



# 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 on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at Needham Market Community Centre

Those Present: Andy Gilder (**AG**) – Chairman, Neil Jolly (**NJ**), Paul Daniels (**PD**) - Treasurer, Clint Watling (**CW**), Jim Goodrich (**JG**), Sally Goodrich (**SG**), Sue Gilder (**SCG**), Andy Pooley (**AP**), Tom Runnacles (**TR**), Jane Sago (**JS**), Richard Sago (**RS**), Ian Hunt (**IH**) Peter Dent (**PD1**) - Secretary

1. **Apologies:** Received from Adam Hubbard (**AH**)
2. **Approval of minutes:** The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 16th May 2022.  
Proposed by **SG** and seconded by **IH** and were unanimously approved and were duly signed.
3. **Matters Arising:** There were none raised.

### 4. Chairman's Report

Good evening all, good to see you. We have a busy one tonight so best we get on. Just prior to the AGM we had bowlers representing Suffolk in Stanley, in the ECBA Champions of Champions event. This event is one of the pinnacle events of the carpet bowls world involving the playing counties of the country. A report later will fill you in on the full results so I'm not going to steal thunder. Suffice to say a big WELL DONE to all our representatives who attended and did us proud. A little closer to home a couple of Sundays ago, 26<sup>th</sup> June, the ECCBA held the Eastern Counties Champion of Champions in Littleport. Each of the eastern counties sent their champions here to compete. There was a slight change to the Suffolk line up for this event as last-minute replacements had to be called in to replace the single and two of the rinks' players due to Covid! The Suffolk teams played well and had a successful day, winning the Triples and Rinks, runners up in the Pairs and a good showing in the singles. And to top that off winning the team event to boot! Many congratulations to all the players involved. A great day, I'm sure we may hear a full report later in the meeting. Last month's AGM went well, a lively discussion was had regarding the Winter League with many attendees airing their views. This is due for discussion later in the meeting and I am sure will promote more discussion then. My thanks to all clubs attending the AGM and to the committee members who helped set up the hall prior and cleared away after.

5. **Secretary's Report:** There was nothing to report.
6. **Treasurer's Report:** **PD** reported that SCBA membership and insurance monies had been received from 23 clubs so far, which represented just less than one third of the total responses expected. Positively, no replies had been received so far, from clubs not intending to renew their membership.
7. **Match Secretary's report:** **RS** advised there was nothing specific to report as the Summer League was running smoothly.
8. **Captain's Report:** **TR** said that there was nothing to report on the competitive front. However, the new Suffolk squad uniform samples had been made available to current squad members and a positive reaction had been obtained. Matters are now progressing with this, with work ongoing regarding the badge design, cost and supplier. A quiz was also being arranged as a fundraiser for squad members, 20-24 teams were hoped for and invites had been issued.

9. **ECBA Report: NJ** advised there have been no ECBA meetings since our last SCBA meeting. The ECBA Champion of Champions event was held in Stanley, Co Durham over the weekend of 11/12 June & Suffolk were represented in all four events. Other counties taking part were Cambridgeshire, Durham, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk, Northumberland & Sunderland.
- Singles (Clint Watling, Claydon):** Not the best start with a draw & a loss in his first two games, but then two good wins to finish with on Saturday. Two further wins on Sunday morning kept Clint in the mix & with one game to play he was in a three-way tie at the top. Unfortunately, his final game ended in defeat but a creditable third place finish in a high-quality event.
- Pairs (Emma Watling & Ally Hobbs, Claydon):** Three difficult games to start, never outclassed but just ending up on the wrong side of the results. They bounced back well though with wins to finish Saturday & start Sunday. Unfortunately, despite best efforts it was two more losses to end with & a seventh place finish overall.
- Triples (Sally & Jim Goodrich & Andy Pooley, Claydon):** A convincing win in their first game was followed by the closest of losses in their second. However, a solid win & a draw to finish Saturday put them in third spot, albeit the top two were unbeaten. Sunday proved to be a disappointing day, three close games but three defeats, left them in a sixth-place finish.
- Fours (Oscar Mew, Paul Daniels, Keith & Neil Jolly, Belstead/ Brockley):** Two close games but two wins to start, was followed by a heavy defeat, which would prove costly. An unconvincing win to finish Saturday left them in the mix in equal second. Two more wins to start Sunday put them equal top with two other teams, albeit with a shot disadvantage. So, despite winning their final game, it was not enough to win the title, but still a creditable runners-up position.
- NJ** also advised that the ECBA Triples entry form would be issued soon. This event being held at Needham Market on 4 September 2022 and being hosted by the SCBA.
10. **ECCBA: TR** reported back on the recent ECCBA AGM. It was hoped that the ECCBA could purchase a few mats to replace the older ones at Littleport, where events were held. The ECCBA league will start up again in November with five counties taking part, Bedfordshire not in a position to do so. There was a discussion around the Six Counties (April) and particularly the Teambowl (September) events and how/ if both would proceed and this was held over until the next meeting, feedback to be requested. This September, as a one off the Six Counties (now five) will take place and the winner will play in the Inter League match at the November Nationals on the Friday night against the Northern League winner.
11. **Election of 2022/23 County Captain:** There were no other nominations, **TR** was re-elected unanimously.
12. **Election of 2022/23 County Selectors:** There were four nominations for the positions of county selectors. Clint Watling (Claydon) was happy to remain, Karen Hubbard (Chelmondiston) and Ally Hobbs (Claydon) and Ralph Sadgrove (Hundon) had all been nominated. The captain **TR** was asked how many selectors he wanted and he decided to work with all four nominees, as this would assist in his selection process and ensure representation from both the East and West of the county.
13. **AGM Matter arising:** There were no matters raised.
14. **Winter League:** There was a lengthy discussion as to the format for the 2022/23 Winter League season and due consideration was given to all points made by clubs at the AGM and a range of options put forward. After some debate, the following match format was decided upon:
- **First half: One rink (four) and one triple**
  - **Second half: One triple and one pair (six bowls)**
  - **Each game comprising of 10 ends**
  - **Minimum of eight bowlers/ maximum of twelve**
  - **Leagues returning to the pre-pandemic set up of East Leagues (two or three, with promotion/ relegation) and one West League**

