



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 4 September 2023

Those Present: Paul Daniels (PD) - Treasurer, Jim Goodrich (JG), Sally Goodrich (SG), Neil Jolly (NJ), Sue Gilder (SCG), Richard Sago (RS), Jane Sago (JS), Andy Pooley (AP), Frank Wilkin (FW)

- 1. Apologies for absence:** Received from Andy Gilder (AG) – Chairman, Peter Dent (PD1, Secretary), Adam Hubbard
- 2. Approval of Previous Minutes:** The minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 3 July 2023 were proposed by **SCG**, seconded by **FW** and unanimously approved.
- 3. Matters Arising:** There were no matters raised from the last committee meeting.

4. Chairman's Report:

This was read out by **NJ**, in **AG** absence.

Good evening, everyone, I hope you have all enjoyed your holidays.

Welcome to Ralph on his first SCBA meeting. Ralph plays at Hundon and is another view from the west side of the county.

The Summer league has gone well, the Winter league is now starting to take its course and will be soon in full swing. May I take this opportunity to thank **RS** for doing a sterling job, looking after the leagues, and sorting the required winter league paperwork.

Congratulations to the following: Claydon, Withersfield, Barking and Chelmondiston for winning their respective summer leagues and to Belstead for being the best runner-up. These will be contesting the summer league finals on Wednesday, good luck to them all.

Generally, it has been quiet during the summer so not much else to report, so onward and upward.

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

- 6. Treasurer's Report:** **PD** reported that almost all clubs have now renewed their membership and insurance. He was still waiting to hear back from a couple of clubs, who are mulling over rejoining, but was happy to report that Clapgate Lane (formerly Rivers) and Winesham have rejoined, having been absent of late. Excluding those we are still waiting to hear from, we have 66 member clubs (67 last year).

- 7. Match Secretary's Report:** The Summer League is almost complete, 24 clubs took part and it looks as though a good time was had by most clubs, some obviously had highs and lows on match nights looking at some of the varied results coming in. Most results came in soon after each match but still a few had to be chased.

Its finals night this Wednesday, I have been in contact with Andrew at Needham re access to the hall and there are again dance classes till 7.30pm, access mustn't be restricted to let children to clear the hall so I have sent info out saying our access is at 7.40pm. As always, I hope we can all get equipment out and get started just before 8pm. The format and info have been sent out to clubs taking part so they know whats happening! I hope they have read it.

Winter League entries are in and sorted into appropriate leagues, 31 clubs this year (29 last year), lost Woolpit in the West, but gained Stutton, Whatfield and Clapgate Lane (used to be Rivers) in the East. Fixture lists are beginning to come in and being put on SCBA website.

Thanks again to **PD** and **NJ** for help and advice getting leagues and rules sorted.

Joe Rice Cup and Plate, 24 clubs have entered and we will do the draw later in the meeting.

- 8. Captain's Report:** **SG** reported that she and the selectors had met to sort out the team for the ECCBA Charity Teambowl & discussed the forthcoming Nationals and Squad Trials, where entries were slowly coming in. The new squad for the 2023/24 season will be selected after the trials. There had also been a discussion around the allocation of the fundraiser subsidy monies. It was agreed that this should be further discussed with the Suffolk Squad Fundraising Committee and the new Suffolk squad, when selected.
- 9. Social Media Report:** **AP** advised that the Suffolk Carpet Bowls Facebook page following has increased since our last meeting, including our first followers from Poland and South Africa. He'd been having an issue with the events feature on the page with several people pointing out that the events have the wrong dates and times posted. Having checked these comments against the original post, it still had the correct information. Despite his best efforts, he is finding it difficult to resolve this issue so instead, will publish a bimonthly calendar of events.
- 10. ECBA Report:** **NJ** reported that there has not been an ECBA meeting since our last meeting. The next meeting is online, on Saturday 16 September, which **NJ** will attend. The ECBA Triples was held on Sunday 3 September at Sherburn Community Centre, in Durham. There was little representation from bowlers in the Eastern Counties, with a team from Sunderland beating a Durham team in a close final.
- 11. ECCBA Report:** **PD** reported Bedfordshire have finally committed to entering the upcoming ECCBA Teambowl, and while we are hopeful that they will also be entering the ECCBA League, we are still awaiting final confirmation.
- 12. Joe Rice Cup 1st Round Draw:** As above, **RS** confirmed that 24 teams had entered the Joe Rice Cup/ Chairmans Plate. That meant we needed a preliminary round of eight

games in the Joe Rice Cup, to reduce the field to 16 teams for the first round proper. A random draw took place, outcome as follows;

