

BOWLING NEWS

South Eastern Bowling Association
of the B.T.B.A.

Views expressed herein are not necessarily those
of the Executive Officers of the S.E.B.A.

Editorial

What is the Future of Bowling in the United Kingdom?

WHEN YOU bowl in your regular League, are there some nights when you have no control over your ball and wonder whether you will ever hit the headpin again? What is more, do you know why this is happening.

This is one of the major issues confronting our Sport in the year when many new Tenpin Bowling Centres are about to be or are being built in the United Kingdom. At Seoul in the Autumn, Tenpin Bowling is to be featured in the Olympic Games as a demonstration Sport. Is the Sport ready for this opportunity.

As readers of SEBA *Bowling News* will know, there are three major problems confronting our Sport which are:

- Is Bowling a Sport or a Recreation in the eyes of Proprietors.
- Lane Conditions.
- The Politics of the Sport.

The leading American magazine for Tenpin Bowlers is the *Bowlers Journal* which is obtainable in this Country. In recent issues, two articles have been published which deserve the notice and attention of the bowlers in our Area and your Editor has obtained permission from *Bowlers Journal* to reproduce these articles in full.

One Page 3, there is an article by Mike McGrath entitled "Bowling's Big Mess: An Answer" which sets out very plainly the current situation on Lane Conditions which I am sure will ring a chord with many of our readers.

This article was written for an American audience, but as all expertise, equipment and know-how in this

Country is imported from America, the comments made apply equally to Bowling in the United Kingdom.

Tenpin Bowling was originally designed as a Sport where everybody could compete on the same terms and skill would be the deciding factor. In the present conditions, Strength and Power is becoming the dominant factor and this is proving dispiriting for the Senior, Woman and Junior Bowler. When you have read this article, come forward and put your views to SEBA *Bowling News*.

In the last issue, we described how the BTBA is our representative on the International Governing Body of the Sport, the FIQ. The current situation as seen from this side of the Atlantic is detailed in the article entitled "A Very European View of Bowling's Global Issues" on Page 5.

This article raises many issues, not least the question of money. To have a well regulated SPORT, someone will have to come forward with more cash. It is essential for all to remember that Tenpin Bowling is a Sport as well as a business. But it is a Sport first of all. To survive as a Business, it must first of all survive as a Sport.

Next year a new General Secretary will be appointed to the BTBA. He will have many problems. Why not put your views forward to SEBA

Bowling News and we will ensure that they are put forward to our Governing Body so that our SPORT can survive and grow.

New Faces on SEBA Council.

At the recent Annual General meeting of SEBA, some new members were elected to serve on the Council of our Association. To assist our members, we have published a list of all the Officers and Members of the Council with their addresses and telephone numbers. As Council Members, we are always ready to listen to you when you have problems regarding our Sport. Please let us have your views so we can all serve your interests to the full.

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Junior Jottings

Congratulations to Alison Freeman

Our congratulations go to Alison Freeman from Dagenham who was recently picked to represent Great Britain in the 1988 European Championships held in San Marino, Italy last month. Teams of 6 Girls and 6 Boys are picked for these Championships, together with two non-travelling reserves for each team, Dean Saunders, also from Dagenham was picked as a Reserve. The full teams were:

Girls: Adele Dyer (Airport), Lisa Shalome (Airport), Michelle Parker (Ilkeston), Alison Freeman (Dagenham), Tracey Walmsley (Stevenage) and Rachael Stametti (Sunderland). Reserves: Julie Crouch (Sunderland) and Terri Brooks (Great Yarmouth). Boys: Colin and Alan Toogood (Brize Norton), Paul Matthews (Fleetwood), Wayne Beedle (Sheffield), Mark Scott and Jai Buller (Great Yarmouth). Reserves: Dean Saunders (Dagenham) and Lee Thurlby (Ilkeston).

The Boy's Team excelled themselves by finishing third to win the bronze medal and in the doubles, the Toogood brothers bowled very well to win the silver medal.

The Girl's Team were extremely unlucky to miss out on the medals, finishing in fourth place.

Bexleyheath

'Coach and Four' Tournament

In their temporary home at Lewisham Bowl, Bexleyheath YBC hosted a Tournament in December. They revived a Tournament first started several years ago by Buzz and Janet Morrison called the 'Coach and Four', a 5 person Team Handicap Competition, with each team consisting of one BTBA Instructor and 4 Juniors from within the NAYBC.