- **Entry Closing date: 19 August 2022**

Ten members voted in favour of the above and there were two abstentions – the motion was therefore passed.

It was then discussed and agreed that the Joe Rice Cup/ Chairmans Plate format would be the same as the league.

Entry fees to remain at £15 for the League and £5 for the Cup/Plate.

The entry form would be prepared and sent out to all member clubs ASAP.

The SCBA committee will look to arrange their next meeting for around 23 August (after the closing date for league and cup entries) to finalise the make-up of the leagues.

The Committee anticipate smaller leagues this year, in the knowledge that some clubs will not enter teams. It was therefore agreed to encourage all teams to enter the Joe Rice Cup/ Chairmans Plate as this would give clubs additional matches through the season.

**15. Forthcoming Events:** 4 September: ECBA Triples at Needham Market (**NJ** and **PD** to finalise entry form and issue shortly).

**16. Any Other Business**

**JG** reported back briefly on the Nationals at Potters in November, in that he was still finalising the Suffolk party's allocation of rooms, particularly around single room request where availability was very limited. **JG** also advised that currently Potters do not allow day visitors but if this changes before November, he will advise further.

**JG** also advised that the centre discs previously agreed at our previous meeting were still being made and he was in contact with the supplier.

**CW** referred to the differing dress codes at the recent ECBA and ECCBA Champion of Champion events. It was acknowledged that the ECBA had relaxed their dress code and it was now down to the ECCBA, as to whether they follow suit. **TR** was asked to raise this at the next ECCBA meeting.

**CW** also raised the differing formats between the Suffolk Pairs (six woods) and the two Champion of Champion events (four woods). **PD** advised that he had come up with a new format for both events, to allow the pairs to go to six woods. This would be put to both the ECBA and ECCBA Committees in due course.

**CW** had also been made aware of some feedback around the drinking of alcohol at a SCBA run event, in the main hall. It was agreed that our events that we would preclude the drinking of alcoholic drinks in the two bowling halls at Needham Market, as the bar area has available seating and there is no problem if people wanted a drink there.

**RS** advised of some feedback given to his around how we issued our SCBA emails and asking whether it was possible to BCC them. It was acknowledged that our emails had always been sent this way with no previous complaint and that the emails were all available on the Club Contact List and were not issued outside of this. **NJ** advised he would look into whether it was practical/ possible to change what we do.

**NJ** asked what we were going to do as regards engraving of our Closed Competition main trophies, for the recent years when the events did not take place during the pandemic. It was agreed for continuity to have those years engraved as "Covid".

**AG** reported that he had received an email via Mick Watkins from a local residential home, who had tried out carpet bowls at a recent Barking fair. They had enquired as to whether there was any local available equipment, so their residents could play some more. It was agreed that **AG** would make contact with them to establish what facilities they had and how we might be able to assist them.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.45pm

Date of next meeting – to be confirmed.