

SUFFOLK CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION

The Minutes of a Committee Meeting of the
Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association
held at Offton & Willisham Village Hall
on Monday 19th ~~April~~, 1993

July

The Meeting commenced at 7.35 p.m.

Those present:- Raymond White (Chairman), Margaret Southgate (Vice Chairman), David Schofield (Secretary), Arvon Evans, Sally Goodrich, David Jermyn, Chris Leach, Judith Longman, Ron Smith, Tony Webber and Joy Williamson.

The Chairman began the Meeting by welcoming Sally Goodrich and Joy Williamson to their first Committee Meeting and thanking, in his absence, Paul Marden for his work on the Committee and for acting as the English Carpet Bowls Association representative. The Secretary was asked to write to Paul recording these thanks.

1. Apologies for absence were received from David Cobbold, Trevor Girling and John Hayward.
2. The Minutes of the Meeting Held on 10th May, 1993 were approved as minuted and signed as being a true record by the Chairman.
3. The following matters arose from the previous Minutes:-
 - 3.10 The names of the previous winners of the Charity Pairs were in 1990 in aid of Heartbeat Lesley & Ian Chisholm Needham Market), in 1991 for the Blind Mick Pryke & Andy Gilder (Somersham), in 1992 for ARMS Lin & David Schofield (Offton & Willisham) and in 1993 for British Retinitis Pigmentosa Society Colin Page & Paul Bird (Stutton).
 7. Brockley C.B.C. felt it unjust that their 2's and 3's had visited the head and caused delays on Finals Day. They do not believe this to be true.
 11. The proposed friendly match with Durham in October had been cancelled due to the close proximity of the Durham Teambowl on 19th September, the National "County" Championships on 15th to 18th October and the Eastern Counties League matches (dates to be arranged).
 12. The Summer League play offs had been rearranged for Sunday, 26th September.
4. The Chairman had nothing to report.
5. The Secretary reported only that membership remained at 97 full Members and 9 Associate Members but that the position would be clearer when it was seen who paid their subscription. 147 sets of equipment had been covered under the insurance scheme, which was 12 more than at this time last year, but that the Brokers had refused to cover a couple of latecomers. He commented that he would be progressing further the Mutual Benefit Society concept. For the record Marcus Saville (Barrow) was, again, the Suffolk Junior Champion with Paul King (Offton & Willisham) being the runner up and Tina Page (Stutton) and Tim Furnish (East Bergholt) the other semi finalists.

The Chairman congratulated the Secretary on getting the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting out so soon.

6. There was no report from the Treasurer
7. a) The lack of a nomination for Press Secretary at the Annual General Meeting was discussed without an answer found. The Secretary was asked to appeal for a volunteer pointing out that although it may be possible to get results in the newspapers it was likely that the BBC Radio Suffolk spot would end. If this were so then it was unlikely we could get it back on again at a later date.
- b) As David Schofield is Chairman of the English Carpet Bowls Association then it was felt that we could appoint three representatives as well as him. Tony Webber was elected to continue and to be joined by Margaret Southgate with Arvon Evans and Ray White alternating for the third place.
- c) Tony Webber was elected unanimously to continue as the Suffolk Captain.
- d) Although there is no set number of selectors it was agreed unanimously that Ron Smith and Trevor Girling should continue as the Selection Committee
8. It was agreed that the issues raised at the Annual General Meeting which were to be referred back to the Committee would be discussed under there appropriate Agenda headings.
9. a) The current Summer League tables were circulated to the Committee but an updated set would be included for the Members with these Minutes.
- b) & c) The Summer League play offs had been rearranged to Sunday, 26th September but the Secretary explained that he would be away on holiday at that time and would be unable to run them. Ron Smith agreed to take over their organisation and would attempt to hire Risby Village Hall. The format of the play off would be considered again but it was realised that to have each Club playing the other 5 would take too much time.
10. a) Consideration was given to the Winter League Rule change proposals by Whatfield and Stutton C.B.C.'s, which had received little support at the Annual General Meeting, and it was decided that they should not be incorporated. The proposal by Great Blakenham C.B.C. that the substitute should not play if the named person was present when that game was due to start was not felt to be a change but that an addition to Rule 2. xvi) would make it clearer. It was also decided to add to Rule 1. iv) that the express authority of the Committee would allow a bowler to change a Club.
- b) There was no change in those Clubs wishing to take part in the Winter Leagues so they remain unchanged after the application of the promotion and relegation issues resolved last season.
11. a) The dates when Cup and Plate matches should be played were agreed and are entered upon the draw for each.
- b) 36 Clubs have entered which is 4 down on last year, i.e. Harkstead, Knodishall, Stratford St Mary, Tithe Barn Sroughton and Wyverstone have dropped out but Thurston have entered. The draw is attached hereto.
12. It was agreed that we would hold this years County Championships at Holywells School, Ipswich and that they would be completed in one day. The following dates were agreed

Suffolk Singles Championship	-	Sunday, 21st November, 1993
Suffolk Pairs Championships	-	Sunday, 13th February, 1994
Suffolk Junior Championships	-	Sunday, 27th February, 1994
Suffolk Fours Championships	-	Sunday, 20th March, 1994

It was also agreed that a provisional booking should be made for the same venue for the Finals Day on Sunday, 17th April, 1994.