Originally, it was negotiated with the Centre Manager, Bruce Jennings that we could have two full squads over the 24 lanes from 9.00 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. giving us space for 48 Teams. However the response was so good that we were able to put on a third squad of 18 Teams to meet the demand of 66 teams who entered from 11 Centres, including Sunderland, Manchester, Ilkeston, Great Yarmouth, Portsmouth and Crawley to supplement those from the

London Area of Southend, Dagenham, Airport, Lewisham and Bexleyheath.

Team Names were encouraged and Bexleyheath did their best to try and tongue tie the Announcer on the microphone (yours truly) and we hope that next year our visitors will follow the trend. After the first squad, a Bexleyheath Team was in the lead, being Jeriatric Jerry and the Jumping Juniors, consisting of Jerry Lodge as Instructor and eventual low man; Steven Dodd, Stephen Murr, Lee Wagner and Robert Petherick. This Team was destined to finish fourth overall, but it proved useful practise for the eventual winners who were Nattering Neil and the Nominated Nuisances from Bexleyheath being Neil Webb (Instructor), Steven Dodd, Stephen Murr, Lee Wagner and Richard Prestidge. In second place some 35 pins behind was Southend 2 led by Ruth Molineaux and in third place Mean Machine from Lewisham led by Neil Payne. Interesting statistics to come out of the Tournament were that out of a possible 256 chances, 48 Juniors beat their Instructors on a Scratch basis, which only emphasises what every Instructor tells their Pupil, "Don't do as I do, do as I say." The high Scratch series and Games at this Tournament were:

Series	
Steven Dodd (14) Bexleyheath	611
Bob Blaber Lewisham	607
Lee Thurlby (18) Ilkeston	597
Robert Underwood (17) Airport	573
Paul Delaney (17) Crawley	569
Brian Gardner Airport	563
Jason Castle (16) Ilkeston	562
Andrew Hood (17) Lewisham	556
Mike Wells (17) Portsmouth	556
John Broad Crawley	556

Game	
Robert Underwood (17) Airport	258
Steven Dodd (14) Bexleyheath	229
Brian Gardner Airport	224
Roy Kelsey Gt. Yarmouth	224
Jai Buller Gt. Yarmouth	222
Lee Thurlby (18) Ilkeston	217
Bob Blaber Lewisham	217
Paul Delaney (17) Crawley	211
Gwen Clark Gt. Yarmouth	211
Maurice Philpott Portsmouth	210

TWO



The Tournament was smoothly run by Richard Percival ably assisted by the Bexleyheath YBC Committee and friends and we are very hopeful that the Tournament can become an Annual Event in the new Bexleyheath Bowl.

Midland Junior Open

The best performance by a Bexleyheath Junior Bowler at the recent Midland Junior Open was the win in the Graduate All Events by Robert Petherick whose average over 9 Games was 192.3. Sadly, Robert has now moved to Norfolk and can no longer bowl with us regularly but will be coming with us to the Junior Nationals being held in Sunderland in May. In the same "All Events" Neil Webb finished in third place with an average of 185.2, whilst in the Singles Events, Stephen Murr finished third in the Senior Boys with a 540 series and Michaela Goodwin was second in the Senior Girls with a 505 series. Several of our Juniors recorded their highest Games and Series during the Event, and from the results sheet, we notice that other bowlers from SEBA won medals, Claire Newton (Southend) second in Junior Girls Singles and winner of the All Events, Stuart Neal (Southend) second in Senior Boys Singles and also winner of the All Events, June Almond (Southend) third in the Senior Girls All Events behind the Winner, Alison Freeman (Dagenham) who also won the Graduate Girls Doubles with Siobahn Twomey also from Dagenham. □

Bowling's Big Mess: An Answer

by Mike McGrath

THE CURRENT conflict over lane conditioning is a case where the blind are leading the blind. Our leading organisations — the Americal Bowling Congress and the Bowling Proprietors Association of America — are spending more time fighting among themselves rather than preparing for what should be the greatest moments in the history of our sport.

How stupid can we get now that bowling has been added to the Olympic Games?

The BPAA pushed for the limited distance lane conditioning rule, but there is one very important fact the proprietors group overlooked. Namely, today's most popular lane coatings are not designed for LDD application.

If you pick up any lane conditioning manual, you will note that the dressing should either be applied or buffed to a length of between 30 and 35 feet down the lane. If one is to oil the lane only 24 feet and the conditioner does not travel any further than 24 feet, the bowling condition will simply be unplayable.

