



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 14th November 2016

The Meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Those present: John Varden (**JV**) Chairman, Richard Sago (**RS**) Vice-Chairman, Keith Jolly (**KJ**) Treasurer, Jim Goodrich (**JG**), Sally Goodrich (**SG**), Keith Hull (**KH**), Neil Jolly (**NJ**), Andy Gilder (**AG**) Mick Watkins (**MW**), Sue Davey (**SD**), Graham Davey (**GD**), Bill Damant (**BD**)

1. Apologies for absence:

Jane Sago.

2. Approval of previous Minutes:

The Minutes of the meeting held on 5th September 2016 were approved, proposed AG, seconded RS and duly signed.

3. Matters Arising:

The position of Secretary still remains vacant.

AG confirmed that a trophy is available, (some cleaning maybe required) for the match between the runners-up in the West Division and East Division 1. The trophy will be brought along to the next meeting.

All Committee Meeting Minutes, after 1992, have all been saved to the Association's Archives by Paul Daniels and he will be asked about the best way to store these electronically.

David Schofield and Margaret Southgate will be approached with regard to Committee Minutes prior to 1992.

Suffolk Records Office to be contacted with a view to archiving all historical paper records.

The Committee would like to thank Paul Daniels for all his help during this process.

4. Chairman's Report:

Since our last committee meeting on 5th Sept much has happened on the bowls scene. Wednesday 7th September saw the Summer League Finals played at Needham Market. This was an exciting event for players and spectators alike with some excellent bowling on show. The result was a narrow win by only three shots by Barking with Copdock & Washbrook finishing as runners-up. Well done to all that took part and assisted with the laying of the mats.

Sunday 6th November was the Suffolk Closed Triples and congratulations are due to Tom & Sam Runnacles of Barking playing with Clint Watling of Claydon for narrowly beating Colin Fellingham & Sue & Graham Davey of Cockfield in a very tense final. I would like to thank those who stayed to watch the final and also I would like to thank the continued efforts of Mick Watkins & Paul Daniels for all they do in the running of such events.

Congratulations are due to the Suffolk Team on winning for the fourth consecutive year the Eastern Counties Teambowl which was organized by Bedfordshire at Littleport in Cambridgeshire. The County Team then went on to play Sunderland at Potters for the County Championship emerging victorious after a very close encounter.

Arguably the pinnacle of the year for the Suffolk County Team is to bring home the silverware at a National level and this they did in style at Potters this weekend and whilst not wishing to steal the County Captains thunder, I would as Chairman like to congratulate both the county selectors for the work they put in throughout the year together with the County Team for their efforts.

I would like to conclude my report by requesting that SCBA should invest in a supply of English Rule Books for distribution as & when needed.

5. Secretary's Report:

KJ reported that he had not received any feedback regarding the extension to Winter League season into April.

Capel St Mary have now re-joined the Association.

Updates to the contact list are shown at the end of these minutes.

6. Treasurer's Report:

KJ presented balance sheet which included the fees paid by Capel St Mary.

KJ informed the meeting that a donation had been received from the Suffolk East Federation of Women's Institute for use of the Associations equipment at their recent carpet bowls event.

Paul Daniels had been reimbursed his costs incurred with regard to the Associations website Domain Licence.

7. Match Secretary's Report:

JG reported that 10 points awarded to Brockley (v Bildeston) in the League table was in fact a Joe Rice Cup result. This has been rectified.

JG referred to the proposed extension to future Winter League seasons. A discussion followed and as no club had pursued this matter the Committee voted unanimously not to make any changes to the season end date.

8. CPO Report

AG nothing to report.

9. County Captains Report:

On Sunday 25 September, Suffolk competed in the ECCBA Charity Teambowl. This is an event that historically we do well in and this time was no different. We led the competition from start to finish, winning with a good total of 83 points, fifteen ahead of runners-up Norfolk. This was Suffolk's fourth consecutive Teambowl win and seventh success in the last eight years.

Our final fundraiser of the year, the Chairmans Invitation Triples was held on Sunday 9 October. Forty triples took part, including bowlers from all of the six eastern counties. The winning triple were from Hertfordshire, beating our own Steve Isles/ Jim Goodrich/ Clint Watling triple from Claydon in the final.

The following Sunday saw our squad trials at Needham Market. Whilst entries were a little on the low side, after the day the selectors still had a difficult job to pick a squad. We decided to go for a squad of 28 bowlers for the forthcoming season, to give us flexibility and cover for unavailability.

Most recently the National County Championship took place at Potters between 11 and 13 November.

On the Friday night Suffolk (as Eastern Counties league winners) had a match against Sunderland (Northern League winners) for the Inter-County trophy. At the halfway stage it wasn't looking good for Suffolk but as the games progressed, the tight ones turned in Suffolk's favour. By the end, we had won four games to two and regained the Inter-County title, our fifth victory in the last six years.

