

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

SCBA Website is [www.carpetbowls.org/suffolk](http://www.carpetbowls.org/suffolk)

**The Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the**  
**Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association**  
**Held at Needham Market Community Centre on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2015.**

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Those present: Neil West(NW) Chairman, Keith Jolly(KJ) Treasurer, Mick Watkins(MW), Andy Gilder(AG), Jane Sago(JS), Richard Sago(RS), John Varden (JV).

**1.Apologies for absence:** Neil Jolly (NJ), Sally Goodrich (SG), Jim Goodrich (JG), Carol West (CW), Freda Wright (FW).

**2.Approval of previous Minutes:** The Minutes of the meeting held on 17th November 2014 were approved with a correction to include JV as present and were duly signed.

**3.Matters Arising:**

NW has heard from FW that she has written to Peter Jones and passed a vacuum cleaner to MW.

KH has supplied plastic tubes for the SCBA carpets.

KJ said that repairs have been carried out to the triples trophy.

RS had received a comment from one player in relation to the smoking rule. RS confirmed the committee's decision.

**4. Chairmans Report:** NW wished everyone a Happy New Year. He said how successful the Charity Competition was and thanked all those involved in its organisation. NW congratulated the county squad on a very successful start to the season, three wins out of three and top of the ECCBA league.

JS said that the total raised at the Charity Competition was £954.00. JV made the observation that a lot of people left the charity competition immediately after the raffle was drawn. RS said there were a large number of draw prizes left unclaimed at the end of the event. It was agreed that these prizes shall be passed to MW for use at forthcoming closed competitions, saving SCBA the cost of purchasing prizes. Because of this it was proposed MW, seconded JV that SCBA round up the proceeds of the competition to £1000.00 as well as covering the cost of the hall hire.

**5. Secretary's Report:** NW said that FW had received an invitation for a charity competition in Cambridge being held on the same day as one of the closed competitions.

**6. Treasurer's Report:** KJ said that he had not produced a balance sheet because there had been only minimal change since the previous meeting.

KJ had received notification from Needham Market Community Centre that hire charges will be increasing. Daily hire of the centre will increase by £5.00, evening hire of the lounge for committee meetings will increase by 50p.

**7. Match Secretary's Report:** there was no match secretary's report.

**8. C.P.O. Report:** AG reported that there had been no changes therefore nothing to report.

**9. Removed**

**10. County Captains Report:** NW read NJ's report as follows:

Since our last meeting, the Suffolk team have got their league season off to a successful start, winning two away matches. First up was a tricky match at Braintree against Essex. The team got off to a decent start, adapting to the mats well & we soon built a healthy overall lead. Losing only three games all day, we fully deserved our convincing 27-9 win. After that we travelled to Barton-le-Clay to face Bedfordshire. Despite a mixed first half we played better as the day went on, increasing our overall advantage and finishing with an excellent 28-8 win. So after two matches we sat in second spot in the league, but only a few points behind Hertfordshire. Most recently we had a home match against Norfolk and we were able to build a healthy advantage in the early games, which we increased as the day progressed. By the end, a great result for the team, winning 29-7. That win took us to the top of the league, but only nine points ahead of Hertfordshire, who we play next. That crucial match is at Bildeston on Sunday 15 February.

**11. ECBA Report:** MW reported from the meeting held on January 17th. Two demonstrations have been carried out, one in Whitehaven by Durham and one in Manchester by MW.

There's been progress with Carpet Bowls in Norway and Sweden. A friendly game will be played between Bedfordshire and a team from Norway on February 8th. MW said that the ECBA Triples had made a loss, entries for the Fours will be sent to Suffolk Clubs with these minutes but he'd already had 10 entries.

MW said that ECBA intend to have someone arrive early at Potters to check the condition of the carpets for the Nationals.

The ECBA Champion of Champions will be held at Walsingham. There was a request from Cambridgeshire and Norfolk for ECBA to provide a subsidy to help with travel costs for ECCBA clubs. However, due to the high cost of venue hire this would result in the event showing huge losses. It has been suggested to move the event to the cheaper location at Soham and to use the savings to provide a subsidy to players from Northern clubs. If agreed the event will move in 2016.

