



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

## The Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association

held at Needham Market Community Centre on Monday 17th November 2008

**The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.**

**Those present:** Jeremy Brown (Chairman), Keith Jolly (Treasurer), Graham Robinson (Secretary), Keith Hull, Steven Cain, Neil Jolly, Peter Jones, Mick Watkins, Andy Gilder, Richard Sago, Jane Sago.

**1. Apologies for absence:** Keith Armes, Margaret Southgate, Sally Goodrich, Jim Goodrich.

**2. Approval of previous Minutes:** After the correction of item 11 where the abbreviation CRO should have read CPO, the minutes of the Committee Meeting of 15th September 2008 were confirmed as a true record, proposed by Andy Gilder, seconded by Stephen Cain and signed by the Chairman.

**3. Matters Arising:** Item 7b) Payment has been refunded to Wenhaston following their double payment of subscription.

**4. Chairman's Report:** The Chairman gave the following report:

"I would like to start by congratulating the Suffolk County Team on their effort in the National Championships last weekend in Blackpool. It was an excellent weekend enjoyed by all bowlers and supporters.

I would like to thank Graham Robinson for taking on the secretary's role. I hope we can all give him the support and help he needs to make this an easy position to look after.

Also my thanks go to Richard Sago and Jane Sago for running the triples and pairs closed competitions, I think these were both run very well.

I have noticed over the past few months during league matches and competitions the amount of mobile phones that are going off while people are playing games is on the increase, please be responsible for making sure they are turned off or even on silent, I don't think this is too much to ask."

**5. Secretary's Report:** The secretary reported that all was OK at the moment. He had received a number of club contact changes. Clubs are invited to send any changes to the Secretary and the contact list will be amended as appropriate.

Mick Watkins raised the question of the poor quality of photocopying. Graham Robinson was already aware of the problem with the old photocopier. The problem could be resolved by replacing the roller but it may be better and only a little more expensive to replace with a machine which will do double sided. Committee asked Graham Robinson to obtain quotes for replacing the photocopier with a suitable model, possibly a second-hand refurbished

machine. GrahamRobinson to give quotes to JeremyBrown who will contact committee for approval. Commercial copying facilities may have to be used until the problem is resolved.

**6. Match Secretary's Report:** The Match Secretary was not in attendance but had given the Chairman two items to raise at the meeting. Both items related to unusual situations regarding the 2 points for shots in cup or league matches.

a) In a recent match at Brantham, the visiting team Somersham had arrived with 16 players but one player had been unable to climb the stairs so Somersham could only play with 15 players. The committee considered the current rules and concluded that the two points for shots would not have been available to Somersham. The committee, however, were unhappy about the situation and do not want to see disabled bowlers disadvantaged (a similar scenario with lack of room for wheelchair bowlers in some halls was envisaged). The committee will look at revising the rules for the future. It was agreed that the Chairman would contact Somersham to tell them. The secretary was asked to write to Brantham to suggest that they remind visiting clubs of their access problem and check whether their disability access problem is being addressed by the hall managers/owners.

b) The second problem occurred in a match between Hoggards Green and Offton & Willisham when Hoggards Green arrived with 16 players but one player was called away during the first half to deal with a family emergency, resulting in the team having 15 players and having to draw out for the second half. Again the committee decided that according to the current rules Hoggards Green were not eligible for the two points for shots and the result would be 6-2. The committee were sympathetic to Hoggards Green's case and will also address this scenario in a future revision of the rules. The secretary was asked to write to Hoggards Green explaining the above.

**7. Treasurers Report:** Keith Jolly presented a slightly revised income/expenditure sheet to 17th November with current assets at £6862. During discussion a number of items were clarified by Keith Jolly. He also confirmed that the ECCBA fees had now been paid, that the cost of hiring East Bergholt was £265, and that he would check postage costs which seemed high (probably because some were previously under a different heading)

a) Keith Jolly enquired whether the actual telephone costs for the secretary could be itemised, rather than paying a fixed sum. GrahamRobinson to check whether it is feasible.

b) KeithJolly had spoken to East Bergholt School regarding the bill for the ECCBA teambowl. They will check out whether it has been paid and send a bill if not.

c) KeithJolly sought confirmation regarding coach hire insurance and was duly reassured (agenda item 7b.)

d) It was confirmed that a potential insurance claim regarding cracked bowls had now been dropped.

