

**MALAGA DELEGATION FAB
MINUTES OF MEETING
HELD ON 23 OCTOBER 2023
AT LAURO GOLF AND BOWLS CLUB**

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| In attendance | Buenavista | D Hall |
| | Lauro | P Hughes |
| | Mijas | J Wilson |
| | Miraflores | C Frost |
| | Saydo | T McLean |
| | FAB Chairman | R Jones |
| | FAB Secretary | W Neal |
| | FAB Treasurer | J Thomas |
| | FAB Press Officer | J Richardson |
| | | Guest |
| Apologies | La Posada | J Rowe |
| | Santa Maria | S Morgan |
| | FAB Coaching | M Kane |

The meeting commenced at 1400 with a welcome by Ron who also thanked everyone for attending.

Approval of Previous Minutes. Approval of the previously published and since amended minutes was approved by all.

Matters Arising. There were no matters arising for further discussion.

Treasurer Report. Every member confirmed they had received a copy of the account covering the period 1 January to 19 October and then Julian read through the details of income and expenditure. A total surplus of 8,658 was matched in the bank account. A question was raised by Carol who asks "how could we spend the money held"? Julian explained that there were still problems with the FAB financial position, mainly that they (FAB) only receive their funding late in the year but still have bills to pay. With Malaga delegation keeping the income as a buffer in our account, it means that we can continue to pay our bills without relying on FAB to reimburse us within an acceptable timeframe. Julian also explained that the figure of 8,658 euros contains the 2,220 euros for competition entries, which we still have to submit, so the overall figure will reduce very soon. Tom asked if Julian knew when the clubs would receive the green fees owed and Julian confirmed that, as last year, clubs should expect their payments in December, after the FAB receive their funding.

Ron briefed the clubs that the forecast budget for Lawn Bowls would remain the same as this year as the sport, whilst losing numbers overall to an amount of 360 federated members in the Malaga area, didn't suffer as much as other sports in Spain, which allows the FAB to consider their numbers on a pro rata basis when they issue their budget.

Julian went on to inform the clubs that the federation fee for 2024 will rise to 20 euros. Some clubs confirmed that they had raised their fees to members to 18 euros as this was thought to be the cost for 2024 and could the surplus fund be used to offset the 2 euro

difference. After a discussion it was confirmed that the clubs should pay to the FAB 20 euros and Julian would then credit clubs 2 euros per federated member, if applicable. Julian concluded his report stating that the bank account is available for anyone who wishes to see it and asked if there any questions for the treasurer. There were no questions and a proposal by Tom and seconded by Paul to accept the treasurers report as an accurate record, was fully supported.

Club Registration. John enquired if all the clubs had now carried out the registration procedure. All clubs confirmed they had with the exception of Miraflores and Benavista which Dougie confirmed, was in the hands of the club management, and he would seek confirmation on his next visit to the club.

League Timings. Carol proceeded to read a prepared statement from Miraflores regarding the default timing for the league matches as recorded in the previous minutes. The report is reproduced below:

“For the following reasons, I propose that we revert to the original league start times of 1.30pm for 2.00pm start. With the flexibility for this to be altered by agreement between the clubs involved to reflect long distance travel etc.

I hope you will agree that having run a bowls facility for 20 years, I have significant experience and knowledge?

An afternoon start enables matches to be cancelled in a timely manner avoiding unnecessary and potentially hazardous travel in inclement weather conditions which make the green unplayable.

In my experience, the majority of bad weather occurs overnight and very often a green which is unplayable in the morning has dried out by the afternoon. This also allows time for the green to be swept and cleared before the match on the many occasions we experience high winds, as occurred last Friday morning with Terry having to go down at 8.30am to sweep the green and set up the terrace as chairs etc had blown everywhere.

In the winter the playing conditions are warmer in the afternoon than the morning.

Driving was given as a reason for changing to mornings – to drive from Miraflores to Benavista to arrive before 10.30 will result in us travelling through the rush hour period along the A7 this will also affect other clubs.

I cannot recall a situation where we have been unable to reach agreement with either Saydo or La Posada to change the start time to support their and our travel dynamics for an earlier start. We have already agreed start times of 11.30 for 12.00 for our away matches to enable easier travel time and are happy to reciprocate if they want the same timings.

Having taken the new timings back to our members they are disappointed no consultation was involved over this decision and they all say afternoons are best”.

Ron thanked Carol for her report and passed this matter across to all the clubs for further discussion and voting if necessary. All the clubs voiced their opinion as to what time they would like to be the default time for the league and in conclusion a

vote was taken with the majority supporting the published default time of 1030 for 1100. Two clubs, Miraflores and Benavista voted to go to the 1400 start time.

