



Costa Blanca

Umpires and Markers Association

Established 1994

HONORARY LIFE PRESIDENTS: Harry F Winfield - harry.winfield@gmail.com – 96 649 0227

PRESIDENT: Fred Willshire – willshire12@gmail.com – 96 502 0492

VICE PRESIDENT: Arthur Brown - sabainfo.brown@gmail.com – 86 577 4454

SECRETARY/TREASURER: Gail Willshire – costablancaumpire@gmail.com – 96 502 0492

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 26th November 2017 at Monte Mar Bowls Club

Present

Committee:	Harry Winfield	Honorary Life President
	Fred Willshire	President
	Arthur Brown	Vice President
	Gail Willshire	Secretary/Treasurer

Clubs:

Benitachell	John Hendrick	Quesada	John Smyth
	El Cid	San Luis	Keith Jones June Jones
	Country Bowls		
	John Simpson	San Miguel	Ros Stockell Bob Donnelly Chris Collier Val Collier
	Horadada		
	John Bailey		
	Javea		
	John Pittaway Pat Pittaway	Vistabella	Neil Burrows Sandra Burrows Barry Norris
	La Marina		
	Peter Bailey		
	Monte Mar		
	Dave Melville		

The President welcomed all to the meeting and asked for a minutes' silence to remember those members we had lost during the year.

1. Apologies

Apologies were received from:

Ian Brown from El Cid, Jean Cooper from La Siesta, Tony Hesketh-Field from Javea, Margaret McLaughlin from La Marina, Jerry Bartley from Finca Guila, Robin and Sarah Lowman from La Manga, Eileen Potts and Peter Ross from San Miguel, Barbara Brown and Sue Norris from Vistabella and Ronnie Cairns, Bill Young, Les Bounds, Val Hignett and June Young from Monte Mar.

2. Minutes of the AGM 27th November 2016

The Minutes of the last meeting were taken as a true and accurate record.

Proposed: Keith Jones

Seconded: Chris Collier

3. Matters Arising from 2016 Minutes

There were none.

4. President's Report

The President, Fred Willshire, thanked Arthur Brown and Gail Willshire for their hard work and support during the year.

He continued to explain that the CBUMA had again been very busy during the year:

- 2 umpires courses had been run, one at San Luis and one at Javea and also resit course, resulting in 8 new umpires being appointed. The President thanked all the umpires who assisted with the courses.
- 2 rink inspections had been carried out at La Manga and La Siesta.
- Umpires had been organised for 7 competitions, including the Nationals and the Valencians. The President thanked everyone who had umpired and marked at these events.
- Work had been undertaken with the Valencian and Nationals Committees to standardise and improve the Conditions of Play for these competitions.
- Umpire's refresher questions were sent out in February and had resulted in a great response. The results did show that more care needed to be taken when determining which law to refer to regarding displacement. This was also apparent in the umpire's exams.
- Monthly brainteasers are now being added to the CBUMA website.
- As mentioned at the last AGM, Mazarron was invited to come under CBUMA since they come under the LLB for leagues. The CBUMA is waiting for a response.

Next year the President explained that he intended to concentrate on Markers again:

- The CBUMA intends to run at least one Markers course, with Quesada being a likely venue for one of them. If there is enough interest in the North the Committee will consider running a course up there.
- A refresher for the markers would be carried out which it is hoped would include a practical element, similar to that that Keith organised a few years ago. The details for this need to be ironed out as yet.

On the point of refreshers, the President explained that he had been looking back through the minutes of the CBUMA AGMs:

- In 2003 it was proposed (proposer unknown) and unanimously agreed that there should be mandatory attendance at seminars and that non-attendance would result in loss of qualification.

- In 2005 it was proposed by Tony Lawley and agreed by 41 to 5 that continuing membership would be dependent on regular attendance at update meetings or ongoing performance review.

Neither of these proposals resulted in any amendment to the constitution. The President continued that he would like to see this finally put right and will be drafting a proposal for the next AGM in order to amend the constitution. He also stated that, if needed, seminars should be run when the new Law Book comes out in 2019.

Finally, the President reminded delegates to keep the club notice boards and websites up to date with any information circulated. He asked that they encourage non-CBUMA members to read any relevant information as well as encourage them to become markers. He added that all players should have an up to date law book, so please encourage your club members to purchase one from you.

The Secretary then asked the Vice President if he wished to add anything. He stated that the amount of work the President had done during the last 12 months was fantastic and that he and the President met regularly to have long discussions about issues that arise. The Vice President asked for a round of applause to thank the President for all his hard work.

The President wanted to add that the Umpires courses which are run are done so using manuals from the English Board of Umpires. He continued that in England there are various different levels of Umpires but in Spain the level attained is the equivalent of the English County level. Unfortunately the Spanish qualification is not recognised in the UK. He added that he also has a bank of around 200 questions to draw from.

On conclusion of his report the Secretary asked if there were any questions for the President. John Hendrick asked if there was a possibility of having a ladder system for Umpires. Keith Jones stated that all umpires should know the laws. Bob Donnelly added that it is a struggle to get umpires to cover the Valencian and Nationals and it would be more difficult if we introduced a ladder system.

