



# 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 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018.

The Meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Those present: John Varden (**JV**) Chairman, Sally Goodrich (**SG**) Vice Chairman, Keith Jolly (**KJ**) Treasurer, Neil Jolly (**NJ**), Jane Sago (**JS**) Richard Sago (**RS**), Keith Hull (**KH**), Ian Hunt (**IH**), Peter Elmy (**PE**), Andy Gilder (**AG**), Mick Watkins (**MW**) Bill Damant (**BD**) Andy Pooley (**AP**)

**1. Apologies for absence:** Jim Goodrich

**2. Approval of the minutes:**

The Minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017 were approved. Proposed by Keith Hull, seconded by Mick Watkins and duly signed.

**3. Matters Arising:**

With reference to paragraph 4 (Correspondence), a further email was received from the same member club, as a follow up to their query regarding clarification of ECBA rule 9.3 (knocking over of a block whilst delivering a bowl).

NJ replied on behalf of the SCBA to their initial email, clarifying the position with reference to both SCBA & ECBA rules.

It seems the member club were expecting a further response after the SCBA November meeting. NJ responded again advising that he had replied on behalf of the SCBA, but was willing to refer the matter again to Committee, if the club considered that further clarification was needed. No further emails have been received.

**4. Correspondence:**

No correspondence received.

**5. Chairman's Report:**

I would like to start my report by thanking Sally Goodrich for chairing the last meeting whilst I was on holiday.

Since the last Executive Committee Meeting, the Suffolk Closed Triples event has been held at Needham Market Community Centre and, whilst the entry was slightly down on previous years, a very competitive day's bowling was enjoyed by both players and spectators alike. The semi-finals saw Old Felixstowe C B C take on Gt Blakenham C B C. Old Felixstowe were unlucky to get pipped on the last end in a thrilling 6-5 result. The other semi-final pitched a joint Claydon / Barking team against a full Claydon side and, despite a spirited effort, Claydon / Barking sailed away to a victory 11-1. The Final was then played between Gt Blakenham, comprising D. Ford, A. Pooley and S Cain and Claydon/Barking, namely S. Runnacles, C. Watling and T Runnacles. After a tense match, which was great for spectators, the Claydon/Barking side won 8-7 and the title for a third time.

Our Charity 4's Tournament on Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January was in aid of The John Le-Vay Cancer Support Centre at Ipswich Hospital. This charity event was, as usual, run by Jane & Richard Sago assisted by Lindsey and Keith Armes and what a great event it proved to be with a record entry and raising approximately £1,275. Well done to all who assisted. My sincere thanks also goes to Old Felixstowe who ran the Raffle for us this year and did a great job too. I would

also like to say a big thank you to the many bowlers who helped get all the equipment out and away together with so many individuals who donated prizes for the raffle which looked more like a Grand Draw. This tournament was won by a combined team from Chelmondiston and Barking comprising K Cadman, A Hubbard, M Watkins and A Gilder who were unbeaten all day.

**6. Secretary's Report:**

Nothing to report

**7. Treasurer's Report:**

Not too much movement in the accounts since the last meeting.

KJ reported that Needham Market Community Centre hall charges had been increased as from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018.

KJ received proceeds for the Charity Fours from RS/JS.

Report on the event is enclosed with these minutes.

It was agreed to round up the donation to The John Le- Vay Prostate Cancer Support Centre to £1300.

JV thanked RS/JS for all their hard work in running the competition.

**8. Match Secretary's Report:**

SG on behalf of JG reported all was running smoothly with regard to the Winter Leagues.

A play-off match is required in the Chairman's Plate in order to get to eight teams for the quarter final stage. This match will be between Great Blakenham and Bealings 1.

**9. County Captain's Report:**

Over the long weekend of 10-13 November, the Suffolk team were at Potters for the National Championships.

On the Friday evening, Suffolk played Sunderland for the Inter-County title. Six nine end games were played, Suffolk winning three, drawing one & losing the other two by only a slim margin, for an overall 7-5 win, getting the weekend off to a great start.

The National Championships with nine counties taking part started on the Saturday morning. The Suffolk team had a fantastic first day, losing just three games from the twenty four played. Overall with forty two points, Suffolk had an overnight eleven point lead over Hertfordshire, with Norfolk a point further back.

Whilst Sunday didn't hit the heights of Saturday's performance, still only five games were lost & Suffolk were National champions with three sessions to spare. Suffolk finishing in top spot with seventy seven points, with Norfolk runners-up on fifty eight points.

This was the Suffolk team's fifth consecutive Nationals title, an incredible achievement.

It also completed a full house of trophies during the 2016/17 season.

A couple of weeks later, the team's 2017/18 ECCBA league season started with a difficult away match against Hertfordshire, at Applecroft School in Welwyn Garden City, a venue Suffolk had not played at before

It wasn't the team's best day, but all good teams find a way to win, even when they aren't performing anywhere near top form. We were relieved to leave Hertfordshire with a hard fought win, by the slimmest of margins, 20-16.

Our next match on 10 December, away again against Cambridgeshire was cancelled due to the snow & was re-arranged for 14 January. The match took place at the new Littleport Leisure Centre, another new venue for the Suffolk team. Like our first match, it was a close run affair & the Suffolk team put on an improved performance. It proved to be good enough, but only just & again we came out on the right side of the result, with another 20-16 win.

Looking ahead, Suffolk's remaining three league matches (10.30am start) are:

21 January: Against Essex, at Needham Market;

18 February: Against Bedfordshire, at Needham Market;

18 March: Against Norfolk, at Wortwell Community Centre.

Also coming up is the squad's first fundraiser for 2018, the Random Triples. This is being held at Needham Market on Sunday 4 February.

