



# *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 19<sup>th</sup> March 2007**

**The meeting commenced at 7.30pm**

**Those present:** John Varden, (Chairman) Marion Brown ( Secretary), Sally Goodrich, Keith Hull, Mick Watkins, Jim Goodrich, David Cobbold, Derek Brown, Pat Lingley, Rita Daniels( Treasurer) Richard Sago, Jane Sago, Keith Armes (Vice Chairman), Steven Cain

1. **Apologies for absence:** -. Peter Jones, Sue Jones,
2. **The minutes of the meeting of 29<sup>th</sup> January 2007** - were confirmed by the meeting as a true record and signed.
3. **Matters Arising** from 2. – No matters arising
- 4 **Chairman's Report:** - I would like to start my report by congratulating the County Captain, Neil Jolly, and his fellow selectors, Sally Goodrich & Jeremy Brown, together with the County Team, for winning the Eastern Counties Trophy for the seventh year. It has been a magnificent achievement and one which everyone in Suffolk should be proud of.

I am also pleased to announce that the date of Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May has been booked for the Suffolk v Bury League Friendly Match. Teams from Bramford, Gt Blakenham, Claydon, Martlesham, Nayland & Hadleigh have been invited to select a team of four, excluding current county players, for this representative match . I should like to thank Mr David Schofield, our President, for supplying a trophy for this fixture, which we hope will become an annual event. We hope David will be available to present the trophy to the winning side.

A sub committee of the Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association appointed to develop our sport within Suffolk has made good progress in arranging a demonstration at Gt Cornard Leisure Centre on Saturday 26 May from 10-4pm. Suffolk Acre has shown great interest in this venture and has agreed to run an editorial in their next issue, together with the distribution of a new flyer designed to encourage everyone to attend and give Carpet Bowls a try. Let's hope this venture will generate more bowlers within Suffolk and maybe the start of new clubs in the Hadleigh to Haverhill area, which could strengthen the current leagues in the west of Suffolk. Who knows, if this proves to be a success we could roll it out to other Suffolk areas. If your Club has any spare equipment for sale or hire to help get clubs started, then please contact myself or Marion, the Hon Secretary.

It was a privilege to attend this year's Junior Tournament held at Burstall Village Hall on Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> March. Not only was there a record entry of 11 juniors, but the quality of play and tremendous sportsmanship on show was a great credit to all. My sincere thanks go to Jeremy Brown for his meticulous organisation again. *A report is circulated with these minutes.*

Before closing my report, I would like to thank Richard & Jane Sago, together with Keith & Lindsay Armes & David & Gill Bailey for organising yet another season of County Singles, Pairs, Triples and Rink Competitions. These events give the competitive bowlers within Suffolk a great deal of pleasure and long may it continue. My thanks also go to all clubs who have supplied the equipment without which we couldn't run these events.

- 5 **Secretary's Report:** Marion had received a request for help in starting Carpet Bowls in a school in Hackney and had promised assistance with advice and obtaining grants. Essex had been contacted for their interest and our national body will be informed.
6. **Match Secretary's Report:-** The Cup Final will be between Hundon and Barking and the Plate between Brockley and Tuddenham. There had been a misunderstanding between Martlesham and Old Felixstowe over a fixture date resulting in a need to play after March 31<sup>st</sup> and the committee agreed to this extension to complete the league programme.
7. **Treasurer's Report:** - The Treasurer distributed a full report of income and expenditure there being presently a net balance of £6276.54 and gave a brief explanation of items occurring since the last meeting there were no questions. The treasurer agreed to identify the Sponsorship income as Uniform Sponsorship.
8. **County Business:-**
- a) *County Captain's report* – A report of the Essex match accompanies these minutes. Sally Goodrich reported yesterday's match against Bedford at Cople was always going to be difficult as the venue is unsuitable and not large enough to permit any movement of supporters. A victory of 22 – 14 should see us win the title. A discussion on team travel took place and will be on a future agenda. Mick Watkins reported that the fund raising Team Bowl, previously sponsored by Meld, had received an offer of sponsorship from Vaillant Boilers through Graham Davey which he gratefully accepted.
- b) *Closed Tournaments:* Richard Sago reported that the Finals Day programme was ready for circulation. Jane Sago agreed to get raffle prizes. Equipment problems meant that the situation would have to be reviewed and decisions made for next years events and Richard asked that we bring ideas to a future meeting.  
The Chairman thanked Richard, Jane and Burstall members for their efforts plus all the clubs helping with equipment.
- c) *Junior Championship:* The Chairman had referred to this in his Report and Jeremy Brown had written a report which accompanies these minutes
- d) *Charity Tournament 2007:* - The Chairman reported there were problems with Brackenbury as a venue. A proposal from David Cobbold seconded by Jim Goodrich that we confirm a provisional booking with East Bergholt using up to 16 mats was passed unanimously as was a proposal by Richard Sago seconded by Keith Armes that the Charities should be the Air Ambulance and St Elizabeth Hospice. The meeting accepted the kind offer of Karla and Jeremy Brown, to organise the County wide raffle and the running of the day, and that we should send 20 raffle books to each club. On a proposal by Keith Armes seconded by David Cobbold the main raffle prizes of a LCD combi TV, a food hamper and £25 M & S vouchers were agreed. An offer from the newly formed T & D bowls organisation to provide 4 mats and pick up and transport the County's 8 mats to the venue was gratefully accepted. Tuddenham and Belstead each offered 2 mats with a reserve of one from Brantham and there was the very good news that Ipswich Plumbers our sponsors from last year were planning to do the same this year.

## 9. Eastern Counties Carpet Bowls Association

Derek Brown had been our delegate at meeting held at Newmarket on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2007.

### Information from meeting

Only food that is purchased on site at Littleport can be eaten in the bar area. Those who take their own food may eat in the Sports Hall. There had been several issues with the home teams informing the away teams of league match details. Could all County contacts make sure that information is sent to the opposing team at least 4 weeks in advance.

Congratulations were given to Cambridgeshire for winning the National Championships at Blackpool. Suffolk were runners up with Durham finishing third. There were one or two issues regarding reception area, rooms and the restaurant which the ECBA Chairman is hoping to rectify prior to this years event.

A letter was read from Hertfordshire regarding a recent league match at Bedfordshire. The hall was not large enough to cater for 3 mats plus disabled players access. Clare will send a letter in reply to the Hertfordshire letter received.

Margaret requested that Bedfordshire play with 1 jack per carpet when Suffolk visit as they normally play with 2 per mat. Bedfordshire accepted this.

Clare announced that she would be standing down as Secretary at the AGM, if anyone wishes to volunteer please come forward.

Date of AGM - Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2007

10. **English Carpet Bowls Association:-** The next meeting would be on March 31<sup>st</sup>. Our delegate Mick Watkins had to respond to request for our agreement for extra ordinary expenditure to be approved for legal costs to be incurred in pursuing the former national Secretary for recovery of the ECBA equipment. The Chairman proposed and the meeting agreed unanimously to ratify his decision to do so.
11. **Summer league format:-** Pat Lingley outlined the rule changes necessary to cope with the changed format. These were lengthy to avoid any misunderstandings when bowlers had to play twice. The meeting agreed them for circulation to clubs and thanked Pat and Mick for their work. After the closing date for entries Marion would convene a meeting to arrange leagues.
12. **Development of Carpet Bowls in Suffolk.-** John Varden had been to a meeting with Suffolk ACRE who had agreed to do an editorial in their newsletter to village halls on our event planned for May 26<sup>th</sup> at Gt Cornard leisure Centre. They would also circulate our coloured flyer to communities advertising the Event. He thanked the Sub Committee members for their continuing work.
13. **Any other business:-**
  - a) All those present indicated they would be standing for election to this committee in June except Derek Brown and David Cobbold. Marion Brown is actively seeking a replacement for her position as Secretary to ensure a smooth handover. The Chairman paid tribute to those leaving for their contribution over many years
  - b) Mick Watkins asked and the meeting agreed that we consider forming a policy regarding the promotion of Bowls by profit making organisations to encourage a level playing field at the next meeting
  - c) Rita Daniels asked that the Kelsale Charity Tournament be allowed to use our club contact list which the meeting agreed to.