I am sure many people will say they bowl in a centre that oils only 24 feet where the lane condition is quite playable. However, what they are bowling on is a lane where the conditioner has been carried down the lane by balls pushing through the oiled portion.

Many bowling centres apply a great deal of conditioner in the head portion of the lane and wait for the carry-down to create a bowling condition, as in the above instance. This is all well and good, but the practice exposes two problems. First, this is no longer a limited distance application because conditioner is a long way past 24 feet.

Second, and of more concern, is the fact that some bowlers have been sacrificed in order to create this condition. After the conditioner has been applied, one league has to bowl on the lanes to carry the conditioner down the lane. This poor sacrificial league is faced with lanes that hook too soon during the first game and conditions that will constantly change throughout the rest of the league session. The condition stabilises for the later league, but that doesn't help those bowling in the sacrificial league.

The ABC shares equally in this problem, much of which was created by their past inaction. The ABC has

allowed one scoring advantage after another to become law, and now they want to hold the line.

Perhaps the biggest mistake occurred in the early '70s when urethane finishes were created to limit the fire exposure of bowling centres. While urethane lane coatings accomplish their fireproofing goal and are very durable, they have a very high coefficient of friction. This makes the bowling ball hook more than it did on the old lacquer finishes. The extra friction of the lane surface is one thing, but when ABC also allows urethane bowling balls to come on the market with little testing of their friction qualities, we have an organisation that has simply not regulated the sport.

The ABC now complains about the number of high score awards. Meanwhile, it refuses to admit that its non-regulation has caused the scoring proliferation.

More alarmingly, it has allowed a situation to be created that is forcing many bowlers out of the sport. The current limited distance dressing has created a bowling condition that can only be scored on by those bowlers who throw the ball very hard. With a lane finish that wants to grab the ball and the ball that wants to grab the lane, many bowlers — especially women and seniors — cannot throw the ball hard enough to maintain their current averages. As a result, many of these bowlers are quitting the sport.

Bowling's Primal Appeal

Bowling was never intended to be a sport that favoured the strong over the weak. It was intended to be a sport where accuracy and creative balance were the important factors, which contributed to its fascination by the public.

Great bowlers came in all sizes and shapes from the skinny Dick Weber to the more robust Ray Bluth, from the tall and lankier Dave Davis to the more compact Jim St. John. It was a

game for the average Joe because the skills required were capable of being acquired by all . . . if they practiced.

It was also a sport for the average Jane. Women excelled because they did not need the strength of men to compete (though it helped). One need only watch the fluid approach of a Marion Ladewig or a Helen Duval to see the importance of great timing and accuracy. But the impact of these skills are negated as strength and power take over.

Many of these problems come about because those who are making the rules are not people who have enjoyed a close kinship with the top levels of competitive play. Many of the higher positions in both BPAA and ABC are held by either non-bowlers or people who bowl at very low levels of competition and/or ability. They do not understand the problem simply because they are not experiencing the problem themselves.

Those who are involved at these levels and have this understanding need to take stronger positions in this critical area of lane conditioning.

Contrary to what many proprietors will say, most bowlers do not want a lane condition so easy that the need only send the ball in the general direction of the pins to get a strike. Bowlers want an honest sport where practice is rewarded and mistakes are penalised.

Mike's Master Plan

If you subscribe to this premise, there are a number of things that should be implemented to improve the sport:

1 Many manufacturers have developed, or are in the process of developing, low-friction lane finishes. These coatings, which reduce the amount of bite a ball has on the lane surface, should be the only finishes on which a limited distance dressing procedure can be used. In addition, the lubricity should be such that the maximum oiling distance be reduced to 22 feet, or even 20 feet.

To coincide with this idea, ABC must implement limitation and testing procedures for friction characteristics of each lane finish. If a

finish does not coincide with ABC's basic limitation, LDD procedures cannot be used on it.

2 The centres which use the higher friction lane finishes will be forced to go to the longer oiling procedures and be subject to the ABC's lane testing procedures for high score awards.

In conjunction with that, we should adopt a bowling centre rating system similar to that which is used on golf courses. If a bowling centre is judged to have very difficult testing conditions, it would be rated very high on the testing standard. Centres with easier lane conditions would rate a lower number. Factors such as high scores, cleanliness of the lanes, pin condition and overall scoring of all average bowlers would go into the rating system.

