform the members that current post holders had all agreed to remain in post for a further year. Bill (secretary) had not received the notice but confirmed he was happy to remain in post. The positions of specialist roles (umpires) can of course only be filled by suitably qualified individuals.

Regarding the AGM a proposed date of 19 May commencing at 1400, remotely was suggested and if the COVID protocols changed then Ron would inform members accordingly.

Ron then went on to discuss resumption of bowling in general in line with a motion provided by John from Mijas. All clubs had been asked at the last meeting to discuss with their players both here and in the UK, their intentions regarding travel to Spain and to submit details and dates for club competitions to Robert. In the background some clubs were actively taking part in a small league on a friendly basis. Ron reminded all clubs that COVID protocols were in place and any games organised for visitors and away fixtures were to be conducted in full compliance with the protocols. He also added that dates/fixtures still had to be submitted through David for submission to the Junta de la Andalucia, for publication and their approval and inclusion in the calendar.

John Wilson from Mijas is the coordinator for this small league and will liaise with David. All clubs are responsible for full compliance with protocols in place now and any future changes, particularly with regard to travelling to other clubs to take part in the small league.

Ron went on to propose that a 12 week period (Oct-Dec) should go ahead with 1 x FAB event, an individual club event and perhaps a league based on the discussions at the last meeting. If we proceed with this schedule and relaxing of protocols come into force, we can use this format to populate a calendar for next year.

Robert asked the clubs to inform him as soon as possible of the planned club events/dates to allow him in conjunction with David to produce a calendar covering the three months October to December.

Carol wondered if it was best to defer making decisions now and allow clubs more time to discuss with their absent players their travel plans,

Ron suggested we approach the following months in two parts. The remainder of 2021 and then the early period of 2022.

John asked if Robert could produce the calendar with built in flexibility but Ron suggested we need a format now and strongly believed in the 3 event schedule previously mentioned, a FAB event, club competition and a league. This would clearly allow those players in the UK to choose a period of 3 months when they may wish to travel and therefore take part in any event scheduled.

Ron also discussed that in the past so much time and effort was spent in trying to accommodate those players who chose to alternate between the UK and Spain and the bowling season was arranged specifically to fit in with those arrangements. Post Brexit and the restrictions now in place on time spent within the EU for those living in the UK, this approach was now out-dated. We should focus on those players who live in Spain and make sure they enjoy competitive bowling throughout the year while allowing our "Overseas Members" options to join in with those calendared events as they wished. The proposed event schedule every quarter does exactly this.

Roy from Benavista then informed the meeting that his club is not in a position to enter the league or host competitions. The owner had now received visits by estate agents and clearly intends to sell the grounds etc. Benavista players have been welcomed at Santa Maria two days a week and a good percentage of players make the trip. Of course, travel further afield will be up to individual members. Ron commented that it is disappointing that Benavista cannot take part in a league but 6 clubs would still make a viable and worthwhile league.

Robert also commented that under current Covid protocols, only 65% of the green can be used which will impact on some of the smaller clubs. He also confirmed that he will go ahead and produce a calendar for the 12 week period and last minute changes/decisions can be made nearer the time.

Ron agreed that all clubs have their own concerns regarding competitive bowling, however, they must remain firmly within the published Covid protocols until any changes are published.

## **Andalusian Championships**

Ron explained that Almeria have suggested moving the Andalucian competition from September to April 2022. Their primary concern was the very high temperatures that had been experienced in recent years, but also that Hotels are usually cheaper pre-Easter.

Carol warned that April will clash with Easter, already a busy time for her club and was informed that Easter next year is 17 April onwards.

Jeff asked if there were any planned events for April and Robert confirmed that at this time, one competition was scheduled but that can be moved to accommodate any changes that may be made.

All clubs then voted to accept the Almeria proposed change and with only one objection against, the majority agreed.

Jeff added that he could move a proposed competition at La Posada to accommodate any changes.

Carol suggested that the Costa del Sol bowling fraternity should take priority over outside ventures. Ron responded that the flexibility of NOT having to crowd all competitions in before Easter should free enough space and time to accommodate both.

## **Any Other Business.**

Jeff asked the members to confirm when the two meetings were being held to discuss future bowling and calendar schedules. Ron reminded the meeting that September had been discussed for 2022 events and May (after the AGM, time permitting, to discuss our delegation/club events.

Carol wanted to know why there had to be two meetings and then Ron asked for a show of hands to decide on one meeting only and the vote was tied, therefore Ron using his casting vote to confirm the initial meeting in May (post AGM) to set up the "bones" of the calendar but further meetings could be held up until September if it was still needed. It is rare that a calendar is agreed in just one meeting.

The date of the next meeting (AGM), to be held remotely starting at 1400 was confirmed for 19 May.