

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



The Minutes of a Committee Meeting of the  
Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association  
held at Needham Market Community Centre  
on Monday 6th April, 1998

The Meeting commenced at 7.30 p.m.

Those present:- Margaret Southgate (Chairman), Trevor Girling (Vice Chairman), Marion Brown (Secretary), Paul Goulding (Treasurer), Sally Goodrich, (Press Officer), Keith Armes, Derek Brown, David Cobbold, Arvon Evans, John Hayward, Judith Longman, David Mittell, Jean Roddham, Richard Sago and Tony Webber.

1. There were no apologies.
2. The Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

3. Matters Arising.

The following matters arose from the previous Minutes:- there was an omission in item 9, the report of the Suffolk Singles Championship should have included 'thanks also to Hundon and Cockfield Clubs who had helped to run the day at the Newmarket Venue. In item 10 a 'C' was left out, ECBA should read ECCBA.

4. The Chairman's report.

The Chairman wished to thank Mick Adams, Judith Longman and Tony Webber for running the County Championships Finals Day on the previous day 5th April which had gone very smoothly.

5. The Secretary's Report.

a) The Secretary had received enquiries from Witnesham, Wattisfield, Hoggards Green and Freckenham who were all starting up Carpet Bowls Clubs, we look forward to welcoming them into the Association.

We are pleased that Pettistree have joined and look forward to meeting them.

b) The Insurance for equipment is due by the 31st May. new rates are being negotiated and you will be notified and sent the appropriate forms as soon as they are available.

6. The Press Officer's Report

The Final of the Joe Rice Cup will be between Tuddenham and Barking, and the Chairman's Plate between Hundon and Belstead, these matches will be played at Needham Market on Sunday 10th May, starting at 11.00 a.m.

Sally reported that some of the Clubs in the West had not completed their Winter League programme so she was unable to produce a Final League Table.

A letter had been received that day from Needham Market CBC about their dispute with Hundon concerning a match which should have been played on the 2nd September, 1997! . It appears that Needham Market had cancelled the game at 6.15p.m. on the night of the match and because of the late notification some players from Hundon had travelled to Needham Market unnecessarily. Because of this and the apparent inability to reschedule the game Hundon claimed 10 points. After some discussion, the Committee ruled that because the closing date for the Winter League was past that it should be declared as un-played. Keith Armes proposed that no points should be awarded to either Club, this was seconded by David Cobbold and carried unanimously.

At the same time the committee wishes to point out that inability to re-schedule a match is not in keeping with the spirit of the game. The Committee strongly recommends that a penalty clause be added to the Winter League rules for next season along these lines - Games not completed by the 31st March shall be forfeit.

7. Treasurer's Report

Paul reported that the balance of the finances now stands at £1505.65 in the Current Account, and £4134.50 in the High Interest Account, making a total of £6440.15. There were still some expenses outstanding, notably the Hire Fee for Hadleigh.

8. Finals Day

These will be held on the 10th May at Needham Market Community Centre commencing at 11.00a.m. with the Cup and Plate Finals followed by the presentations. The League Final play offs for Division One will be between Belstead (East) and Brockley (West), and Division Two between Bramford (East) and Ixworth (West). Harkstead are the winners of the Division Three Trophy.

9. Summer League

The groups for the Summer League have been distributed. As previously the Clubs are divided into six groups A - F, Four groups of Seven teams and two groups of eight teams, this was agreed by the Committee. Games must be completed by the 31st August. Twelve bowlers will be required (a minimum of 8 players) with a format of two fours and two pairs.

Can we remind clubs that if more than two players need to be drawn to play a second time they must come from both the fours to satisfy the rule that states 'when playing twice a player must play in a different position and on a different carpet'

10. County Captain's Report

The last County match against Hertfordshire was won by 22 - 14 but this score was not sufficient to realistically give Suffolk a chance of winning the Eastern Counties Trophy. Our last match (against Cambridgeshire) is on the 19th April and because of the situation the selectors intend to try some different players in the Squad. The Eastern Counties Table is currently as follows:- Cambridge 94 points, Norfolk 88, Suffolk 86, Essex 67, Hertfordshire 53 and Bedfordshire 44.

## 11. Suffolk Championships

a) Juniors:- John Hayward reported that the numbers for the Juniors was well down but the standard was up. The behaviour both on and off the mats was exemplary. The youngsters were a credit to their clubs. John thanked everyone who had helped. The Championship was won for the 3rd year running by Eddie Simpson of Elmsett, he beat James Rous from Walpole and Cookley in a close final. The Committee agreed that to win a County Trophy for three years running is an amazing feat and this should be acknowledged, the Committee proposed to that Eddie be presented with a replica cup for him to keep and this will be presented to him at the Annual General Meeting in June.