5. Treasurer's Report

A copy of the accounts had been prepared and issued to the meeting and Gail Willshire took the meeting through the main figures.

She explained that during the year the CBUMA netted 79 euros from running the umpire's courses, 54 euros from the sale of law books and 17 euros from the sale of ties and badges, totalling 150 euros. Outgoings this year totalled 319 euros. The biggest expense incurred during the year was for printed certificates, 150 for Umpires and 150 for Markers, along with a seal kit. Previously certificates were printed using a household printer and doing so used a lot of ink and the card was generally not good quality. The certificates now are on good quality card, well printed and, with the seal, make them something worth having. She continued that it would be a number of years before the CBUMA had to have any more printed, so overall printing costs would go down.

The balance carried forward as at 24th November was 415 euros, although there would be some costs to be deducted for this year's AGM.

Gail finished by stating that the following items were in stock as at 24th November; 36 ties, 18 cravats, 22 law books, 27 markers badges and 11 umpire's badges. She added that 6 law books

had been sold just before the AGM and that a further 10 were earmarked for La Siesta. Given that a new law book should be being published in 2019 she explained that she was looking to purchase another 20 to cover any required for the forthcoming Markers Courses.

The accounts were accepted by the meeting.

Proposed: Harry Winfield

Seconded: Ros Stockell

6. Nominations

The secretary explained that the following Nominations had been received:

President – Fred Willshire Proposed by Chris Collier, Seconded by Barbara Brown

There being no other nominations Fred Willshire was to continue in the post.

Vice President (South) – Arthur Brown Proposed by Val Collier, Seconded by Gail Willshire.

Given that there were no other nominations for Vice President (South), nor any nominations for Vice President (North) Arthur Brown was to continue in the post of Vice President to cover North & South.

The President, in accordance with the constitution, then appointed Gail Willshire to continue as Secretary/Treasurer.

7. Any Other Business

- i) John Hendrick stated that he felt the President was breaking the Law of the Sport of Bowls by stating that as John had not completed the refresher questionnaire he was not able to umpire at any other club. John quoted Law 43. The President explained that he had not stopped John from umpiring at any other club. He had sent an email to Javea stating that the Premier 20 knockout was an LLB competition and should be umpired by a CBUMA recognised umpire. He had explained to Javea that they needed to be careful as BBC now operated a 2 tier umpire system – those who could umpire for BBC competitions and those who were CBUMA recognised. Harry Winfield stated he was not aware that BBC were operating this system and said he would go back and investigate.
The President explained why the situation had arisen and that there had been some animosity with a few members of BBC. The Secretary then re-read to the meeting the proposals (see President's report) which were approved at the 2003 meeting when Harry Winfield was President and the 2005 meeting when Tony Lawley was President and stated that the current President was only carrying out what the membership had already agreed. Fred Willshire added that he had not gone as far as Tony had suggested which was to remove membership. This was accepted by the meeting and it was decided to move on.
- ii) Bob Donnelly stated that the issue of Rink Possession had been raised and asked whether umpires should be enforcing this. Chris Collier expanded on why this had arisen. John Hendrick stated that we should all be using common sense. Harry Winfield pointed out that the problem had arisen due to the conduct of the professionals and umpires on television. Fred Willshire added that this issue had been raised in 2005 when Tony Lawley was President and he had written to the clubs asking them to take steps internally to improve the situation.

Gail Willshire stated that the law is very clear on what needs to be done. She read out Law 13.3 and the President stated that umpires should be more proactive.

Val Collier said that there is a problem in games where there is no umpire. June Jones added that this is a problem which needs to be resolved at grass roots level. John Smyth stated that this is often gamesmanship and needs to be stopped by the skips before the umpires are involved. Harry Winfield continued that when he was involved with league games he would often get someone to act as an umpire.

Gail Willshire suggested that we should ask the squad captains to tell the players they need to be aware of the law around rink possession.

The President re-iterated that he wanted umpires to start being pro-active regarding this law.

- iii) John Simpson asked what could be done about a bowler continually wandering into a neighbouring rink. It was agreed that little could be done other than warning the player not to do it.
- iv) The President stated that obviously umpires should not be drinking beer when on duty. He added that he would like them to not drink alcohol free beer either as players will only see that he has a pint in his hand.
- v) John Simpson made a point that many of the markers during the Valencians were not good and were not qualified. He asked why only qualified markers could not be used and shouldn't the CBUMA be more involved. Fred Willshire explained that during the Nationals in 2016 99% of the markers were qualified. The CBUMA does get involved when asked by the controlling body and that year the Emerald Isle controlling body asked for help. For the Valencians this year the CBUMA provided all of the controlling bodies with a crib sheet for markers telling them the do's and don'ts of marking. Fred added that he would like to see just one controlling body, rather than it being made up from volunteers from the clubs involved.

Gail Willshire added that one of the problems is that most of the qualified markers are playing in the competitions so it is almost impossible to get qualified markers to cover all rounds.

Bob Donnelly mentioned that the rules of the competitions state that the losers will be expected to mark. Ross Stockell asked that wherever possible qualified markers be used.

8. Date of Next Meeting

The date of the next AGM was set for Sunday 25th November 2018

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 11:45am and the President wished everyone a Very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Signed
President:

Secretary: