



Perthshire Bowling Association 117th Annual General Meeting held on
Saturday 22nd November 2025
at Blackford Bowling Club

Welcome - James Scott thanked everyone for attending.

Attendance - 17 clubs in attendance including 3 representing their clubs Committee members & 5 Past Presidents.

Apologies – Ray Taylor (Past President) Aberfeldy, Mandy Easson, Susan Myles, Colin Gourley, Gary Hinks, Auchterarder B.C. Pitlochry B.C. Stanley B.C.

President – James Scott – asked all members for a minute's silence for bowlers that we've lost throughout the year.

James Scott - Apologise for the report not being circulated to all of the clubs. Life in general has been hectic this year and in particular the last few months. I feel the season started with us on the back foot with the committee having the arduous task of re-shuffling the entire bowling calendar after the vote at last year's AGM to approve Eddie Nicholson's proposal. Thanks must go out to Fraser Munro & Martin Gowrie to get it to work, albeit with issues throughout the season, but these were resolved swiftly to allow the competitions to continue.

Andrew Hamilton Trophy and it was good to see the North Section returning to a full complement of 8 teams ensuring that we got the full ticket of games. After a strong start for Perthshire it unfortunately came to a slow end. I'd like to personally thank all new and returning players for their efforts throughout the season, along with all host clubs and members for allowing us to host games. Also thanks go to Graham Stewart for his efforts as Team manager over the last few seasons and we wish him well for his future as he steps down from the committee.

The Inter County Top 10 - this year we were represented by Glencarse. It was a great experience to follow them around the country and watch them eventually lift the trophy at Sighthill to become the first representatives from Perthshire to ever win the competition. Good luck to next year's representatives Perth B.C. Hopefully they can get a similar run in the competition.

I would like to apologise that I was not in attendance at the PBA finals at Blackford. Due to work commitments unfortunately I couldn't be everywhere. I am grateful for my committee stepping up and running the day in my stead and along with my own club, Blackford, ensuring that the day went smoothly. I'd like to congratulate all the eventual winners and all runners up for making it to the finals.

The Campbell Trophy was won this year by Bankfoot B.C. Congratulations to Bankfoot.

Top 5 this year was represented by Dunning B.C. Unfortunately, they came upon a very strong Inverkeithing team and it wasn't to be this year. Hopefully Glencarse can get a run in the competition next year.

On a personal note it has been an honour and a privilege to represent Perthshire as President for year 2025. We have had a season of issues and I can only apologise for these but assure to you that for the entirety we have had the best interests of the PBA at heart to ensure things kept running as smoothly as possible. I have to reiterate that all the committee members are volunteers and without them giving up their free time all the competitions within the PBA wouldn't be possible. I must thank them for their continued support throughout the season along with all host clubs, volunteers, umpires, players and spectators.

Struan Baptie must be thanked for his continued support to the PBA. His continued support is very much appreciated.

I would again like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their help and advice over the season and I just want to wish my successor the very best for season 2026. As always, I'll be available to support where necessary.

James Scott. (President)

- **Matters Arising** – Nothing forthcoming.
- **Minutes** - Minutes of the 116th AGM held on Saturday 22nd November 2024 had been circulated and were **adopted by Fraser Munro, seconded by James Watson.**
- **Secretary's Report** – circulated. Nothing forthcoming.
- **Treasurer's Report** – balance report circulated. James commented on a couple of points that he thought would be of interest on the balance sheet - Nothing forthcoming.
- **Gents Team Managers Report** - circulated. Nothing forthcoming.
- **Gents Match Secretary's Report** – circulated. Nothing forthcoming.
- **U25's/U17's – G.B.** - Email received from Mandy with apologies for not having a report sent in and that hopefully one will be forthcoming.

Election of Office Bearers

- President – **Stephen Gordon** – Proposed by James Scott. Seconded by Arthur Donaldson.
- Vice President – **Fraser Munro** – Proposed by Stephen Gordon. Seconded by James Watson.
- Secretary - **Gary Hinks** – Proposed by Willie Donaldson. Seconded by Stewart Frogley.
- Treasurer – **James Scott** – Proposed by Willie Donaldson. Seconded by Martin Gowrie.
- Gents Match Secretary – **Martin Gowrie** – Proposed by John Gavin. Seconded by Willie Donaldson.

Additional Committee Members:

- **Colin Gourley** – Proposed by James Scott. Seconded by Martin Gowrie.
- **Stephen Bodle** – Proposed by Stephen Gordon. Seconded by Stewart Frogley.
- **James Scott** – Proposed by Jordan Baptie. Seconded by Craig Middleton.
- **Sam Sabbagh** – Proposed by Craig Middleton. Seconded by Jordan Baptie.
- **Stewart Frogley** – Proposed by Fraser Munro. Seconded by Willie Taylor.