3 Meanwhile, ABC must get more stringent on its testing and approval of bowling equipment. Balls should meet coefficient of friction standards, and those balls which do not meet these standards should be declared illegal at some predetermined date.

Using logic similar to the ruling on the new square-grooved golf clubs, if a ball does not meet a predetermined friction number, it would be banned from tournament and league use as of three years from the date of the ruling. This would give the manufacturers ample time to retool and cope with the new rulings. No one would be hurt and more integrity would be restored to the game.

4 The proprietors must change too.

Rather than comply with the whims of a vocal minority which prefers conditions on which the ball is guided into the pocket, they must voluntarily start putting up lane conditioning procedures that reward good, accurate bowling. Their centre should reward the good shot and penalise the bad. In that way, practice will once again become the generally recognised way to increase scoring.

5 The bowlers must show their support of fair bowling lane conditions. They must let proprietors know they appreciate those centres which do not block their lanes, and write notes to both ABC and BPAA in their desire for honest scoring conditions. Top bowlers from all areas must become more involved with the interworkings of the ABC and push for more research and development in the area of reducing the amount of friction of both the lane surfaces and the bowling balls.

6 The manufacturers should be gearing their research and development to a lane system that will not require any lane conditioner. The lane surface and/or coating will have such a low coefficient of friction that the ball will travel down the lane in a skid, roll and hook pattern determined primarily by the amount of lift the bowler imparts to the ball. The technology for such development should be easily accomplished if all integers of the bowling community support the research.

7 The ABC and BPAA should be getting more input about lane condi-

tioning from the PBA. The PBA lane maintenance experts have had to deal with a variety of lane conditions in their travels throughout the country. They have seen the fallacy of limited distance dressing on urethane finishes and, as a result, rarely use this type of oiling pattern. In addition, the PBA must deal with the greatest bowlers in the world and try to balance a bowling condition so the best bowlers have a fair chance of scoring. While they are not always successful, they have been far more successful than other groups in the bowling industry.

8 True, bowling is a sport as well as a business. But it is a sport first because, if it doesn't survive as a sport, it doesn't survive as a business. And if bowling is to survive as a sport, its primary goal must be integrity. Without integrity, you see, there is no bottom line.

With its re-introduction into the Olympics as an exhibition sport in 1988, bowling will be embarking on what may well be the greatest opportunity in its history. The sport will reach its competitive zenith, and the world will be watching. It is imperative that the bowling industry seize this opportunity to raise the integrity of the sport to its highest level. □

As a winner of 10 titles on the pro tour, Mike McGrath is very much aware of integrity's role in the growth of the Professional Bowlers Association.



SEBA Club Championships 1987

Results

200 Club (48 entries)	Score	Prize
1. Les Okulaja	657	£36.00
2. Marcus Sutton	647	£18.00
3. Doreen Fillary	636	£ 9.00
4. John Cudmore	630	£ 4.50
4. Bob Latchford	630	£ 4.50

500 Club (23 entries)	Score	Prize
1. Patricia Wilkinson	643	£17.50
2. Sylvia Bater	641	£10.00
3. Christine Lodge	638	£ 7.00

550 Club (31 entries)	Score	Prize
1. Andy Baldwinson	576	£23.00
2. Tony Rossi	563	£11.50
3. George Hussey	541	£ 7.50
4. Joan Nutt	539	£ 4.50

600 Club (23 entries)	Score	Prize
1. Sheila White	612	£19.00
2. Joan Nutt	587	£ 9.00
3. Colin Bailey	577	£ 6.50

FOUR

On behalf of the SEBA council, may I congratulate all the prize winners and thank everybody that took part in this the 1987 tournament.

The winner of the 600 Club Sheila White and the lady bowling the highest scratch score in the 500 club, Sylvia Bater will shortly be receiving their invitations to compete in the Masters tournament at the 1988 SEBA Area Championships.

Christine Lodge
Tournament Manager

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A very European View of Bowling's Global Issues

Maurice Glazer and Gosta Zellen, two key figures who have an impact on bowling's world policy, discuss the FIQ leadership, the Olympics, more.

