



Suffolk **Carpet Bowls** *Association*

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association held at Needham Market Community Centre on Monday 20th June 2016

The meeting commenced at 7:30pm

Representatives attended from the following clubs:

Barking, Bealings, Bildeston, Bramford, Brockley, Burstall, Chelmondistion, Claydon, Cockfield, Gt. Blakenham, Harkstead, Hintlesham and Chattisham, Hoggard's Green, Martlesham, Offton & Willisham, Old Felixstowe, Thurston, Tuddenham St. Martin, Whatfield, and Winesham

1. Apologies for Absence:

Barrow, Bentley, Brantham, Hitcham, Kelsale, Lavenham, Polstead, Sizewell, Somersham, Stutton, Westleton, and Woolpit

2. Approval of previous minutes:

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the 15th June 2015 were confirmed as a true record, proposed by Thurston, Seconded by Offton and Willisham and duly signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters arising from those minutes:

There were no matters arising.

4. Chairman's report

Neil read his report as follows:

Thank you for taking the trouble to come along this evening.

Carpet bowls continues to have a strong following in Suffolk and Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association continues to provide a good hub for competitive bowls.

Suffolk remains one of the most popular and well organised counties in the English Association. This is in part due to the dedication and commitment of your committee. Each and every member of the executive committee plays their part, very often unseen by many who seem to think it's possible to just turn up and play, without a thought to what might be involved in making this possible. I'd like to thank the whole committee for their efforts this last year. I'd also like this meeting to recognise the amount of work that Paul Daniels does for the Suffolk Association through the year, putting together the competition schedules and collating results during the day.

This year all four closed competitions were held here at Needham Market, it took some organizing and I'd like to thank Mick Watkins for providing such successful days. I'd also like to congratulate the championship winners and thank them for representing the county in the East Counties and English Champion of Champion competitions.

During the year Suffolk has been well represented at events across the country. A strong contingent went to Potters earlier in the year for the English Festival of Bowls. For the first time this was a truly international event, with bowlers from New Zealand and Norway. I understand that the Norwegian bowlers are expecting to nearly double their number next year. It would be well worth a look if you're free early May 2017.

Our Charity Tournament at the start of 2016 was extremely successful, raising over £1300 for CLIC Sargent, a charity that is very important to me personally. I'm grateful to all those who organised or took part in this event.

Once again the county squad excelled this last year, Eastern Counties Champions for the fifth year running, National Champions for the third year running. Six Counties Champions again. They have also arranged and run four very successful and popular squad fund raising competitions.

I'm not standing for re-election this year. Carol and I have moved out of the county and find it difficult to continue to support our old clubs. I wish Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association continued success in the safe hands of my successor.

5. Secretary's Report

The Chairman informed the meeting that Freda Wright had stood down as Secretary during the year. As yet the committee had been unable to find a replacement. Keith Jolly was handling the postal communication and Neil Jolly and the Chairman were dealing with email correspondence. Finding a new Secretary will be a priority for the committee in the coming year. The chairman thanked Freda for everything she'd done for SCBA.

6. Treasurer's Report

Keith Jolly presented the income and expenditure for the year ending April 30th 2016, the Capital account and the Balance Sheet Overview (copies attached), and invited questions from the floor.

Mick Watkins proposed and John Varden seconded that the accounts be accepted.

Keith went on to say that he'd received the insurance renewal premiums from Endsleigh Insurance Brokers. Unfortunately, there will have to be a small increase for both equipment and public liability insurance. To insure a full or part set of equipment will be £9.00, and Public Liability will be £18.50.

Clubs that have an Electrowind carpet roller or something similar will incur an additional cost.

Payment of fees and insurance should be sent direct to the Treasurer and should be received by 31st July 2016. This will be clearly indicated in the renewal letter which all current club contacts will receive shortly.

Clubs failing to pay by this date will not be reminded and it may be considered that they do not wish to rejoin the SCBA.

Richard Jones has agreed to audit the accounts for the year ending 30th April 2017.

7. Match Secretary's Report

Jim Goodrich said there were no major problems, the Summer League was progressing well and he has been updating the website around twice each week. Some clubs are emailing their match results to him, these are stored in case of dispute.

There were no questions for the Match Secretary.

8. Election of Officers

Neil West confirmed that he was not seeking re-election to the role of Chairman. Keith Jolly confirmed that correspondence had been received from Gt. Blakenham nominating John Varden for the role of Chairman, this nomination was seconded by Sally Goodrich and John Varden was duly elected upon a show of hands in favour. This left a vacancy in the role of Vice Chairman. Keith Jolly confirmed that he'd received correspondence from Burstall nominating Richard Sago for this role, this was seconded by Andy Gilder and Richard was duly elected by a show of hands in favour.

The remaining officers all indicated that they were willing to stand for re-election, it was proposed Old Felixstowe, seconded Chelmondiston that they be elected. Therefore the elected officers are as follows:

President - David Schofield, Offton & Willisham

Chairman – John Varden, Gt Blakenham

Vice Chairman – Richard Sago, Burstall

Hon. Secretary - TBC

Hon. Treasurer - Keith Jolly, Brockley

Match Secretary - Jim Goodrich, Claydon

CPO - Andy Gilder, Barking

9. Election of Committee

Carol and Neil West standing down means there are vacancies for up to five new committee members. The Chairman invited nominations from the floor. The following nominations were received:

Peter Elmy (Witnesham), nominated by Old Felixstowe.

Graham Davey (Cockfield), nominated by Cockfield.

Bill Damant (Tithe Barn), nominated by Jim Goodrich.

Chris Leach (Stutton), nominated by John Varden

The following remaining committee members all indicated that they are willing to remain

Sally Goodrich, Claydon

Neil Jolly, Brockley

Keith Hull, Tuddenham St Mary

Jane Sago, Burstall

Mick Watkins, Barking

It was proposed Old Felixstowe that all the above be elected en-bloc, seconded by Chelmondistion, and agreed by a show of hands in favour.

10. The Annual Membership Subscription

Keith said that the membership subscription would remain at £30 but that this may need to increase in the future. There are currently no Associate Members. The Chairman went on to explain that, although the accounts showed a surplus for the year, this was greatly reduced from the previous year so the committee intend to keep an eye on the finances and may find it necessary to apply an increase in the future.

11. Winter League

The Chairman explained that, following the previous AGM, the committee had looked for a solution to the dwindling number of teams in the West divisions. A working group was set up and meetings held with all league clubs to invite suggestions. A proposal was drawn up by the working group, based on opinion of the league clubs which was presented to the committee at their last meeting. This proposal was adopted by committee, communicated to all member clubs, and will be put into place for the forthcoming Winter League season. The Chairman invited questions and comment from the floor, there were none.

12. Any other business

The Chairman invited comment from the floor

The member from Martlesham spoke about teams playing short in the Winter League. It was confirmed that the rules allow for a minimum of Eight players.

David Schofield thank the Chairman for his hard work.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7:55pm

Following the meeting, a presentation was made to Carol and Neil West on behalf of SCBA Committee. Neil thanked the members and said that it had been a privilege to be involved in such an organisation. He believed SCBA worked hard to be the strongest and best organised of all counties in the English Association, and that he was proud, and pleased to have Chairman of SCBA on his CV.