e) Keith Jolly has the Lottery form to submit to the council. The committee agreed to appoint Jeremy Brown (Chairman) and Keith Jolly (Treasurer) to sign the certification on the return.

f) Marion Brown had submitted an invoice for squad uniforms and MickWatkins agreed to arrange for the squad uniform account to be topped up to cover this.

g) Change of bank signatories is still not complete. The bank has two of the mandates but, although properly submitted through his local bank, JeremyBrowns has gone missing and he will take his information the his bank again. It was agreed that the secretary should write to the local bank and the mandate section to demand rapid approval, KeithJolly to advise GrahamRobinson on format of letters. Rita Daniels is still receiving bank correspondence which is unacceptable and signatories accept that this matter must be quickly resolved.

**8. County Business:** Neil Jolly reported on a number of items:

a) **County Trials** - There had been a good number of trialists, a high standard, resulting in a county squad of 28 with 5 new faces. The first county game is against Cambridge and three of the new members have been selected to play with two reserves.

b) **Teambowl** - This was run by Suffolk and went well thanks to helpers on the day. Suffolk's performance was not quite up to par with some disappointing results against Norfolk and Essex.

c) **National Championships** - A full report is attached. The captain also mentioned a number of minor issues arising from the weekend regarding independent measuring standard, coaching from the side, type of centre blocks, number and positioning of players (Sunderland). If appropriate these may be considered by the ECBA.

**9. Closed Championships** - Richard Sago reported that the Pairs Championships had run well at East Bergholt and thanked Rita & Paul Daniels for running the Tunstall event. The qualifiers for the finals were - Marion & Derek Brown (Offton), Ann & Alan Blundell (Hoggards Green), Ellen Grube & Kevin Salmon (Hundon), Tom & Sam Rummacles (Gt Blakenham), Andy Gilder & Mick Watkins (Barking), Keith & Neil Jolly (Brockley), Doug & Eileen Adamson (Knodishall), Tricia & Tony Finch (Nacton).

It was decided that in future when a team has to withdraw during a championship, to ensure fairness, all that team's games (including those already played) will be awarded to the opponents at a fixed score. Neil Jolly to reword the relevant paragraphs in the rules for next season and review the scores following this year's championships so fair average scores are agreed.

Consideration is being given to using Risby as a venue for the Singles in February. Neil Jolly to check availability. If used, more Bury area players must be encouraged to enter.

Several clubs have asked about what happens to the proceeds of the raffles. It was confirmed that proceeds go towards the cost of the event and venue, along with entry fees. Any overall surplus at the end of the season will be put towards the Charity event.

**10. Eastern Counties Carpet Bowls Association:** Neil Jolly had attended the last meeting in place of Peter Jones who could not attend. He gave a short report of the meeting. It should be noted that it is proposed to centralise the 6 Counties and Team Bowl from 2010 using Braintree and Littleport if available. The proposal supported by Suffolk for playing matches with less than 24 players was carried with a slight revision, the wording now reading as follows:

"The players (up to 7) must be drawn before the commencement of the match. No player can play more than 4 games. If a county has 8 players short then the match would be void and would need to be rearranged. Players drawn out cannot play in the same position as they are already playing or as skip in the games where they are replacement bowler. A deduction of 1 point per player short will be made from the final score."

**11. English Carpet Bowls Association:** There had been no meetings since our last committee meeting but Mick Watkins reported that he was working with Paul Daniels on preparing a new ECBA website. It was agreed that a dedicated SCBA email address was required, accessible by at least two people, Mick Watkins, Jeremy Brown and Paul Daniels to discuss. The SCBA website has been updated by Paul Daniels and needs to be utilised more for reports, photos etc.

**12. Any Other Business:**

a) Child Protection Policy - AndyGilder reported on his investigations and discussion with Suffolk County Council and the NSPCC. The recommendation is that SCBA have a dedicated person as Child Protection Officer who is fully trained and CRB checked. AndyGilder has agreed to attend a two day course for this funded by SCBA. SCC also recommend that clubs who have members under 18 years should have a single person deemed responsible and CRB checked. AndyGilder also agreed to draft a SCBA policy for child protection with help from Sarah Fane of NSPCC. It was agreed that in future Child Protection should be an agenda item.

**The Date of the next meeting was set for Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2009**

The meeting closed at 9.28pm.