**12. ECCBA Report:** NW said NJ advised nothing to report except that the next ECCBA meeting is Thursday 12 March 2015.

**13. Forthcoming events:**

Pairs closed competition on Feb 1st & 8th, Singles closed competition on Feb 22nd and March 1st all require people available at 8.30am to set out carpets. A number of people offered help on some or all dates. (JS, RS, JV, NW)

Quarter finals of the Joe Rice Cup and Chairman's Plate. Participating clubs will be asked to arrive early to help set out equipment. NW will contact JG & SG with regard to organising the raffle at these events. (NW)

**14. Any other business:**

- NW said NJ had asked if the meeting scheduled for Feb 23rd was needed, it being only 5 weeks after this meeting and there being no other meeting until June 1st, just prior to the AGM. MW thought there ought to be another meeting before the start of the summer league. It was agreed to put the next meeting back to March 16th, subject to availability of a meeting room. MW to contact Needham Market Community Centre. (MW)

- NW said NJ had asked if the committee would consider contributing funds for a new county squad uniform. NJ did not have confirmed figure as the matter was still under discussion with squad members. After some discussion, although not dismissing the possibility, it was agreed to defer any decision until the squad had reached agreement on the uniform and potential costs known.

- MW/KJ had received communication from East Bergholt Leisure Centre enquiring about bookings for next season. MW suggested that the Fours championship should be moved to Needham Market. AG agreed. After some discussion all members agreed that this event should be held at Needham Market Community Centre in future. MW will book a suitable date and reply to East Bergholt. (MW)

- KJ referred to an item in AOB at the previous meeting and asked MW what sort of response he'd received from clubs with details of non SCBA member carpet bowls clubs in Suffolk. MW said he'd received details of a couple of clubs but that response had not been good. It was suggested that clubs are again requested to pass on details of carpet bowls clubs that they know of that are not currently members of SCBA and playing competitively (ALL)

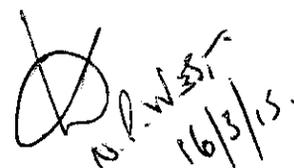
- MW asked if Suffolk would second his nomination for the post of ECBA National Referee. This was agreed.

- RS thanked everyone for their help with the charity competition but said that he was disappointed with the low entry and wondered why this was. After some discussion it was agreed to move the event further into January, possibly the 2nd Saturday, subject to availability of the community centre. (MW)

There being no other business to discuss the meeting closed at 21:00

The next meeting will be 7.30pm Monday March 16<sup>th</sup>.2015 at Needham Market Community Centre.

**Contact list amendments:  
None Advised**

Handwritten signature and date: N.P. W 351 16/3/15.

## Bedfordshire – v – Suffolk

On Sunday 14 December Suffolk travelled to Barton-le-Clay to face Bedfordshire in their second ECCBA league match.

Suffolk had got off to a great start in their first match, a 27-9 win away against Essex, so they were looking to finish 2014 with another victory.

David O'Brien came into the team for his first Suffolk match, the rinks selected were:

**Suffolk 1 (S1):** Jim Goodrich, Don Allum, David Ford, Paul Daniels

**Suffolk 2 (S2):** Trevor Cain, Ellen Grube, Andy Pooley, Sue Gilder

**Suffolk 3 (S3):** Sam Runnacles, Peter Fellingham, Mick Watkins, Tom Runnacles

**Suffolk 4 (S4):** Peter Runnacles, David O'Brien, John Varden, David Mittell

**Suffolk 5 (S5):** Sally Goodrich, Rita Runnacles, Andy Gilder, Steven Cain

**Suffolk 6 (S6):** Sue Davey, Ralph Sadgrove, Colin Fellingham, Neil Jolly

In away matches you're always looking to get off to a solid start and pick up the lines and speeds of the mats as quickly as possible. Whilst Suffolk didn't make the best start, by the third end of each game, the rinks had hit their stride. It was S5 who were first to exert their dominance and when they got in front they didn't look back, easing away to a comfortable 13-2 win. The other games were far closer but two more Suffolk wins always looked on the cards as they reached the later ends. So it proved to be, S1 winning 11-6 and S3 by 11-7. A maximum six point starter for Suffolk, it was just what they were hoping for.

