



# Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association

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

## The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association

Held at Needham Market Community Centre

On Monday 18th June 2018

### The Meeting commenced at 7.30pm

Representatives attended from the following clubs:

Barking, Bealings, Belstead, Bentley, Bramford, Brantham, Brockley, Burstall, Chelmondiston, Claydon, East Bergholt, Great Blakenham, Hintlesham & Chattisham, Kelsale, Martlesham, Stutton, Tuddenham St Martin.

The Chairman opened by welcoming everyone to the meeting.

#### 1. Apologies for absence:

David Schofield, Horringer, Leiston St Margarets, Old Felixstowe, Sizewell, Tattingstone, Tithe Barn, Tostock, Woolpit.

#### 2. Approval of Previous Minutes:

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2017 were confirmed as a true record, proposed by Keith Hull, seconded by Ian Hunt and duly signed by the Chairman.

#### 3. Matters Arising:

Item 11: The Chairman had received a letter from John Austin thanking all those involved in the John le Vey Prostate Cancer Unit Charity event.

Item 11: The last sentence should read Patrick Mann of Chelmondiston, not Brantham.

#### 4. Chairman's Report:

I would like to start my report by thanking fellow officers and committee members for their time and effort during the past twelve months. As you will all know, the Suffolk Calendar lists many events throughout the year, both closed and open tournaments, and these all take a lot of planning and effort on the day, laying out and putting away the equipment, trophies, catering and raffles. These all have to be sorted, so thank you everyone.

Two members need special thanks as, after many years of service to Suffolk Carpet Bowls, they are taking a break from the committee. I am of course speaking about Keith Jolly, our past Honorary Treasurer and coerced Honorary Secretary, and Mick Watkins, who has acted as key holder and bookings contact for Needham Market as well as being Suffolk's ECBA representative and closed competition organiser. You have both served Suffolk with distinction and the committee members would like to show their appreciation with a small gift.

Our nominated Charity Tournament on January 6th was to support the work of The John Le-Vay Cancer Support Centre at Ipswich Hospital and Debbie Logan was overjoyed with a cheque for £1,300 made possible by all those who entered.

Tournaments are generally well supported by our own member clubs and often those from other counties. This year's Suffolk Champions are Neil Jolly of Brockley (Singles), Tom & Sam Runnacles of Barking (Pairs), Tom & Sam Runnacles with Clint Watling of Barking/Claydon (Triples) and Sally Dalton, Helen Halls, Marie Hagger & Len Lamb

(Thurston) in the Rinks. Sam, Tom & Clint also went on to win the English Champion of Champion Triples, so well done to you all.

The Suffolk County Team under the leadership of Neil Jolly has also had a good season, winning the Eastern Counties League for the 8th consecutive year and the National Championship for the fifth year running. As a mark of the respect that Neil is held in by the English game, he was selected to captain the English side at Potters in May for the first International Bowls Competition. Two rinks from New Zealand, Norway and England played some incredible bowls with England being pipped at the post by New Zealand in some thrilling matches.

I will finish my report with a word about the "Code of Conduct". Following an incident at the Nationals back in November last year by a northern player, the English Carpet Bowls Association has had to modify the wording of its Disciplinary Code of Conduct to safeguard the high standards we all expect from fellow bowlers. Suffolk, together with many other counties, has now adopted a modified Code in the unlikely event of anything similar occurring again.

Thank you.

Following his report the Chairman made a presentation to Mick and Keith in appreciation of their service to the Association.

#### **5. Secretary's Report:**

As you will all know I have been Acting Secretary for the past two years and I am now standing down from that role. The Secretarial duties over that period have been overseen by myself and Neil and between us committee meeting minutes and associated paperwork has been sent out to member clubs.

Neil has monitored the email inbox and has updated the contact list and forwarded that information to me for inclusion in the minutes.

John has answered any correspondence that has been received.

The position of Acting Secretary was really not my bag but I have been given help from the Committee when required.

I am sure the incumbent Secretary will also be offered that assistance.

Thank you.

#### **6. Treasurer's Report:**

I hope you all have had time to look at the balance sheet.

I have attached an overview of the balance sheet showing any differences of plus or minus 10% together with the capital account.

You will note that this year the Association has made a loss of just over £500.

This is mainly due to fact that the Association acquired its own Public Liability insurance, something that had never been in place and will now be ongoing.

Are there any questions you wish to ask regarding this balance sheet?

The Chairman asked that the accounts be accepted, proposed Rita Daniels, Kelsale and seconded by Jim Goodrich, Claydon.

I have received the insurance renewal premiums from Endsleigh Insurance Brokers. Unfortunately there will have to be an increase to the public liability insurance for participating clubs, the new premium will be **£20.00**. To insure a full or part set of equipment will remain at **£9.50**.