Ron reminded the clubs that if any club foresaw a problem with this time, then they should speak to the opposite captain and as long as both captains agreed, then a rearranged time is perfectly OK, but in the case of a non-agreement, the default time of 1030 for 1100 must be adhered to. This approach worked perfectly well last year.

Deadline of Agenda Items and Circulation of Agenda. Carol raised these points for discussion as history has proved that if agenda points aren't published and circulated in a timely fashion, crucial decisions had been made, without the chance of individual clubs given the opportunity to discuss any point with their members.

Bill explained that at present he circulates a reminder of the next scheduled meeting and asks for points for the agenda at the same time, aiming for 7 days' notice. This should allow clubs to discuss with their members, the proposed agenda, and any points for discussion and possible voting.

Bill continued by explaining how the error occurred before the previous meeting and Ron added that as a very small gathering, it sometimes becomes impossible to follow perceived rules of meetings/votes and decisions. Adding late agenda points is not ideal but sometimes it becomes necessary to add a raised point to AOB to allow a discussion by the attending clubs. If an implementation date or time is required before the next meeting then it cannot be carried forward to wait perhaps, a month.

Ron reiterated that in our present method of these meetings, the avenue of 'redress' was available to any club if they thought this was necessary.

Carol concluded with informing the meeting that the Miraflores Bowls event, has to be postponed until 2024. Her aim is to hold an additional competition over 2 days and each club would be invited to enter 2 teams to help celebrate 30 years of bowling at Miraflores under its current structure.

Calendar 2024. Ron asked all clubs to confirm they had received his e mail containing the proposed calendar for 2024. After confirmation Ron explained that he would now go through the detail's month by month, and clubs were welcome to add comments/suggestions as they arose. Venues for federation events would be confirmed at the end of the calendar discussion.

Before Ron began, Bill read out the thoughts from Jeff who couldn't attend today:

Can we consider removing the Malaga Provisional "Fours" in April as we had done for the summer championships? This was discussed and it was agreed by all the clubs to remove this from the calendar.

Can dates be programmed for umpire and markers refreshers courses? Ron confirmed that this was very easy to achieve, and Jeff should now speak with Ron with his suggested date(s).

Ron continued and reminded the clubs that 2024 was a leap year meaning a slight change in dates compared to this year and also that Easter was earlier next year.

The match against Spain has still to be confirmed in January. Malaga versus Almería is confirmed for 24/25 February and in October, the match against Almería would take place at Lauro.

January and February. Clubs agreed that all details are OK.

March – Benavista asked if their classic could be played over two periods of 4 days each, the first to be a Pairs competition on 17-20. No objections from the clubs.

April – remove the Malaga Provisional Fours. Spring league commences with the disciplines to be confirmed nearer the time.

May – Aussie Pairs and Presidents Fours

September – Malaga Pairs, perhaps change the start date to Friday 13? This was dismissed as Ron explained that the Malaga Triples was going to start on a Friday so this would be a good chance to see if the start day effects the number of entries.

October – Benavista to play their Classic Triples event between 2-5. No objections.

November – Miraflores Bowl, date TBC

December – MIJAS Ball and Chain.

All the clubs were content with the calendar and its amendments, and Ron confirmed that he will publish the revised calendar to the website shortly.

Venues. The following venues were confirmed:

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| La Posada | Presidents Fours |
| Saydo | Inter club Singles and Malaga Summer Championship Pairs |
| Lauro | Malaga Provincial Triples and Singles |
| MIJAS | Malaga Provincial Pairs and Summer Championship Triples |
| Benavista | Aussie Pairs and Malaga two bowl pairs |

Any Other Business. Paul raised the matter of Team Malaga and its manager and selection structure. Paul added that about 5 years ago it was decided that the selection team should be independent from the players and not be involved in the games themselves. Perhaps the way forward was for every club to canvass their members and ask if anyone would like to join the Malaga squad as a selector and we would hopefully have a committee

of 6 selectors, all representing their club and be knowledgeable of their player standings and form. Anybody volunteering to join as a selector would also be able to play.

Ron added that he had recently sent a 'flyer' to all clubs just about mirroring Paul's suggestion, asking their members to join the Malaga squad either as a player or playing selector. The same flyer also asked for a volunteer for the Team Manager position and included job descriptions for both the manager and selection squad members. It also suggested that the Selectors and Team Manager would be allowed to play but not all in the same playing session, to ensure that performances could be adequately monitored. Clubs confirmed they had published this flyer and agreed to follow up with a further to allow the maximum participation and inform Ron of any volunteers. An update would be given by Ron on results of this exercise at the next meeting.

Date of Next Meeting. This was confirmed for the 29 November 1400 at Lauro.

The meeting closed at 1400.