As with the first session, the second session wasn't a flying start for the other Suffolk rinks and generally things didn't improve a great deal. The best performance came from S4 who did just enough to win their game 9-5. Unfortunately the other two Suffolk rinks were unable to add to the points tally. S2 played some good ends during their game but then conceded too many shots on other ends and that resulted in an 8-10 defeat. Meanwhile S6 simply didn't build any end winning heads and were chasing the game. They pulled back on the seventh and eighth ends but put themselves in trouble on the last and the game was gone, losing 5-8.

Looking to get Suffolk back on track, S1, 3 and 5 came to the mats hoping to stay unbeaten. It wasn't to be for S3 though, as with S6 before them they just couldn't get to grips with the lines on mat 3. They were behind early on and despite their best efforts to manufacture end winning positions, things got worse as the game went on, losing 4-14. It was better news for Suffolk on the other mats though with both S1 and S5 playing consistently well again. Their steady bowls were duly rewarded with two wins, S5 by 10-4 and S1 by 12-7.

At the halfway stage, Suffolk had an overall 12-6 lead, so they would certainly be hoping to increase that advantage by the end of the day.

In the fourth session it was S2 who bounced back well from their first game loss and were soon in front in their game. Controlling the latter ends well, they eased away to a 13-7 win. Meanwhile S4 were making a better go of tricky mat 3 than the two Suffolk rinks before them, securing a lead and just about holding on to it on the last end, to win 9-5. Lastly S6 played a slightly better game than their first outing, but were still unable to dominate. Trading shots with their opponents, they went into the last end one shot up and clung on to a dead end to sneak an important 7-6 win. Overall a valuable six point session for Suffolk.

The penultimate session saw mat 3 be Suffolk's nemesis again and this time it was the previously unbeaten S1 who suffered. They kept their game tight but left themselves too much to do on the last end and the game slipped away 7-9. No such problems for the other two Suffolk rinks though, as both cruised to comfortable wins. S3 bounced back well from their last game defeat and never looked in any trouble on their way to a 14-3 win. It was an even better display from S5 who conceded only a single shot in winning 13-1 for their third consecutive win.

Suffolk were looking to finish the day with another clean sweep of wins in the final session and that's just what happened. Playing by far their best bowls of the day it was S6 who got off to the best start and with a number of high shot scoring ends, they raced away to a one sided 19-1 win. It wasn't anywhere near as straight forward on the other carpets though. S4 were involved in a real tussle, in a game which could've gone either way. However with a three shot lead going into the last end, it enabled them to take the jack off to earn an important 8-7 win and their third consecutive win. Lastly S2 were on the dreaded mat 3, but playing it reasonably well from the start. Building some good end winning situations they gradually increased their shot advantage and ran out deserved 10-7 winners.

The match finished with a Suffolk win 28-8 (shots: 183 - 109).

It had been another good away win for Suffolk, in a match where Bedfordshire had also played their part. Two high scoring wins from two away matches is what Suffolk had hoped for and this sets them up well for the remainder of the season. All of the rinks had contributed well to the points total but particular mention must go to S4 and S5 who were both unbeaten, recording three wins.

Looking at the league table sees Suffolk comfortably in second place with 55 points, just three points behind Hertfordshire.

Suffolk now have three home matches to play, the first of which is against Norfolk at Needham Market Community Centre on Sunday 18 January.

Neil Jolly (County Captain)

## Suffolk – v – Norfolk

On Sunday 18 January, at Needham Market, Suffolk faced Norfolk in the third ECCBA league match, looking to continue their winning start, following two away successes against Essex and Bedfordshire.

Paul Leach came into the team for his first Suffolk match, the rinks selected were:

**Suffolk 1 (S1):** Jim Goodrich, Don Allum, David Ford, Paul Daniels

**Suffolk 2 (S2):** Paul Leach, Ellen Grube, Andy Pooley, Sue Gilder

**Suffolk 3 (S3):** Sam Runnacles, Peter Fellingham, Mick Watkins, Tom Runnacles

**Suffolk 4 (S4):** Peter Runnacles, David O'Brien, Clint Watling, David Mittell

**Suffolk 5 (S5):** Sally Goodrich, Rita Runnacles, Andy Gilder, Steven Cain

**Suffolk 6 (S6):** Sue Davey, John Varden, Colin Fellingham, Neil Jolly

In the first session it was S1 who flew out of the blocks, after four ends they pretty much had their game won, having amassed an 11-0 lead. Whilst they lost the next two ends, they didn't drop another shot on their way to a comfortable 15-3 win. S3 had also got off to a decent start and were 4-0 up, but the whole team went AWOL on the fourth end, dropping a terrible six shots. They bounced back well though and got it back to 9-9 going into the last end, where they held their nerve for a single shot 10-9 win. Lastly S5 got off to a slow start finding themselves 4-0 down, which they got back to 4-4, only to lose the next three ends to be 7-4 behind. Saving the best until last, a superb final end saw three shots scored and a 7-7 draw salvaged.