SIGNED



DATED

26-1-09

## **Essex – v – Suffolk**

On Sunday 14 December 2008 Suffolk were away against Essex at Braintree Leisure Centre in their second ECCBA league game of the 2008/09 season.

Following the disappointing result in their first game against Cambridgeshire, the Suffolk team were looking for a vastly improved performance in what would be an equally difficult match.

In the first session the Suffolk rinks got off to a slow start, taking time to adjust to the quick away carpets. Two games were very close, both finished 7-6 with the counties winning a game each. In the final game a remarkable comeback saw the Suffolk rink score nine shots in the last two ends to steal an unlikely win 11-10.

The second session followed a similar pattern and finished with the same outcome. The first game was close and the Suffolk rink held on to win 8-7. The second game was more comfortable for Suffolk with a convincing 12-3 win. In the final game the Suffolk rink could not recover an early deficit and the game was lost 9-3.

In the third session the first game went right to the last end and a 7-7 draw was secured with the last Suffolk bowl. The other two games were more one-sided, Suffolk winning 13-8, but losing the other 18-3.

At half way it was Suffolk who had a deserved lead 11-7. After a slow start the Suffolk rinks had picked up the pace of the away carpets and were bowling well. This needed to continue in the afternoon if Suffolk were to maintain or improve their lead.

In the fourth session two of the games were in doubt until the last bowls. In the first game the Suffolk skip's final wood reversed a losing position into a 7-6 win. The second was drawn 8-8 in a game that the Suffolk rink looked like winning until the last wood. In the final game the Suffolk rink were unable to recover from a slow start, losing 13-6.

The fifth session was a better one for Suffolk, again winning two of the games to extend their overall match lead. The first game was the most convincing Suffolk win of the day, 21-6 and the other win was 10-7 having taken an early lead. Unfortunately the final game was lost 11-5.

In the final session it was again the Suffolk rinks winning two games. In those two games early leads were taken and protected, finishing 10-4 and 10-5. The final game saw the Suffolk rink go behind early and losing 14-9.

Suffolk had won the match 22-14.

It had been a good day for the Suffolk team. A much improved performance with consistent and accurate bowling putting the home team under pressure in many of the games.

Suffolk must now look to continue this improved form in their next game, away against Bedfordshire on 18 January 2009.

Neil Jolly (County Captain)

Suffolk County Team: Supported by Portmak Joinery

## Suffolk – v – Cambridgeshire

On Sunday 23 November 2008 Suffolk hosted Cambridgeshire at Risby in their first ECCBA league of the 2008/09 season.

The Suffolk team included 5 bowlers making their league debut.

At the beginning of November only a few shots had separated Cambridgeshire and Suffolk at the National Championships, so with two evenly matched teams some close games and a tight outcome was expected.

However this did not prove to be the case and a significantly below par performance by Suffolk resulted in a comfortable 25-11 win for Cambridgeshire.

The day got off to a terrible start for Suffolk who failed to take advantage of being the home team. In the first session all three games were won by Cambridgeshire, 8-6, 16-6 and 12-5.

The second session games were a lot closer, but again all three games went to the away team. Despite having opportunities to win the later ends the games were lost 8-4, 8-7 and 7-5.

It had taken until the third session for Suffolk to get on the scoreboard. However it was only a solitary point from a drawn game 10-10. The other games were lost 10-5 and 8-7.

So at the half way stage Suffolk trailed 17-1. Whilst Cambridgeshire had bowled well, the Suffolk performance had been poor and in the afternoon a massive improvement was needed to at least make the score look respectable.

In the fourth session in a reversal of form it was the Suffolk rinks that won all of the games. Early leads were achieved and held on to, resulting in wins of 8-6, 10-5 and 9-4.

However this did not turn out to be the start of an unlikely fight back. In the penultimate session the Suffolk rinks could only win one game 8-5. The other games were lost 13-2 and 10-8.

The final session of the day went the same way, with Suffolk getting the one win 13-9, having recovered well from 9-1 down. The other games were lost 10-4 and on the last bowl, 6-5.

Cambridgeshire had won the match 25-11.

It had been a dreadful day for Suffolk. Whilst the afternoon had been an improved display, inconsistent and inaccurate bowling in the earlier sessions had put them in an impossible position to recover from.

Suffolk must now look to bounce back next month in their game away against Essex.

