

Suffolk
Carpet Bowls
Association



The Minutes of a Committee Meeting of the
Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association
held at Needham Market Community Centre
on Monday 12th December, 1994

The Meeting commenced at 7.30 p.m.

Those present:- Raymond White (Chairman), Margaret Southgate (Vice Chairman), David Schofield (Secretary), Keith Armes (Treasurer), Trevor Girling, Sally Goodrich, John Hayward, David Jermyn, Judith Longman, Ron Smith and Joy Williamson.

1. Apologies for absence were received from David Cobbold, Arvon Evans, Chris Leach and Tony Webber (County Captain).
2. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 24th October, 1994 were approved as minuted and signed as being a true record by the Chairman.
3. The following matters arose from the previous Minutes:-
 3. 7b. The Secretary apologised for not yet having written, on behalf of the Committee, to Ron Smith to thank him for his work as a Selector for the past several years.
 7. It was decided that £30 would be taken from the Raffle prize fund for raffle prizes for the Summer League play offs.
4. The Chairman had nothing to report.
5. The Secretary reported that membership stood at 101 Members and 9 Associate Members which was an all time high. Moreton Hall and Newmarket Foods, had not renewed their sub. as Members and Wix as Associate Members. He apologised for the sharp reminder to Kenninghall for their sub. as Associate Members when they had already paid it to the Treasurer through the Vice Chairman.

The opportunity to add sets of equipment to the insurance scheme at the half year had taken place with an addition of 7 sets making a total of 181. He prompted a discussion on an application for a grant from the National Lottery and it was decided that we should apply for a grant for the purchase of 20 sets of equipment and include for storage facilities and a means of transport to tournaments.

The Committee confirmed that the Secretary should re-register as a Promoter under the Lotteries and Amusements Act, at a cost of £17.50, so that we could run a major raffle, e.g. the Charity Pairs.

The initiative by a Mr Paul Lawson, from Felixstowe, with regard to the establishment of contacts for people requiring tips on playing had been received by Clubs.

The Secretary informed the Committee of the sad death of their former Treasurer, Mr Bob Thomson.

As Press Officer he continued to send weekly reports/results/tables to the newspapers and commented that although they don't always print them we are treated fairly.

There is a suggestion that the World of Bowls may begin again in the New Year but he has agreed, NOT on behalf of this Association but of carpet bowls in general, to write articles for another periodical called Club Bowler. This is an A3 newspaper type production which will be heavily supported by advertising and might be free of charge to the reader. The first issue came out in November. Joy Williamson produced a copy that she had come across in her travels.

6. The Treasurer reported that our balances were currently £772.00 in the Current Account and £3,155.45 in the Business Account. There were still a few of the £20 contributions by the Association, to those people who represented the County at Hemsby for the National Championships, yet to pay. He also commented that there was an invoice still outstanding from Risby Village Hall which would be paid upon receipt.
7. Once again the £100 from the Sports Council, which accompanied our award last April, was discussed and it was unanimously agreed to found the "Friendship Cup". Every Member Club would be invited to vote for the Club which was, in their view, *the friendliest and most welcoming to visiting teams during the previous year*. The Secretary would send out voting forms for return prior to the last Committee Meeting of the year, on 15th May, so that the Committee could decide, in the event of a tie, who the winner should be. The intention being that the presentation could be made at the Annual General Meeting. The Chairman undertook to write to the Sports Council telling them of our intentions and requesting the grant be made. Upon its receipt he would purchase a suitable Cup and a memento each year.
8. The Association, having been tantalisingly close for several years, has now enrolled its 100th Member which is the Walpole & Cookley Club from North East Suffolk. A scoreboard was purchased some time ago to mark this occasion and a plaque is to be arranged by the Secretary to be fixed to it. It was decided that as many members of the Committee as possible would go along to the Walpole & Cookley Club for the presentation and to bowl with them during that evening. The Secretary will invite Jane Pitcher, our photographer, along and he will write a feature article for the newspapers to accompany the photographs.
9. The then current Winter League Tables were handed around (latest Tables attached hereto).
10. Results of the Joe Rice Cup and the Chairmans Plate were handed around (up to date results attached hereto).
The suggestion that several bowlers had played for two different Clubs in the same competition and that others had played 3 times in a match had not proved to be true.
11. Margaret Southgate and Sally Goodrich reported that the Suffolk Singles had gone well and had finished only a little late. She wished to record thanks to June Laws and Biddy Webber for the administration, to Ken Laws, Jim Southgate and Jim Goodrich for their help, refereeing and keeping the master scoresheet up to date and to Andy Pooley for picking up 6 scoreboards at the last minute.
There had been comment that people from the same Club had played each other in the 2nd Round and the request made that this be avoided if possible in the future. There had also been comment that although the present catering arrangements were appreciated that the food had run out before everybody had eaten and so some had had to do without.