The second session saw S6 make the better start of the three Suffolk rinks. After six ends they were 8-0 up and from there on out it was safety first to protect that lead. Whilst they dropped three singles shots, the win was never in doubt and the game finished 8-3. S4 had also got off to a good start scoring three shots on the first end, but after that they were unable to build multiple shot winning heads and were playing catch up. Whilst they were only two shots down going into the last end, it proved too much and the game was lost 5-8. The best game of the session involved S2, a real see-saw encounter, they were 2-0 down, 3-2 up and then 3-4 behind. However the penultimate end was the game breaker when they scored four shots and they did just enough on the final end to secure an important 7-6 win.

S1 again got Suffolk off to a good start in the third session, 3-0 and then 4-1 up. However by the seventh end the game was level at 5-5, but a crucial single shot saw them take a 6-5 lead into the last. The game was heading for a draw until the Suffolk skips conversion shot moved the jack, three shots scored and a 9-5 win. The game involving S3 was a close one, albeit they were never behind. The decisive ends were the fourth to the seventh where seven unanswered shots were scored to take a 9-2 lead. They were able to protect that quite easily and the game finished 9-4. Finally S5 were playing better than they had in their first game and after losing the first end, they also were never behind again. Despite conceding an unlucky five shots on the sixth end, they responded well to press on and win the game 11-9.

At the halfway stage, Suffolk held a commanding 15-3 lead but Norfolk were playing well, so the second half would need to be the same again to ensure the match was won well.

S2 certainly weren't in the mood to let complacency set in, as they swiftly built up a convincing 15-0 lead, after just five ends. Whilst they lost the next two ends, they finished with a flourish, five shots on the last for a very impressive 21-4 win. S4 meanwhile were also playing well in a game which they led from start to finish. They gradually increased their lead and whilst the game was still in the balance at 6-2, four more shots made the two points safe and the game was eventually won 10-3. Unfortunately S6 were unable to complete the clean sweep of wins, although it wasn't through a lack of trying. They were 3-2, 7-4 and then 10-4 behind but kept plugging away, it wasn't enough as the final end was lost for a 10-12 defeat.

The penultimate session proved to be the best of the day for Suffolk. Yet again it was S1 who led by example, hitting top form on just the first end scoring a seven shot count. There was no looking back from there and they were able to share the remaining ends and still win convincingly by 16-7. The other two games were very similar in their scoring patterns early on, with both Suffolk rinks building leads. The more comfortable of the games was for S5 who scored twelve unanswered shots between the second and the sixth ends and that proved to be enough, winning 12-7. S3's early lead was gone by the sixth end, but four shots on the next end was the deciding factor and they also went on to win 12-7.

In the final session it was S2 who carried on from where they had left off, despite losing the first end they won the next six to earn an 11-2 lead. It was an advantage they weren't going to squander and the game finished with an 11-6 win. S6 also hit the front at the start of their game, 5-0 up after two ends. However it wasn't until the seventh end until that advantage was increased to 9-3. The final two ends were shared and the game was won 10-5. Lastly S4 were involved in a difficult game and were on the back foot from the start. The crucial end was the sixth, when 6-4 down went to 9-4 and from then there was no way back despite their best efforts. The game finished with a 5-11 loss.

Overall the match finished with a Suffolk win 29-7 (shots: 188 - 116).

It had been just the result Suffolk had hoped for, against a Norfolk team who more than played their part in a really good bowls match. The main difference had been that Suffolk had edged the close games with big shots played on some final ends.

Every Suffolk rink had played well, but particular mention to S5 who were unbeaten (two wins and a draw) and S1, S2 and S3 who won all three games.

This win takes Suffolk to the top of the league but only nine points ahead of Hertfordshire. The next round of matches see the top two teams face each other, Suffolk at home to Hertfordshire at Bildeston on Sunday 15 February (10.30am start).

Neil Jolly (County Captain)