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# Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association

The Minutes of a Committee Meeting  
of the Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association  
held at Needham Market Community Centre  
on Monday 5th October, 1998.

The Meeting commenced at 7.30 p.m.

Those present:- Trevor Girling ( Chairman) Margaret Southgate ( Vice Chairman),  
Marion Brown (Secretary), Paul Goulding (Treasurer), Mick Adams, Keith Armes,  
Derek Brown, Rita Daniels, Mervyn Farthing, John Hayward, Judith Longman,  
David Mittell, Richard Sago and Tony Webber.

1. Apologies were received from Arvon Evans and Sally Goodrich.
2. The Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.
3. Matters Arising.

Item 12. Winter Leagues - An amendment to the Winter League Rules Item 2, Matches/Games XV111 should read 'If a fixture list is not submitted to the Press Officer by the 1st September (for the Winter League) 5 points will be deducted from the Club's score each week until the fixture list is received.

**(This note was put on every copy of the Winter League Fixture Lists)**

A copy of the amended rules for playing Carpet Bowls has still not been received from ECBA. However, Tony Webber had produced a copy and this has been copied and is circulated with these minutes.
4. The Chairman's report.

The Chairman wished to congratulate all clubs that had won their groups in the Summer League Competitions, especially Belstead who were the overall winners. He expressed his thanks to all who helped on Finals Day which went smoothly. Judith Longman thanked Gt Blakenham for taking charge of the Raffle as she was unable to be present.
5. The Secretary's Report.

The Secretary had received a letter from Sproughton Tithe Barn CBC with a query about the amended rule about the "bowl being introduced through the blocks". After much discussion, it was agreed that most Carpet Bowlers abide by this rule and that the spirit of the game should prevail when any disputes arise. This rule was amended by English Carpet Bowls Association at this years AGM principally to curtail bowlers from leaning forward with an outstretched arm and delivering the wood several feet up the carpet and from one side. The Committee felt that any reasonable delivery close to the end of the Carpet should be acceptable.

The Secretary confirmed that a letter had been sent to Durham for the excellent week-end that the team and supporters has spent there in August. A date will be set to invite them to Suffolk next year.
6. The Press Officer's Report
  - a) Summer League. In Sally's absence as previously stated, Belstead became this years Summer League Champions. A dispute had arisen between Alpheton and Barrow and we must remind all clubs that the rules for Playing Carpet Bowls must be strictly adhered to. (see Winter League Rule 2 iv) Club skips should carry a copy of the rules to all games so that they can be referred to at all times.

b) Cup and Plate Competitions. The preliminary round has been completed and the first round of the Cup and Plate are currently being played. Once again Stradbroke were unable to fulfil their commitment and conceded the match allowing Barrow to go through. Stradbroke will now enter the Plate competition and the Committee felt the Secretary should write to Stradbroke to convey the Committee's feeling that it is preferable not to enter Competitions if there is any doubt a clubs ability to fulfil its commitments.

7. Treasurer's Report

The Bank Statements were circulated at the meeting, currently the balance stands at £5099.41 with £2584.06 in the Community account and £2505.35 in the High Interest account. This was felt to be excellent in view of the purchase of the photocopier and the fact that all the Raffle Prize money had been issued at the beginning of the season.

8. County Captains Report.

In the Eastern Counties Championships Suffolk had come second (35 points) to Cambridge (41 points) Norfolk and Essex were only 1 point behind with 34 points each. Tony felt that the venue provided by Norfolk was not up to standard (carpet on carpet) for an inter County tournament and strong representation would be made at the next ECCBA meeting. He knew that Essex and Cambridgeshire were in agreement

The County trials were held on the 4th October. All players had 3 games and some promising bowlers emerged.

Margaret Southgate told the meeting that there had been sufficient funds raised at the Chairman's Triples Competition to subsidise each County team member with £25. The County will again donate £20 per head to the team and a travel allowance paid by English Carpet Bowls amounts to £5 per head, this means that each County player will receive £50 towards the cost of the weekend at Hemsby.

