

Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association



The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the
Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association
held at Nayland Village Hall on Monday, 23rd June, 1997

The Chairman opened by welcoming everyone to the Annual General Meeting and thanked Nayland Carpet Bowls Club for hosting the event and Derek Brown and Jim Southgate for providing the Roll Call for the evening and for distributing raffle tickets.

The Meeting then commenced at 7.40 p.m.

In attendance were representatives from the following Clubs:-

Alpheton	Barking
Belstead	Bramford
Brantham	Brockley
Burstall	Chelmondiston
Claydon	Cockfield
Debenham	Elmsett
Glemsford	Great Blakenham
Harkstead	Hintlesham & Chattisham
Hundon	Martlesham
Nayland	Offton & Willisham
Polstead	Rattlesden
Rivers, Ipswich	Somersham
Stanningfield	Stratford St Mary
Stutton	Tattingstone
Thorndon	Walpole & Cookley

In all there were some 70 people in attendance.

1. Apologies for absence were received from the Clubs of Needham Market, Shotley, Kesgrave, Ashley, Bucklesham, Wenhaston, Tuddenham, Capel St. Mary, Fornham All Saints, Woolpit, Felsham and Gedding, and Ron Smith.
2. Approval of Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting. Acceptance of these minutes were proposed by Keith Armes and seconded by Judith Longman.
3. Matters Arising. The amendment to item 7 of the Constitution had been carried but the amended constitution had not been circulated. This has now been remedied and all Clubs attending were given a copy of the Constitution and a copy will be sent to all Clubs not present. A query was raised about this year's Charity Competition, this was dealt with later in the meeting.
4. A transcript of the Chairman's Report is attached hereto.

5. The Secretary thanked Margaret Southgate for her patience and guidance over the last months.

The Association has 107 member Clubs and 10 Associate Clubs. She reported that 200 sets of equipment had been insured and she thanked everyone for their prompt payments and hoped that all clubs would help her and the Association by paying their subscriptions as promptly! She told the meeting that Suffolk now had 2 representatives on the English CBA Committee. She thanked Doreen Dedman and her team of helpers for unfailingly providing refreshments at all County Events.

6. Treasurer's report. A full report was circulated to the meeting (copy enclosed) the Treasurer simply stated that the Association was roughly in the same position as at the end of the previous year. As there were no questions the report was formally adopted by the meeting. The Treasurer thanked the Honorary Auditor Claire Utting for her work on the last two sets of accounts.
7. There had been no proposals for amendment to the Constitution.
8. The Election of the Officers, Executive Committee and Honorary Auditor followed:-

All the Officers were unopposed and were duly elected for another year.

A ballot followed for the 11 Committee members required and the following were elected:-

Mick Adams	Stanningfield
Keith Armes	Burstall
Derek Brown	Elmsett
David Cobbold	Belstead
Arvon Evans	Cockfield
John Hayward	Belstead
Judith Longman	Harkstead
David Mittell	Great Blakenham
Jean Roddham	Barking
Richard Sago	Burstall
Tony Webber	Offton and Willisham

Ron Smith was not re-elected and in his absence was thanked for all the hard work that he had put in whilst on the Committee.

9. Annual Membership Subscription The Treasurer recommended that this should remain the same for the coming year i.e £17 for members (consisting of £12 Subscription + £5 levy for Raffle Prizes) and £12 for Associate Members. Your Subscriptions are now due and all clubs should have received entry forms. This year it will be a condition of entry into the Winter Leagues, Joe Rice Cup and Plate Competitions that Club subscriptions must be paid by the date stated.
10. County Competitions. A report from Tony Webber is enclosed in these minutes.
11. The following matters were raised under Any Other Business:-
John Mower from Hintlesham and Chattisham CBC gave a vote of appreciation to the retiring Secretary David Schofield for his hard work over the years. This was fully endorsed by the meeting. David was asked by the Chairman if he would like to say a few words.

As David explained he was unprepared for this but wanted to reiterate his pleasure at being asked to accept the position of Life President and to thank the Committee for the dinner they had organised in his honour. He was pleased that he would not be losing his links with Carpet Bowls in the future.