The main competition ran over the Saturday and Sunday, with each Suffolk rink playing one game against each of the other counties. Saturday was a good day for Suffolk, taking top spot from the first session, through to session five. Then for a couple of sessions we were just a point behind Sunderland, which we reversed to hold a six point lead by the end of the day. Sunday also started well and after three sessions, we'd extended our lead to twelve points. Then came a bit of a wobble, two bad sessions and suddenly our advantage was only three points over Sunderland. However this Suffolk team doesn't panic, seven wins from the final nine games saw us win with a session to spare and finish nine points ahead of Sunderland.

Great weekend for the Suffolk team, two trophies won and our fourth consecutive National County Championship success. Well done to all the players and a big thank you to everyone who supported the team over the weekend.

The next outings for the Suffolk team are the start of our 2016/17 ECCBA league campaign. That starts with home matches on Sunday 27 November against Norfolk at Bildeston Village Hall and then Hertfordshire at Needham Market on Sunday 11 December. Both are 10.30am starts, refreshments are available and supporters are more than welcome.

10. ECBA Report

MW informed the meeting that he had received an email from the ECBA relating to the subject below.

Item A: to discuss if the rule of membership to the ECBA (County or Metropolitan Boroughs) should be relaxed to allow the inclusion of Unitary Authorities. Thus opening up the possibility of large counties having more than one team.

This could potentially allow for more teams to attend the National Championships.

Item B: if item A was agreed. What would be the optimum squad size be to encourage more involvement. Remain at 24 or reduce to 20 or 16.

A reduced number could possibly encourage larger Counties to put forward two or more teams and for the smaller Counties ease the problem of a shortage of willing participants.

These proposals were discussed at some length and it was unanimously agreed by the Committee that Suffolk should vote against Item A.

The ECBA had also requested the number of clubs/players registered with each county. This information would be used by the ECBA to assist in getting carpet bowls affiliated to Sport England.

It was agreed that MW use the following – 83 clubs and an estimated 2000 plus players.

MW to report the result of both these issues to the ECBA's next meeting in January 2017.

MW reported that the 2017 Champion of Champions will be held in Stanley, Durham

11. ECCBA Report:

There was an ECCBA Committee meeting on 13 October which NJ was unable to attend. Suffolk were congratulated on winning the recent Charity Teambowl event, where £574 was raised for Bedfordshire's (the host county) designated charity.

An issue had been raised at the Teambowl around bowlers marking singles games, on the carpet they were about to play on. Sensibly it was agreed that there is no difference between marking or sitting near a carpet, to watch how it plays.

Counties were also asked to remind their bowlers as to the role/ responsibilities of a marker.

12. Forthcoming Events:

Suffolk v Norfolk at Bildeston Village Hall – 27th November, 10.30 start

Suffolk v Hertfordshire at Needham Market Community Centre – 11th December, 10.30 start

SCBA Charity Event at Needham Market Community Centre – 7th January

Suffolk v Cambridgeshire at Needham Market Community Centre – 15th January, 10.30 start

13. Any other business:

MW has arranged to meet with Louise Mills, Needham Market Community Association hall booking secretary to finalise the hall requirements for 2018.

JG asked for clarification of the rules where illness happens during a league match,

“where does the substitute player come from if only 16 team members are present”.

NJ said he would look at the Winter and Summer League rules and provide a written advice at the next meeting.

RS requested help on the day during the Charity Event in January.

NJ said that a new contact list and diary dates would be sent out with the January minutes. NJ and KJ to organise.

Regarding the ECBA Festival of Bowls, this is a competition held at Potters Leisure, Hopton. It was agreed that all relevant information and entry forms would be distributed via the Associations mailing list. It was already shown in the Association’s events calendar.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.40pm.

The next meeting will be held on 16th January 2017 commencing at 7.30pm at the Needham Market Community Centre.

Contact list changes:

Elmswell – contact change: Dave Hollings, “Wot No Number”, Hawk End Lane, Elmswell, Suffolk IP30 9ED. Email davehollings@btinternet.com. Tel No: 01359-241323

Barking – venue post code amendment, should be IP6 **8HP**

Add - Capel St Mary – Mr Ernest Driver, 2 Winding Piece, Capel St Mary, Suffolk, IP9 2UZ.

Tel No: 01473-310628

Old Newton – address / telephone no change for Michael Kinsey

7 Masons Court, Ducksen Road, Mendlesham Suffolk, IP14 5TJ – Tel No: 01449-767152

Kesgrave – Fixtures: Harry Whitehouse, Tel No: 01473-636045

Playing Venue: IP5 1AA