

Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the

Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association

held at Needham Market Community Centre on Monday, 20th June, 2005

The Chairman before the Meeting officially began, pointed out that there would be a slight variation to the agenda to accommodate an open debate regarding the Winter Rules.

In attendance 31 Clubs were represented from:-

Barking	Barrow
Belstead	Bildeston
Bramford	Brockley
Burstall	Chelmondiston
Claydon	Cockfield
Copdock & Washbrook	East Bergholt
Great Barton	Great Blakenham
Harkstead	Hintlesham & Chattisham
Kelsale	Kesgrave
Martlesham	Nayland
Offton & Willisham	Old Felixstowe
Old Newton	Polstead
Somersham	Stanningfield
Tattingstone	Tostock
Tuddenham St Martin	Whatfield
Woolpit	

1. Apologies for absence had been received from:- David Cobbold (Committee member) and the following Clubs:- Haverhill, Capel St Mary, Bentley, Brantham, Shotley and Hoggards Green.

2. Approval of Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting.

Acceptance of these minutes were proposed by Derek Brown, and seconded by Margaret Southgate.

3. Matters Arising.

There were no matters arising

4. Winter League Rules.

The Chairman at this juncture introduced the open discussion on these rules. He stated that at the previous A.G.M. there was overwhelming support for a change to the rules to take place and specifically for teams to play no less than 16 players. Having made this statement the Chairman then asked Member's objective views. Those who wished to speak were asked to do so from the front of the Hall.

Following are some of the comments that were made.

BILDESTON; Pointed out that they have 18 members and they would find it difficult to play 16 regularly.

KESGRAVE; Said the new rule was unfair and that they could field a full team for home games but cannot for away games. The rules as they stand are the best. Losing woods would mean they would go knowing they would lose. Really thought it was an unfair decision.

COPDOCK & WASHBROOK: Said that the new rule would be unfair on small Clubs. They only have 14 members now and that resigning from the Suffolk Leagues is a possible option.

BENTLEY: In a correspondence which the Chairman read, said that they thought the rule change had been made and thought that this should be adhered to.

OLD NEWTON: They stated that they had only 12 members and that one was going into hospital which would leave them with 11 and added that they would join the Bury League if this change goes ahead.

POLSTEAD: The debate on playing rules had been ongoing for about 17 years and that these changes should be adhered to.

HINTLESHAM & CHATTISHAM: Totally against this change and do not like the idea of 3 players playing 4 players.

BRAMFORD: Margaret Southgate told the meeting that she was a member of the committee involved in this decision and urged Clubs to give the changes a go for the coming season.

COPDOCK said if this rule is implemented, cancelled games may become an issue. The Chairman having listened to the comments, again, referred to last years meeting and asked if anyone disagreed that there was an overwhelming feeling for a change and asked if anyone disagreed with that. There was no response.

BELSTEAD said that if we do not make this rule this year it will mean the trouble we have with 16 this year, next year less players will be demanded and the following year the same thing will happen again.

Steven Cain said that if this rule was brought in it would be to the detriment of Carpet Bowls.

BILDESTON: Paul Cousins said the Committee should listen to the members.

The Chairman asked for a show of hands from those present to access the feeling of members.

Arvon Evans pointed out that the vote was worthless as some Clubs had several members present.

The Chairman asked the representatives of Clubs present to show their voting cards so that the incoming committee could establish a view on the situation. The outcome was as follows:-

15 in favour of the rule to stay the same as last year, 9 wanted the change, 2 wanted a change but by a different method. 5 clubs abstained.

Copdock asked that Clubs register their members at the beginning of the season.

The Chairman was asked if a decision would be made on this matter before Clubs were due to register to play in the Winter League. The meeting was told that this will definitely happen.

Sally Goodrich said that she was happy to compile a list of registered members.

Belstead urged the meeting to abide by the changes that the committee recommended.

Copdock again said this issue would cause clubs to resign from the league.

This debate was brought to a close by the Chairman who then returned to the agenda.

5. Chairman's report:- Enclosed

6. Secretary's report:- Enclosed

7. Treasurer's report.

Accounts attached.

The Treasurer pointed out that an error had been pointed out to him at short notice before this meeting.

7a Subscriptions for the year 2005/2006

The Treasurer recommended that an increase in this be made and that a rise to £30.00 which includes the £5.00 allocated for the purchase of raffle prizes for our championships.

Associate membership would rise to £20.00

Arvon Evans pointed out that the accounts had not been adopted. The Chairman said that as there was an error he was not able to recommend the adoption of these. Paul agreed that he would present another set of accounts at the next committee meeting.

8. The Election of the Officers.

Election of Chairman:

David Schofield had previously indicated that he was not putting his name forward for this position.

John Varden (Old Felixstowe) had been proposed by Barking and seconded by Bramford. No other names were received.

The following were all returned for another year unopposed.