Neil Jolly (County Captain)

## National County Championships 2008

On Friday 7 November 2008 the Suffolk team and their supporters travelled by coach to the Norbreck Castle Hotel in Blackpool for the National County Championships.

The tournament involved nine other counties, Cambridgeshire, Durham, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk, Northumberland, North Tyneside, South Tyneside and Sunderland. All counties were represented by six rinks (fours), each rink playing one eleven end game against all of the other counties, over two days of bowling.

On the Saturday morning Suffolk's first opponents were Sunderland, an improving team with high expectations. It was not a good start for Suffolk rinks A, B and C, picking up only the one win 10-3 and losing the other games 19-4 and 12-8.

For rinks D, E and F, their first games were against Norfolk who are always tough opposition. This time the Suffolk bowlers settled quicker, winning comfortably 14-5 and on the last end of the other games, tighter wins of 8-7 and 11-10.

Next up for rinks A, B and C were Hertfordshire, a team with a reputation for taking points off the stronger teams. Despite an improved performance just the one Suffolk win was secured 13-5. In the other two games fortune was not on Suffolk's side, losses of 9-5 and 8-5.

The next session for D, E and F was a double-pointer. The opposition were Cambridgeshire, last years winners and Suffolk's main rivals for the championship. As always the games were lengthy, close and tactical, but it was the Suffolk rinks who took early leads and held on to them. Three very important wins for Suffolk, 11-6, 10-4 and 12-9.

Northumberland faced rinks A, B and C next. With confidence increasing, again the performances improved and two good wins were achieved, 15-12 and 14-9. The other game was lost 13-3.

In the next session D, E and F also faced opponents from the north in Durham. Picking up where the other rinks had left off, again Suffolk secured two wins, 15-7 and 10-8. The other game finished in a 7-7 draw, a fair reflection of a close game.

Unfortunately the next session proved to be the most disappointing of the day. Against North Tyneside, one of the weaker counties in the competition, Suffolk won only one game 15-5. However with a bit more luck, one shot defeats of 12-11 and 8-7 would have been reversed.

For the penultimate session of the first day the opposition were Essex, who were having a good day. Suffolk took early control of the first game, winning well 12-6. In the second game the Suffolk rink staged a remarkable comeback from 7-1 down to win 9-8. In the final game an early 11-0 Suffolk lead was nearly thrown away, but they held on to win nervously 12-11.

Last up for Suffolk was South Tyneside. These were games that Suffolk expected to win and rinks A, B and C duly obliged. Showing good concentration after a long days bowling a further six points were secured with wins of 13-10, 14-9 and a fantastic 25-4.

At the end of the first day it was Suffolk who had an overall lead with a creditable 39 points. Behind them were Norfolk with 34, the dangerous Cambridgeshire on 33, then Durham on 32 and Essex with 31. It was good to have a lead, but tomorrow would be another day.

Sunday morning started badly for rinks D,E and F. Again Sunderland proved to be a stumbling block and in a repeat of Saturday morning disappointingly there was only one Suffolk win, 13-4. The other games were close, but lost 11-7 and 11-10.

It did not get any better in the next session when rinks A, B and C faced Norfolk. This time Suffolk only picked up the one point drawing a game 8-8. One game was unluckily lost on the final end 9-8 after a strong Suffolk fight back, with the other game lost 13-3.

Suffolk's overnight lead had gone and a quick improvement in performances was needed. It was delivered in the next session by D, E and F against Hertfordshire. Two games were won comfortably 14-6 and 16-6 and a full house was secured with a closer 11-7 win.

Next up were Cambridgeshire, a session where neither county could afford to lose all three games. As with Saturday the games were long tense affairs, but again it was Suffolk who deserved to come out on top. The first game was won on the last end 9-8, the second Suffolk led from the start to win 9-4 and it was only the final game which was lost 13-10.

After that great performance D,E and F needed to keep the momentum going. They did, with a maximum six points against Northumberland. Two games were won easily 16-6 and 15-5. In the final game it needed an unlikely comeback in the latter ends to steal an 11-10 win.

With the overall competition very close, Durham were the next opponents for rinks A, B and C. Games against the experienced Durham team are always difficult, these were no different but Suffolk secured two important wins, 13-9 and 16-7, only just losing the other 9-6.

Continuing with games against northern opposition, rinks D,E and F were now up against North Tyneside. Suffolk were confident of winning all three games and their performances reflected that. The best session of the weekend finished with wins of 15-4, 20-3 and 22-1!!