From the floor Bramford asked if in future Final's Day could be fixed dates as Charity Competition organisers found it difficult not to clash with these events. The Chairman stipulated that as far as possible the dates were reasonably static but the County were dependant on the availability of the venue. The Summer league Play Offs were usually the 2nd or 3rd Sunday in September and this year would be on the 21st September, these dates are clearly on the Calendar.

Tony Webber told the meeting that this year the County Charity was to be the Special Care Baby Unit at Ipswich Hospital and the Competition would be run by Somersham CBC on the 5th October at Hadleigh Leisure Centre.

Chris Leach from Stutton CBC raised a proposal that the Joe Rice Cup and Plate Competitions should be run throughout the year rather than just during the winter months. The Committee had received this proposal prior to the AGM but felt that because so many of the Clubs do not play during the Summer that this was not a viable proposition. After some discussion Stutton accepted the offer that the Committee would write to all clubs and ask for their response to this suggestion.

Jim Green from Tattingstone CBC told the meeting that they felt that doing away with trial ends at League Games had altered the feeling of matches. They proposed that the League Games should revert to 9 ends and 2 trial ends. It was explained that the membership had been polled about this matter and had democratically demonstrated a preference for 11 (eleven) ends. This showed that the meeting overwhelmingly supported 11 (eleven) ends and no trial ends. Arvon Evans from Cockfield CBC asked that this matter should now be laid to rest after the irrefutable support of the majority of the meeting for 11 (eleven) ends.

There was a query from Thorndon CBC who have recently rejoined the Association about the minimum number of players required and also about Sunday matches. The Speaker was informed that a minimum of 10 players were required and that matches could take place on any day of the week, all of which is clearly in the Rules for the Winter League. The Secretary undertook to forward a copy of the Winter League Rules to the Club.

The Chairman closed the Annual General Meeting at 8.40 p.m.

There followed a raffle of prizes which had been unclaimed during the last season with each Club attending the Annual General Meeting being put into the hat.

We thank Judith Longman for being the Minute Secretary at this Meeting, also Judith has agreed to being our Minute Secretary for all future Meetings, Thankyou Judith.

Next Committee Meeting Monday 21st July.

Chairmans Report.

It has been an eventful year for Suffolk. Since last years AGM we have seen the resignation of our long serving Secretary and the creation of a new position, that of Life President, both of these in relation to the same person, David Schofield. David was advised to relinquish some of his commitments and as a voluntary position one obviously had to be Suffolk carpet bowls. However in recognition of his long service to our Association your committee invited him to accept the offer of Life Presidency of the Assn. We also entertained David, at our own expense, to a Dinner in his honour when on behalf of all members of the Assn. I presented him with a set of Crystal Glasses and Ships Decanter suitably engraved as a Thank You for his long service to the SCBA.

The County team has had a tremendous year, going from strength to strength. In September the team went to Luton and won the Eastern Counties Championship and having won the Eastern Counties League earlier in the year played Northumberland for the National Inter League Trophy on the first evening of the National Championship weekend in November, again Suffolk were the victors. Two very long days of bowling followed when Suffolk played superbly against every county in the English Assn. and again came out as the Champions. It was a very proud Captain, Tony Webber who stepped forward to receive the Cup. 1997 started with a new event in the Eastern Counties calender, a Teambowl which was held on a bitterly cold day in Hertfordshire, yet again the team came out on top and another trophy came to Suffolk. We now had so many trophies it was decided that a cabinet was needed to display them all, so next time you visit Needham Market Community Centre go into the Burton Room where the trophies are on permanent display. The team still continue on there winning way again winning the Eastern Counties League title and last weekend Suffolk entertained Durham at Risby and in a nail biting finish won by 2 points. Many congratulations to all concerned.

Two weeks ago at Doncaster the Inaugural Championship of Champions run by the English CBA were held and the Singles title was won by Neil Jolly of Brockley, well done Neil. Yesterday saw the first Eastern Counties Champion of Champions at Braintree, and once more, one of the titles came to Suffolk, this time it was the Pairs which went to Eddie Simpson and Jeremy Brown of Elmsett, well done to them both.

