

**FAB MALAGA DELEGATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
LAURO GOLF BC WEDNESDAY 19 MAY 2021**

Present:	Chairman	Ron Jones
	Secretary	Bill Neal
	Treasurer	Julian Thomas
	Team Malaga	David Mainwaring
	Competition Sec	Robert Wright
	Vice President	Bixo Foletti
	Benavista	Roy Saunders
	La Posada	Jeff Rowe
	Lauro	Jane Richardson
	Mijas	John Wilson
	Miraflores	Carol Frost
	Saydo	Tom McLean

Chairman.

The meeting commenced at 1430 and Ron welcomed the committee and club representatives. Ron went on to explain why a revised set of minutes had been sent to everyone and a proposal by Jeff Rowe and seconded by John Wilson to accept the revised minutes as a true and accurate record was fully supported by all.

Matters Arising.

Ron explained that there was still no sight of the protocol sheets that had to be submitted but he had been assured they had been submitted for approval by the sports council and would soon be issued to all clubs.

Ron also asked if Jeff could provide to him the contact details of the two individuals at Saydo regarding the press/media coverage offer of assistance.

Treasurer Report.

Julian explained that the account sheet which everyone had seen earlier in the day was still valid for this meeting but in addition he had the details of any cashflow expenditure if individuals wished to see them.

Proposed by Roy Saunders and seconded by Carol Frost to accept the account sheet as a true and accurate record was fully supported.

Points from John Wilson (Mijas).

Ron then briefed the meeting regarding a number of points that John had raised and which Ron had offered to answer directly but decided to reveal to all the response as shown below: (Johns question/point in bold type)

Information/Instruction on where to find the FAB Malaga statues or Operating Rules for Lawn Bowls

There is a common misconception regarding Malaga FAB.

- As an organisation it has no legal standing. Naturally therefore it has no constitution or statutes. **Instead what it has is a series of decisions made by the Clubs for the benefit of the Clubs.** These decisions are made at meetings held by the FAB through the Club representatives, which, in theory, are elected by their Club members and whose role is to inform their Club Members of decisions to be made and vote in accordance to the wishes of those Club Members.

These decisions are recorded in the Minutes of each meeting. The Minutes are distributed to each Club via their Club Representative and should be distributed within their own Club in a manner that ensures all Club Members are aware of the decisions being made.

Legally the structure we have in place is a grey area. The Andalusian Sports law (and indeed both the FEB and the FAB statues) say that an Executive Committee for the Sport is held every 4 years, in the same year as a summer Olympics. The Elected official will be the President, Secretary and Treasurer. The President will then appoint as many delegate as required to oversee the Sport in Andalusia. A maximum of 16 of these delegates will make up the voting Executive Committee. Each Province will have a delegate appointed for each modality of the Sport . This delegate is fully responsible for their sport in that Province. They may, if so required ,appoint such people as they see fit to assist them in those responsibilities. There is no scope for an elected body within the province.

However since the FAB took over control of Lawn Bowls in Malaga Province successive delegates have worked on the principle that it is their role to administer the wishes of the Clubs and not to enforce decisions upon them. I see it the same way, as long as decisions are being made in the interest of the Clubs and are compliant with Andalusian Sports law and the FAB.

Calendar- Approval process.

- In general the Calendar approval process relies on the Clubs getting together to discuss and decide the dates and venues for Competitions held throughout the coming bowling season.

It is important that these discussions and decisions take place in a structured FAB meeting to ensure that the transparency of the decision making is maintained.

- The Clubs agreed a set of Competition rules for all Federated events and these can be found in the handbook (and the website). Creating a new competition requires that any rules pertaining to that competition are approved by all of the Clubs - not just those taking part this year.
- Entering events in the official Calendar is required by Andalusian sports law and both the FAB and FEB.
 - I. This is to ensure that appropriate licences and insurance cover is provided. (Any Competition must have a licence from the local Ayuntamiento and a Certificate of Insurance. The FAB get these for every competition we calendar.)
 - II. The Calendar is scrutinised by the Andalusian Sports Ministry who monitor the event actually takes place and gets copies of the results.
 - III. Because the funding of both the FAB and FEB is reliant on the numbers of competitions / events that take place every year holding competitions outside of the Calendar is not allowed. Equally putting an event into the Calendar and then not keeping them informed of any changes of dates /venue / cancellation is also seriously frowned upon and may affect the level of funding available to the Federation involved.
- Organising a competition outside of the FAB can be done but each venue must get the appropriate licence and insurance certificates from their town hall. Regular breaching the FAB rules on this may result in the Club being removed from the Federation.
- I am always happy to look at new formats and try them out. If it comes to the FAB first - as in the case of the Australian Pairs - I am happy to try out a “concept” competition to see what support it may get. Next year we are looking at possibly changing the current format of the league or introducing new leagues, trialing ideas this year makes sense to me.

