



Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association

The Minutes of an Executive Committee Meeting of
The Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association
Held at Needham Market Community Centre
On Monday 20th November 2006

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm

Those present: John Varden, (Chairman) Marion Brown (Secretary), Sally Goodrich, Sue Jones, Keith Armes (Vice Chairman), Peter Jones, Keith Hull, Mick Watkins, Jim Goodrich, David Cobbold, Derek Brown, Richard Sago, Jane Sago, Pat Lingley

1. **Apologies for absence:** - Steven Cain, Rita Daniels
2. **The minutes of the meeting of 18th September 2006** - were proposed by Sally Goodrich, seconded by Peter Jones and confirmed by the meeting as a true record and signed with the elimination of (Vice Chairman) from the first paragraph.
3. **Matters Arising from 2.**
Item 3. Cup and Plate survey- Only one further club had responded and this item would now be on the agenda of the next meeting.
Item 5. Part of the money raised by our Charity tournament was being used by the South Suffolk branch of the Multiple Sclerosis in an activity directly benefiting at least one of the family of an SCBA member.

4 **Chairman's Report:** - Durham Cancellation

Following legal advice it transpired that we, as Suffolk County Bowls Association, were liable for the costs associated with the cancellation of the proposed visit to Durham due to the lack of commitment from some of the County team back in August. Having contacted Durham Colleges, with whom the booking was originally made, registering our displeasure at receiving such a bill we did manage to obtain a 10% reduction and the undertaking that this year's hiring rates would be held for any proposed visit in 2008.

As Chairman, based on the legal advice received and following agreement by all committee members, we have begrudgingly paid this demand. Whilst this committee is not authorised to make any undertaking and commitment for 2008, I would strongly recommend that we, as a County, consider the following.

A) We should investigate all possible alternative accommodation

B) Only make a booking when the county team have indicated their availability, or where the numbers can be assured with the addition of those supporters who would be interested in making the trip. Clearly this would mean a much earlier notification than perhaps has been the case previously.

Blackpool Visit – This weekends visit to Blackpool for the English Championship is now finalised and, whilst I understand the Suffolk team is short of some of the squad members, it nevertheless gives opportunities to others who I am sure will be proud to represent their county and do their best. I am looking forward to this visit and, whilst not playing, wish all players the best of luck.

5 **Secretary's Report:**

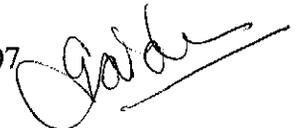
a) The SCBA had to replace the retiring Margaret Southgate as Lottery Licence Holder, the committee agreed to appoint Keith Armes

✶ b) Marion will be arranging a demonstration of carpet Bowls for the Stowmarket Salvation Army.

c) Needham Market Community Centre will provide extra storage space for our equipment

