



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 13th January 2020

The Meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Those Present: Andy Gilder (**AG**) – Chairman, Sally Goodrich (**SAG**) - Vice Chair, Neil Jolly (**NJ**) Richard Sago (**RS**), Andy Pooley (**AP**), Jim Goodrich (**JG**), Jane Sago (**JS**), Ian Hunt (**IH**), John Varden (**JV**), Sue Gilder (**SCG**), Adam Hubbard (**AH**), Peter Dent (**P-D**) - Secretary

1. Apologies for absence

Paul Daniels (**PD**), Peter Elmy (**PE**) & Keith Hull (**KH**)

2. Approval of minutes

The minutes of the Meeting held on the 2nd September 2019 were approved having been proposed by **JV** and seconded by **RS** and were duly signed.

3. Matters Arising

- **JV** asked **IH** if his club, Martlesham, had been successful in their hope of securing a sponsor. **IH** responded that he was under the impression that this was almost finalised, however he was uncertain of the final details. The full details will be available for the next Committee meeting.
- **JV** asked for sincere thanks to be passed on to the supplier of the new wooden blocks, they were well received by everybody, and it was agreed that the £50 should be made available.
- **JV** raised the matter of the logos for the centre discs. **JV** had been to three companies to obtain quotes, Airfix UK Co Ltd of Gt Blakenham were the most competitive and are to be asked to supply 3 centre logo discs.
- **AG** advised Gt Blakenham had been short of equipment while their dispute remained unsettled. They had borrowed one set of SCBA equipment which had been returned to Needham ahead of our Charity competition.
- **AG** was still looking for a supplier of wooden centre discs and will report back at the next meeting.

4. Correspondence

There was no specific correspondence to report.

5. Chairman's Report

Well here we are again, another new year, another new decade and still people want to kill each other in other countries.

Happy New Year one and all, I look forward to continuing to work with you all to achieve our goals and wish you all wealth, health and happiness in 2020.

Once again, unfortunately I have to start my report with sad news. A week ago I was informed of the passing of one of the most hard working past committee members we have all had the privilege to work with, a devout supporter of the county squad, a consistent club bowler and competition winner with her husband, travelling all over the land of the Little Chef in support of carpet bowls, spreading the word and making it all work via various committees, making

many, many friends on the way. It was sad news to hear of the passing of Margaret Southgate, may she rest in peace. Our thoughts go out to husband Jim, their family and friends. A sad day indeed. After our last meeting, the county team travelled to Potters, not wanting to spoil the Captain's thunder but Suffolk won! Again! For the 7th time in a row!!!! What an achievement by the whole team, congratulations to the Captain, his selectors for the work that they do.

Soon after the county team were in action at the start of the 2019 / 2020 county season with 2 home games, Essex and Bedfordshire, but I'll let the Captain tell you about them.

The triples were also held at Needham Market and as usual run to the finish. With Barking/ Claydon overcoming Hundon in the final. Well done to Barking/ Claydon though, third time in a row, quite an achievement.

Finally, the Suffolk Charity 4's was held yesterday, at the time of writing this I don't know who won, however well done and thanks to **RS** and **JS** for all their hard work to ensure the event ran so smooth.

(Congratulations go to Claydon who won the event and Fulbourn who were runners up)

6. Secretary's Report

There was nothing additional to report.

7. Treasurers Report

The Treasurer (**PD**) via the Chair provided the latest *Income & Expenditure* report and added that the only other matter to report was the profit from the recent Suffolk Fours was £500 as opposed to £395 last year, and £331 from the Suffolk Triples which was slightly down on last year of £355.

8. AP report (reference East Anglian Daily Times)

AP reported that he had been contacting the EADT - Mark Heath, in an effort to obtain further publicity if possible. Currently they were publishing our League tables, hopefully on a regular basis and that future contact with the Sports section would continue.

9. Match Secretary's Report

JG reported that the Leagues were running as expected, with match date changes happening regularly, but these were sorted out speedily without any serious problems.

The Joe Rice Cup and Plate matches are proceeding well and all on track for the Quarter Finals in early March.

10. County Captain's Report

Since our last SCBA meeting in early November it has been a busy, yet successful time for the Suffolk team.

Initially, over the long weekend of Friday 8 to Sunday 10 November, the team & supporters were at Potters for the National Championships.

On the Friday night, Suffolk (Eastern Counties league winners) faced Sunderland (Northern Counties league winners) in the Inter League Play-Off. Each county were represented by six rinks (fours) playing one nine end game each. Suffolk's overall 7-5 win (shots: 66-43) was more comfortable than it appears, with three convincing wins, one hard earned draw & two very close defeats. This was Suffolk's fourth consecutive Inter League win and their eighth in the last nine years.

The main event, the National Championships ran through all of Saturday & Sunday. Suffolk made an average start on the Saturday, but some inconsistent performances proved costly & unexpected points were dropped. As a result, by the end of day one, Suffolk sat in second spot, but only a point behind Cambridgeshire, with Hertfordshire a further point back. It was already a three horse race & with both of Suffolk's main rivals playing two bowlers short, resulting in their better bowlers playing extra games, an improved performance on Sunday was going to be needed.