Raymond White commented that he had not had a lot of difficulty arranging for the equipment but that it had been a problem getting it to Holywells early enough. He had asked for it by 8.30 a.m. but that some was arriving as late as 9.20 a.m..

The 1994 Suffolk Singles Champion is Neil Jolly (Brockley), the 1991 and 1993 Champion, with clubmate Andy Hensby the runner up. The other semi finalists were Steven Cain (Great Blakenham) and Jane Pitcher (Offton & Willisham).

Discussion took place over whether seeding of bowlers should be introduced for the Singles and the Pairs in the future so that the better bowlers did not meet until the later rounds but this did not find favour.

12. The entry forms for the Suffolk Pairs Championships at Holywells School, Ipswich on 19th February, 1995 had been circulated and 40 entries had already been received. 22 mats would be required and Judith Longman undertook to arrange for Clubs to provide them and the Secretary was asked to approach Tony Webber for him to organise which mat goes where at Holywells (Tony Webber has confirmed his willingness to do so).
13. John Hayward complained that it was getting very late for entries to be invited for the Suffolk Junior Championships on 5th February, 1995 at Needham Market Community Centre. The Secretary undertook to send out the invitation requesting that entries be made to John by 10 a.m. on Monday, 16th January, 1995. The draw would be carried out the following evening at Belstead Village Hall.
14. In the absence of the County Captain, Tony Webber, selector Trevor Girling reported that we had finished as runners up in the Eastern Counties Championships (Cambridgeshire winning by 3 points), had won our opening Eastern Counties League fixture at Risby against Norfolk by 23 points to 13 but had lost 19 points to 17 the previous day to Cambridgeshire at Needham Market. The latter had been a good match but he commented that we had blown it in the last session where we lost 3 and drew 1. The Selectors were pleased with the new Four of Janet Ellis, making her debut, Penny Harvey, Andy Hensby & Ron Smith, who were returning to the Suffolk side. The return of June Pettit had also been a great success. The Selection Committee suggested that a coach should be hired to take the team, and supporters, to Luton for the match with Bedfordshire on Sunday, 29th January, 1995. A quote had been obtained of £180, although Ron Smith felt a cheaper coach could be got and undertook to get an alternative quotation and liaise with Trevor Girling, which would work out at a maximum of £6 per head but would obviously be cheaper if others were on the coach. The cost to be divided out and charged to each of those on the coach. It was felt that travelling together would be good for team morale which the Selectors were concerned had been lacking recently.
15. There was nothing to report from the Eastern Counties C.B.A..
16. With regard to the English CBA the Secretary reported that he had received 8 to 10 enquiries from the promotional leaflets. Contact had now been established with the New Zealand Indoor Bowls Federation Incorporated which was the organisation for carpet bowls in that country. They are suggesting that matches should be played with England! He felt, however, that an away match for us was a distant prospect only. There are 32,000 carpet bowlers in New Zealand and they play Australia in a two-yearly competition. He expressed his considerable disappointment with the lack of distribution of the National Raffle cash prizes although he had heard that the £400 winner had been paid out. There remained 9 £5 prize winners yet to receive theirs. He had written, as was decided at the last Meeting of this Committee, to the Chairman of the ECBA saying that it was up to the organisers of the Raffle to distribute the prizes and, thus, to incur the

costs. The Secretary had received several telephone calls of complaint which had become more serious as time progressed (one threatened police action and another had heard a rumour that the National Treasurer had absconded with the money - not true!).

Apparently the English Rinks at Blackpool is fully booked and there is no room left in the hotel. Margaret Southgate commented that entry to the tournament was not, in fact, full but that there had been a large increase in people who were going for the weekend and not playing which had filled up the hotel. She understood they were trying to find another hotel to take others.

17. The Booking Form brochure for the 1995 English Pairs was sent out on 18th November and there had been an entry of 350 Pairs at the date of the Meeting (400 Pairs at the turn of the year) which is very good although it did not seem likely that we would get a full house. Entries from Northern England were considerably less than in previous years and account for the shortfall. 17 of the Rafflers, Stewards and helpers from last year are unable to help at the 1995 weekend but this will not cause any undue problems.
18. Under any other business the following matters were raised:-
 - a) Ron Smith commented that the coach that he was organising for the English Rinks was full.
 - b) That the dates for the Woolpit Pairs next year were 19th November and 3rd and 10th December, 1995. There was comment that with three Sundays being taken up then it was likely that there would be a clash on one or more of the dates with other events, e.g. County matches.

The Meeting concluded at 9.50 p.m..

Meetings have been arranged at Needham Market Community Centre for the Mondays of 6th February, 1995, 3rd April, 1995 and 15th May, 1995.