6. **Match Secretary's Report:-** Sally reported that the 3rd round of the Joe Rice cup would be Offton & Willisham v Hundon, Nayland V Cockfield, Brantham V Barking, Great Blakenham V Claydon. Barrow who play Bramford in the preliminary round of the Chairman's Plate asked for a one week extension due to refurbishment of their hall. The meeting agreed to this. Tattingstone and Tostock who met in the cup were now drawn together in the plate which was an unusual but not incorrect result of draw system. They continued to provide the league tables to clubs at events and would be adding the website details for results.
The Chairman thanked Sally and Jim for their continuing efforts.
7. **Treasurer's Report:** - The Treasurer was not present but a full report of income and expenditure was circulated there being presently a net balance of £5791.13.
8. **County Business:-**
- a) Closed Tournaments: A report by Jane and Richard Sago on the Triples and yesterday's pairs was given the results are as follows:- Triples champions for 2006/2007 are Sue Gilder, Mick Watkins and Roy Lonsborough (Barking), Runners up are Sue Everitt, Dorothy Bishop and Sylvia Bond (Nayland). The Pairs finalists are Ellen Grube and Kevin Salmon (Hundon), Margaret and Jim Southgate (Bramford), Rita Daniels and Oscar Mew (Kelsale), June Pettit and Colin Fellingham (Cockfield), Paul Daniels and Joe Mew (Kelsale), Lindsay and Keith Armes (Burstall), Mick Watkins and Roy Lonsborough (Barking), Trevor Bean and Gaynor Mayhew (Stanningfield). The Committee thanked Jane & Richard for their hard work.
 - b) Junior Championship: It was proposed by Mick Watkins and seconded by David Cobbold that Jeremy Brown be asked to run it and repeat the success of the last year at Burstall.
9. **Eastern Counties Carpet Bowls Association.:** A report accompanies these minutes
10. **English Carpet Bowls Association:-** Mick Watkins reported that the hotel details, arrangements and programme of events for the Nationals had been forwarded to Captain Neil Jolly.
11. **Summer league format:-** The request for a response by clubs had produced only two letters. This was disappointing and although committee members had heard spoken views these were not conclusive. **IT IS PROPOSED TO DISCUSS THE FORMAT FOR NEXT SUMMER AT THE NEXT MEETING IN JANUARY WHEN A DECISION WILL BE MADE. CLUBS SHOULD FORWARD WRITTEN VIEWS NOW IF THEY WISH THEM TO BE CONSIDERED.**
12. * **Development of Carpet Bowls in Suffolk.-** In his first ever Chairman's report John Varden had identified this as a priority and now welcomed this discussion. Peter Jones said that there were areas of Suffolk under represented in Carpet Bowls and that the SCBA should sponsor an initiative to encourage new members and clubs. There would need to be agreement on Target areas, dates, venues, publicity and format for the day. David Cobbold had been asked to liaise with Suffolk ACRE and produced a paper for members on Village Hall contacts, possible funding for equipment and advice. He also suggested that there be a register established on clubs who hold surplus equipment who were willing to loan or sell it and members who were prepared to act to help in demonstrations in their locality.
After much useful discussion the Committee agreed that we should be proactive and supported unanimously a proposal by Richard Sago, seconded by David Cobbold, that we go ahead with this initiative. A sub Committee of the Chairman, Richard Sago, Peter Jones, Sue Jones, and Mick Watkins was formed to take it forward.
13. * **Any other business:-** Richard Sago asked that there be a fundamental review of venues and arrangements for the closed championships. The problems endemic to the present situation could not be resolved and participation was disappointing. This was agreed.
- * **Marion gave notice that she would step down as Secretary after the next AGM and asked that opportunity be given to anyone interested in the position to liaise with her and be able to attend meetings before that date. The meeting agreed and asked that individuals interested should contact Marion direct.**

The meeting closed at 10.06 pm. The next meeting is on Monday 29th January 2007



Eastern Counties Team bowl

The ECCBA Teambowl was held at Braintree Leisure Centre on Sunday 24th September 2006, involving teams from Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk.

This was the first event for the recently selected Suffolk squad for the 2006/07 season. With a few squad members unavailable and 28 bowlers needed, it was a much changed Suffolk team, with seven new bowlers making their County debut.

In the Teambowl each county is represented by four singles, pairs and rinks (fours), each playing a seven end game against each of the other counties.

Suffolk's opponents in the first session were Hertfordshire. This would be a tough start as the new bowlers would need a few ends in order to gain confidence. There were some comfortable Suffolk wins, but also a number of close games that ended in defeat. At the end points were shared with each county, winning two each of the singles, pairs and rinks. This was a fair outcome and a solid start, although Suffolk would have expected to pick up more points. However there were plenty of games remaining.

In the second session Suffolk's opposition were Bedfordshire. The singles delivered with three comfortable wins and a draw and this was followed up by a superb pair's performance, winning all four games, whilst the rinks won two out of four. Overall it was a good return with nineteen points out of a possible twenty four, exactly what was required.

Next up for Suffolk was Essex, with an improving team over the past few seasons this would be a difficult challenge. To gain the singles got Suffolk off to an excellent start, winning three out of four, but unfortunately, despite close games, all four Suffolk pairs were defeated. It was down to the rinks to salvage the situation, which they partially did, gaining two wins and a draw. That meant overall, a disappointing result against Essex of eleven points out of twenty four. Would this be costly by the end of the day?