Looking further ahead, we have been advised that Needham Market is not available for some future county league matches. As an alternative, the Chamberlin Hall in Bildeston has been booked for Sundays 25 November 2018, 17 February & 24 November 2019.

#### **10. ECCBA Report:**

There has not been an ECCBA meeting since our last SCBA meeting. The only thing to report is that all ECCBA league matches scheduled to take place on 10 December were cancelled due to the snow. They have all subsequently been re-arranged, but all on different dates. NJ will suggest at the next ECCBA meeting (AGM on 21 June) that perhaps a reserve Sunday in April be set aside for such an eventuality in the future, so all three matches could be played on the same date.

#### **11. ECBA Report:**

MW reported on the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> January 2018 at Rotherham.

Apologies were received from Cambridgeshire. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved, and there were no matters arising. The meeting was informed that the number of rule books was getting low, and soon there will be a need to order a new supply. We are asked to consider the need for any rule changes, before this takes place. After discussions with Mike Walker (Chairman), Bob Weafer has renamed his magazine The Indoor Bowler, and included Carpet Bowls in the content. We are encouraged to contribute to this venture, which should also encourage the game. David Schofield has contacted the ECBA, and asked whether the old Meld Pairs Trophy, could be of use to us. After discussion, it was decided that Mick Watkins would contact David, and talk over proposals. The Treasurer reported that the Nationals lost £500 more in 2017 than in 2016. This was mostly due to less people attending, and a change in some of the payments made to the ECBA. The National Referee, Mick Watkins, thanked all Counties for their co-operation in the referees' duties at the Nationals, no major problems arose. The suggestion that substitutes could be allowed at the Champion of Champions was discussed. Suffolk proposed that this should not take place, was seconded by Northumberland, and passed, with two counties against. A suggestion that the ECBA events, held in the East, should be at Needham Market Community Centre, was held over for Hertfordshire to consider. Lengthy discussions were held regarding a problem that had arisen from the Nationals. A disciplinary panel was set up, and the result of their investigations, they ruled that there was no case for a ruling from the ECBA, under the published Code of Conduct. The Panel have yet to publish a report of their ruling, which will be circulated when available. The next meeting will be held on the 14th April 2018, followed by the AGM. With no other business, the meeting closed at 1.20.

Further to this report MW said in his opinion that there was no need to update the current rule book.

With reference to the Indoor Bowler magazine it was proposed by NJ and seconded by KH and agreed by the Committee that the Association subscribe to receive 16 copies per year starting with the May edition. These would be made available at SCBA events for public perusal. It was hoped that this might encourage clubs/members to also subscribe and submit items to the magazine. The cost per 4 issues is £6.95.

It was also agreed that it be advertised on our website.

AG offered to submit articles to the magazine on behalf of the SCBA.

#### **12. Forthcoming Events:**

Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February – Random Triples

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February - Suffolk Closed Pairs (Part 1)

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> March - Joe Rice Cup (Quarter Finals)

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> March - Chairman's Plate (Quarter Finals)

Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> March - Suffolk Closed Pairs (Part 2)

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March – Joe Rice Cup & Chairman's Plate (Semi Finals)

All these events will be held at Needham Market Community Centre.

AG reported that there were still places available in the Random Triples but was hopeful they would be filled by the competition date.

Appropriate assistance will be arranged to help with setting out equipment prior to the event dates.

There were some unclaimed raffle prizes from the Charity Fours which will be used at some of the above events. JS offered to purchase more raffle prizes.

### **13. Any other business:**

KJ informed the meeting that he would not be standing for re-election at the next AGM.

The reason for informing the Committee at this time would allow (hopefully) sufficient time for the necessary advertising to be circulated. As the Committee will appreciate the financial year ends at the end of April. KJ explained that between the year end and the AGM, insurance renewal premiums will need to be agreed (before the AGM). Similarly, immediately following the AGM annual subscription letters will need to be prepared and distributed to the clubs. Therefore a new Secretary / Treasurer would need to be in place by the end of April. KJ suggested maybe both these posts should be filled as soon as possible and those new officers be co-opted to the Committee and be accepted at the AGM. KJ will prepare some guidelines and hand over a disc which contains previous accounts, standard letters etc and be willing to help in any way he can. Needless to say the photocopier and stationery supplies will need to be moved on.

MW informed the meeting that the Needham Market Community Centre Manager was leaving her post. He proposed that a presentation bouquet of flowers could be made in appreciation for all her help in arranging hall bookings throughout her tenure, and this was agreed.

NJ reported that at the ECBA Festival of Bowls at Potters during the week 14-18 May there is an international event, which includes an England team.

NJ has been asked by the ECBA to pick the England team (of 8) from those bowlers playing at the Festival of Bowls. The selected England team includes five bowlers from Suffolk, who are Paul Daniels (Belstead/Kelsale), Sue Gilder (Barking), Sally Goodrich (Claydon), Ally Hobbs (Claydon) & NJ (Brockley).

On Sunday 13 May, it was hoped that Suffolk would host a visit of the team from New Zealand, who are taking part in the international match at Potters. Unfortunately due to time constraints on the part of the New Zealand team, that has been cancelled.

The ECBA are waiting to hear back from the New Zealand manager as to a possible alternative option of bowlers from Suffolk &/or Norfolk going to Potters on Sunday 13 May for a practice match.

Next Meeting will be held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018 at Needham Market Community Centre starting at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm.