

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

**The Minutes of an Executive Committee Meeting of  
The Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association  
Held at Needham Market Community Centre  
On Monday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2005**

**The meeting commenced at 7.30pm**

**Those present:** David Schofield (Chairman), , David Cask, Jim Goodrich Keith Armes, Richard Sago, Carl Buckle, Steven Cain, Margaret Southgate (Vice Chairman), Tony Webber, Sally Goodrich, David Cobbold, Derek Brown, Paul Goulding, Arvon Evans, Marion Brown ( Secretary)

1. Apologies for absence:- John Varden
2. The minutes of the previous meeting were taken as read and confirmed by the meeting as a true record and signed.
3. Matters Arising:- The Chairman said that these would be dealt with in the agenda
4. Chairman's Report: - He welcomed Paul Goulding and was pleased that he had recovered and would be able to continue in his office of Treasurer.
5. Secretary's Report:-There were some new dates of interest and a list will be distributed to all clubs. John Hayward has made two trophies (bowl set on plinth ) which are being engraved for 2nd Division Champions. Great Blakenham have a mat for sale.
6. Match Secretary's report: - There had been some queries on the current Winter league rules re minimum number of players allowed which was 10. The 2<sup>nd</sup> round of the Chairman's Plate is Barrow v Burstall; Bramford v Martlesham; Brantham v Stanningfield; Cockfield v Needham Market.
7. Treasurers report: - Paul Goulding had circulated a report to the meeting which showed details of the accounts and a total held of £5,634.20 which was an increase in excess of £400 on the total held at approximately the same time last year.
8. County Business:-
  - a) Closed Tournaments - - Richard Sago reported that the singles had 88 entries for East Bergholt, and 44 each for Bury and Leiston, slightly down on last year. Entries for the Fours were coming in and these were probably all going to be at Hadleigh.
  - b) Captain's report:- Tony Webber had prepared a report for circulation on the match against Bedfordshire which Suffolk had won comfortably 29 – 7. He paid tribute to Bedfordshire's spirit in keep coming back enthusiastically after each defeat.
  - c) County Uniforms: - The Chairman and Secretary displayed a redesigned badge for the playing shirt/blouse which was red and gold on a white background with a red border. This was unanimously accepted by the meeting. The question of a Suffolk name flash on the upper sleeve was left to the County team Sub Committee to decide. The initial £500 from the sponsor Portmac would be paid into the SCBA accounts who would then meet the bill for the purchase of the uniforms. The further yearly support of £250 from Portmac would go to the Sub Committee for them to maintain the uniform supply. Two qualities of county tie were circulated and the one favoured was the heavier, better quality material but the logo needed to be higher on the tie.

- 9 Eastern Counties Carpet Bowls Association:- There had been no meeting since the last report.
10. English Carpet Bowls Association:- The Chairman had discussed with David Cobbold a response to the first draft of a new constitution and forwarded these to the national secretary together with a restatement of Suffolk views on the way forward for the national movement. No delegate from Suffolk attended the ECBA meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> January and it would not have been fair to expect Margaret Southgate, attending in her role as National Treasurer, to act for us. The minutes of that meeting were not yet to hand but a new draft for the constitution would be available soon and would be on the next meeting agenda.
- An 80 page report had been prepared by a research team for Sport England on a 'Facility Strategy' and there would be a meeting on March 5<sup>th</sup> to discuss it. The possibility of a national facility for all forms of bowls might result at some time in the future. The Chairman and David Cobbold were to study the report and confer with Margaret Southgate who would be attending this meeting. A report on the dates and venues for the National Champion of Champions and County Championships had been circulated with a requirement for a response by 31<sup>st</sup> January. The Chairman and Tony Webber declared an interest and left the meeting. The Vice Chairman Margaret Southgate took the chair.
- The Champion of Champions would move from Barnsley to Blackpool in June 2006, there were many reasons given and the meeting noted the decision of the ECBA taken on 8<sup>th</sup> January. The paper on the National County Championships outlined the possibility of moving from the Autumn at Seacroft in Norfolk to April in Blackpool. On a proposal by David Cobbold seconded by Keith Armes the meeting decided unanimously that the Spring was already full of bowling commitments of all sorts, that the Autumn was the best time for a National County Championship and the proposal should be rejected. The Secretary undertook to forward our decision as soon as possible.
- David Schofield returned with Tony Webber, was informed of the decision and took the chair. The next meeting of the ECBA was April 2<sup>nd</sup> and we must have a delegate present or we would temporarily lose our voting rights.
11. Sub Committee Report on Changes to Winter league Rules:
- Following widespread dissatisfaction, expressed in letters and particularly at the 2004 AGM, about the current rules regarding teams of less than 16 with players playing twice a Sub Committee of Keith Armes, John Varden, Margaret Southgate, Carl Buckle and David Cobbold was set up on 20<sup>th</sup> September 04. Their brief was to report back with options for change and recommendations to this meeting for a decision to be made.
- Since September the Sub Committee has exhaustively looked at all the suggestions from all sources, conducted research into the exact makeup of teams in the 2003/4 and current seasons and circulated much paper for study between the three meetings it held. They felt that doing nothing was not an option available to the SCBA and it was clear that there was no perfect system which would be fair to all in all situations. Their report, with all the research papers, contained two options and had been circulated to all committee members for study before this meeting.
- Option 1 was to perpetuate the present system of players playing twice with different selection criteria and penalties. Option 2 was a system where no player played twice. In both options the minimum team size was increased from 10 to 12. The Sub Committee's recommendation was unanimous for Option 2 and was presented to the meeting as a proposal for change. After some clarification on minor points this proposal was seconded by Paul Goulding and after a brief debate a vote was taken which was unanimous in favour of Option 2. The full winter league rules will be revised and issued to all clubs for the starting date of the 2005/6 season.
- The Chairman on behalf of the meeting congratulated the sub committee on their work and report. The following is a small extract from the report which contains the outline of Option 2 which will come into force in September 2005.

