



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 18th March 2019

The Meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Those Present: John Varden (**JV**) Chairman, Sally Goodrich (**SG**) Vice Chair, Jim Goodrich (**JG**), Richard Sago (**RS**), Jane Sago (**JS**), Keith Hull (**KH**), Peter Dent (**P-D**), Secretary, Peter Elmy (**PE**), Ian Hunt (**IH**), Andy Pooley (**AP**)

1. Apologies for absence:

Andy Gilder, Sue Gilder and Paul Daniels, all three were competing.

2. Approval of minutes:

The minutes of the Meeting held on the 14th January 2019 were approved. Proposed by **KH** and seconded by **RS** and duly signed.

3. Matters Arising:

RS confirmed the success of the 'Wish Upon a Star' charity event and the cheque will be presented at an SCBA event soon.

The suggestion made of whether there should be a 'Presentation Evening' in the future had been referred to in the Minutes, but there had been no response from member clubs. It was therefore agreed not to pursue this, but it can be considered in the future.

The issue of getting new bowlers to the game was discussed and agreed that the press in its various formats was likely to be the best way to address this and advertising carpet bowls in Suffolk generally. **RS** agreed to discuss options with the East Anglian Daily Times.

4. Correspondence

A letter had been received from a Claydon member with a view that teams playing short of players are gaining an unfair advantage. Various suggestions were expressed including:

- That up to four players short, skips and third bowlers be excluded from the draw;
- More than four bowlers short, then the two points for overall shots be awarded to the opposing team;
- Alternatively, an increasing shot penalty relative to the number of bowlers short a team is, up to a set maximum.

There was a lengthy discussion on the subject and it was decided that it should again be included on the AGM Agenda. Meanwhile Claydon would be asked, if they wish to, to re-submit a letter from their club.

5. Chairman's Report:

I would like to start my report by remembering Rita Daniels who died on February 18th. Her contribution to our sport at Club, County & National level was immense and she will be sadly missed by us all. The attendance at her funeral clearly showed the respect that bowlers from all counties had for her. Our thoughts are with her family.

Without wishing to steal the County Captain's thunder, I would like to thank Neil, Sally & Tom, the County Selectors, for completing another successful Inter County League campaign. Suffolk has now won this event for nine consecutive years which maintains the respect other counties have for Suffolk.

It is also appropriate at this time to acknowledge all the work put in by the county fundraising committee who organize the Random Triples, Marion's Fab Fours and the Chairman's Triples events which, judging by the numbers entering are well received by all. It is nice to see several new faces attending and I hope you will return on a regular basis.

6. Secretary's Report:

There was nothing additional to report.

7. Treasurers Report

The Treasurer (**PD**) made the latest 'Income and Expenditure report (year ending 30 April 2019) available for discussion, there were no questions raised and these were unanimously approved. **PD** had advised that the recent Suffolk Pairs had made a £205 profit and Singles £128 profit.

SG has already purchased the trophies for all next season which accounts for a slightly increased expenditure in the Accounts.

8. Match Secretary's Report:

- **JG** reported that the issue with the recent fixture problem between Hadleigh and Bealings had been satisfactorily sorted in that the match was now to be played on 4th April.
- 13 entries had been received for the summer league so far.
- A letter had been received from the Chairman of Harkstead Carpet Bowls Club relating to the Summer League which they had decided not to enter this year as due to their geographical location they seemed to always come up against teams that were in higher winter leagues. It was felt by their members that they were constantly at a disadvantage when playing some of these teams and the possibility of some kind of handicap system was suggested.

This was discussed at considerable length. It is too late to make any changes for this summer as the entry form has already gone out. The point can be deferred to the AGM for discussion to seek further views, with a final decision having to be made by late 2019, ahead of next summer.

There were discussions relating to the East Division 2 trophy as to its ongoing suitability and whether it should be changed. It was decided to wait until the return of the league trophies for review and then to make any decisions as necessary.

9. County Captain's Report:

Since our last Committee meeting the Suffolk team have played their final three league matches. The first two league matches in November & December had resulted in a home win over Cambridgeshire & a strong away win at Essex, placing Suffolk top of the league.

In January, the team travelled to Barton-le-Clay to face Bedfordshire. Their bottom of the league position wasn't reflected by their performance & we had to see out a tricky initial four sessions to be at 12-12, only to power through in the final two sessions to win 24-12.

Then in February, we played Norfolk at Bildeston, with Needham Market unavailable. Generally, it was a below par display, we made a slow start but crucially we won all games in the fifth session & that was the difference, winning the match 21-15.

So, going into yesterday's match at Needham against Hertfordshire, we were still top of the league, with a twenty-point advantage over our opponents. Back on familiar territory, overall we played very well & led the match from start to finish, winning 25-11.

We've had to work hard for our five league wins from five, but have deservedly won the league, a great effort from the squad. This is Suffolk's ninth consecutive ECCBA league title, which is an incredible achievement.

The squad have also held their first fundraiser for 2019, the popular Random Triples. The maximum 96 entries were quickly received & an enjoyable day of bowls was had by all that were there. After everyone had played five games, only two had won all five. The runner up was Pam Crawford from Barrow (10 points & 30 shots) & the deserved winner was Susan Hurley from Thurston (10 points & 43 shots). The day raised just shy of £500 for squad funds & the squad thank everyone who took part or helped during the event.

The squad's second fundraiser is the Marions Fab Fours, being held on Sunday 23 June at Needham Market Community Centre.

Before a break for the summer, the Suffolk team will compete in the Six Counties competition at Littleport Leisure Centre on Sunday 14 April. Suffolk were runners up last year, so will be looking to regain the trophy this time around.

10. ECCBA Report:

Nothing to report, the next meeting is the ECCBA AGM on 20 June 2019

11. ECBA Reports:

There was nothing to report, the AGM will be held on 20th April

12. Forthcoming Events:

Wednesday 27th March Joe Rice Cup & Chairman's Plate Finals

Sunday 7th April Suffolk Closed Competition Finals

Wednesday 10th April Winter League Finals

Wednesday 1st May East v West – **NJ** will ask Tom Runnacles (East) and Colin Fellingham (West) who sorted the respective teams last year, if they would be prepared to do it again this year.

Wednesday 8th May Bury League v Suffolk League - **RS** kindly agreed to organise the Suffolk League team for this event.

13. Any other Business

RS raised the possibility of the SCBA making a donation following the death of Rita Daniels. It was readily agreed by everyone that a donation from SCBA funds should be made and it was decided that £50 should be contributed to the St Elizabeth Hospice in Ipswich.

NJ raised the question of the Winter League Rules that specifically relate to the Joe Rice Cup and Chairman's Plate Finals and the number of games you have to play, to be eligible to play in a final. Given the format change a few years ago, there are now far less matches before the final. The proposed rule change by **NJ** that a player need only play one game (rather than the current three) to be eligible to play in a final was agreed. Nothing will change for this season, but **NJ** will amend the rules ahead of next season.

NJ reported that he had a meeting with the Needham Market Community Centre manager to set dates for all SCBA events for 2020, 2021 and 2022. With only a few exceptions all the required dates for were in place. One date remaining to be set is the 2020 Suffolk Triples, provisionally reserved for Sunday 20 December. It was felt that this was a bit too close to Christmas and an alternative date would be preferable. **NJ** will investigate and report back.

At this point no other matters were raised and the meeting closed at 9.35pm

Date of next meeting: Monday 20th May 2019 at Needham Market. (7.30pm start)