



Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association

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Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association held at Needham Market Community Centre on Monday 30th October 2023.

Those Present: Andy Gilder **AG** (Chairman) Paul Daniels **PD** (Treasurer) Sally Goodrich **SG** (County Captain) Richard Sago **RS** (Match Secretary) Jane Sago **JS**, Sue Gilder **SCG**, Adam Hubbard **AH**, Ralph Sadgrove **RS2**

- 1. Apologies:** Neil Jolly **NJ** (Vice Chairman) Peter Dent **PD1** (Secretary) Andy Pooley **AP** (Social Media) Jim Goodrich **JG**, Tom Runnacles **TR**.
- 2. Approval of previous minutes:**
The minutes of the meeting held on 4th September 2023 were proposed by **RS** seconded by **FW** and unanimously approved.
- 3. Matters arising:**
RS notified the meeting that his task from the previous meeting was still being investigated and he would report at the next meeting.
- 4. Chairman's Report:**
It has been a sad month this month, weather not helping matters, but the notification of the passing of Colin Young was devastating, despite knowing he wasn't well. Colin as we know was Chairman of the English Carpet Bowls Association, he was a passionate man without a bad word for anyone who played the game. He welcomed all new bowlers with enthusiasm, promoted Sunderland Carpet Bowls, English carpet bowls and the international side of the game, with Sweden, Norway, and anyone else interested. He was loved by all that knew him, a great ambassador for the sport, but not afraid to ask for help or advise. He will be sorely missed by all, our thoughts go out to his family, friends, and the bowlers of Sunderland. May he Rest in Peace.

Good evening, everyone, thank you for attending tonight's meeting. Welcome to Ralph, after a little confusion with the previous meeting, he has arrived!

Tom Runnacles will not be with us tonight, he has decided to step down as committee member due to work, if you know of anyone who would like to join the committee, please let me know.

On to business, we will soon be in Potters, fighting to regain our Championship title for the 9th time, I believe. The very best of luck to all representing the county at this level.

The county team were in action at Littleport, not wanting to steal the captains thunder, but I must congratulate her on the success, and her first victory of many.

The county trials were held at Needham Market. I was pleased to see so many attendees which bodes well for Suffolk Carpet bowls. I hope everyone enjoyed the day, and the captain gained the knowledge she required. Good luck to all that attended.

The Suffolk fours was played yesterday, many congratulations to the winners and commiserations to those who were close. And of course, thanks go to **RS** and **PD** for the organising of the day.

The county matches will commence soon, I'm sure the Suffolk team can keep up the great work they have done. Our best wishes to them for the 23 / 24 season.

Winter League and Cup competitions seem to be going to plan, we will hear of that later in the meeting.

Thank you for listening, we will now continue

5. Secretary's Report: There was nothing to report.

6. Treasurers Report:

PD reported that we had a member club had returned to the Association, Elmswell had re-joined. Also additional insurance for Brockley to cover the new roller that had purchased, had been sorted and paid for.

PD also presented a financial report for the committee which was duly accepted.

7. Match Secretary's Report:

Summer League finals - The 4 group winners Barking, Claydon, Chelmondiston and Withersfield together with the best runner up Belstead took place in early September, the eventual winners were Claydon with 8 pts and runners up were Chelmondiston on 6 pts. A full report is on the SCBA website.

The Winter League results are coming in steadily a few surprises with some of the scores, but as yet no problems have been brought to my attention. There are a few date changes with clubs due to weather, and Cup and Plate games.

JR Cup results coming in steadily together with dates being organised for the next round, or Plate games.

SCBA Fours yesterday, attended by 27 teams. The start was delayed slightly due to some team members caught out with flooded roads. Some good bowling took place throughout the day with a few surprise results. The Final was between Claydon A (Clint, Emma, Ally and Sam) and Cockfield (Jane, June, Keith and Colin) and on the day Cockfield came out winners who collected the Tony Webber Trophy, well done all who took part and helped on the day. A full report is on the SCBA website.

SCBA Triples, 17th December, entry forms are about and 3 have been received so far. I'm happy to sort entries, paperwork etc and draw prizes for the day and will be in attendance early morning to start off but Jane and myself will not be playing and intend to leave mid-morning, so we will need someone to assist Paul and run the draw.