Whilst dealing with the County Competition the Chairman had received a complaint from Doreen Dedman who provides the catering at most of the County events, the problem had arisen because of the unexpected change of venue for the County game in November. The non availability of Needham Market for this date meant that the match had been moved to Debenham. The misunderstanding arose because it had been felt that perhaps the venue would be too far away for Mrs Dedman. The problem has now been resolved and we are pleased to say that Mrs Dedman has agreed to do the catering for the County Team at Debenham. However the Committee will be looking at the arrangements for the Catering at all the different venues for the 1999/2000 season.

9. Eastern Counties C.B.A.

There was nothing further to report, the next event will be the Team Bowl on the 3rd January, 1999 hosted by Cambridgeshire at Littleport. Suffolk will ask the ECCBA at the next meeting to consider laying down certain criteria that must be met for County Championships.

10. English Carpet Bowls Association

The discussion about the possibility of sub contracting out the National Tournaments is continuing. A sub Committee set up will meet before the 10th October, 1998 when the next ECBA Committee meeting takes place. It has been suggested that any sub contractor should be responsible for equipment and running tournaments and the ECBA retain the responsibility for everything else connected with these events.

Margaret Southgate reported that in future meetings are to be held in Newark to enable them to take place on one day. The Committee confirmed that they are happy for Arvon Evans (the Suffolk delegate to ECBA) to make decisions on their behalf at the meetings.

11. County Pairs

Judith Longman reported that so far only 28 entries had been received - closing date is 24th October. It was suggested that 3 clubs at each venue should be asked to be responsible for preparing the Hall and clearing up afterwards. It is an intolerable load on the few organisers on the day if they are left with it all to do. Suffolk, as a County, do not own any equipment and we shall be asking Clubs to provide carpets etc. at each of the venues. We would like to take this opportunity here to acknowledge the loan of equipment from Meld Leisure, and in particular Tony Webber's contribution to this.

The carpets that he so willingly transports about the County belong to Meld Leisure and English Pairs, and to date he has given his van and fuel, and his time with unfailing good humour without remuneration, for which we sincerely thank him.

12 Any Other Business

John Hayward spoke again about the disappointing lack of coverage in the Press. There had been nothing about the Summer League Finals. It was agreed to ask Sally to send in the tables and reports (if she has any) every week regardless of any changes and to ask Competition Organisers to submit a report of each event to Sally so that she could send them on. It is felt that it is important that one person should deal with the media. It was also mentioned again that faxed reports tend to get more favourable coverage and it will be suggested to Sally that she adopts this method of communication and to send on a regular day every week.

Derek Brown asked whether the County had considered seeking sponsorship, he was asked to follow this up.

Margaret Southgate enquired if Shirley Watkins could be approached to do some official photography for County events, this was agreed by the Committee.

Margaret had been approached by Tolly Cobbold, and you will see with these minutes an advertisement for Brewery Tours. Tolly Cobbold had sent a donation towards the postage to cover this insertion.

Rita Daniels told the meeting that the Heritage League would like to set up a friendly match with the Suffolk League. This idea was welcomed and it was left to Tony to arrange a date and venue.

Rita also told the meeting that the Heritage League are on the Internet!!!

"IS THIS A FIRST"? If you enter 'Carpet Bowls' on the Internet it will come up. Anyone wanting more details should contact Rita Daniels on 01728 602189.

Judith Longman requested that provision should be made on the Agenda for the next meeting to discuss a County Charity Pairs Competition. Traditionally Suffolk have run a competition each year for a Charity, unfortunately this year time ran out but we want to make plans for 1999.

If anyone in Suffolk has a charity that they wish the County to Support please can we hear from you. Ask your Club Committees and members if they can come up with a worthy cause and contact our Secretary.

Marion Brown reported that her application to the Foundation for Sport Sponsorship is looking hopeful. After several exchange letters it appears that they are looking at the Association in some depth. You will recall that Marion approached them for some funding towards the cost of a photocopier.

Entry form for the Suffolk Carpet Bowls Triples Championships is enclosed with these minutes.

The meeting closed at 10.30p.m.

Next Meeting 30th November, 1998.