



# 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 2nd September 2024.

**Those Present:** Andy Gilder **AG** (Chairman) Paul Daniels **PD** (Treasurer) Sally Goodrich **SG** (County Captain), Sue Gilder **SCG**, Andy Pooley **AP**, Frank Wilkin **FW**, Neil Jolly **NJ**, (Vice Chairman) Jim Goodrich **JG** Adam Hubbard **AH**, Ralph Sadgrove **RS1**, Peter Dent **PD1** (Secretary)

**1. Apologies for absence:** Richard Sago **RS** (Match Secretary) and Jane Sago **JS**

**2. Approval of previous minutes:**

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 July 2024 were proposed by **FW**, seconded by **AP** and unanimously approved.

**3. Matters arising:**

There were no matters raised from the previous committee meeting.

**4. Chairman's Report:**

Good to see you all this evening, thank you for coming.

Not a lot to report as everything has been going smoothly, the summer leagues have drawn to their conclusions now, we will see the eventual outcome of the summer league on Wednesday. Good luck to the finalists.

Something I would like to report on though, August 10<sup>th</sup>, it was an amazing night at Hintlesham Village Hall. Two young ladies had been working so hard to bring this event to its conclusion, and it went like a dream. I am of course referring to the Race Night, to help raise funds for the Suffolk Squad, to assist them in attending Potters to represent their county in the National finals.

Two squad members volunteered to organise a race night for the cause, they were so enthusiastic and arranged everything, the hall, the posters, the draw prizes and the equipment along with the refreshments. The night was a blinding success and everyone who attended had a great time and were baying for more.

A massive well done goes to Karen Hubbard and Lauren DeBanks, for their enthusiasm and organisation, special thanks to their celebrity chefs Adam "Banger" Hubbard and Tom "Burnt Burger" DeBanks, who kept the guests fed throughout the evening. All their efforts made a massive £940+ for the funds. Thank you. I do hope the squad appreciate the efforts made to raise these funds.

Yesterday saw the ECBA Triples event played at Littleport, I will just say it was a great day's bowling. The final was a tad one sided, but the winners played so well, they deserved their victory.

That is about all from me currently, now for the rest .....

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

**6. Treasurers Report:**

I'm pleased to say that all 67 existing member clubs have renewed their membership for this year, and the same goes for all the clubs who take out insurance.

With that said, it took until the middle of August to round everyone up, so next year we may need to revert to contacting some clubs by post, rather than relying on email, in the hopes of getting a more timely response.

Finally, we are seeing the results of the changes to our finances, which were agreed at the AGM. The income from subscriptions is up £600, and with the reduction in the subsidy for the squad going to the Nationals at Potters, the overall cost to the county will have gone down from over £1300 last year to around £500 this year. All of this means that we are off to a much better start this year, and that we will hopefully break even, if not better, over the course of the year.

**7. Match Secretary's Report:**

**Summer League** is now complete. Barking clinched group A by 2 points by getting 4 points at Chelmondiston in their last game. Stanningfield won group B beating Hundon by 4 points. Group C, Belstead won, beating Copdock & Washbrook by 7 points. Group D was convincingly won by Claydon by 21pts above Martlesham. Group E was also convincingly won by Elmsett with 18pts above Whatfield. Well done to all teams for taking part this season and congratulations to the winners. League details are all on the website thanks to Paul D. The Finals Night is Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September at Needham, hopefully Paul D will have sorted playing details (RS not in attendance). Access time to hall is 7 for 7.30 start (no access problems dance classes on holiday). Sally is doing Tea / Coffee and draw.

**Joe Rice Cup draw** was carried out Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> August and details sent out over the weekend to all participating clubs. Fixtures are now being sorted.

**Suffolk Fours** entry form has been sent out and 2 entries already received.

**8. Captains Report:**

**SG** advised that we have two county events coming up soon, which teams have been selected for as well as our county trials which I hope lots will try, it is a fun day to meet and greet as well as skills and games!! Entries are slow coming in but I have a few. However, I'm away on holidays for much of September so it looks like I'm going to be busy when I return.