8. Captains Report:

SG reported that she had been to her first ECCBA meeting, which she will mention later. **SG** was very proud of the County team for coming out as winners at the Charity Team Bowl in Littleport at the start of October. The county did get off to a slow start, but we showed great team spirit to prove what a strong team we have, to come out on top once again.

We have recently had our trials day which went smoothly, which was one hurdle over with, several more to come no doubt. The new county squad will be announced after our Nationals in Potters.

Tom Runnacles had informed her that he is going to take a year off from county bowls, we will miss his bowling ability and wish him well.

SG concluded that the squad was looking forward to the National Championships at the weekend.

9. Social Media Report: There was nothing to report at this time.

10. ECBA Report: Prepared by **NJ**, read by **AG**.

The report starts with the extremely sad news that the ECBA Chairman, Colin Young died on 18 October.

Colin had been ECBA Chairman since 2019, together with being captain of Sunderland CBA. He was incredibly passionate about the game of carpet bowls & cared greatly about all who played the game. He will be a big loss & greatly missed by our carpet bowls community.

Colin's funeral is tomorrow (Tuesday 31 October) in Sunderland & **NJ** will be attending.

An online ECBA meeting was held on 16 September. At the meeting, the counties present reported that they expected to have a full squad of at least 24 available for the upcoming Nationals Championships, (Fri 3 – Mon 6 November), with the exception of Hertfordshire who currently have 23 available.

Looking ahead to the 2024 Nationals, Potters have offered 25 - 28 October.

The next ECBA meeting is set for 27 January 2024 (online) & **NJ** will report back.

11. EECBA Report:

SG reported that she had attended the last meeting in Newmarket. The main item to come from the meeting was to remind Suffolk that they were to host the Eastern Counties Championship at Littleport on 14th April 2024.

Bedfordshire reported that they should have enough players available to enter the League this year, but they expect to be playing short, but within the rules, for their away games.

As winners of last seasons ECCBA League, Suffolk will be playing Durham, on Fri 3 November evening at Potters, for the Inter-County title.

From the recent Charity Teambowl, £232 was donated to the East Anglian Air Ambulance.

Counties playing venues for the forthcoming season were confirmed, Beds (Barton-le-Clay), Essex (Gt Saling), Cambridgeshire (Littleport), Norfolk (Wortwell) and Suffolk (Needham Market). Suffolk's matches are Essex away: 26 November, Norfolk home: 10 December, Cambridgeshire home: 21 January, Herts away: 18 February and Bedfordshire away: 17 March.

Date of next ECCBA meeting is 20 June 2024.

12. SCBA Charity Competition 2024:

At the last meeting the committee was asked to think of a Charity to support for this competition. After a brief discussion **JS** suggested we support the SERVE charity, which is operated by volunteers. **JS** is to look into the charity to find out more about the Charity.

13. Forthcoming events:

All events coming between now and the next meeting were discussed to ensure everything was in hand.

Nationals (Potters): 3 – 6 November
Essex v Suffolk (Gt Saling): 26 November
Suffolk v Norfolk (Needham Market): 10 December
Suffolk Triples (Needham Market): 17 December
SCBA Charity Fours (Needham Market): 14 January 2024

14. Any other business:

JG asked if the material used to cover over Suffolk's equipment stored on stage at Needham Market, could be changed. The current covering is an old bowls carpet is becoming frayed and the backing is disintegrating, making the place untidy and means that the carpets need to be hoovered more frequently. This was discussed and agreed by committee that something should be and will be done. Initially **RS** is to meet with the centre manager to see if they can offer a repositioning of the equipment and we will take it from there.

PD queried the situation regarding our sponsorship (Oaks Employment), as he was under the impression that it was an initial 6 months. **AG** informed him that the term was for 12 months.

SCG thanks **SG** for her previous forethought regards the trophies, before **SCG** took over looking after the trophies, **SG** had made sure the remaining trophies in hand were correctly re-named and engraving was correct. This was very much appreciated.

As the next meeting is 15th January 2024, the Chairman wished all committee members a MERRY CHRISTMAS and happy new Year – in October!!

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 20:19