In the overall standings with two sessions to go, Suffolk were trailing Cambridgeshire by just one point. Suffolk now had difficult games against Essex who were vying for third spot. Two of the games were very close, but unfortunately Suffolk could only gain a draw 8-8, losing the other 9-6. In the final game the Suffolk rink were in complete control, winning 16-2.

At the same time, a surprise outcome, Cambridgeshire only managing one win against North Tyneside. Going into the last session Suffolk and Cambridgeshire were level on points.

In the final session Suffolk were against South Tyneside. The first game saw the Suffolk rink take an early lead and they eased to a 13-7 win. In the second game a run of good luck for the opposition saw Suffolk 8-0 behind. They then staged a remarkable comeback and were unfortunate not to win, drawing 8-8. The final game followed a similar pattern, Suffolk finding themselves 10-2 down. Again a brave fight back and in a tense final end they grabbed five shots to snatch an unlikely 13-11 win.

Meanwhile Cambridgeshire had secured two wins against Hertfordshire, with a game to finish. Seeing Suffolk win their last game, with the final bowl of the entire competition the Cambridgeshire skip drew in to secure a drawn game.

Suffolk and Cambridgeshire were level on 76 points each. The competition had to be decided on shots scored, Suffolk had 608 and Cambridgeshire had 626.



Whilst clearly disappointed to finish second in what was the closest finish in the competition's history, the Suffolk team could be proud of their efforts over a long tiring two days of bowls. They had played some great bowls throughout the weekend, kept their composure under immense pressure, especially during the tense and emotional final games.

Thanks must be passed to the supporters of the Suffolk team who gave great and constant encouragement to the Suffolk bowlers right through the weekend.

The final competition scores were:

Cambridgeshire	76
Suffolk	76
Essex	65
Norfolk	62
Durham	59
Sunderland	58
Northumberland	53
Hertfordshire	45
North Tyneside	31
South Tyneside	15

The team of bowlers who superbly represented Suffolk were:

Rink A: Jim Southgate, Margaret Southgate, Roy Lonsborough, David Mittell

Rink B: Trevor Bean, Sally Goodrich, Andy Gilder, Tom Runnacles

Rink C: Carl Buckle, Ralph Sadgrove, Andy Pooley, Jim Goodrich

Rink D: Rita Runnacles, Colin Fellingham, Sue Gilder, Mick Watkins

Rink E: Sue Davey, Ann Hathaway, Andrew Cooper, Neil Jolly

Rink F: Sue Jones, Ellen Grube, Paul Daniels, Jeremy Brown

Neil Jolly (County Captain)

Suffolk County Team: Supported by Portmak Joinery

# Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association County Team 2008/09

## County Team Trials 2008

The trials for the forthcoming season's Suffolk Squad were held at Needham Market on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2008.

There was an entry of 40 bowlers which was an increase on the last few years. The selectors were pleased that the majority of last season's squad were trialling again and that there were also a number of bowlers at the trials for the first time.

In the morning all of the bowlers were placed into nine rinks (fours) and each rink played two seven end games. Every bowl was marked on its accuracy relative to how close it finished to the shot they were asked to play. After a short break all of the bowlers were again put into nine rinks where they played another two games, with and against different bowlers from the morning session.

During the day there was good standard of bowling with impressive scores from both county and non-county bowlers. The games were also played in an excellent spirit.

After the trials the Selection Committee of Sally Goodrich, Jeremy Brown and Neil Jolly met to choose the Suffolk Squad for the 2008/09 season. This proved to be a difficult task given the standard of bowls played at the trials. Everyone's performance was discussed before a final squad of 28 bowlers was finalised.

The squad in full is:

Neil Jolly (Brockley) - Captain	Jim Goodrich (Claydon)
Sally Goodrich (Claydon) - Selector	Ellen Grube (Hundon)
Jeremy Brown (Claydon) - Selector	Ann Hathaway (Hundon)
Trevor Bean (Stanningfield)	Roy Lonsborough (Barking)
Marion Brown (Offton & Willisham)	David Mittel (Great Blakenham)
Carl Buckle (Tostock)	Andy Pooley (Great Blakenham)
Linda Cooke (Withersfield)	Peter Runnacles (Great Blakenham)
Tony Cooke (Withersfield)	Rita Runnacles (Great Blakenham)
Andrew Cooper (Hundon)	Sam Runnacles (Great Blakenham)
Paul Daniels (Kelsale)	Tom Runnacles (Great Blakenham)
Sue Davey (Cockfield)	Ralph Sadgrove (Hundon)
Colin Fellingham (Cockfield)	Margaret Southgate (Belstead)
Andy Gilder (Barking)	John Varden (Old Felixstowe)
Sue Gilder (Barking)	Mick Watkins (Barking)

The first challenge for the Suffolk's new squad is the first ECCBA league game, at home (Risby) against Cambridgeshire on Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2008.