### b) Fours, Triples, Pairs and Singles.

Overall the Championships have been a great success, with a few teething troubles. Some possibly expected, others not foreseen, i.e. :- bowlers not turning up on the day and the behaviour of some during the competitions.

The response from the Heritage Leagues has been most encouraging, and although only a few extra entries come from the Bury area, we must improve as the format settles down. Hadleigh and Leiston were both excellent venues but Newmarket had been a disappointment. It is intended next year to seek out another venue nearer to the centre of the County, maybe nearer to Bury St Edmunds. It is conceivable too that an alternative to Leiston could be found nearer to Woodbridge to accommodate both the Heritage League players and players to the South and East of Ipswich. The sub-committee of Mick Adams, Judith Longman and Tony Webber were thanked for all their efforts and hard work in instigating this new approach to seeking true County Champions.

The Finals Day was an unqualified success, our new Champions are:-

SINGLES; Steven Cain - Great Blakenham, Runner Up- Neil Jolly - Brockley.

PAIRS; Paul and Mike Daniels - Kelsale,

Runners Up - Sally & Jim Goodrich - Claydon

TRIPLES; June & Paul Goulding and Peter Curtis - Hundon

Runners Up - M Brennan, V Game and C Tilbrook - Knodishall

FOURS; Pauline & John Hayward, and Maureen & Doug Howes - Belstead

Runners Up - D Humphries, T Dalkin, D Rogers & N Turvill - New Astley.

This years competitions have been financially successful. After paying for the venues, trophies and the running expenses we are left with a surplus of between £400 and £500. As the organising sub-committee we feel that some of the surplus should be used to subsidise the expenses of the Champions who will represent us at the Champion of Champions events..

The meeting was told that accommodation was already provisionally booked for these Champions in Doncaster for the English Championships on the 6th and 7th June.

## 12. Eastern Counties C.B.A.

A meeting had been held to arrange the format for the ECCBA Championships on 21st June which this year will be hosted by Suffolk. Notice was given that the AGM will be held at New Astley on the 4th June. The current Chairman is resigning so a new Chairman for the ECCBA is required.

## 13. English Carpet Bowls Association

Arvon Evans reported on a meeting held on the 28th February at Morpeth. The draft constitution was discussed and most of the recommendations submitted by

Suffolk were incorporated into a new draft which is now available.

It was reported that the balance of the finances stood at £8385 but that expenses in the region of £3000 would be required for English Pairs at Hemsby at the end of April. The possibility of future English competitions being sub-contracted out to independent commercial organisations within the bowling fraternity was discussed.

The County weekend will again be held at Hemsby from the 30th October to 2nd November.

It was suggested that a pocket sized booklet containing the rules for Carpet Bowls could be produced.

The meeting was informed that Carpet Bowls Associations could be eligible for a grant from the Foundation for Sport & the Arts. This organisation apparently favours helping smaller groups to purchase equipment such as a computer.

A query was raised about bowlers who kneel to present their woods, the feeling being that they have the opportunity of a much wider reach of presentation. This will be further discussed.

The development Officer had been hard at work and reported that West Sussex have now formed a Carpet Bowls Association, Clubs have also started up in Gloucestershire and the Lizard in Cornwall. Demonstrations planned in the Bristol and Bath areas prior to Christmas had to be cancelled because of Tony's unfortunate accident, however, they will be visited as soon as possible. A similar demonstration is booked for the Nottingham area later this month and enquiries from Worcester and Hereford are also in hand.

14. Any Other Business

Tony Webber reported that the Suffolk Bowls Council had adopted the suggested changes to their constitution. They wish to produce a Calendar of events incorporating all disciplines of the game in Suffolk. An Open Day is to be held on the 3rd May at Risbygate Centre when all disciplines of bowling will be represented.

Mick Adams informed the Committee that the new club at Haggards Green was being formed by a group of players from Stanningfield Club owing to a disagreement with the Club.

Marion Brown asked about the viability of the Association purchasing a photocopier as the amount of copies and the costs were ever increasing. She agreed to research the matter and bring details to the next meeting.

Please amend Great Blakenham Ladies Triples date on calendar from 29th November to 6th December.

The meeting closed at 10.15p.m.

Next meeting 11th May.