Joe Rice Cup: Preliminary Round – to be played by 10 November 2023

Clapgate Lane	-v-	Hintlesham & Chattisham
Brockley	-v-	Stanningfield
Barking	-v-	Needham Market
Great Blakenham	-v-	Elmsett
Offton & Willisham	-v-	Chelmondiston
Martlesham	-v-	Knodishall
Bildeston	-v-	Belstead
East Bergholt	-v-	Old Felixstowe

Joe Rice Cup: First Round – to be played by 12 January 2024

Woolpit	-v-	Brockley or Stanningfield
Barking or Needham Market	-v-	Burstall
Great Blakenham or Elmsett	-v-	Copdock & Washbrook
Bramford	-v-	Bentley
Claydon	-v-	Bildeston or Belstead
Offton & Willisham or Chelmondiston	-v-	Clapgate Lane or Hintlesham & Chattisham
Hundon	-v-	Withersfield
Martlesham or Knodishall	-v-	East Bergholt or Old Felixstowe

All of the defeated teams in the preliminary and first round games will go into the Chairmans Plate First Round, the draw for which will be done as soon after 12 January as possible.

Future dates at Needham Market Community Centre are Joe Rice Quarter Finals (Monday 4 March 2024), Chairmans Plate Quarter Finals (Wed 6 March), Joe Rice & Plate Semi Finals (Wed 13 March) and Joe Rice and Plate Finals (Wed 20 March).

13. Summer League Play-Off: All arrangements in hand for Wednesday night (6 September), see Item 7 (Match Secretary's Report).

14. Forthcoming events (at Needham Market, unless stated otherwise):

- 6 September – Summer League Finals Night**
- 9 September - Ruby Roll Up Charity tournament**
- 1 October – County Charity Teambowl (Littleport)**
- 8 October – Chairmans Triples (Entry Form with Minutes)**
- 15 October – County Squad Trials (Entry Form with Minutes)**
- 29 October – Suffolk Fours (Entry Form with Minutes)**
- 30 October – SCBA Committee Meeting – Needham Market**

15. Any other business

JG advised that all of monies have now been received, for payment of Potters accommodation for the National Championships in November. Frustratingly, despite the

specified deadline, there had been a couple of late payments, but the SCBA were now in a position to BACS the payment to Potters, which **PD** confirmed had been done.

FW put forward a question from his club (Hintlesham & Chattisham) as to whether any thought would be given to rewarding those teams in our leagues that fielded a full team. This was discussed and reference made to our old rule of a shot penalty for those teams that were unable to field a full team. Our intention has always been for the smaller clubs to be able to compete on a level playing field with the clubs having larger memberships. If we were to reward clubs fielding full teams, it would in effect be penalising the smaller clubs again. As such there were no plans to amend our rules in this regard.

PD provided a brief report on the English Carpet Bowls Association (ECBA) Youtube page, where the viewing statistics show that approximately two thirds of the viewers were aged 65yrs+, perhaps reflecting the general demographic of carpet bowls. Whilst a good proportion of the viewings were in the UK, there were also a good number of viewings from the USA, Australia and New Zealand.

The Youtube site - [English Carpet Bowls - YouTube](#) - does contain many event match recordings, a lot of them involving bowlers from Suffolk clubs.

RS queried whether we could try and move the Suffolk Triples from its current date of Sunday 17 December, given its closeness to Christmas. It was agreed that **RS** could speak with Andrew at Needham Market to establish whether there were any alternative dates and report back. **RS** also raised a point around the SCBA paying the same Needham Market hall hire fee, whether we use the Main Hall and Burton Room, or just the former. If we are not using the Burton Room, it would still be available for another party to hire it. It was agreed that **RS** would also discuss this with Andrew, to see if there was any payment flexibility.

JS mentioned the SCBA Charity Fours, to be held at Needham Market on Sunday 14 January 2024. It was agreed that all should consider a local charity that funds raised could go towards, with a decision being made at our next meeting, ahead of the entry form going out.

If anyone reading these Minutes wishes to propose a local charity, please contact a Committee member or email suffolkcba@gmail.com

NJ advised that the updated Contact List, SCBA Calendar of Events, Chairmans Triples, Suffolk Squad Trials and Suffolk Fours entry form, will go out with the Minutes.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Date of next meeting Monday 30 October 2023