

Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association

The logo of the Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association is a circular emblem. It features a central figure of a bowler in a dynamic pose, with a bow in hand. The text 'SUFFOLK CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION' is arranged around the perimeter of the circle. The word 'Suffolk' is written in a cursive font above the main title.

The Minutes of a Committee Meeting of the
Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association
held at Needham Market Community Centre
on Monday 9th October, 1995

The Meeting commenced at 7.30 p.m.

Those present:- Margaret Southgate (Chairman), Trevor Girling (Vice Chairman), David Schofield (Secretary), Keith Armes (Treasurer), Tony Webber (County Captain), David Cobbold, Arvon Evans, Sally Goodrich, Paul Goulding, John Hayward, David Jermy, Judith Longman, Ron Smith and Joy Williamson.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Chris Leach.
2. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 24th July, 1995 were amended as follows:-
 2. "Vice" was deleted in 2nd line - the Minutes were signed by the Chairman not the Vice Chairman, and
 11. "Juniors" was deleted in the 1st line of the last paragraph - the entry fee for the Juniors Championships remains at £1.50 per person.

The Minutes were otherwise approved as minuted and signed as being a true record by the Chairman.

3. The following matters arose from the previous Minutes:-
 5. The Secretary read out a letter sent to the Kenninghall Club with regard to Mrs Joy Williamson.
 9. Old Newton had elected to stay in the East Leagues rather than transfer to the West.
 13. The Booking Forms had been received for the National County Championships at Scarborough and had been distributed to the County team as soon as the team was available. There were not enough forms to distribute to others although a few were held. So far just 6 non players had booked. All will be sent to the hotel when the remainder are received.
 16. b) The Secretary remarked that it became apparent, upon receipt of the Booking Forms for the National County Championships, that there was a surcharge at the hotel of £10 per night for the single occupancy of a room. A comparison between the 1994 and 1995 costs for a single person showed that 3 nights stay had gone up from £69.00 to £130.00 and there was no lunch included this year - effectively a doubling in cost!
He was unhappy that at least one County player had not been chosen for either these or the Eastern Counties Championships because of being unable to afford the trip to Scarborough. A selection policy of a settled team would mean only those who could afford to go on such expensive trips would

be picked. It was of great concern to him that representing the County could become a matter of money rather than playing ability! It was felt that there would be objections to subsidising the team out of general funds so the possibility of a money raising tournament to finance the County team in the future was discussed without firm plans being made.

4. The Chairman had no report to make.
5. The Secretary had received a mailing from the Sports Council if others wished to read it and it contained nomination forms for the "Service to Sport" awards.

He will be attending a Sports Council seminar on 28th November at Haverhill on Regional Strategy, Sports Council/ECSR restructuring, etc..

A meeting of the prospective Suffolk Bowls Council was to be held on the following Wednesday. The Secretary and the Chairman or Vice Chairman would represent the Association. Membership of it, if formed, would be decided upon when the Constitution, costs, etc. are distributed.

a) There is, very regrettably, a dispute between a Club and one of their members over the method by which those that play twice in a league match are chosen. This dispute has become serious with the eventual suspension of that member. The Secretary is being requested by the individual, in confidence, to provide information to prove his allegations.

The Committee agreed that we would not communicate with the member without his Clubs knowledge and that we would provide only the minimum of help. The Club is the member of the Association and not the individual.

b) Since the last meeting there had been confusion over whether Royal British Legion, Felixstowe were taking part in the Winter League and Cups. They are doing so in both! This had meant that with the entry of the Rivers Sports & Social Club, Ipswich there were now 12 Clubs in the East 3rd Division, 10 in each of the others but only 9 in the West 1st Division. This was disappointing but unavoidable.

c) The membership position remains uncertain until all Clubs renew their subscriptions but the Secretary welcomed the new Clubs of Darsham, Rivers, Ipswich and Ringshall.

Subscriptions are outstanding from Aldeburgh, Battisford, Barrow, Belstead, Bures, Claydon, Hartest, Honington & Sapiston, Amber Club, Leiston, Monks Eleigh, Snape, Stanton, Thurlow, Whatfield and Withersfield and it was decided that if, after a further reminder, their subs. are not paid by 31st October then membership will be cancelled. 7 Associate Members had rejoined and 5 more were expected to do so.

AS Press Officer he said that he continued to send results every week and a report every other week to the East Anglian Daily Times, the Evening Star and the Bury Free Press but that the printing of them remained patchy.

He said that Dave Cask of the Walpole & Cookley Club was to act as Press Officer for the Suffolk Heritage league which may mean they would also be competing for space in the EADT and Evening Star.

6. The Treasurer reported that the Premium Account stood at £2,703.13 and the Community Account at £2,279.19. The 1994/5 Annual Accounts had yet to be audited.

It was resolved unanimously that cheques would be signed by two of the Chairman, Vice Chairman and Treasurer and such authority would be sent to the Bank.

It was decided unanimously that the Secretary receive an honorarium of £50.00 per quarter toward his telephone bills.

The Secretary commented that he had received notification from Holywells

High School that they were putting charges up by 15% from 1st September - it looked more like 25%! It was noted here that the entry for the Suffolk Singles Championships on Sunday, 12th November had gone down by around 60 people. The entry fee income stood at £476.00 whereas it could cost us £530.00 to hire the Sports Dome and Kitchen.