Neil Jolly (County Captain)

## ECCBA Charity Teambowl 2008

On Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> September 2008 the SCBA hosted the Eastern Counties Carpet Bowls Association Charity Teambowl at East Bergholt.

The SCBA's chosen charity was the East Anglian Air Ambulance.

The competition involved the six Eastern Counties, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk.

Each county were represented by four singles bowlers, four pairs and four triples, each playing one seven end game against each of the other counties.

The Suffolk team were looking to retain the trophy they had won last year at Braintree.

In the first session Suffolk opponents were last years runners-up Essex, it would be a testing start. After four close games Suffolk's singles bowlers secured two wins 7-6 and 5-4, a draw 6-6 and the other game was lost 7-5. Unfortunately the pairs could not follow up the good start, winning just the one game 8-7 and drawing a game 5-5. Last on were the triples and in these games the points were shared, Suffolk winning 12-3 and 7-6 and losing 10-6 and 7-4.

Overall the points had been shared with Essex, twelve each. A fair reflection of the games played, but a disappointing return from a Suffolk perspective.

Next up for Suffolk were Cambridgeshire, this was likely to be the toughest session of the day. Again the Suffolk singles bowlers got the team off to a great start, winning three of the four games, 8-4, 9-2 and 10-3. However again the pairs could not capitalise, with the outcome reversed. Suffolk winning just the one game 10-2 and losing the others. Finally, as with their first games the Suffolk triples shared the points with their opposition, winning twice 9-7 and 4-3 and losing twice.

Again overall the points with Cambridgeshire had been shared. A satisfactory outcome for Suffolk, but generally performances would need to improve in the last three sessions.

Norfolk were Suffolk's next opponents and true to form Suffolk's singles got the team off to a promising start. All four were unbeaten, winning two games 7-2 and 5-2 and drawing twice 4-4. Unfortunately the pattern of the earlier sessions was then repeated. Despite a number of close games only one pair and one triple were able to secure wins.

Suffolk overall had only scored ten points against Norfolk. As a result both Essex and Cambridgeshire now had healthy advantages over Suffolk, with only two sessions to play.

Hertfordshire were the next opposition. As with the previous session the Suffolk singles bowlers stayed unbeaten, but this time all four games were won, 7-2, 6-5, 13-1 and 12-3. In the pairs games that followed performances picked up and three games were won 6-3, 9-2 and 8-6. This seemed to inspire the Suffolk triples as they repeated that result, winning 8-7, 8-4 and 8-4.

Suffolk had achieved an excellent twenty points against Hertfordshire.

Suffolk County Team: Supported by Portmak Joinery

However Cambridgeshire still had an overall lead in the competition.

In the final session Suffolk would probably need twenty plus points against Bedfordshire and they would also be hoping that Cambridgeshire would slip up against Essex.

Against Bedfordshire Suffolk's singles bowlers had their poorest session of the day, winning only two games, 9-3 and 8-5. However the pairs then went on and with improved performances, had their best session, winning all four games, 10-3, 11-1, 11-5 and 7-3. In the last games of the day the also improving triples were able to win three games, 7-2, 13-3 and 11-6.

To finish Suffolk had taken eighteen points from Bedfordshire.

Unfortunately that was not enough to earn first place, as Cambridgeshire had also finished well against Essex.

The final points and placings were:

Cambridgeshire	78
Suffolk	72
Norfolk	65
Essex	64
Hertfordshire	47
Bedfordshire	34

It had been a disappointing day for the Suffolk team, too many individual below par performances and dropped points against Essex and Norfolk in particular had proved costly. Whilst the last two sessions had been encouraging, the team had left themselves too much to recover and Cambridgeshire's early lead had proved to be enough for them to retain first place.

The Suffolk team are now looking forward to the National County Championships at Blackpool in November.

Neil Jolly (County Captain)