**SG** advised that for the Bedfordshire home match in February 2025, when Needham Market is unavailable, enquiries with Bildeston had not progressed. It was suggested that an alternative venue be investigated, with Great Blakenham and Woolpit mentioned.

**SG** advised that there had been some selection issues for the Suffolk team for the Nationals at Potters. However for the most part they had been resolved. **AG** reiterated his previous support to **SG** and her selectors, that they are voted into to do the job and final team selection decisions rest with them.

**9. ECBA Report:**

**NJ** advised that the next ECBA meeting (online) is Saturday 14 September, which he is chairing. As **AG** had referred to earlier, the ECBA Triples had been held at Littleport on Sunday 1 September, with a healthy number of Suffolk club bowlers taking part. Come the end of the day, it was an all Suffolk final, with Mick Watkins, Andy and Sue Gilder being beaten by Paul Daniels, Neil Jolly and Sam Runnacles, congratulations to both triples on a good days bowling.

**10. EECBA Report:** **SG** advised she will be attending the next ECCBA meeting in October, after the Teambowl, if there is anything from Suffolk needing to be discussed. **PD** advised that it looked like Bedfordshire would be participating in all ECCBA events in 2025.

**11. Social Media Report:** **AP** advised there was nothing to report, due to the quieter summer months, but followers to the Facebook page were up.

## **12. Correspondence:**

The SCBA had received a letter from Stutton Carpet Bowls. They had expressed concern over the number of times they had been asked by teams bowling short, to omit bowlers from the random draw out, which increased the chances of skips being pulled out. The suggestion made was that skips be removed from the draw, so as to not disadvantage those clubs fielding full teams. The letter was discussed at length and reference made to the Captains Guidance Note (available on the SCBA website) previously issued to our league clubs. It was acknowledged that opposing captains do have the right to turn down any request made to omit bowlers from the draw out. It was also felt that with more bowlers playing in the upcoming Winter Leagues, than in the summer, this situation would likely be less frequent. It was agreed that the Winter League Rules could not be changed, with paperwork having been issued and fixtures arranged. However, if any club had a suggestion for a rule change, it could be discussed at the next AGM and then a decision made by the Executive Committee. Whilst an acknowledgement had already been sent to Stutton, a formal response would be done.

## **13. Child Protection Policy:**

**AG** advised that he had made a small update change to the SCBA Child Protection Policy. CBR checks had been replaced with DBS checks. The updated Child Protection Policy was already on the SCBA website.

## **14. Forthcoming events:** All events coming between now and the next meeting were discussed to ensure everything was in hand.

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September: Summer League Finals Night, Needham Market**

**Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September: Chairmans Triples, Needham Market**

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> October: ECCBA Team bowl – Littleport.**

**Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> October: Suffolk Squad Trials, Needham Market**

**Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October: Suffolk Fours, Needham Market**

**Friday 25 – Monday 28<sup>th</sup> October: Nationals – Potters**

## **15. Any Other Business:**

**NJ** advised that the updated Contact List, 2024/25 SCBA calendar and entry forms for the Squad Trials, Chairmans Triples and Suffolk Fours would be sent out with the Minutes.

**NJ** advised that entries for the Joe Rice Cup this season were down by five teams, no apparent reason for this and we offered a “travel” option for the early rounds. Was it worth contacting those league clubs that have not entered the Joe Rice Cup to find out why they have chosen not to play in it and can the SCBA change anything to secure their involvement? It was agreed that an email to those clubs was merited.

**SG** advised that consideration might be given to moving the Squad Trials to a week day night. **AG** was happy to leave that with the captain and selection team. **SG** also queried the sum of money that each county has to spend on raffle prizes for the Nationals and **PD** confirmed this was £30.

**SCG** enquired, with reference to squad fundraising events whether Needham Market hall hire cost had gone up, **PD** advised that it had not, but that could change in 2025.

**FW** advised that it must be approaching the forty year anniversary since the formation date of the SCBA. It was agreed that this should be celebrated when appropriate and **NJ** said that he would check his records as to an exact date, so this could be considered further.

Meeting closed: 9pm