

**The Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the
Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association
held at Needham Market Community Centre on Monday 26th January 2009**

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Those present: Jeremy Brown (JB)(Chairman), Keith Jolly (KJ)(Treasurer), Graham Robinson (GR)(Secretary), Keith Hull (KH), Steven Cain (SC), Neil Jolly (NJ), Peter Jones (PJ), Mick Watkins (MW), Andy Gilder (AG), Richard Sago (RS), Jane Sago (JS), Keith Armes (KA), Margaret Southgate (MS), Sally Goodrich (SG), Jim Goodrich (JG).

1. Apologies for absence: None.

2. Approval of previous Minutes: The minutes of the Committee Meeting of 17th November 2008 were confirmed as a true record, proposed by Andy Gilder, seconded by Jane Sago and signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters Arising: Item 11) SCBA now have a 'gmail' (google mail group email account). Mick Watkins has the password and Paul Daniels also has access. If anyone else needs access they should contact MW.

Item 6a) Jim Goodrich reported that he had been contacted by Pat Lindley as the report regarding the Somersham match was inaccurate. It appears that the player who could not climb the stairs did not go to Brantham as she was aware of the stair problem. A letter has been received from Maureen Lindley of Brantham explaining the situation. The access problem is being looked into.

Item 5) Graham Robinson had obtained quotes from two suppliers for a replacement photocopier which he presented at the meeting. JS agreed to get the quotes assessed and advise the chairman on the most suitable machine. In the meantime GR would get the next set of minutes copied commercially. In future, after approval by the chairman, Peter Jones will print a letter quality headed master of the minutes and deliver it to GR, this should ensure that good quality copies get circulated.

4. Chairman's Report: The Chairman reported that he had been approached by David Schofield following the final Rector's Plate and that David Schofield & Jane Pitcher had generously donated a quantity of measures, callipers and mat numbers to SCBA. This was appreciated by the committee and it was agreed that JB should send a letter of thanks to David & Jane.

5. Secretary's Report: GR's report regarding the photocopier had already been discussed. MW expressed concern that the entry forms for the Random Triples did not seem to have been received by all clubs. GR confirmed that entry forms were sent to all clubs.

6. Match Secretary's Report: Sally Goodrich reported that some Cup and Plate results were being received with scorings of 8 points (missing the shots score). She asked for **Clubs to be reminded that scoring for Cup and Plate matches is exactly the same as for league matches.**

The draw for the second round of the Chairman's Plate is: Martlesham v Belstead, Hoggards Green v Brantham, Woolpit v Great Blakenhan, Needham Market v Tuddenham St Martin.

7. Treasurers Report: Keith Jolly presented an income/expenditure sheet to 26th January 2009 with current assets at £6070.

KJ expressed concern that he was unable to do his job as Treasurer properly because the bank change of signatures had still not been approved by the bank. The bank had indicated that another 'repair' was needed and JB agreed to contact the bank mandate team by telephone to try and resolve the outstanding matter as a letter they say they sent to him had not been received. Concern was also expressed that no reply had been received to our letter to Barclays Bank, Needham Market which had requested an urgent reply.

KJ will not be at the Singles Championship so it was agreed that NJ would collect any money (raffle etc.) and pass to KJ.

8. County Business: NJ reported that after a disappointing loss against Cambridgeshire at Risby there had been good away wins against Essex at Braintree and Bedfordshire at Cople. With home matches to come against Norfolk and Hertfordshire it is hoped that Suffolk can secure second place in the league.

Durham will be visiting Suffolk this year and volunteers were sought to find suitable accommodation and liaise with the Durham Secretary. Margaret Southgate and SG volunteered to do this with assistance from NJ. It was confirmed that, as usual, SCBA will pay for 24 meals for the Durham team as part of this goodwill exchange.

9. Eastern Counties Carpet Bowls Association: PJ reported that there had not been a meeting of the ECCBA committee since our last committee meeting so there was nothing to report.

10. English Carpet Bowls Association: A report of the meeting held at Rotherham on 10th January 2009 and attended by MW is attached.

During discussion it was agreed that when the issue of allowing counties to bowl with less than 24 players is further discussed at ECBA the Suffolk view should be that the rule recently adopted by the ECCBA should be used as the basis and adapted to suit the National playing format.

It should be noted that **the date for the 2009 Nationals at Blackpool has been changed to 13-16th November**. The SCBA committee meeting scheduled for 16th will now be changed to 23rd November.

The issue of training/retraining of referees was discussed. It is with David Storey to progress this. MW and JG will take on running training courses if required.

After discussion it was agreed that SCBA would not support the idea of reducing the number of ends in the Nationals from 11 to 10.

MW reported that it was Suffolk's turn to hold the English Triples in 2010 and the date for this, 12th September 2010, clashed with the Summer play-offs. It was agreed that GR should book East Berholt for that tournament (both rooms from 08.30). Also he should cancel the Needham Market booking for 12th September 2010 and if available book for 5th September 2010, if unavailable let JB know. If the 5th September is booked for Summer play-offs it will be necessary to bring forward the end date for summer league matches.

11. Child Protection Officer's Report: AG gave a general report on progress so far. There are still grey areas regarding child protection requirements and he will present a draft proposal at a later date. AG is trying to arrange to go on the required two day Child protection officer training course.

12. Any Other Business: RS reported that the entries for the County Singles was 36 entries down on last year.

MW has received a quantity of carpet bowls rule books from ECBA. He is holding these. Any clubs which do not have a copy of the rule book should contact Mick Watkins for a copy.

The SCBA website is now much more comprehensive and Paul Daniels would welcome any relevant information to put on the site.

MW and AG have looked at upgrading the mat storage facility at Needham Market. It is proposed to make a racking system for safer storage. The cost will be £180 + vat (materials cost only charged). SCBA will pay MW, who has generously agreed to donate this amount to the county uniforms fund, which is in deficit.

SC reported that Dick Williamson was interested in joining the committee. It was proposed by Steven Cain that he be co-opted on, seconded by Richard Sago, unanimously approved. JB to contact Mr Williamson.

The calendar of dates has some dates missing for late 2009, including Essex (22nd Nov.) and Beds (13th Dec.) county matches, Closed Triples (18th Oct.), Closed Pairs (proposed 8th Nov.). MS reported that the ECCBA 6 Counties tournament in 2010 has been booked for 6th April at Littleport and the Teambowl at Braintree in September 2010. All relevant dates to be available at next meeting so calendar can be updated and reissued.

NJ tabled the proposed amendments to Winter and Summer league rules. Committee members were asked to review these and let NJ have any comments by end February.

JB has booked the date previously used for the Rector's Plate at Needham Market for 2010. It was agreed that SCBA would run an event, possibly an open charity pairs tournament.

Invitation list for Rector's plate to be obtained if possible.

JB reminded the meeting that the Summer League forms would need to be sent out before the next meeting on 9th March. GR was asked to revise the form (with this year's dates) and send out with these minutes.

A letter has been received from Martlesham expressing their concerns about the rule which allows clubs to play matches with less than 16 players. The content of the letter was discussed and it was agreed that JB and JG would talk to Martlesham when they meet shortly. A written reply will only be sent if required after that meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.55pm.