- **Willie Donaldson** – Proposed by Stephen Gordon. Seconded by Stewart Frogley.
- **John Gavin** – proposed by James Scott. Seconded by Willie Donaldson.

Arthur Donaldson – Proposed by John Gavin. Seconded by Colin Dow.

A vote was then taken to decide to which name they wanted to remove from the proposed names. After the count Arthur Donaldson's name was voted to be removed. James Scott then took the opportunity to thank Arthur for all of his services and help throughout the past years and hopefully we'll see him in future years.

Auditor – James has spoken to Alistair Berwick and he's happy to continue to audit Perthshire Bowling Associations accounts.

Annual Fees – Eddie Nicholson – enquired whether we had any notification of the increase from Bowls Scotland? James Scott indicated that it was a capitation fee for entering the competitions, not an Association fee.

Honorarium. - Status Quo

Championship 2025 – Martin Gowrie

Vote of thanks for the clubs that helped out this year with the change in format that was introduced. It was a big task to incorporate this into the current season. We as a committee accept there were some issues and we did work through them and with the help of the clubs we got there. Some of the issues we did have were club's unable to host one of the finals as it clashed with a club tournament, the Top Ten we had to move it away from the host club because that club had other commitments. So thanks to the clubs that stepped in to help out.

The biggest issue we had was moving the Perthshire games to every Thursday as we had a lack of green space to play the games. The first round we had thirty-five ties to filter into one night and we only had thirty-two rinks available. Because of the situation we were lucky that a lot of clubs scratched their games because they couldn't see them being played later in the year, clashed with holidays etc.

Top Five, again a couple of complaints from clubs that entered. Because they were starting later in the year, some of the games finishing in the dark. Playing in the dark isn't good for any player. Also starting at 18:30 to avoid darkness, clubs were struggling to get to the venues allocated for the starting times. Martin put a proposal to the Perthshire competitions to revert back to alternative weeks, which will hopefully avoid clubs scratching from competitions as they are playing every other week. This will allow more clubs to enter & give us more green space.

One other change is that senior fours rather than playing only on a Thursday night they can play in the afternoon so it's on par with Bowls Scotland games. With the Junior singles being moved from a Sunday afternoon to a Monday night. That would allow when we get to the semi-final & final stages, we would incorporate them into the rest of the ties. That means now that the seniors could play in the afternoon and then in the evening.

Dates of the 2026 Competitions will be:

PBA - starting in the 21st May

- Snr. Singles/Pairs & Triples - Starting 28th May
- Snr. Fours/Singles & Fours - Starting 22nd June
- Junior Singles & Semi Finals will be Friday 3rd & Saturday 4th July. Venues to be

confirmed.

- Finals - Saturday 18th July at Presidents green, Kinnoull B.C.

Top Ten - starting on 6th July

- Semi Finals semi-finals 27th July, Final Sunday 2nd August – President's club unless they are in the final.

Top Five - Starting on 16th August

- Semi-finals 6th September, Final 13th September. Current holders' green unless in the final.

Same format with one change being a proposal entered from Rattray BC, that all games be played on neutral greens. No home advantage in a Top Ten Game semi-finals and final. We will split them rather than them being played on the same day, again neutral greens.

The final would normally be played on the President's green, however if his club gets to the final, then it would be moved to a neutral green. If two different clubs get to the final, they will play at the President's club.

Games will be played on a Monday night starting at 18:45 and Finals would be on a Sunday starting at 14:00. Top Five exactly the same as the Top Ten, again on neutral greens. The games would be played on Sunday afternoons at 14:00, taking away any possibility of playing in the dark. The finals again would be on a Sunday afternoon. That's my proposal to the PBA for year 2026.

Eddie Nicholson – as a matter of interest Martin, because it's a notice of motion and it's not on the agenda, you can't change it for next year.

Willie Donaldson – yes we can as Blairgowrie B.C has put a proposal in saying exactly what Martin has just explained.

Various options were discussed and after a lengthy discussion and confirmation of Martins proposal the thinking then what was being proposed might be interfering with the constitution. In that case it wouldn't come into effect till approval at 2026 AGM. It was put forward that all of Martin's proposals, as well as lowering the age to 55, so that this would tie in with Bowls Scotland rules. **Seconded by Colin Dow.**

Eddie Nicholson - suggested that since we're going to reduce the age for the seniors as per Bowls Scotland rules then why doesn't the Perthshire not just go with the Bowls Scotland Constitution that would cover everything. **Proposed by James Watson. Seconded by Eddie Nicholson.**

Stewart Frogley – For years the Top Ten was always at Methven B.C then it was taken away from them. What is wrong with going back to them and ask if they would like to host it again, let them run the competition the way it used to run? It takes away from the Match Secretary the green space problem for him to organise his competitions.