I must thank all the members of the committee for their help and support during the past year, there have been one or two hiccups along the way but we have survived. We started the year with four new members on the committee and they have all worked hard on your behalf, however, there is one person whom I cannot thank enough for everything she has done in the last 9 months and that is the lady on my right, Marion Brown. Marion stepped in with no previous experience on the Suffolk committee and has worked extremely hard to master all the varied aspects of the job, we realise that the minutes of our meetings may not be as informative as they have been in the past but to be thrown in at the deep end takes courage and I know that Marion has coped as well as anyone could have done in the circumstances. I have recently spoken to Jane Pitcher who for several years has very kindly taken the photographs at all our County tournaments but she now feels she would like to take a rest, so our grateful thanks must go to Jane for the service she so willingly provided. My final thanks go to Judith and Brian Longman, who with help from their club Harkstead have run the raffles on our behalf this year.

**SUFFOLK CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MAY 1997**

INCOME	1996/97	1995/96	EXPENDITURE	1996/97	1995/96
Membership Subscriptions	1780.00	1856.00	Affiliation Fees	162.50	75.00
Raffles	510.63	964.68	Raffle Prizes	442.50	552.50
Winter League	758.50	780.00	Trophies	1092.00	1072.81
Summer League	460.00	450.00	Sports Hall Hire	1582.12	1641.92
Singles Championships	430.00	486.00	Photocopying / Stationery	117.01	100.07
Pairs Championships	1004.40	800.00	Insurance	1150.19	1091.69
Fours Championships	652.00	684.00	County Matches	2051.70	1425.75
Joe Rice Cup	205.00	220.00	Charity & Other Tournaments	0.00	4430.42
Insurance	2272.00	1080.00	Sundries	378.00	65.20
Sales	0.00	3.10	SCBA Meetings	90.00	75.00
County Matches	1465.00	751.00	Postage	440.54	713.40
Charity & Other Tournaments	0.00	3364.18	Copying / Printing	696.55	1692.85
Bank Interest	96.52	86.63	Telephone	248.58	260.00
Sundries	28.50	523.04	Bank Charges	12.00	45.54
Total For Year	9662.55	12048.63		8463.69	13242.15

**SUFFOLK CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION
STATEMENT OF FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MAY 1997**

	1996/97	1995/96
Balance Of Business Premium Account	3545.28	3461.69
Balance Of Current Account	1288.26	172.99
Funds Available At Year End	4833.54	3634.68
Profit / (Loss) Made During Year	1198.86	-1193.52

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GOOD NEWS FOR CARPET BOWLERS

SUFFOLK COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

CHANGE OF FORMAT

At a recent committee meeting, it was decided that a sub committee should be set up to look at the present format of the Singles, Pairs and Fours Championship competitions.

The Committee members appointed were myself, Judith Longman (Harkstead) and Mick Adams (Stanningfield).

There are a number of reasons why a change is needed, the two main ones are, the straight knockout format and the current venue.

We need to bring more bowlers into the competitions and to get a better representation from the whole county. Especially now that there are Eastern Counties and National "Champion of Champions" events being held. There are a lot of good bowlers throughout the county who have been put off by the present set up, and need to be encouraged to compete again.

To this end we have decided to regionalise the competitions. Each discipline will be held at three venues on the same day, with a number from the final stages going through to a finals day play off at a later date. The venues will be at Leiston Sports Centre, Newmarket Sports Centre and Hadleigh Sports Centre.

All bowlers will play a minimum of three games and will play at the venue nearest to their club.

The finals day play off can be rotated each year between the three centres and can also be on a round robin basis.

At the last Eastern Counties meeting, it was decided that each County should run a Triples Championship. So we also have to fit that into our calendar.

The dates for the Competitions are :- 16th Nov. Pairs
7th Dec. Triples
8th Feb. Singles
8th Mar. Fours

The date for the play off's has yet to be set, but will obviously have to be before the National Champion of Champions event in June 98.

Tony Webber (Offton & Willisham).