**Any club that currently does not have public liability insurance arranged by the Association and wishes to obtain it may have to pay an increased premium for the first year.**

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 **new treasurer** and should be received by **31<sup>st</sup> July**. 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 re-join the Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association.

As most of you will know I am also standing down from the position of treasurer. I have enjoyed being part of the Committee over the past nine years. There is a lot of hard work put in by the Committee which makes Carpet Bowls in Suffolk as successful as it is.

Thank you.

#### **7. Match Secretary's Report:**

Jim Goodrich reported that in the main all had gone well. Due to inclement weather towards the end of the winter league season some teams had requested to play games after the official finish date. The introduction of the winter league result updates system on the SCBA website had gone well. Thanks to Paul Daniels for setting this up.

Various charts had been produced regarding teams playing short during the Winter League season, the average number of players fielded per team in each match was around 15, for all four of our leagues.

#### **8. Election of Officers:**

The Chairman advised the meeting that nominations had been received for the Secretary and Treasurer positions

A letter had been received from East Bergholt Carpet Bowls Club nominating Peter Dent for the position of Secretary.

He continued by saying that Paul Daniels had been proposed by Kelsale Carpet Bowls Club for the position of Treasurer.

It was proposed by Keith Hull and seconded by Richard Sago that they and all the remaining Officers be re-elected.

Therefore the Elected Officers are:

President – David Schofield: Ofton & Willisham

Chairman – John Varden: Great Blakenham

Vice Chairman – Sally Goodrich: Claydon

Honorary Secretary – Peter Dent: East Bergholt

Honorary Treasurer – Paul Daniels: Kelsale

Match Secretary – Jim Goodrich: Claydon

Child Protection Officer – Andy Gilder: Barking.

#### **9. Election of Committee:**

Mick Watkins was standing down thus meaning there are vacancies for 2 new committee members.

Sue Gilder (Barking) wished to join the Committee.

The Chairman asked the meeting if there were any further nominations for Committee members. None were forthcoming.

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

Neil Jolly (Brockley)

Keith Hull (Tuddenham St Martin)

Jane Sago (Burstall)

Richard Sago (Burstall)

Peter Elmy (Great Blakenham)

Andy Pooley (Great Blakenham)

Bill Damant (Tithe Barn)

Ian Hunt (Martlesham)

It was proposed by Rita Daniels (Kelsale) and seconded by Sally Goodrich (Claydon) that all the above be elected en-bloc and agreed by a show of hands.

#### **10. Annual Membership Subscriptions:**

The meeting was advised that there was a need to review the existing fees in light of last year's deficit and it was a majority decision of the Committee Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> May that the annual subscription be increased by £5.00. The previous increase was in 2012.

No other fees will be affected.

The Chairman asked the meeting that this increase be accepted, proposed by Andy Gilder (Barking) and seconded by Rita Daniels (Kelsale).

#### **11. Rule Change:**

The Chairman advised the meeting that Great Blakenham Carpet Bowls Club had made the following proposal:

"to consider changing the number of ends from 11 to 9 in the Winter League, this would enable clubs to finish at a more reasonable time"

The Chairman opened this to floor for discussion.

(some of the suggestions put forward)

Peter Castle (Bramford): Suggested an earlier start time for matches.

Rosemary Coe (Bentley): Suggested that clubs not provide refreshments at the end of the evening.

(In opposition to the above)

Sue Gilder (Barking): Some players may find it difficult to be available for an earlier start, due to work/ family commitments.

Andy Gilder (Barking): Supplying refreshments is part of the social aspect between clubs at matches.

Rita Daniels (Kelsale): No change is necessary

Jim Goodrich (Claydon): The number of ends, in some form or other, has been in place for 20 years plus, previously nine ends and two practice, currently eleven ends played. So what is different now as regards late finish times?

The Chairman asked that a 'straw poll' be taken.

By a show of hands the majority of members present were in favour of no change.

This matter will be taken back to the first full Committee Meeting in July for further discussion.

#### **12. Any other business**

The Chairman invited comments from the floor.

Colin Rose (Bentley) referred to clubs playing short.

The Chairman made reference to the recently produced and previously mentioned data that indicated that over the last winter league season teams played with an average number of 15 players.

There was also a suggested variation on the drawing out of players when a team is playing short, of third bowler drawn out then has to play lead and if a skip is drawn out, they have to play second bowler.

This will be carried forward to the next Committee meeting.

Peter Castle (Bramford): Suggested how best to resolve the dwindling numbers of players would be for clubs to attract more to their clubs.

The Chairman in response accepted the fact that many clubs were struggling for players and it was down to individual club to make its own efforts to attract more members.

Rita Daniels thanked the Committee for all their hard work during the past year.

There being no further business the meeting closed 8.10 pm.