

# *Suffolk* **Carpet Bowls** *Association*

The Minutes of a Committee Meeting of the  
Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association  
held at Needham Market Community Centre  
on Monday 16th May, 1994

The Meeting commenced at 7.40 p.m.

Those present:- Raymond White (Chairman), David Schofield (Secretary), Keith Armes (Treasurer), Tony Webber (County Captain), David Cobbold, Arvon Evans, Trevor Girling, John Hayward, David Jermyn, Chris Leach, Judith Longman and Joy Williamson.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Margaret Southgate (Vice Chairman), Ron Smith and Sally Goodrich.
2. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 28th March, 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. 17. b) Joyce & Ron Smith have arranged to hold the SCBA Charity Pairs in aid of the British Diabetes Association on Sunday, 7th August at Risby Village Hall and there will be Draw associated with it.
  4. The Chairman said that he, the Vice Chairman, the Secretary and the Captain had attended the 1993 Service to Sport Awards Presentation Ceremony at the Norwich Sport Village. The Chairman accepted, on behalf of the Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association, "a special award for the most outstanding contribution to sport by an organisation" from Duncan Goodhew who was presenting the trophies on behalf of the Sports Council, Eastern Region. Howard Darbon, the Director of the Sports Council, Eastern Region, spoke in glowing terms of the Association and Margaret Stewart, of sponsors Eastern Electricity, and Trevor Brooking each, by reference, were sincere in their congratulations. It was an honour to receive the award and we were made to feel quite special for the evening.  
The trophy was shared with a Barry Odell of water skiing who will be sent the trophy after our AGM at the end of June. We have a small replica to keep as a memento and have been awarded £100 to spend in an approved manner
  16. a) Paul Goulding (Hundon) will be recommending, at the AGM, that the charity for 1994/5 be the Arthrogyrosis Society. The Committee felt this was a fine choice and would undoubtedly be supported by the membership.
4. The Chairman had nothing to report.
5. The Secretary reported that membership currently stood at 99 Members and 9 Associate Members - the same as at the last Meeting.  
As Clubs would know the quote from insurers for cover for equipment and trophies was unchanged from the previous year although the Public Liability had gone up by 25% from £100 to £125. The Committee were unanimous in their agreement that we should take it out and continue to offer it free

to all Clubs including Associate Members.

Martlesham CBC had written apologising for them not attending on Finals Day to receive their 3rd Division Championship trophies. This had been due to a mix up at their Club.

A letter from Monica Chard, Chairman of Stratford St Mary, congratulating the Committee on their work was read out and very gratefully received.

East Bergholt CBC had sent us a copy of their letter to the East Anglian Daily Times complimenting them on the carpet bowls reports over the winter which was felt to be very timely.

Sports Surface Installations have asked that copies of their price lists for carpet bowls equipment be sent to each of the Clubs and had contributed £15.00 towards the cost. The Secretary said that he would do this but would comment in the accompanying letter that he had not seen any of the equipment and that anybody buying should check carefully.

As Press Officer he reported that there were few results yet in the Summer Leagues so there was little to say other than he was delighted to see the enthusiasm of Leiston St Margarets who were making their debut. On press reports he said that we had received a great deal of coverage in the newspapers except that 4 most significant matters had been excluded completely, viz.

(i) the EADT printed a photograph but no report of the Suffolk Pairs Championships,

(ii) having built up all season to a climax the EADT then didn't include the report on the last week of the season,

(iii) there was nothing before the day saying that we were to receive the Sports Council award and then included two sentences, out of context, of a much fuller report, and this despite a major local company in Eastern Electricity sponsoring it,

(iv) in previous years the EADT were reluctant to include anything on the English Pairs because, they say, that it has no local interest so this year I aimed the article specifically at how well the Suffolk bowlers had done but brought only a two liner again and no photograph!

I am sure they won't have missed these out on purpose but their timing was uncanny and very disappointing.

A letter had been received from Whatfield CBC asking that surnames should appear on scoresheets and this was agreed with wholeheartedly as it was impossible otherwise to be able to tell whether a bowler was playing for more than one team. The Secretary would ask for this in his next letter. Hundon West, having asked to be included after the closing date for entries, had since withdrawn which was rather galling!

6. The Treasurer reported that our balances were currently £335.50 in the Current Account and £3,115.00 in the Business Account which compared with £4,024.00 at the beginning of the year. When some outstanding expenses were paid out it would be a further £500 worse off.
7. It was felt by the Committee that Needham Market Community Centre was a great success for Finals Day although the stage should be used in future for viewing as it had become overcrowded without. David Cobbold was thanked for running the day and particularly for getting an extra carpet at the last minute. There was a suggestion that trial ends be dispensed with on Finals Day but the contrary argument was that we should emulate the format that was used in getting to the finals. It will be discussed again! The catering was felt to be very good and a great improvement.

Stutton were the 1993/4 County Champions, Offton & Willisham were the Joe Rice Cup Champions, Copdock the 2nd Division Champions, Martlesham the 3rd

Division Champions and Syleham & Wingfield the Chairmans Plate Champions.

