

LAWN BOWLS ASSOCIATION FOR THE DISABLED (SINGAPORE)

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Our Patron: Ms Indranee Thurai Rajah

UEN/IPC: T04SS0110B



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM) of LAWN BOWLS ASSOCIATION FOR THE DISABLED (SINGAPORE) HELD ON 31st AUGUST 2024 (SATURDAY) AT 10.00 AM

Total number of Life/Ordinary Members Present: 27 Membership

Strength as at AGM: 59

1. Start of the meeting and approval of 2023 AGM minutes of meeting

Hon Asst Secretary Dhananjay Jadhav called the meeting to order at 10.00 am, noting that the AGM attendance has met the quorum. He welcomed all the members and thanked them for attending the AGM. He shared the agenda of the meeting and noted the key item of electing the next generation of MC members. He presented the minutes of the 2023 meeting and called upon the members to ascertain the minutes of meeting. There were no queries or amendments to the minutes; the minutes were proposed by Mr Chin Kim Sen and seconded by Ms Faridah Salleh. The Minutes was approved by the members.

2. Opening address by the president

President Mr James Chia addressed the members and thanked them for attending the AGM. He reflected upon the growth of the association and the work done by the association during the past few years. The challenges faced by the members during COVID, buildup of the activities post COVID. He thanked all the MC members for their support during his tenure.

Looking forward, he noted the challenges as the association grows specially on the need for more resources and manpower. He also thanked Ganesh for his time and effort during the past few years and for his support to grow the association.

He ended by sharing his vision of team Singapore participating in 2032 Brisbane Paralympics.

3. To approve and pass Audited Financial Statements for 2023/24

Mr James Chia assisted Ms Jyah in sharing the audited financial statements 2023/24 with the members. He noted the increase in income from FY 2022/23 SGD 85,568 to FY 2023/24 SGD 257,098 which was mainly due to the support from President's challenge and SDSC.

He also shared the increase in expenses from FY2022/23 SGD 109,779 to FY 2023/24 SGD 197,963 which is attributed to the increase in training related and tournament related costs. He also highlighted the benefit due to the hard work put in by the players and this investment which has resulted into LBADS winning medals at Hangzhou Asian Para Games (1 Silver and 1 Bronze Medal), World Bowls Championship (1 Bronze Medal) and 2nd Langkawi Goodwill games (1 Silver (Triples) Medal). He appreciated the effort put in by the players and their dedication which had resulted in this success.

The audited financial report was proposed by Mr Joseph James, seconded by Mr Khirmern Mohamad and approved by the members of the AGM. The details of the financial report can be viewed by the members on the website.

4. To approve and pass Annual Report 2023/24

Mr James Chia walked the members through the annual report. He cited that the association had reached an important milestone of 20 years just a few months ago. He thanked everyone for their support over the years.

Ms Michelle Siew shared the details of the calendar of events during the past year 2023/24. She noted that the association has had a very eventful year, and the calendar was full of activities both locally and overseas. In the past year the association participated in various events and had a successful run winning medals in the tournaments where LBADS participated. The association also engaged in community outreach programs by working with community centres to engage with the elderly and the wider community. With special focus on growing the association's VI team members and support staff, there was a VI workshop for directors organized, which was supported by Hong Kong Sports Association. For all round development of the players' fitness, training was also organized by the association which has helped in building up the endurance of the players. She also shared that the association intends to increase the focus on short mat format of the game, this year marked the 1st year of Short Mat Bowls Championship. She shared under the leadership of the new MC these activities will further increase as the association charts its next phase of growth.

The Annual Report 2023/24 was proposed by Mr Hui Beng Hong and seconded by Mr Mark Lim and approved by the members of AGM.

5. To elect and appoint new Management Committee members for upcoming office term from 2024/25 to 2025/26.

Mr James Chia shared the nominations received for election of the new Management Committee.

1. President - Ganesh Ramanathan
2. Vice President - Fathima Mohiethen
3. Hon Secretary - Kenneth Chew
4. Asst Secretary - Belinda Chen
5. Treasurer - Wayne Soo
6. Asst Treasurer - Jyah Lachami
7. Committee Member - Inderjit Singh
8. Committee Member - Edmund Lim
9. Committee Member - Mohd Taufik Ahmadini
10. Committee Member - Hui Beng Hong
11. Committee Member - Maggie Shen

The members introduced themselves, shared their industry experience and thanked the members for giving them this opportunity to contribute.