Vice Chairman	Margaret Southgate	Bramford
Secretary	Marion Brown	Offton & Willisham
Treasurer	Paul Goulding	Stanningfield
Match Secretary	Sally Goodrich	Claydon

Executive Committee

There were 12 nominations for the 11 executive places.

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

Keith Armes	Burstall	Derek Brown	Offton & Willisham
David Cobbald	Belstead	Carl Buckle	Tostock
Steven Cain	Gt. Blakenham	Jim Goodrich	Claydon
Rita Daniels	Kelsale	Richard Sago	Burstall
Keith Hull	Tuddenham St. Martin	Tony Webber	Offton & Willisham
Mick Watkins	Barking		

Honorary Auditor

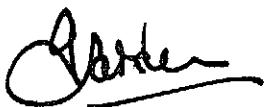
No names were proposed.

11. Any Other Business:-

Chelmondiston reminded the meeting of their forthcoming tournament.

12. A draw was made for prizes that had not been claimed at tournaments.

13. There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.13 p.m.



SUFFOLK CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION

Chairmans Report to Annual General Meeting on Monday, 14th June, 2004

Ladies and Gentlemen, carpet bowlers.

As our Secretary will present a comprehensive report on the year I will confine my report to other matters.

Not many of us are good enough to win County Championships but those that do go on to represent Suffolk at Eastern County and National Champion of Champions play offs. No doubt Marion will tell you more of their achievements but I would like to comment on a different aspect. What a great weekend it was at Barnsley where our representatives were the face of carpet bowls in Suffolk to the rest of the country. They all conducted themselves superbly, looked smart, bowled well, took defeat without complaint and were gracious in victory. We stayed in the same hotel and spent the 2 days together as a team – it was a super weekend and I was very proud of Suffolk carpet bowls. Not only are we the best organised County but we bowl and conduct ourselves as well, or better, than any other!

We will be discussing the proposed changes to the Winter League Rules later in the Agenda.

As most of you will be aware I have not put my name forward for re-election at this AGM. No hidden agenda, rather a matter of less time and greater priorities in my life, however, it was a great honour for me to be made your Life President some 10 years ago so I shall continue to have strong links with the game in Suffolk. I shall be pleased to serve this Committee and the game where required.

Perhaps my greatest regret in standing down is not having successfully tackled the parlous state of the English CBA who, in my view, seem to have lost sight of what they are there to do. They should be overseeing and promoting the game of carpet bowls in England but they have not done this! The game has not grown at all in the last 10 years indeed there are less playing now than then. There are no new areas where the game is played. There is considerable discontent throughout the country but nobody seems able to rise above it all and take it in hand. There is a North v South split which is damaging the game and it will take a tremendous effort to get it right. I regret to say that unless something is done very soon then membership will decline and the Association, as it presently is, will die.

Whilst Chairman I have enjoyed working with a strong Committee and they have certainly not let me have my way. I thank them for working together and acting as a unit – decisions have been well considered and in the interests of the game. I will reassure you of one fact – Suffolk leads the rest of the country, at County, Regional and National level, in the organisation of carpet bowls.

Paul Goulding has been our Treasurer and he has approached his task as if his very life depended on it when, at times, struggling with his health. Nobody is more diligent but, Paul, you should put your health first!

Sally & Jim Goodrich have yet again worked hard as Match Secretaries.

May I thank Tony Webber and his Selectors for their work with the County team keeping Suffolk at the forefront of things and you will hear more of that from Marion.

Behind every good man is a woman they say and it has been no different in this Association. I am indebted to our Secretary, Marion Brown, who has worked tirelessly on behalf of the Association. She has kept me in line, up to date with what was happening and I was always fully briefed for Meetings. Thank you Marion for your support and help.

SUFFOLK CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION

SECRETARY'S REPORT TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 20th JUNE, 2005

Thankyou Mr Chairman and it is a pleasure to stand before you once again and report on another successful year of carpet bowls in Suffolk.

Membership of the Association now stands at 102 clubs despite losing 2 of the previous member clubs, on the brighter side we welcomed Westhorpe to the Association.

Lavenham approached us regarding starting a club, Tony, Derek and myself had a very pleasant evening there, and hopefully after this evening Lavenham will be joining.

We have again held very successfully the closed Singles, Pairs, Triples and Rinks championships. Our grateful thanks to Richard Sago and his team for organising these. On the outcome of these disciplines the winners went to Barnsley for the English Champion of Champions and did extremely well, in the Singles we were third, the Pairs we were the winners who were Andy Gilder and Jeremy Brown, the Triples were third and the Rinks second. The Team Trophy was won by Essex with Suffolk losing out by just 1 point. Yesterday was the turn of the Eastern Counties Championships, a long trip in that heat to Potters Bar. An excellent day of bowling and wonderful results. Neil Jolly won the Singles, Andy Gilder and Jeremy Brown were Runners up in the Pairs, the Triples of Shirley Watkins, Mick Watkins and Roy Lonsborough also came runners up and the Rinks of Nigel Copping, Andrew Gibbons, Sue Gilder and Stan Aldous were winners, We were also winners of the Team Trophy so all in all it was a wonderful day for Carpet Bowls in Suffolk and all are to be congratulated, it was rather hot but nevertheless we came away rejoicing.

The Junior Tournament continues to go well, special congratulations to Paul Davison from Gt. Barton on winning this for the last 3 years, thankyou to John Hayward who has run this for us for quite a few years. It was disappointing that we had to cancel the Junior/Senior Tournament last year. Our thanks to Andy Gilder for organising this.

As our Chairman has already mentioned our County Team have really done us proud again this year, they have won all their games against 5 Counties and now play against the Northern winners Durham at the National Championships at Hemsby in November. The Winter Leagues and Summer Leagues and the Joe Rice Cup and Chairman's plate competitions continue to be a great success. I hope the changes that you have heard about will not deter you from entering these.

The Insurance scheme for equipment and public liability has continued to be very popular. I am pleased to say that there will not be an increase this year.

Thankyou to Mick Watkins who as always turns up for events we have here at Needham to help get the equipment out, also to Tony and Derek I don't think they want to retire, its good to have people who have the respect for our equipment. I also thank Derek for putting up with me, he is for ever running around for me, getting trophies, going to demonstrations etc., I know I can be difficult sometimes but we have a very good understanding, he never or hardly ever lets me down.

Thankyou to Shirley Watkins who takes our photographs when needed.

Many thanks to the Committee for their hard work and support over the last year, special thankyou to David Cobbald who has taken the minutes at all meetings, Dave Cask has requested not to stand this year and thank him for his input. David our Chairman does not wish to stand for Chairman this year. I thank him for his guidance and understanding during the past 2 years. I'm sorry part of this report seems to be about thanking people, but without a good working Committee my job would be difficult.

There have been comments in both my and the Chairman's Report of the achievements of our representatives at the National and Eastern Counties Champion of Champions play offs and they have been asked to come along to this Meeting. I will introduce them and ask them to come up on to the stage to be congratulated by our Chairman and re-presented with their trophies.

SUFFOLK CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION
Income & Expenditure For The Year Ending 31st May 2005

Income:	2003/04		Expenditure:	2003/04	
Opening Bank Balance as at 1/6/04	3,810.91				
	£	£		£	£
Eastern Counties Carpet Bowls	240.00	150.00	Eastern Counties Carpet Bowls	510.00	582.00
Summer League	390.00	380.00	Summer League	80.00	75.00
Raffles	1,370.29	1,276.50	Raffles	604.00	720.00
County Matches	338.00	544.00	County Matches	1,845.22	2,121.99
Suffolk Triples	585.00	795.00	Suffolk Triples	377.20	375.00
Suffolk Pairs	780.00	860.00	Suffolk Pairs	382.50	375.00
Suffolk Singles	528.00	513.00	Suffolk Singles	562.50	550.00
Suffolk Fours	708.00	624.00	Suffolk Fours	257.50	250.00
Suffolk Juniors	16.00	32.00	Suffolk Juniors		103.10
Junior/Senior		126.22	Junior/Senior		75.00
English Rinks		1,228.00	English Rinks		1,228.00
Associated Members	60.00	73.00	Champion of Champions	530.00	525.00
Suffolk County Squad	171.57		Junior Championship	112.96	
Charity		2,333.06	Charity		2,390.00
Insurance	1,072.50	947.25	Insurance	1,431.15	1,302.00
Public Liability Insurance	637.00	552.00	Finals Day	160.00	164.00
Annual Subs	2,050.00	2,080.00	County Trials	80.00	75.00
Club Raffle Fees	510.00	510.00	Meetings	110.00	145.00
Joe Rice Cup & Plate	125.00	135.00	Delegated Expenses	77.79	137.14
Winter League	645.00	660.00	Correspondance	22.62	14.15
Sponsorship	500.00		Replacement of Equipment	117.50	
Bank Interest	39.93	16.18	Postage	515.62	343.50
Trials	90.00	90.75	County Squad Uniforms	1,495.63	
Rule Books	0.50		Photocopy	401.77	616.57
Cancelled cheques b/f 2004	350.70		Telephone	215.20	206.80
			Trophies & Engraving	1,075.22	1,708.82
			Equipment	60.00	850.95
			Stationery	33.50	10.00
			Lottery Licence	17.50	17.50
			Rule Books		5.00
			Miscellaneous		90.75

Closing Bank Balance at 31/05/04 £ 3,943.02

£ 15,018.40

£ 15,018.40

Hon. Treasurer - P. Goulding
Hon. Auditor - A. Curley

Bank Account Summary 2004/2005

Community Account at 31/05/2005	1,051.32
Bus. Reserve Account at 31/05/2005	3,134.19
	4,185.51

Less Outstanding Cheques

101140 21/03/2005	15.00
101149 09/05/2005	5.92
101151 18/05/2005	171.57
101152 26/05/2005	50.00
Closing Balance at 31/05/2004	3,943.02