7. The Summer League play offs had gone very smoothly with Barking taking the PTS Trophy from runners up Stanningfield. David Schofield and Tony Webber, who were running the day, had allowed Clubs to bowl 14 people, due to the extra Pairs played, so that all Clubs would play each of the others. David Cobbold recorded the Associations thanks to the few that cleared up (it should be known that Celia & David were of "the few") whilst almost everybody else left without helping. There was appreciation of the quality of the carpets used! That they were all the same was applauded and should be the norm for the future.
8. The latest Winter League tables were distributed.
9. The current Joe Rice Cup results were distributed.
10. The County Captain reported that the Suffolk Trials had been successful with established and new bowlers mixed up together. He then read out the teams for the Eastern Counties and National County Championships where availability for both was a pre-requisite. He had obtained a price of £170.00 from Squirrells for a 45 seater coach to Ware and it was eventually decided that it would cost £5.00 per person travelling on it. Paul Goulding commented that it had been said to him that those who scored well in the trials should be chosen by right for the County team. The Chairman suggested that the scoring from the trials should not be distributed to everybody but that it remain the knowledge of the Selectors and, perhaps, the Committee? David Cobbold felt that the openness was refreshing and the lack of secrecy should be applauded. The Secretary called for a vote of confidence in the Selection Committee which was unanimous.
11. The Eastern Counties CBA meeting scheduled to take place on 29th October had been rearranged for Thursday, 9th November, 1995 at Linton Social Club, Cambridgeshire. It was decided that we would support the move for League matches to be played on the same days but that we were sceptical about County Championships, trials, etc. being synchronised for each County. The Chairman, Secretary, County Captain and Paul Goulding would attend.
13. There was a most disturbing report given of the English CBA meeting the previous Saturday at Peterborough! It was felt that there was a hate campaign being conducted against Suffolk and personalities within the County. The Chairman had opened the meeting talking of a North/South divide (which is not something that those in the South were aware of) and then the meeting was taken over by the Treasurer on the subject of the National County Championships. It was decided that each County would play each of the others twice although one of the Suffolk representatives had called for a second vote because he was unhappy that the first had been taken correctly but this was refused. There had been no discussion on the matter before the vote was taken! South Tyneside and Norfolk both indicated their wish to enter but this was refused because the format for 6 Counties playing twice had already been worked out. It was felt that this had already been decided by some before the meeting and that Suffolk, and others, were never given a chance to put their point of view. The second Suffolk representative considered it to have been a diabolical meeting

which was totally out of control.

Criticism was made of Suffolk for not having by then submitted booking forms to the hotel for reservations but our Secretary had only received them a fortnight before and had not yet had them all returned.

Scarborough has been booked for the next 5 years for the National County Championships although the Chairman would be contacting Pontin's at Hemsby on the following Monday morning to check on their willingness to hold them (Paul Goulding commented that he had checked whether this had been done - it had not!) It was emphasised that these Championships will take place on the same first weekend in November in future years and although it was realised this would clash with the Eastern Counties Championships in 1996 it was said that the ECBA must take precedence!

Suffolk have been asked to provide 2 sets of woods, 2 centre blocks, 8 delivery blocks and 9 scoreboards. Each game is to be reduced from 11 to 8 ends. Jim Southgate will be asked to act as the Referee for Suffolk. There is £10,252.00 in ECBA funds.

Margaret Southgate is running another Raffle on behalf of the English CBA and the Secretary was handed a box of tickets to distribute. 15 books to be sent to each Club and cheques, made out to ECBA, and ticket stubs are to be returned to Margaret. This time all prizes will be distributed by the ECBA!

Each County had been given a quantity of promotional leaflets to distribute in their County. Tony Webber pointed out that the whole idea of the leaflet was to introduce carpet bowls in areas where the game was not being played rather than to tell those who already played it. In answer to his question about what had happened to those that had gone to the Sports Council it was said that they sat under a desk and that was where they would stay unless somebody asked for some. They will not, apparently, be distributing them through their network although this had clearly been promised at the outset. This was considered wholly unsatisfactory!

Each of the Suffolk Committee Members at the ECBA Meeting were disgusted with the proceedings and they felt that the ECBA was going backwards. There was a clear them and us situation prevailing which had to be got over before any progress could be made.

14. The English Pairs Championships will be taking place on the weekend of 26th to 29th April, 1996 but that not alot of progress had yet been made.

16. The following matters arose under any other business, viz.

a) Paul Goulding had been asked to request that the Secretary include in the letter with these Minutes a reminder that only one bowler should be advising the Skip on what to bowl. It was felt that, too often, other members of a Four were having their say.

b) The Secretary requested, and received, approval to order some more headed paper and this was agreed.

c) Margaret Southgate was given the okay to purchase the Suffolk raffle prize for Ware at approx. £10.00 and for Scarborough at around £25.00.

The Meeting closed at 10.25 p.m.

Subsequent Meetings have been arranged for the Mondays of 11th December, 1995 and 5th February, 8th April & 13th May, 1996 at Needham Market Community Centre.