SINCE IT is the bowling organisation recognised by the International Olympic Committee, the Federation Internationale des Quilleurs plays a key role in bowling's future. What is the FIQ? How does it function? Where is it headed? One key to understanding bowling's world body is through the people who play key roles in it, and Gosta Zellen and Maurice Glazer qualify on that count. Zellen, 56, an editor of the Swedish bowling magazine, is the European Zone president and a member of the Tenpin Presidium and the FIQ Presidium. Glazer, 68, is the general secretary of the British Tenpin Bowling Association and served as president of FIQ's Tenpin Division from 1975 through 1979. He has been a delegate to the FIQ Congress since 1961.

The two don't necessarily agree on all the issues — in fact, they have some areas of strong disagreement — but they have a keen grasp of the issues and the role the organisation will play as bowling heads down its yellow brick Olympic road. Bowlers Journal's Jim Dressel interviewed the two FIQ leaders during last summer's World Championships in Helsinki, Finland.

Let me ask you first, Maurice, what you think about the FIQ today and its general direction.

MAURICE GLAZER: Well, I certainly think it's advancing in the right direction. One of my ambitions is for FIQ to be in complete control as the governing world body. I think they ought to get control of the equipment, pins, balls and lane maintenance, and not rely entirely on one of its members (the American Bowling Congress) to tell them what to do. It should be established as a world organisation, especially if it's heading in the direction of the Olympic games.

Are you saying that the ABC should not have . . .
Right. Should *not* have complete, final control.

Interesting. How do you feel?

GOSTA ZELLEN: No, I don't agree with his viewpoint but he certainly has the right to state his own opinion.

We are all members of the FIQ, a worldwide organisation. But FIQ itself doesn't have the expertise it needs in many areas. That's why

ABC and WIBC have entire control. Most of our countries don't have the experience or the money to create experts. But the bowling world is growing and we are all gaining knowledge. It looks a little better every time we meet.

Maurice, there really isn't enough technical expertise in other countries to allow FIQ to displace the ABC and WIBC, is there?

MG: Oh, I don't agree with that at all. I think it all depends on money. And we now have some very positive experiences which show that there is room for tremendous improvement, especially on the question of pins and pin bases. Manufacturers have admitted that mistakes have been made during the last five years, and ABC has just blindly closed their eyes. Perhaps they were just unaware. But even when it was brought to their attention, it appeared to become an embarrassment and a question of "sweep it under the carpet."

I am absolutely convinced that the crazy scores around the world in the last five years have been caused by two or three reasons. One is that pins do not conform to (ABC) standards. I put this down to the fact that people like (former ABC Equipment Testing head) Andy Stuart — who was an idol of mine because of his tremendous knowledge — got to the state of retirement. When, younger, inexperienced people took over these important positions, problems arose.

Are you concerned about high scores, too, Gosta?

GZ: More or less, I'm glad that we've had an increase in scoring. But not the way it came about.

MG: We want the scoring to be a result of the player improving his style. In my country alone, we've had tremendous problems with lane blocking and the sort of thing I can't forgive is to pick up a bowling magazine and find that somebody has actually published photographs on fifteen different ways to block a lane. This happened in 1964 (in Bowling magazine), and any bowler or mechanic could turn the pages and there, lo and behold, were ways to block a lane.

GZ: I've gotten letters from Swedish proprietors asking me to publish a story on how to block a lane. Of course, we never did that.

What do you think of conditions here in the World Championships?

GZ: I spoke to a lot of bowlers. Some are happy about the conditions, some unhappy, but that's to be expected.

I wouldn't say it's unfair condition because I actually expected the Swedish and Finnish bowlers, who had the chance to practice here, to do much better than anyone else. But many countries that have never played on this type of condition are doing very well here. I'm surprised.

MG: I am quite convinced that the future of really honest bowling is with short oil. There are too many variations when you go to longer oil. This brings me to one of those other problems with the ABC — they seem to be swimming around in the deep end looking for solutions. The fact that they change their minds so frequently is a direct indication that they do not know the answers. And that is another reason why I'm interested in a superior body.

But isn't the FIQ just too darned political to consider getting into these technical areas?

GZ: I don't think FIQ can actually run the entire bowling world. We make some decisions here with our conferences and congresses, but I'm not quite sure that people really follow all the recommendations when they get back home. Regardless of what FIQ might say about lane conditioning, for example, many of the world's bowling centres would continue to block because they are commercial operations anxious to boost lineage. But most centres in Scandinavia are owned by the local government and they would follow the rules.

Okay, Maurice, your turn. Isn't the FIQ too political to be effective as bowling's governing world body?

