



Suffolk **Carpet Bowls** *Association*

SCBA Website is 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 6th July 2015.

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Those present: Neil West(NW) Chairman, Carol West(CW), Sally Goodrich (SG), Jim Goodrich (JG), Mick Watkins (MW), Freda Wright (FW), Neil Jolly (NJ), Keith Jolly (KJ).

1.Apologies for absence: Jane Sago (JS), Richard Sago (RS), John Varden (JV), Keith Hull (KH), Andy Gilder (AG).

2.Approval of previous Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 27th April 2015 were approved as written and duly signed.

3.Matters Arising:

There were no matters arising.

4. Chairmans Report: NW welcome everyone back for another term and thanked members for their continued support. There will be some challenges to face in the coming year but he felt sure these will be overcome in the best interest of the association.

5. Secretary's Report: FW has received notification of changes to contacts and has updated the list in readiness to distribute to clubs.

FW offered to take over maintenance of the club contact list. NJ will send FW committee member contact details to be added to the list. (NJ)

6. Treasurer's Report: KJ presented the balance sheet and explained that the deficit shown was due to the insurance premium having been paid before all monies have been received from clubs. ECBA and ECCBA subscriptions have also been paid. There is still money to come from some clubs for extra winter league trophies.

7. Match Secretary's Report: JG said he'd been contacted by Bealings enquiring about how to go about the possibility of entering two teams in the forthcoming season. JG confirmed that a second team would start in East Division 3.

There was some discussion about the number of clubs in each of the East Divisions. Currently there are more teams in division 3 than in the other two east divisions, this imbalance will increase as new teams join the league. It was agreed to wait until this season's entry is confirmed before deciding what action shall be taken, if any.

The Summer League was running ok although he'd heard from Cockfield concerned about Barking not having any results recorded. JG has since received three results from Barking.

8. C.P.O. Report: no report.

9. Committee roles

CW agreed to continue as Minute's secretary.

NJ agreed to continue as County Captain and confirmed that the selectors were also happy to continue.

MW agreed to continue as ECBA representative but said that with his election to the role of National Referee there was the opportunity for someone else to represent the county. NW thanked MW for the information and asked if there was anyone else willing to take on this role. In the absence of any volunteer MW was asked to continue.

NJ agreed to continue as ECCBA representative.

10. County Captains Report:

NJ said that there were 37 teams entered in Marion's Fab 4s.

The next squad event is the Team Bowl at the end of September.

NJ thanks JG for sorting out the accommodation at Potters for the National Championships in November.

11. ECBA Report:

MW had nothing to report.

12. ECCBA Report:

NJ said that he'd attended the AGM on 18th June.

Having given prior notice the Chairman Mike Walker stood down but there was no nomination for his replacement. The county delegates were asked to go back to their counties to see if there was anyone willing to stand. In the absence of a volunteer, it was agreed that at the next meeting (8 October) a county would be drawn at random and they would have to provide a Chairman.

The ECCBA annual subscription remains at £60, but it was agreed to increase fees from £3 to £3.50/bowler for league, Six Counties, Team Bowl & Champion of Champion events.

Hertfordshire proposed that shot difference, rather than shots scored be the determining factor in deciding positions when teams are level in ECCBA events. After discussion, the proposal was voted upon & with the majority against, it was agreed the current rules would not be changed.

NJ will attend the next meeting on 8th October.

13. Matters arising from AGM:

i) West Division 2 - NW said that Bildeston had raised concerns about the low number of teams likely to be playing in the West Division 2 this coming season. The committee must respond to this concern and consider a suitable solution. NW said that the committee should consider the issue in two parts. One to provide a short term fix to provide teams in this division with more games for the coming season. The second as a longer term fix looking forward to future seasons.

