

EASTERN COUNTIES CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at The Racing Centre, Newmarket, on Thursday 20th June 2019 at 8.00pm

Present: Officers: G. Sutton – Chairman
M. Giddens – Secretary & Treasurer
P. Daniels – League & Tournament Secretary

County Representatives:

B. Giddens - Cambridgeshire, P. Orrin - Essex,
P. Cook - Hertfordshire, M Fisher - Norfolk and N. Jolly - Suffolk

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from G. Savage – Bedfordshire.

2. Minutes from Previous Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 21st June 2018 were agreed as a true record and signed.

3. Matters Arising

Ref Item 11 - Mats at Littleport. Suffolk enquired if there was any update on the 4 mats that Bedfordshire were looking into. It was advised there has been no further progress with replacements. This to be followed up and also for counties to see if there are any surplus mats for sale within their counties.

4. Chairman's Report

The Chairman gave the following report:

I would like to start by thanking Maureen and Paul for all their hard work during the season and to all the delegates of the counties who have attended the meetings.

Thanks to all the counties who have run the tournaments for the ECCBA which were very successful.

Congratulations to Suffolk for winning the Eastern Counties League, Six Counties, Teambowl and the National Counties Championships at Potters.

I would like to congratulate all the winners of the Eastern Counties and the English Champion of Champions.

One talking point after the Six Counties was some players said playing two games straight off was tiring so I have spoken to Paul who has drawn up an alternative programme which we will discuss in the meeting later on.

Continued

5. Secretary & Treasurer's Report

The Contacts List needed to be updated with changes to email addresses. Any further changes was asked to be notified prior to this being reissued.

Treasurers Report:

The Audited Statement of Account for the year ending 30th April 2019 was issued and ran through. The balance from the previous year was £3,497.29 and with the total income of £4,895.12 and expenses of £4,685.05 there was an overall profit of £210.07.

A profit had been predicted but noted that the hall hire costs affect the profit when some counties have the three home league matches.

Acceptance of the accounts as presented was proposed by Essex, seconded by Suffolk and agreed by all counties.

The Treasurer recorded her thanks to Karyn Chivers for auditing the accounts.

6. League & Tournament Secretary's Report

There was nothing to report upon other than the results of all the events, these being:

Inter-County League – Suffolk

Six Counties – Suffolk

Teambowl – Suffolk

Champion of Champions:

Singles – Sam Runnacles (Suffolk)

Pairs – Matt & Emma Thurley (Cambridgeshire)

Triples – Stephen, Matt & Doris Frost (Norfolk)

Fours – Neil & Keith Jolly, Paul & Mike Daniels (Suffolk)

Team - Cambridgeshire

7. Election of Officers & Auditor

The current Officers were willing to continue and with no further nominations they were voted in block, proposed by Hertfordshire, seconded by Norfolk.

With all counties in agreement, the following Officers were re-elected:

Chairman	Gerald Sutton
Secretary & Treasurer	Maureen Giddens
League & Tournament Secretary	Paul Daniels

The Treasurer advised the current Auditor was willing to continue and proposed that Karyn Chivers remains as Auditor. All counties were in agreement.

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8. **Fees**

Firstly the Treasurer gave a forecast for next season which covered:

League – based on the number of home games for each county and the estimated costs for hall hire, a small profit is predicted.

Champion of Champions – with this event being held in May, a profit of £81.00 is already known.

Insurance – it is expected to see a small increase.

Six Counties – the hall hire at Littleport for the Teambowl in September and the Six Counties Championships in April 2020 will see a small increase of 2%.

Overall a small profit was forecasted, so based on that the Treasurer recommended all fees remain the same.

These being: Annual Subscription £60.00 per county, all other fees £3.50 per player.

This was seconded by Essex and agreed by all counties for the fees to remain the same.

The payment due by dates of fees being:

Annual Subscription is due by the end of July.

League Fees payable in advance by the end of October.

Teambowl, Six Counties Championships and Champion of Champions – either payment on the day or in advance of the event.

9. **Proposal re Format of Play at the Six Counties Championships**

The proposal to amend the programme for the Six Counties Championships to 7 ends and for counties to play alternate games was seconded by Norfolk.

This was opened for discussion where the Chairman firstly commented that at the last committee meeting a proposal from Bedfordshire to abolish the Six Counties Championships had not been discussed as no representative was present from Bedfordshire and only three counties were represented at that meeting.

The Secretary advised that no proposal to be brought to the AGM was received from Bedfordshire but correspondence by email had been received from both George Savage and Mike Walker. In summary the contents being that initially from George they would not be attending the 2020 Six Counties Championships but then from Mike so far they are only talking about this year and if the proposed format was introduced this may make a difference for next year. The email from Mike also suggested swapping the Teambowl and Six Counties.

Both Essex and Hertfordshire commented that in general they would prefer to play 9 ends but would not want to see any counties not attend. Hertfordshire also advise they struggle with the number of players.

If Bedfordshire would not be attending the Six Counties Championships this would need to be known in advance. Also the income from this event would be affected and noted that it is the Six Counties Championships that brings in the main profit.

Continued

9. Proposal re Format of Play at the Six Counties Championships - continued

Prior to voting on the proposal, a counter-proposal for an amendment to add that if less than six counties attend the Six Counties Championships, to revert back to 9 ends as per the current programme.

This amendment was proposed by Essex, seconded by Suffolk.

Voting then took place.

The proposal: The Six Counties Championships to be played over 7 ends and for counties to play alternate games. All counties voted against this proposal.

The amended proposal: The Six Counties Championships to be played over 7 ends and for counties to play alternate games. If less than six counties attend, to revert back to 9 ends as per the current programme.

With 4 counties in favour, 1 against, the amended proposal was carried.

10. Date of Next Meeting

Meetings were arranged for the following dates, to be held at The Racing Centre, Newmarket at 8.00pm.

Committee Meeting: 10th October 2019
Annual General Meeting: 18th June 2020

11. Any Other Business

- i. Hertfordshire enquired about the friendly match that Essex played against West Sussex whether West Sussex would be interested in playing more matches within the Eastern Counties. Essex thought the travelling distance would deter this.
- ii. Hertfordshire pointed out that in the next year or so their county may struggle with a team of 24 players. This was a matter that was further discussed and needed to be looked at with all counties on finding a way forward.
- iii. Essex, who will be hosting the Teambowl this year, asked who chooses the charity. It was confirmed it is the host county who chooses which charity the profit goes to. Also the quality of the mats available at Littleport was discussed and advised the better of the mats at the Leisure Centre will be used.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.30 pm.

In confirmation of the foregoing minutes.

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Chairman

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Date