It was agreed Methven be approached to see if they are interested in taking the Top Ten competition.

Bowls Scotland Update - James Scott

Thanked all of the clubs for their help throughout the season as well as getting the results back. Proposed dates for the semi-finals & finals are – semi-finals seniors in the afternoon will be Monday the 8th of June along with the first semi-final for the gents in the evening of the 8th June. The second semi-final being held on the 9th June in the evening with the final being all day on Friday 12th June. With the mixed pairs and junior's semi- finals & finals on Sunday 14th June, venues to be allocated.

Andrew Hamilton Trophy - Willie Donaldson

There will be 8 counties for next year so things are heading in the right direction.

Proposal 1 - The normal setup from the North section / City & Counties we normally get a quarter final held within the North section. With the winner of the North section who will play in that. What was agreed at the meeting was that each association will nominate a club. If that association is successful as the group winner their final will be at that club irrespective who they play. So each year we need to nominate a club. It will be down to the new committee to look at the criteria required for them to host.

Proposal 2 – (Proposed by Bon Accord) Looking at different idea to using substitutes. It does stipulate that you can substitute for illness. They would like to propose that you can bring in two substitutes. We will relay that to our new committee and we need to reply to Cities & Counties by the 16th December. They reckoned that there is a window between ends 11 & 15. If the PBA agrees to it then all players reporting would have to be at the chosen venue prior to the game starting. We don't have to agree to this but just in case it does go through then we have to be prepared.

There was commentary on the issue of catering, as catering charge has been increased up to a maximum charge of £15. If it's not required, then clubs would not charge this. The PBA have a good support who come to the games and we're penalising them for coming to support the team.

First game is away to City of Dundee. First home game is against Angus.

National Championships - James Scott

At this moment I don't have any updates available but as soon as the information comes out it will be put onto the website.

Website – Stephen Gordon

Informed the members that Gary Hinks is in the process of changing a few things with the website. All of the information on there at the moment will remain. Just want to update a few thing and hopefully get more information added to help everyone out.

AOCB

James Scott - Omitted from his report that he did thank Graham Stewart for the work he has done for the PBA over the past years he's been Team Manager. We wish him all the best for the future.

Would also like to thank Gordon Barclay for filling the Secretary's position and for Jordan Baptie & Arthur Donaldson for their commitments.

Eddie Nicholson - If missing rule 27 does that mean that you'll be going with Bowls Scotland rules? Stephen Gordon read out the proposal to be added to the bye-laws. Again a lengthy discussion was held. Then it was **proposed by James Watson** that we do away with the PBA rules & bye-laws and go with Bowls Scotland rules. **Seconded by Eddie Nicholson**. It was then agreed the P.B.A. would abide by Bowls Scotland rules with immediate effect.

Stewart Frogley – Dress code, players were turning up at semi-final stage with jeans on. It is down to the clubs involved to inform their members of the dress code for all Bowls Scotland ties. as well as the Perthshire ties. This would also be covered within the new competition rules that have been accepted. It was suggested that an email be sent out to all of the clubs to make them aware of the dress code for representing your club in those competitions.

Alistair Cummings - this year I failed 4 sets of bowls. 2 because they didn't have a proper stamp and 2 because they had stickers on. It's something that you need to put out to the clubs. Someone at the club must check the bowls are legal. Some are saying that they weren't checked at the last venue. Alistair was asked to send out information showing the legal & illegal bowls stamps.

Willie Donaldson – the clubs that have u25's. I'm now the CWPO for the PBA so when it come to the website there is an email that's going to be made up for the CWPO are playing if they need to report anything the email will be on our website, so at some of the games u25's in the A.H. Some of the juniors are under 18. We need to stay within the law.

Stephen Gordon – the u25's I'd like more bowling clubs to be involved in some capacity. Watching juniors at Sighthill was a credit to the PBA. Their attitude and manners throughout the day were impeccable and the comments from Mandy, Susan and Gus were encouraging. They should be thanked for the work and effort they put in to help and support the PBA. The other counties that were there couldn't have praised us enough, stating that Perthshire will be strong association in the future judging by our junior section.

Martin Gowrie – if anyone knows of anyone who would be prepared to sponsor the PBA. ask them to get in touch, as we've lost one of our previous sponsors. This would be a big help to us as well as the u25's.

Brian Martin - Proposed that to help out why doesn't each club put a donation into the PBA.

No further matters were forthcoming Stephen Gordon then closed the meeting.

Vote of thanks to the chair from the meeting.

Meeting Closed at 15:40

G. Barclay,
08/12/.2025.