In the case of the Australian Pairs, Lauro were approached and offered the use of their green free of charge. There was no direct financial benefit for them to do so. As a “concept” competition the whole idea was to “suck it and see” what responses / feedback it gained. Valuable feedback was gained from the attempt and I look forward to trying other formats or revisiting this one as the year goes on.

Clarification that all events must now be added to the Calendar, including the Ball and Chain (previously never added). Does this include Inter-club challenge events. Do all Calendar listed Competitions need to be limited to Spanish Federated members? (i.e. Previously Federated visitors from overseas were permitted to enter non FAB designated events).

I honestly don't know what an Inter Club challenge event is. If you mean a friendly match between two clubs , then no.

Calendared events are for Competitions and Leagues only.

For those of you new to the area there are two types of competitions.

Federation and Federated

Federation events are those governed by the FAB, run by the FAB under FAB Rules and Regulations. These include any competition that bears the name Malaga (i.e. Malaga Provincials.) and competitive matches held between Clubs - that is a series of games where the results are collated and posted – whether it is classed a “friendly” competition or not.

Federated events are those not run by the Federation and held at a single venue. (i.e. The Benavista Classic).

Rules for who could play in each of these events were agreed at the Competitions Committee Meeting in January 2017 and ratified in March 2017.

The Ball and Chain, while a Federated event, was not included in the Calendar following a decision made by the Clubs in November 2016, which was that because of the crowded Calendar all Clubs would only be allowed 8 days of Calendared competition and with Mijas already having the 8 day Masters it would not be put into the published Calendar. See next point.

Is the Pre approval and addition of all events and matches to the Calendar now as a result of the COVID restrictions

No, it is a result of the recent change of Government in Andalusia who made sweeping and deep rooted changes to the Sports laws in the Region. Many of these changes were to the control of competitive sport and to the financial controls of Federations. Those changes explain why the Ball and Chain did not need to be “calendared” in the past but if held again would need to be. The Clubs should decide whether the 12 days of competition rule still applies and if it does how it would affect Mijas. They could decide to allow Mijas extra days, or decide that the Mijas Masters and Ball and Chain share the 8 days allocated to the Club.

Confirm the prices for FAB Competition entry for the 2021 season.

We voted to keep the price up inline with the clubs own Opens- Are all FAB Competitions now going to be €5/person (€10/team) as per the price stated on the Australian Pairs?

As already explained the Australian pairs was a concept competition to look at different ideas. One of these was to see if reducing the price would encourage more entries. It is not to be taken as a change to existing pricing structures, which could only be done if approved by the Clubs.

It could be argued that the current and recent competitions also broke this structure by not charging any fees at all? One of the many decisions made without the formal approval of the Clubs.

In response John thanked Ron for his explanation and answers to his questions.

Bixo added that all clubs should check that their club statutes are in print and up to date to save possible embarrassment in the future.

Calendar.

Robert then handed a copy of his proposed calendar to everyone covering the period September to December 2021. Robert explained how he had fitted 3 leagues into the period (every Friday) and various discipline competitions.

Discussions took place with varied comments from club representatives and with the general feeling that this was a good 3 month period and it appears to accommodate everyone's wishes.

Ron reminded the meeting that Robert had achieved everything that had been discussed in previous meetings and the calendar looked viable but will and must remain flexible. Every club faces its own problems with overseas members as to when/if they return but we have to get events onto the calendar and get them published and approved by the necessary authorities.

Robert confirmed that names of competitions shown could soon be amended together with venue changes if clubs agree. He also explained that the method he had used to populate the period ensured an equal share of FAB funding and individual clubs who had contacted him for their event had been considered.

Further discussions took place between the clubs and following input from Ron and Robert the meeting agreed to the following decisions:

That all Fridays in the period should be booked for league competitions

That Mira Flores hold its Open competition as published

That Mijas hold the Ball and Chain competition during 28 November and 1 December

Benavista hold its Classic competition 17-20 October

Saydo/La Posada would change with Benavista their venues during September and October.

Regarding these decisions Robert will now republish the 3 month calendar also incorporating the Malaga Provincial disciplines.

Looking ahead and with the calendar sheets provided by Robert to next year, the meeting decided that the calendar details for next year will be discussed at the next meeting, giving clubs a chance to let their members know of the planned 3 month period up to the end of this year and perhaps to gauge responses regarding travel plans.

The next meeting is scheduled for 16 June at 1400 @ Lauro BC.

Meeting closed at 1545