

ENGLISH CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the 24th Annual General Held on Saturday, 25th April 2015 at The Holiday Inn Rotherham

Present: M. Walker, M Southgate, P. Daniels

Representatives from: Bedfordshire, Durham, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk, Northumberland, Suffolk & Sunderland. 3 other attendees

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the 23rd Annual General Meeting of the ECBA

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Jamie Smith and Andy Gilder.

Minutes of last meeting

It was agreed that the minutes of the 23rd AGM be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

Matters Arising

No Matters Arising.

Chairman's Report.

Once again I think we have enjoyed another successful year, despite the important role of Secretary remaining vacant. Our meetings were in general well attended, but I would urge all delegates to ensure they attend all meetings or at least send a representative for their County.

However, if our sport is to continue to develop over the coming years; we need to look at the bigger picture. To this end I am in early discussion with other countries to establish a European carpet bowls federation. I believe such a move could well open doors to greater funding and publicity opportunities, as well as international competition.

I take this opportunity to thank all the officers, delegates and members for their support throughout 2014. My special thanks to Margaret Southgate and David Storey who are both retiring from office after many years of hard work on behalf of us all. I am sure you will all join me in wishing them well for the future. My thanks to all who took part and supported our various competitions over the past 12 months.

Results of Competitions over the past 12 months

Champion of Champions 2014

Single – Neil Tuckey (Bedfordshire)

Pairs – John Leonard, John Leonard Jr (Durham)

Triples – Clint Watling, Sam Runnacles & Tom Runnacles (Suffolk)

Rinks – Beryl Wicks, Barry Giddens, Maureen Giddens & Colin Wicks (Cambridgeshire)

Overall County Team – Cambridgeshire

Inter County League 2014 (North -v- South) – Suffolk

National County Championships 2014 - Winners: Suffolk, Runners Up: Cambridgeshire

Open Triples 2014

Tom Runnacles, Clint Watling and Sam Runnacles

Open Rinks 2014

John Leonard, Ian Clark, Stephen Templeton, John Leonard Sen. (Durham)

Festival of Carpet Bowls - Potters May 2014

Singles – Martin Campbell (Sunderland)

Pairs - David Storey, Aline Pearson (Durham)

Rinks - David Storey, Aline Pearson, Peter Wood, Shirley Wood (Durham)

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National County Championships 2015

This year, the presentations will take place immediately after completion of bowling, once again as this proved successful last year. It is hoped that all bowlers will remain to support the ceremony.

We have tried to secure a fixed date for the Championships but without complete success. However, it would appear likely that future dates will be in November, and are likely to straddle the Potters Mid Week Break. The 2015 event will be on 13th-16th November.

Champion of Champions

The move to Wolsingham Community Centre, Durham for 2014 proved successful however, the high cost of the venue is of concern.

ECBA Website

Once again the website has generated many enquiries and has been a great aid to our Organization. We are grateful to the considerable efforts of our webmasters.

Promotional DVD

Stocks of the DVD are now down to four copies.

Secretaryship

This position remained vacant for 2014.

Mike Walker
Chairman

Secretary's Report.

None

Treasurer's Report.

The balance sheet this year is up to 28th February instead of the 30th April. Due to the change of date of the AGM, therefore, the figures represent 10 months instead of the usual 12 months.

Looking at the income side we have lost one County and we no longer receive any commission from Blackpool for the Champion of Champions. We lost money on the ECBA Triples, also the entries are down on Festival of Bowls at Potters.

On the expenditure side both Officer and meeting expenses were down due to two things. We have only had to meetings during this shortened financial year and we have been without a secretary, the Chairman has been doing both jobs, thereby only one claim was made for expenses. The cost of the venue for the Champion of Champions was mostly offset by the entry fees paid by the Counties.

Overall our combined bank balances at the bottom of the page are down approximately £2000.00 on last year.

I would like to thank Sue Withell, my Auditor who has signed these accounts as a true record.

Finally, as this is my last AGM report to you, having taken over originally on a temporary basis in May 1997, I would like to say thank you to the officers have supported me since then. Starting with John Crawford, the then Chairman, followed by Ray White, Tony Cuthbert and now Mike Walker, and the secretaries Eve Warren, Anne Hardy and Dirk Vettewinkel.

I know I will miss the involvement with the ECBA, but all good things must come to an end, and I hand over the reins to your new Treasurer. When I started we had £8000.00 in the bank account and I leave it with almost £18.000.00 so, hopefully you will feel I have looked after your money to the best of my ability. Thank you.

Margaret Southgate
Treasurer

Referee's Report

There was no report in the absence of the referee

Amendment to Constitution

It was proposed by Essex, seconded by Suffolk, and agreed unanimously that Rule 1.3 of the Constitution be Removed, to allow for future advertising/sponsorship.

Election of Officers

As the nominee for Secretary was absent, a closed vote was taken to elect in his absence. The vote was 4 against and 4 for. The chairman exercised his casting vote in favor.

One nomination had been received for each of:

Chairman	Mike Walker
Vice-Chairman	Colin Young
Treasurer	Paul Daniels
Referee	Mick Watkins
Child Protection Officer	Andy Gilder
Secretary	Jamie Smith

The Chairman therefore declared them elected.

Annual Membership Fee

The Treasurer proposed that the Annual Membership Fee remain at £100 per County Association and £20 for Associate Members. This was seconded by Kay Cuthbert and agreed unanimously. The Treasurer asked for fees to be paid promptly and no later than the end of May.

Any Other Business

Hertfordshire asked why the AGM could not be held at The National Championships. It was explained it was important that the AGM was accessible for all members, therefore Rotherham was selected as the most central point of travel.

There being no other business, the Chairman thanked members for their attendance and declared the meeting closed at 2.25 p.m.

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Balance Sheet ----- Year to 30th April 2014

INCOME

Balance brought forward
from 2014 19,773.15
9 County Fees 900.00
1 Associate Fee 20.00

Development/Promotion

Raffles 745.50
Rule Books 5.00

Commission from
Potters Oct 2013 inc. free
Places – Nat. Champs. 3,308.00
Entry fee Cof C. 1,000.00

ECBA Rinks 2014 300.00
ECBA Triples 2014 388.00

Potters 2014 80.00
Potters 2015 inc. Free Places 2,008.00

Bank interest 6.54

17,839.46

28,534.19

ECBA Assets
Rule Books £150.00

EXPENDITURE

Administration

Officers' Expenses, eg Postage,
Telephone, Photocopying etc 205.15
Meeting Expenses, Venue Travel 354.66
Insurance 534.24

Development/Promotion

Raffles 125.00
Development New Clubs 198.67

Champion of Champions
Officers Expenses inc AGM 594.00
Trophies 230.00
Hire of venue 1,400.00

County Championships

Administration 48.60
Travel subsidy 5,544.00
Trophies 441.44

ECBA Rinks 185.60
ECBA Triples 2014 405.00

Potters Admin 2014
inc.trophies 428.94

Combined

Bank

Balances

28,534.19

Acceptance of the balance sheet was proposed by Norfolk and Seconded by Essex and agreed unanimously.