The new committee members were elected uncontested, the members thanked the MC members for stepping forward to support LBADS.

6. AOB – Change of Name of LBADS to Parabowls Singapore

This item was proposed by Mr Ganesh Ramanathan. He asked the members for their opinion for the change of name from LBADS to Parabowls Singapore. He shared his experience of dealing with other organisations as a representative of LBADS and the confusion on the official name as the branding of the association was Parabowls Singapore. He also highlighted that if the members decided with the change of name, it would take time as formalizing a name change requires formal procedure to be followed. The members shared their feedback as summarized below.

1. Ms Desiree – Shared a concern that the name Parabowls Singapore does not include “Lawn” and may not be viewed to be associated with Lawn Bowling.
2. Mr Khirmern – As a representative of team Singapore Mr Khirmern shared his perspective of interacting with international players or 3rd persons and the confusion caused between the branding as Parabowls Singapore and LBADS the official name.
3. Mr Hui Beng Hong – Shared the challenges faced by people being misdirected to wrong websites instead of the official site due to the acronym LBADS. He also highlighted that the terminology of “Para” covers disabled and is more widely accepted, he also addressed the concern of “bowls” not being associated with “Lawn bowls” by sharing that “bowls” is more inclusive and would cover both “short” and “Lawn” bowls.
4. Ms Michelle – highlighted that there is less chance of “Ten pin bowling” being confused with “Lawn bowls” as it does not use the word “Bowls”
5. Mr Srinivasan – Also clarified that “Ten pin bowling” is usually referred to as “Bowling”.
6. Mr Joseph – referred to LBADS branding and logo, stated that as a player it is the identity which he and other players associate with.
7. Mr James – Shared his experience of interacting with other organisations, the ease of communicating using “Parabowls” and potentially more appealing to attract new players/members.
8. Mr Ganesh - Stated that the name “Parabowls Singapore” is in line with “Bowls Singapore” and easy to relate to.

Mr Ganesh called for a show of hands: 25 members voted in favor of Parabowls Singapore and 2 in favour of LBADS. He thanked everyone for their input, shared the challenges for the change of name, as next steps the new committee will look into the matter, decide and communicate with all the members.

7. Incoming President’s speech

Mr Ganesh thanked everyone for attending the AGM and for electing the new Management Committee. He also thanked all the past committee members for keeping the association alive. He highlighted that the players’ contribution is the most important, without the contribution of the players the Management Committee cannot exist.

Looking forward, he planned to continue and expand on the work done by the past committee. There are three key areas where the new committee would focus on:

- a. Outreach - to increase the members of the association and grow the national team. To achieve this the Kallang and Yan Kit facilities will be leveraged.
- b. Focus on developing the National Squad of players – The focus would be to increase the quality of training, to be more competitive and aim for more podium finishes.
- c. Short mat format – He noted with the indoor format the short mat was gaining popularity and the new committee will continue the momentum.

He shared some of the challenges faced by the MC, the background work which goes into running the association, the coordination work which needs to be done with SDSC, donors and other organizations. He thanked the MC members for stepping forward despite their tight schedules and appealed to them to contribute in their own way to promote the sport of Lawn bowls.

He also shared with the growing administrative work there are two new personnel who would be starting from 2nd September to assist LBADS in the administrative work.

Mr Samuel Liu – Manager

Mr John Seen – Sports Executive



He ended his speech by appealing to all the members to support the new MC, Manager and the Sports Executive.

8. Price presentation by President

The Prizes for the 2024 annual singles championship was give out by the new President Mr Ganesh:

1. Gold – Khirmern Mohamad
2. Sliver – Faridah Salleh
3. Bronze – James Joseph and Koh Kwee Boon

The meeting was called to a close at 11.30 am with Mr Dhananjay Jadhav thanking all of the members for attending the AGM and requesting them to extend their support to the new MC.

Minutes recorded by:	Minutes vetted and confirmed by:
	
Date: 31 August 2024	Date: 31 August 2024
Mr Dhananjay Jadhav	Mr James Chia
Asst Hon Secretary	President