With the pressure on, the Suffolk team delivered, culminating in the penultimate session of the day, with three comprehensive wins against Cambridgeshire which guaranteed the National title. Suffolk finished eleven points ahead of both Cambridgeshire & Hertfordshire. Sunday had been an amazing day, with the team losing only two games from twenty four played & finishing the competition with fifteen consecutive game wins. This was Suffolk's seventh consecutive National team title, an incredible achievement.

A couple of weeks, we started our ECCBA league campaign with a home match against Essex. With Needham Market unavailable, the match was switched to Bildeston, but the venue change had no affect on team performance. In a remarkable day of bowls, Essex were thrashed 34-2, the score equalling Suffolk's best win ever.

Then most recently, our second league match was again at home (this time at Needham Market) against Bedfordshire. Not quite so good a team performance, but still a very comfortable 31-5 win.

These two wins leave Suffolk top of the league, twelve points ahead of Hertfordshire. Looking ahead, the team has three tough away matches coming up. Firstly, we are at Norfolk on 19 January, followed by Hertfordshire on 16 February & finally Cambridgeshire on 15 March. Finally, the squad's 2020 fundraising efforts start with the popular Random Triples competition on Sunday 29 March. The entry form for that event is being sent out with these Minutes.

11. Closed Championships Report

RS reported all was well with the Championships and entries although slow were coming in for the forthcoming Pairs and Singles events.

RS also gave a report on the Charity Fours competition, played on the 12 January which raised a massive sum of £1400 for the Sue Ryder/ Dementia Together. Well done to all who attended and thank you for your generosity.

12. ECCBA Report

There is nothing to report since our last meeting. The next ECCBA meeting is their AGM on 18 June, which **NJ** will attend.

13. ECBA Report

NJ attended the last ECBA Meeting on 11 January and **PD** was also there in his capacity as ECBA Treasurer and event organiser. **NJ** reported that the main topic of discussion was the Nationals Championships, due for the first time, a couple of counties bowled short. Rules had been introduced prior to the competition, allowing counties to bowl up to four players short (within a team of 24), with bowlers playing up to three additional games across the weekend. There had been some teething problems with the implementation of the new rules and this was discussed at length. A slightly revised format to the "playing short" rules was provided by **PD** and this was to be taken away by the county representatives for further discussion.

14. Forthcoming Events

- 19th Jan – Suffolk v Norfolk (Away)
- 2nd Feb – Suffolk Pairs I
- 9th Feb – Suffolk Pairs II
- 15th Feb – Cockfield Charity 4's
- 16th Feb – Suffolk v Hertfordshire (Away)
- 23rd Feb – Suffolk Singles
- 2nd Mar – Joe Rice Quarter Finals – Needham Market
- 4th Mar – Chairman's Plate Quartertr Finals – Needham Market
- 11th Mar – Cup and Plate Semi-finals – Needham Market
- 15th Mar – Suffolk v Cambridgeshire (Away)
- 15th Mar – Offton Spring 4's

15. Any Other Business

- **RS** raised the point that by the end of the recent Suffolk Triples event, there were only a few people there to watch the final, which was a shame. It was acknowledged that this does often happen towards the end of competitions generally. The possibilities of perhaps moving the quarter/ semi/ finals to Finals Day was discussed, but there were issues around any such move, given the potential for bowlers playing in multiple events. It was decided to leave things as they were for the moment and monitor the situation.
- It was noticed on Sunday at the Charity Fours that a bowler not working in the kitchen was using the facilities and this was a potential health and safety issue. This was not the fault of the volunteers running the kitchen who continue to do a fantastic job at many of our events. It was simply left that a quick conversation would be had with those running the kitchen, for them to decide the best way forward. One possible option was that a notice could be place on the kitchen doors asking that no-one enter unless involved with the kitchen and food preparation.
- At the Charity Fours, the organisers had changed the cost of the raffle tickets, from 50p to £1 per strip due mainly to trying to cut down on wasting paper and also the time it takes to tear them all up. The odds of

winning were still the same whatever was charged and it didn't adversely affect the amount people spent. It was discussed and agreed that this would be continued at future SCBA events.

- **P-D** advised, with reference to the 2020 Suffolk Triples in November/ December, that currently East Bergholt School were not able to offer Sunday 6th December, or any alternative Sunday due to the fact that every Sunday had been reserved for specific events. It was agreed to try to book an alternative venue & **P-D** will check the availability at Hadleigh High School and JV will investigate the availability of Brackenbury Sports Centre, Felixstowe for 29th November & 6th December and report back as soon as possible in order that the date/venue can be set and the 2020 calendar can be complete.

There being no further business, so the meeting closed at 8.52pm.

Date of next meeting: Monday 19th March 2020 at Needham Market at 7.30pm