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm. The next meeting is changed to Monday 30th April 2007.



## Bedfordshire - v - Suffolk

On Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2007 Suffolk played their final ECCBA league match of the season, away against Bedfordshire.

Having beaten both of their rivals for the league, Cambridgeshire and Essex, in their last two matches, Suffolk travelled to Bedfordshire with high hopes of retaining the league title. Going into the match Suffolk were top of the league, four points ahead of Essex and eight ahead of Cambridgeshire and they were playing each other. Whilst Bedfordshire were bottom of the league, Suffolk would have to maintain the all round team performances of the last two matches to beat them.

In the first session the three Suffolk rinks made a slow start, but by the end of the three games Suffolk had secured two wins, a convincing 22-4 and 12-6, only losing a close third game 10-8.

The start of the second session followed a similar pattern to the previous, with the three Suffolk rinks taking time to adapt to the carpets. However, holding their nerve in the crucial final ends Suffolk were again victorious in two games 10-8 and 7-5, just losing the other game 8-6.

The third session proved to be a reverse of the previous sessions, with Bedfordshire winning two games, 9-7 and 8-4, with Suffolk's solitary victory a comfortable 14-5.

At halfway, Suffolk had a slim 10-8 overall lead. The first half of the match had been a story of the Suffolk team presenting their opponents with too many end winning opportunities and good fortune favouring the home team. With the knowledge that Cambridgeshire were beating Essex 11-7, a vastly improved second half was required from the Suffolk team to ensure that they held on to top spot.

The fourth session was to improve Suffolk's lead. Two comfortable wins were achieved 13-1 and 11-5, with an unfortunate one shot defeat, 9-8 in the other game.

With two sessions left Suffolk now needed to increase their overall match lead. However for most of the penultimate session it looked like they would be beaten in all three games. Showing character, two of the Suffolk rinks fought back to earn valuable draws, 8-8 and 9-9, losing yet another close third game 9-7.

In the final session, with every point now crucial the three Suffolk rinks delivered exactly what the team had been striving for all day, three wins. Under pressure, performances improved and victories were secured, 11-3, 8-5 and 8-7.

The final match score was Bedfordshire 14, Suffolk 22. This hard fought win had secured Suffolk the ECCBA league title, Cambridgeshire having beaten Essex by the same score.

Across the season Suffolk had won all five of their league matches and deserved to finish in first position. Congratulations must go to every player that has contributed to this success. New bowlers playing their first season of county bowls have performed superbly and the experienced players have played with great consistency. The team has also shown character to win crucial games throughout the season and the team spirit has been excellent.

Neil Jolly (Suffolk Captain)

## 2006/2007 ECCBA League Season

### RESULTS SUMMARY

#### 29<sup>th</sup> October 2006

Suffolk 23 – Norfolk 13

Essex 31 – Bedfordshire 5

Hertfordshire 15 – Cambridgeshire 21

#### 10<sup>th</sup> December 2006

Suffolk 29 – Hertfordshire 7

Cambridgeshire 33 – Bedfordshire 3

Essex 20 – Norfolk 16

#### 21<sup>st</sup> January 2007

Suffolk 22 – Cambridgeshire 14

Hertfordshire 9 – Essex 27

Norfolk 27 – Bedfordshire 9

#### 18<sup>th</sup> February 2007

Essex 14 – Suffolk 22

Bedfordshire 12 – Hertfordshire 24

Norfolk 16 – Cambridgeshire 20

#### 18<sup>th</sup> March 2007

Bedfordshire 14 – Suffolk 22

Cambridgeshire 22 – Essex 14

Hertfordshire 11 – Norfolk 25

### FINAL LEAGUE TABLE

COUNTY	WINS	POINTS
SUFFOLK	5	118
CAMBRIDGESHIRE	4	110
ESSEX	3	106
NORFOLK	2	97
HERTFORDSHIRE	1	68
BEDFORDSHIRE	0	43

## SUFFOLK JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

This years championship was held at Burstall Village Hall on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March.