8. The Secretary read out a letter from Nacton CBC showing great concern at the suggestion that a minimum number greater than 8 be brought in for future League matches.  
There was much discussion on this matter which had been suggested by Great Blakenham and held over from the last Meeting. There was a strong feeling that this could mean that small Clubs might have difficulty fulfilling some fixtures and thus might have to drop out of the league and cup.  
In the end it was decided unanimously that the next Winter Leagues and Joe Rice Cup should have a minimum of 10 bowlers playing in each match.
9. The County Captain said that the first County Trial would be on the following Sunday at Risby and he would be contacting the 29 non County bowlers who had applied for a trial. He was short of leads and skips and would be asking a few current County players to fill in for the day. The second trial which will include current County players as well is to be held at Risby on 19th June starting at 2 p.m..
10. The Chairman recounted what had been decided at the Eastern Counties CBA AGM which included him being re-elected as Chairman (the last time he would stand), Jill Emms (Norfolk) as Administration Secretary & Treasurer and David Schofield as League Co-Ordinator. Five people from Suffolk had been there. The 1995 Eastern Counties Championships will be held in Hertfordshire. A major discussion point had been the number of mats to be used in Eastern Counties League matches and Suffolk had won the day with their format of 3 or 4 mats. Those not playing could then support and give the matches more atmosphere. Each County will provide free tea and biscuits for the visitors and match fees will go up from £1.50 to £2.00 per head. A dress code was also discussed at length with the only clear remit being that jeans and T shirts were unacceptable clothing.
11. David Schofield had not stood again as Chairman of the English CBA but had been elected unopposed as Secretary with John Crawford (Northumberland) taking over the Chair. Gordon Thirsk (North Tyneside) as Treasurer and Allan Howe (Durham) as Referee were new Officers whilst Arnold Miller (Durham) as Vice Chairman and Scott Andrews (Cambridgeshire) as Development Officer had retained their positions.  
David congratulated Suffolk, and David Cobbold in particular, for guiding the AGM through a very complicated set of proposed Rule changes and the game will be all the better for that hard and sensible work.  
There are currently 9 Members and the annual subscription will remain at £75.00. It was hoped that the National Raffle would provide a substantial income which would help to finance the promotional leaflet and the following up of leads thereafter.  
The National "County" Championships will be held over the weekend of 16th to 19th October at Pontin's Seacroft Holiday Village and will be preceded on the Friday night by the winners of the Eastern Counties and Northern Leagues playing off. It is still intended to run National Singles, Pairs and Rinks in May. 1995. Durham had donated £200 to the ECBA from the English Rinks Championships. A dress code had been discussed but it was decided to refer it back for discussion at County level and to be brought to the next AGM if that was the wish.
12. The 1994 English Pairs Championships had been a great success and generally agreed to have been the best so far and this yet again was down to the excellent work put in by the Suffolk people. Many thank you letters had been received and one from the losing finalists was read out - all agreed that this was what made all the work worthwhile.  
The 1994 Champions were Mark Bowd & Paul Dalliday (Paston, Cambridgeshire) who beat Anne & Peter White (Langtoft, Cambridgeshire) in the final.

Congratulations were made to Pauline & John Hayward for reaching the Quarter Finals and to Roy Lonsborough (Barking) & Nigel Copping (Cockfield) and Joy & John Williamson (Kenninghall) for reaching the last 16.

The target bowls on the Sunday was an outstanding success and this had taken the organisers very much by surprise. Judith & Brian Longman had done an exceptional job in very trying circumstances and their efforts were very much appreciated. Promised help had not materialised and a few onlookers had to be pressganged into service although it was still very much understaffed.

Keith Armes was disappointed that some Stewards had just thrown mats on to the lorry on the Sunday lunchtime and that Stewards were thin on the ground at that time - where were they?

There was a suggestion that there should be different coloured sweatshirts for Stewards and others but it was felt that it was a team contribution with one type of helper no more important than another. It was commented that there were two playing incidents where rafflers had not behaved in a fit manner and that they had let down all of the others wearing red sweatshirts. It was felt that this should be dealt with in other ways.

Joy Williamson raised the subject of a change of mat for her game on the Sunday afternoon because she was disabled and this had been embarrassing for her. Although this was appreciated it was commented that the same action would be taken next year if a disabled bowler got through to this stage. It was said that a great deal of trouble was gone to throughout the weekend to make life as easy as possible for the 50 or so who were disabled in one way or another and this would continue to be the case.

The news that dates for the Championships in 1995 and 1996 had been secured had been greeted with great enthusiasm.

13. The Annual General Meeting of the Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association will be held at Barrow Village Hall on Monday, 27th June starting at 7.30 p.m.. All of the present Officers and Committee indicated that they wished to stand again with the qualification from Ray White that he would not stand in 1995 for another term and from David Schofield that he would continue as Press Secretary only if nobody else came forward and that he would not be willing to run the Suffolk Championships.

The Committee was unanimous that it would propose a change to the Constitution such that we didn't discuss the adoption of the National Rules at the AGM each year. They should be adopted automatically!

With a shortfall in income over expenditure in 1993/4 ways of raising additional monies were discussed and it was decided that the Committee would recommend a small increase of £2.00 in the annual subscription. This would mean that Members would pay £17.00, £5.00 of which would be used to buy raffle prizes, and Associate Members £12.00. The Committee, however, decided that entry to the Winter Leagues would rise by £5.00, to £15.00, and Summer Leagues by the same £5.00, to £10.00. If the Members adopted the £2.00 subscription increase then together there would be an increase of £685.00 approx. in income. No increase in the entry fee, of £5.00, would be made for the Cup and Chairmans Plate. These steps were the unanimous view of the Committee.

14. The following matters were raised under any other business, viz.
  - a) Stutton had a carpet for sale and the Secretary agreed to put this on the "for sale and wanted" sheet.

- b) The Chairman, recognising that this was the last Committee Meeting before the AGM, thanked the Committee for their work during the past year adding that it had been an effective forum.

The Meeting concluded at 10.15 p.m..