NJ presented some thoughts he'd put together with the help of Paul Daniels. A number of short term fixes were considered. It was not thought practical to move more teams into WD2 with the start of the season only a few weeks away. Ideas put forward to increase the number of games played without increasing the number of teams in the division were as follows:

a) each home and away fixture is played twice. This increases the number of games to 16 and was thought to result in too many games for some clubs to accommodate, particularly those also playing on other leagues.

b) clubs each play an additional home & away fixture against two clubs based on the league positions at the end of January. This increases the number of games to 12, two more than last season. The suggestion is that all teams look to have their normal home/away fixtures played by the end of January. On from this, based on league positions teams would play an additional home/away fixtures as follows:

1st v 2nd

1st v 5th

4th v 5th

2nd v 3rd

3rd v 4th

This was thought to be the better option and it was agreed that this solution be put in place for the forthcoming season. West Division 2 clubs will be written to prior to the start of the season to confirm the arrangements for this coming season. It was also agreed that, subject to the long term solution decided upon, at the end of the 2015/16 season the top team in WD2 will be promoted to WD1 and the bottom two teams in WD1 relegated to WD2. This will result in 6 teams in each division.

Moving forward a number of ideas were tabled as follows:

a) WD2 clubs complete the normal home/away fixture by the end of February then play an additional home/away fixture based on league positions as follows:

1st v 2nd

3rd v 4th

5th v 6th

b) In addition to the normal matches (10), the teams in WD1 play all the teams in WD2, on an away basis only. Therefore all teams in both West divisions play an extra 6 games.

c) The introduction of a Premier Division made up of the top 4 West and East division 1. Below this there would be four further divisions, 1 west and 4 east, eight teams in each division. This suggestion provides 5 equally sized divisions but would result in significantly increased travelling for Premier Division clubs.

d) Redefining the boundaries into three sections, West, Central & East.

e) Redefining the West/East boundary to increase the number of clubs in the West.

It was agreed that a working group be set up to establish a suitable solution. The members of the working group will be decided at the next meeting. One of the working groups first tasks will be to set up a meeting with the West Division clubs to explore possible solutions.

ii) Teams playing short. The suggestion put forward by Chelmondiston that Skips be omitted from the players drawn to play more than once was considered. It was agreed that there was no reason to make any further changes to the rules.

iii) Closed competition dates. MW presented a schedule that allowed the Singles Closed Championship being played down to the last eight in one day. Given that this was the preferred option discussed at the AGM, it was agreed that this proposal be adopted. Therefore the Singles championship will be held on February 28th. Clubs will be invited to indicate a preference for the morning or afternoon session.

14. Committee meeting dates

The following dates are already in the calendar:

7th September 2015

16th November 2015

18th January 2016

14th March 2016

6th June 2016 (Pre-AGM)

it was discussed if this was sufficient. NJ suggested an additional meeting on 16th May. This was agreed.

15. Forthcoming events:

Forthcoming events identified as follows:

- Summer League Finals Evening 2nd September 2015. JG & SG will not be available. NJ agreed to collect the trophies from SG ahead of the day. MW, NJ, CW, NW & FW agreed to attend. FW will arrange refreshments, CW & NW will organise the raffle. NW said he will contact missing committee members to seek additional support.

16. Any other business:

- MW said he'd been contacted to be involved in the Needham Market Christmas Fair. The idea was to set up a carpet in the Burton Room and run a competition throughout the day. The event would be used to promote carpet bowls in Suffolk. MW asked for the support of SCBA to provide prizes. NJ said that information should be available to give visitors information on the availability of Carpet Bowls in the county. This was agreed in principal with further discussion at the next meeting to establish what funding is required. MW also suggested contacting ECBA as they have funding available for promotion of Carpet Bowls.

- NW understood that Shirley Watkins was happy to take on the role of official photographer for SCBA events and thanked her for the offer which was accepted.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 21:14

The next meeting will be 7.30pm Monday 7th September 2015 at Needham Market Community Centre.

Contact list amendments:

A copy of the current member contact list is distributed with these minutes