



# FAB MALÁGA DELEGATION

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

At Lauro Golf BC on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> January 2021

2.00 pm

<b>Present:</b>	FAB Chairman	Ron Jones
	FAB Treasurer	Julian Thomas
	FAB Team Malaga	David Mainwaring
	FAB Comp Sec	Robert Wright
	FAB Vice President	Bixo Foletti
	FAB Secretary	Bill Neal
	Benavista	Doug Hall
	La Posada	Jeff Rowe
	Lauro	Jane Richardson
	Mijas	John Wilson
	Miraflores	Carol Frost <b>via SKYPE</b>
	Santa Maria	Sandy Guthrie <b>via SKYPE</b>
	Saydo	Tom Maclean
	Guest	John Gordon (Benavista)

**Apologies:** There were no apologies but the SKYPE link for both Carol and Sandy proved difficult with loss of sound most of the time.

The chairman welcomed the members and thanked them for their attendance. The minutes of the previous meeting had been read and all members unanimously approved them as being a true and accurate record.

Ron went on to explain that there had been a significant change in the way the FAB and the Malaga delegation now had to conduct their financial business and processes. This was partially expected following the introduction of the new rules last January but a recent Junta de Andalucia audit of the FAB accounts at Head Office in Jaen had brought our anomalous system to light.

### Treasurer Report

A copy of the financial statement from the Malaga Provincial Delegation Account was provided by Julian and attached to the agenda giving members a chance to peruse the details. Julian also went through the outgoings and income details.

Julian also explained that the account was now ready for auditing and he will be submitting it in the near future and the results will be sent to all members as soon as it is available.

There were no questions from members and the account provided was voted as a true and accurate record.

Julian then explained the new changes mentioned by the president. He also mentioned that we would now incur bank charges because the account has not seen a steady influx of money, due mainly to the cancelation of competitions during the pandemic.

### **New Payment System**

The system of Julian paying invoices directly from our bank account had been declared unlawful by the auditors as the only account authorised to handle money for the Federation is that held in Jaen and the auditors require a complete bank trail for each transaction.

This means we now have to follow the same procedures as all of the other specialities and pay all our receipts to Head Office, who in turn are responsible for paying them in a timely fashion. Therefore, Clubs will now have to send invoices to head office direct and they should expect payment, within a month.

Julian has to immediately close the account we currently use and send any balance of money to Head Office. This action confirms and serves as a reminder to clubs that, as the money is held by the Federation, it is controlled by them and Lawn Bowls has no direct claim on how it is spent.

The present system of Julian paying invoices has ceased forthwith. However, all debts/service charges to clubs have been paid, Bills were paid twice (FAB also paid) and clubs were thanked for their prompt response in refunding any overpayment.

Ron added that the FAB is unable to offer funding to help offset costs incurred by clubs for cleaning equipment, scoreboards and mats etc during the COVID protocols. Ron reminded clubs that unfortunately if clubs wished to play bowls then they do so at their own expense.

The subject of thermometers which were provided by the FAB with the help of Bixo, was raised and it was confirmed that two clubs had still not received theirs. Bixo explained that lessons had been learnt regarding courier choices but he would resolve the two clubs deficit.

Ron then summarised a lengthy email communication from the Junta which explained that money allocated to Sports in Andalucia, including Lawn Bowls was being looked at closely and due to COVID the amount of money was reduced and instead of funding being given in advance, it was being paid in stages.

This had caused a temporary cash flow problem in the 2nd half of 2020 which would be resolved by 2021 payments from the Junta. The President had opened a credit with the bank to ensure invoices could be paid on time..

Robert asked if could clubs arrange competitions now with their cost forecast which would use up any cash presently held by Julian. Ron explained that this would be

improper and impossible anyway, as from the 1<sup>st</sup> January, the account was closed for any further transactions.

A few clubs raised concerns about the added workload to their treasurers and perhaps captains with the new system being introduced immediately. Julian consoled the members by explaining that the changes would have very little impact on individual clubs and he is more than happy to arrange a 'workshop' where he would take treasurers and any other interested club member, through the new processes.

John Wilson raised the point of entry fees for federation competitions now there was no obvious benefit.

Ron reminded the club representatives that we (Malaga Delegation) had only a administrative function and would represent the clubs decisions and further suggested that the members returned to their clubs to speak to their players on this subject and bring their findings to the next meeting.

Bixio told the members that there must be a nominal entry fee, at least 1 euro, to meet requirements laid down by the Junta and perhaps a reduction in green fees might help. Bixio also stressed to the clubs that no blame for the current position should be directed to the Federation. With the change of the Andalusian government a few years ago, widespread fraud and misuse of money at their level had been discovered and the 'new' system is aimed to make the situation clear and transparent.

### **Competitive Bowling.**

Ron stressed that any future competitive bowling must be played within the COVID protocols now in place and clubs should guard against complacency. Ron then asked the clubs if they were interested in restarting the league and competitive bowling for the rest of the season. Clubs answered as follows:

Benavista – No	Lauro – Yes	Miraflores – No	Saydo - Yes
La Posado – No	Mijas – Yes	Santa Maria – No	

With this result, there will be no Federation events for the rest of the season. The tri-club mini league can go ahead dependant on any changes with COVID announcements being followed. John Wilson briefed the three clubs involved with his plans for the event.

The MIJAS Masters event can go ahead as it is in the Federation calendar but new protocols must be sent to the FAB in advance and approval given before-hand.

**COVID News.** The chairman explained that there were no new restrictions on our sport at this time but stressed again, the protocols are for our safety and we should all continue to enjoy our sport safely and compliant with the protocols. The situation remains fluid and further restrictions may be forthcoming within days.

### **Club Matters.**

The various points for discussion on the agenda raised by clubs have all been covered during the meeting with the exception of one from Tom Maclean, who raised the matter of teams from the same club, in preliminary rounds of a competition, being drawn against each other, having to travel to a different venue. Could this be looked at with a view to allowing the teams to play at their own ground.

A discussion took place with all members confirming this was common sense and they didn't see a problem if this became the rule.

Ron suggested they took this matter back to their club members and be prepared to discuss the result at the next meeting.

### **Any other business.**

Ron discussed the calendar for next season saying it may be easiest to transpose this year's details onto next year which would ensure all events and competitions would survive.

Roberto suggested that the calendar should be completely rewritten bearing in mind COVID and the perhaps '90 day stay' of the snowbirds in the future which may require two leagues, winter and summer.

The Chairman asked again that club representatives take this back to their members and bring the results to the next meeting.

### **Date of next meeting.**

This will take place on Wednesday 17 February, at Lauro.