We had 11 entries this year which is one of the highest the competition had ever seen. The bowling started at 9.45 with some cracking games and bowling that was of the highest quality. Each bowler had 5 group games and they all managed to win at least one, last years champion Oscar Mew was in fine form once again as was Cheryl Chisholm from Needham Market whose ability to read the game helped her to win her group with Joe Mew taking 2<sup>nd</sup> place, in the other group it was Oscar who shone through to take first place with Angus Chisholm finishing second only by bowling a superb last wood to secure 3 shots on the last end.

The semi finals were both a family affair with Joe playing Oscar and Cheryl playing Angus.

Oscar overcame Joe in the first semi and in the second Cheryl beat Angus.

The final was between Oscar and Cheryl and after 4 ends the game was very tight but 2 good ends from Oscar proved to much for Cheryl and Oscar became Suffolk Junior Champion for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year running.

Each junior received a medal from the Chairman for taking part.

The losing semi finalist and runner up received a trophy and Oscar received the winners trophy to keep for 1 year.

Overall the day was a great success and all the juniors enjoyed the day and they all played with smiles on their faces which is how bowls should be played.

Jeremy Brown

## Essex - v - Suffolk

On Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2007 Suffolk played their penultimate ECCBA league match of the season, away against Essex. Both counties were represented by six rinks (fours), each rink playing three nine end games over six sessions.

Having beaten Cambridgeshire last month Suffolk were looking to make it four consecutive league wins. Going into the match Essex were also unbeaten and top of the league, but only four points ahead of Suffolk. This would be Suffolk's toughest challenge of the season to date and with only one more match to play each, the winner would have the greater opportunity to win the league.

Unlike the first session against Cambridgeshire when all three Suffolk rinks were beaten, a more positive start was made. Suffolk won two of the games, 15-8 and 9-7 after an excellent comeback from 7-1 behind, only losing a close third game 8-6.

The second session followed a similar pattern to the previous. Again Suffolk were victorious in two games 10-4 and 6-4, losing the other game 10-4. So an early overall 8-4 Suffolk lead, but Essex were playing well enough to show that the remaining games would be hard fought.

The third session proved to be Suffolk's best of the day. Playing confidently and with some superb bowls at crucial points in each of the games Suffolk took the maximum six points. The winning scores were 10-9, 6-4 and 10-5.

At halfway Suffolk had played the more consistent and accurate bowls to secure an overall lead of 14-4. However it was essential that they maintained their high level of performance, as Essex were playing well enough to take advantage of any mistakes.

The fourth session was to improve Suffolk's lead. As with the first two sessions it was Suffolk who won two games to Essex's one. Suffolk's wins were a comfortable 11-3 and 9-6, losing the other 13-5. Suffolk's overall lead in the match now stood at 18-6.

In the penultimate session with an overall match win in sight for Suffolk, Essex's performances improved and they reversed the previous session to win two of the three games. Suffolk's single win was a convincing 14-1, whilst the defeats were 10-5 and 14-3.

Whilst the match was now won, unfortunately Suffolk were stumbling over the winning line. The final three games went the same way as the previous session. One important win to Suffolk 10-5 and two disappointing losses 11-7 and 10-5.

The final match score was Essex 14, Suffolk 22.

Despite slipping up in the last two sessions this was a very important and deserved Suffolk win and their best team performance of the season. With Cambridgeshire only beating Norfolk 20-16, Suffolk are now top of the league, four points ahead of Essex and eight ahead of Cambridgeshire with one round of matches to play.

Suffolk's final league match is away against Bedfordshire on Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2007. If they can maintain the team spirit and performances of their last two matches, then they will have every chance of retaining the league title.

Neil Jolly (Suffolk Captain)

Suffolk County Team: Supported by Portmak Joinery