



Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association

The Minutes of a Committee Meeting
of the Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association
held at Needham Market Community Centre
on Monday 29th March, 1999

The Meeting commenced at 7.30 p.m.

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

1. There were no apologies.

The Minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed.

3. Matters Arising

Apologies were extended to Mick Adams who had been present at the last meeting but whose name had been omitted from 'those present'

4. The Chairman's report.

There was nothing to report but he wished to thank all members who had helped run the Juniors and the Fours competitions both at Hadleigh and Leiston.

5. The Secretary's Report.

The Secretary had received a letter from Anglia Television who were asking for advance notification of any future events. This had been passed to Tony Webber who had informed Anglia T.V about the forthcoming English Pairs Competition at Hemsby and was awaiting to hear from them. She had written to Hadleigh Leisure Centre complaining about the conditions encountered on Singles day in February and had received a letter of apology.

A letter had been received from the caterers, Doreen Dedman and Val Porter who have resigned with immediate effect. A letter to both had been sent to express our thanks for their support they have given us over the past years.

Hintlesham and Chattisham had written to all the Clubs in the 1st Division of the Winter League (about the controversy over penalty points levied for the late submission of their fixture list) seeking support. All bar one of these clubs supported the Committee's decision.

6. The Press Officer's Report

The Plate and Cup Competitions were completed up to the final stage. The final of the Cup will be between Brockley and Barrow, and the Plate between Chelmondiston and Tithe Barn, Sproughton.

The winners of each division are as follows:-

1st Division East Belstead

2nd Division East Chelmondiston - Sutton

3rd Division East Whatfield Postead

1st Division West Brockley

2nd Division West Woolpit

When the league games are completed a final fixture list will be sent to all clubs in the leagues.

7. Treasurer's Report

All accounts are paid up to date, there is £3440.93 in the community account and £2528.28 in the High Interest account making a total of £5969.21. It was agreed to transfer £1500 into the High Interest account.

8. County Captains Report. This is attached:

There was a short discussion about a strip for County Players. The Committee agreed that grey trousers and white shirt and pullover for the men and grey skirts or trousers and white shirt and pullover for the ladies should be enforced. Whilst we agree (as a committee) that Carpet Bowls is somewhat more relaxed in its code of dress than other bowling disciplines it is felt that a County Team should uphold a higher standard of dress reflecting the teams pride in representing the County.

9. Eastern Counties C.B.A.

Nothing to report, there has been no meeting since the last committee meeting.

10. English Carpet Bowls Association

Arvon Evans reported that a meeting had been held on the 27th February at Newark. The Association is losing the Current Secretary. Eve Warren and the Referee Alan Howe will not be standing for re-election. There will be two places to be filled at the AGM on the 23rd April at Hemsby. Ann Hardy from Essex has been nominated as Secretary as has Arvon Evans (nominated by Durham) as Referee.

However, there was a strong feeling at the meeting that at least one of these posts should be filled by someone from the north as the English Committee would otherwise be somewhat unbalanced. There was a suggestion that Bill Ramshaw from Durham should be approached to stand as Referee.

The decision had now been taken for the National tournaments to be contracted out to Meld Leisure to run and further discussions are taking place. There will be a need to amend the English Carpet Bowls Association constitution to cover this development. The meeting were unhappy with a very wordy proposal for this change and will submit a simpler, more concise version to the AGM.

Arvon reminded Suffolk that £10 will be needed for the raffle for the Inter Counties Competition in October and that all participants will be required to reside at the venue.

The Champion of Champions will be held at the Herringthorpe Leisure Centre at Rotherham on the 5th and 6th June. The Secretary was asked to write and confirm that Suffolk will be entering teams in these championships.

11. Suffolk Competitions:

a) Juniors - Thanks to John Hayward for organising and running this competition, as usual all went very well, the standard of play and etiquette on the day was first class. John thanked all who had helped to make the day so enjoyable. The winner was Ben Elder from Walpole and Cookley who beat Ryan Sykes from Tuddenham.

b) Finals Day for the County Championships will be on April 18th. All the paperwork has been completed and all clubs participating should have received notification. Congratulation to all who have reached this final stage. The 12 teams to qualify in the Fours Competition are from :- Brockley, Belstead, Barking, Barrow, Chelmondiston, East Bergholt, Elmsett,, Rivers (2 teams) Hadleigh, Tuddenham and Wenhaston.

c) The Cup, Plate and Winter League Finals will be at Needham Market on the 9th May.

Please would clubs remember to let a Committee member have the Trophies won last year before the day if possible.

12. Summer League:-

The groups for the Summer League and amended Rules should have reached you by now. The Summer League is to be played between the 1st May and 31st August.

Please make sure to get your fixture list to Sally Goodrich by the 1st May or penalties will be imposed, the same as for the Winter League.

13. Charity Competition:- In aid of the Macmillan Cancer Relief 23rd May.

Draw tickets and prizes for the raffle are continuing to arrive, to date 95 pairs have entered, we would like more so, please get your entries sent to Margaret Southgate, this is our only Charity Competition for the year and would like it to be a success. Items for the Tombola are urgently required, a box will again be at Hadleigh on April 18th and at Needham Market on the 9th May.

14. Catering:-

As reported previously the withdrawal of the caterers has left a problem particularly at this stage of the season. The Secretary has been given the names of 2 contacts who have shown willing to speak with us. Judith and Brian Longman who stepped in to provide food at the County Match on the 21st March have agreed to also cater for the remaining County Match against Hertfordshire on the 11th April. Rita Daniels who holds the Basic Food Hygiene Certificate has offered to cover the two finals days. The Committee plans to have some arrangements firmly in place for the start of the next season.

15. Any Other Business:-

Arvon Evans told the meeting that the date of our Charity Pairs Competition clashes with a memorial competition run by Cambridge in memory of Stephen Foulkes and Richard Missing. As he understands that this will be an annual event he asked that in future perhaps we could avoid this clash of dates. His request was noted.

Margaret Southgate asked about the subsidy for the Champion of Champions Competitions. The Eastern Counties this year will be hosted by Hertfordshire at Brookmans Park. It was agreed, as last year that a subsidy for accommodation and travel will be paid both for this event and for the English Champion of Champions at Rotherham, those taking part in the Singles and Fours at Rotherham will be eligible for 2 nights accommodation subsidy as because of a problem with the venue these two disciplines are to be played on the Saturday morning.

Mick Adams made the point that as the County appear to be struggling somewhat compared to previous years (other counties have now caught up with the standard of play, see the County Captains Report) that, maybe, we should seriously consider a County 'B' team. It is such a great leap from league games playing to County standard. He said that we should be looking at ways to get back to the forefront of Carpet Bowls in order for the game to be progressive. Tony Webber agreed to give this some thought.

Richard Sago reported an incident of a bowler producing a 'blocking shot' by bowling a wood on its side. The Committee were in agreement that although this is not strictly sporting there is nothing in the rules to prevent this being done.

Paul Goulding asked about adopting proportional representation for the County Committee but it was felt that as all the Committee members were elected annually at the AGM, it is up to the membership to put forward candidates from their areas.

Trevor Girling checked with Tony Webber about following up on enquiry from Anglia Television and also Radio Suffolk, Tony reiterated that this was in hand.

The Meeting closed at 9.35 p.m.

Next Meeting 10th May.