Because these tournaments would be held on the one day then the organisation would be somewhat different to previous years and it was agreed that David Schofield and Tony Webber would take on the organisation and recruit others as necessary.

David Jermyn agreed to run the Raffles, with prizes bought by Judith Longman and Margaret Southgate, and it was decided that there should be just one Raffle on each day. £5.00 of each Members subscription would be allocated for the purchase of Raffle prizes for the four Championships and Finals Day although rather more would be spent on prizes for those days when alot of people were taking part and less on others. This would mean that better quality prizes could be offered and the shortfall in income that will inevitably result will be offset by the lesser hire costs.

The unanimous support of the Committee was given to the proviso that a Club refusing to provide a set of equipment for a Championship day would not be allowed to enter its members.

The positively supported suggestion at the Annual General Meeting that the upper age limit for the Suffolk Junior Championships should be lowered to 16 years old was adopted with the operative date being under 16 at 31st March.

It was reaffirmed that each of the Singles, Pairs, Fours and Junior Championships would be closed to members of Clubs who were full Members of the Association.

13. Upon the request of Joyce Smith it was decided to adopt the British Diabetic Association as the S.C.B.A. Charity for 1993/4.

The Charity Pairs, with an associated raffle, scheduled for Sunday, 8th May, 1994 will be donated to that cause.

14. There had been no activity for some while on the County front but Tony Webber with a Sub-Committee of Ray White and Margaret Southgate, would now arrange the Easter Counties League fixtures which are to be concluded by the end of April, 1994. County trials would again be arranged where all those who truly believe themselves to be of County standard are urged to enter. It is to be emphasised that they are what they say are not an excuse for people to get a game or two of bowls.

The first date will be for those who were not in the County side last season and a number will be selected to take part on a second date where they will be joined by the current County squad. It is further emphasised that the intention of these trials is as a guide to the selectors and a successful date would not automatically ensure selection for the new County squad.

It is likely that a squad of 30 will be chosen but this does not necessarily ensure that somebody chosen would play.

It was decided that the same arrangements as last year with regard to a subsidy would apply, i.e. those chosen to go to Hemsby for the National County Championships and who stay the weekend there will receive an amount of £20.00. At this time it is not intended that any other expenses would be paid for this or other County matches.

15. Meetings of the English Carpet Bowls Association would be held in the Co. Durham area on the Saturday evening of 18th September, prior to the Durham Teambowl, and in Blackpool on the Friday evening of 4th February, prior to the English Rinks Championships.

The Secretary of the ECBA had been pressed for the Minutes of the AGM held last April and the changes to the Rules for Playing Carpet Bowls.

The Chairman asked if the intended leaflet describing carpet bowls to the uninitiated had yet been distributed. David Schofield, in his capacity of Chairman of the ECBA, replied that it had not and that he was having second thoughts on the timing. If it were to go out now and gained a large response it would be impossible to follow up those enquiries as those involved have full time occupations and are not in a position to go off to Devon, Lancashire or wherever to do so. He also expressed doubts over whether the necessary finance for the employment of a full time person was feasible within the foreseeable future.

16. There was nothing to report on the Eastern Counties C.B.A..
17. It seemed very unlikely that Eastern Electricity would be sponsoring the 1994 English Pairs Championships so a great deal of effort had been spent in trying to find another but that there were no signs of success at this time. Over 90 letters had been written and a short promotional video had been compiled. However the weekend would go ahead even if a sponsor could not be found although the price would have to rise to compensate but hopefully by only a comparatively small amount. It had been decided that we would not compromise the standards that have been set in previous years. It was likely that we would not be in a position to make a donation to either SCBA nor ECBA if a sponsor could not be found.
An excellent whole page article had been included in World Bowls, written by John Bell our "star" guest, which was very complimentary to the tournament. It was clear from a recent weekend spent with people from the other forms of bowls that the name of and organisation in carpet bowls has spread beyond the games boundaries.
18. The following matters were raised under any other business:-
 - a) Judith Longman advised that Freston CBC would, probably, soon be joining the Association.
 - b) Harkstead CBC had been asked to run a tournament in aid of Toc H and the Deaf and suggested that these might be the charity for next year. Tony Webber commented that the Offton & Willisham Charity tournament later this year would be supporting the deaf and dumb.
 - c) Rom Smith advised that a coach had been booked for the English Rinks at Blackpool next February and that it was already full with a waiting list of 11 people. The cost per head would be £12.75 per head which included a tip for the driver and it would probably leave Needham Market at 9 a.m. and Risby at 9.30 a.m.. Several members of the Stratford St Mary Club had requested that the coach should start in their village but it would cost another £80.00 to do so. He would give them the choice of paying the extra or to join at Needham Market.
 - d) Tony Webber commented that he had been approached by Allied Dunbar who would like to run "seminars" at individual Clubs and he enquired whether it was something that Clubs would be interested in.

The Meeting concluded at 10.35 p.m..

The dates of Meetings, which will be held at Needham Market Community Centre, are the Mondays of 11th October, 6th December, 14th February, 4th April and 16th May.