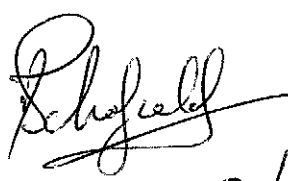
OPTION 2

Option 2	advantages	disadvantages
<p><b>Allowing teams with a minimum of 12 players with no one playing twice</b></p> <p><b>A minimum of 3 players in any rink</b></p> <p><b>In any rink of 3 players the gap will occur at no. 2</b></p>	<p>No one plays twice</p> <p>Simple to administer, easy to understand</p> <p>Allows Team Captain full discretion to select his teams before the event</p> <p>No additional penalties needed</p>	<p>Possibility for some confusion when actually playing ( mitigated by removal of two bowls from the set for the 3 person rink)</p>

( note : The new rules will specify exactly how the ' gap at no 2 ' will be governed)

- 12 Any other Business: - Richard Sago said there was a possibility that on finals day a substitute player would have to be used in the pairs. The meeting confirmed that any substitute must be a player who had not entered originally and if necessary could be from another club. If this was not possible it should be the runners up i.e. the pair who were last defeated by the qualifiers. Margaret Southgate asked about refreshment facilities for the Home matches against Norfolk on February 20<sup>th</sup> and Hertfordshire on March 20<sup>th</sup>. The minimum was tea and biscuits on arrival. The Secretary undertook to arrange for this and the meeting thanked Marion for stepping into the breach. Margaret said there would also be some help needed on the raffles.

The meeting closed at 9.10pm and the date for the next meeting was March 21<sup>st</sup>

  
 21/3/05

## EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE

### SUFFOLK v BEDFORDSHIRE

The second match of the 2004 / 2005 Season for Suffolk was against Bedfordshire and took place at the Putteridge Leisure Centre in Luton, on Sunday January 16<sup>th</sup>.

The match was played using the three carpet format. This format gives each rink a break between games but means that the match takes an extra hour to play, over the usual four carpet set – up.

The Suffolk squad arrived by coach at the venue early, giving the team time to have a drink and relax before the first session to be played at 10 – 30 am.

Suffolk got off to a good start by taking the first session by 2 games to 1, and by 40 shots to 11.

Session two was even better as Suffolk won all three games, scoring 38 shots to 7.

Again in sessions three and four Suffolk took all 6 points and scored 28 and 29 shots respectively.

The fifth session was halved with both teams having a win and a draw. Suffolk just took the shots 21 to 20.

The sixth and final session also went the way of Suffolk by 2 games to 1 and by 24 shots to 18.

The final result was a comfortable for Suffolk by 29 points to 7 and by 180 shots to 90. Bedfordshire had quite a number of new players in their team, some of whom were not up to what we would consider to be County standard. Perhaps they will improve given time. The next challenge for the squad is Eastern Counties Team bowl at Littleport on Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> January