MG: Yes. I have no doubts about this. I would certainly like to see more people who are actually bowlers and who are concerned with the sport rather than self-aggrandisers. Wherever there is secrecy, there is suspicion. And as far as I am concerned, there are too many meetings behind closed doors.

As Gosta knows, there was a terribly important meeting held last year. I become very frustrated when I have to read snippets of information in the World Bowling Writers Worldletter to find what went on.

Another problem is that a bowler with nothing to do on a particular day can sit down as a delegate at our World Congress and (act) as if he'd been elected to the Presidium. There's an old saying that all committees consist of three types of people: those who make things happen, those who watch things happening, and those who don't know what's happening.

Which describes most of those in FIQ?

MG: People who don't know what's happening.

GZ: Sorry to say, I have to agree. We have too many members in the various Zone presidiums who don't know much about this game, its rules or regulations. Maybe they are very good at the table discussions, but they actually don't know what they're discussing.

So while you might have criticisms of ABC and WIBC, in effect you're admitting that FIQ is subject to even more criticism?

MG: Oh, absolutely.

GZ: Sure. No doubt about it. Of course, ABC and WIBC have more professional workers than FIQ.

MG: Jimmy, I think you can sum that one up by saying you can criticise ABC in one language, but you can criticise FIQ in 12.

You criticised both the ABC and FIQ, Maurice. Since Roger Tessman is head of both groups, do you feel his leadership is lacking?

MG: Well, I must be absolutely honest and the answer is yes. The first time I was a little disappointed was in Australia at the World Cup, which went on for ten days. When Roger put in an appearance, the first thing he said to me was the he had just enjoyed five days on the golf course. I was concerned that any leader would publicly admit that, instead of being in a bowling centre concerned about everything going on, he should put his primary love as golf.

Another time I was concerned was when I made the discovery about what was wrong with bowling pins and why we were getting these scores. I wrote a letter to Mr. Tessman as the chairman of FIQ's technical committee. I received an answer four months later. They admitted they had received my letter and that the letter had been passed to Dave Lumley, head of equipment specifications department. By the time Mr. Tessman responded to my secretary's request for information, Mr. Lumley had left the ABC to go into private practice, and it was necessary to track him down to find out where he had filed the letter in order that an answer could be sent.

To someone who always held the ABC in the highest esteem, I was horrified to think that a slip-up of that nature could be made.

I was also deeply concerned with the answers themselves. In the last paragraph of his letter, Mr. Tessman said, "You do of course realise, Maurice, that after a bowling pin has been in use for some time, the wood core drops." This was contrary to information obtained from one of bowling's biggest manufacturers, which said that the core goes up. Now I am a simple man, but these contradictions defy logic.

We know what Maurice thinks of the job Roger Tessman is doing. What about you, Gosta?

GZ: First of all, Maurice mentioned a lot of technical points. Let me say honestly I'm not a technical expert, so I can't discuss this area. I've never been involved in testing. We have a technical committee within the Zone and two of its members are also on the World technical committee. They fully agree with Maurice.

However, I've personally never had an serious disagreements with Roger. He has been very helpful whenever I needed his expertise. And I've never found him to be dishonest in any way.

Perhaps it was just a rumour, but I heard that some people wanted to have Roger Tessman removed as FIQ president. Did you detect an feeling along those lines?

GZ: I've never heard that myself.

I heard of an actual plot to try to dislodge him.

MG: I'm not aware of any such plot. Of course, he is due for re-election in two years' time, and politics being what it is . . .

Politics reared its ugly head two years ago in Vienna in the Tenpin Division. The secretary accepted two votes which, in my mind, should never have been accepted.

Secretary George Sarahete?

MG: Yes, he had two proxy votes which had been sent in by telex, unsigned, could really have come from anybody. He said, "I have two votes here from countries who have not paid their dues. If any delegate here has the money and wants to pay the outstanding dues, they can have the proxy vote." A gentleman from the Philippines stood up and said, "In Asia, we are all brothers together. We have the money." So he paid the money and took the votes. He also accepted votes from New Zealand and India. These countries were not even official members yet!

GZ: That's right. They were elected at the FIQ Congress the next day.

MG: And having now realised they'd made a terrible mistake, the Congress this year covered the rule by saying, in the future, nobody may vote until they are an FIQ member.

GZ: Not only that, for a proxy to be accepted, it must be on the letterhead of the organisation. We don't accept telegrams anymore.