The penultimate session was against Cambridgeshire. If Suffolk were to have any hope of winning and retaining the Teambowl, a win by a healthy margin over their main rivals for the title was required and that would be difficult to achieve.

It started well, with the confident Suffolk singles winning three of four closely fought games. Next up in the pairs there was a comfortable win for each county, a draw and unfortunately Suffolk were beaten in a tight fourth game. It was up to the rinks to keep Suffolk hopes alive and they responded, putting on their best performance of the day, winning three out of four. The final result was fifteen points to Suffolk, but would that prove to be enough?

With just the one session remaining, overall Suffolk were still trailing their main rivals. Cambridgeshire had on paper the easier session against Hertfordshire, whilst Suffolk's final opponents were Norfolk.

The singles were able to get Suffolk off to a reasonable start, gaining two wins and a draw. Unfortunately, despite four close games, the pairs could not follow this up, securing a win and a draw. Whilst Cambridgeshire were not performing that well, Suffolk still needed wins from the Hertfordshire rinks, together with a maximum return against the Norfolk rinks for the trophy to be retained.

It was too much to expect, the four rinks were shared with Norfolk and the Cambridgeshire rinks did enough to secure them the overall victory, by five points over Suffolk.

So it was runners-up for Suffolk and the Teambowl to Cambridgeshire. Whilst it was disappointing not to win the event, the Suffolk captain and selectors were able to take many positives from the day. In particular the new bowlers fitted into the team comfortably, all gained valuable experience and are to be congratulated on their performances.

The next challenge for the Suffolk team is their first ECCBA league match, against Norfolk on Sunday 29 October 2006, at Bildeston Village Hall. After some encouraging performances at the Teambowl, the Suffolk team can look forward to their forthcoming league matches with confidence and hopefully retaining the ECCBA league title. It will not be easy but with a committed team combining the potential of new squad members together with the experienced bowlers maintaining the team spirit of the last few seasons, Suffolk will again be difficult to beat.

Neil Jolly
Suffolk Captain

Suffolk County Team: Supported by Portmak Joinery

Suffolk County Committee Meeting Monday 20th November 2006

Chairman's Report

Durham Cancellation

Following legal advice it transpired that we, as Suffolk County Bowls Association, were liable for the costs associated with the cancellation of the proposed visit to Durham due to the lack of commitment from the County team back in August. Having contacted Durham Colleges, with whom the booking was originally made, registering our displeasure at receiving such a bill we did manage to obtain a 10% reduction and the undertaking that this year's hiring rates would be held for any proposed visit in 2008.

As Chairman, based on the legal advice received and following agreement by all committee members, we have begrudgingly paid this demand. Whilst this committee is not authorized to make any undertaking and commitment for 2008, I would strongly recommend that we, as a County, consider the following:

- A) We should investigate all possible alternative accommodation.
- B) Only make a booking when the county team have indicated their availability, or where the numbers can be assured with the addition of those supporters who would be interested in making the trip. Clearly this would mean a much earlier notification than perhaps has been the case previously.

Blackpool Visit

This weekends visit to Blackpool for the English Championship is now finalized and, whilst I understand the Suffolk Team are short of some of the squad members, it nevertheless gives opportunities to others who I am sure will be proud to represent their county and do their best. I am looking forward to this visit and, whilst not playing, wish all players the best of luck.

Suffolk Carpet Bowls – Executive Committee Meeting 20th November 06

Item 12.

DEVELOPMENT OF CARPET BOWLS IN SUFFOLK.

Item 12 of the last minutes discussed the above with Peter Jones asking we consider a development initiative in Suffolk. This tied in with the Chairman's research and declared policy and I was asked to Liaise with Suffolk ACRE for village hall contacts and information.

Village hall contacts:

Data Protection Act now prevents their mailing list being released to us. However for a reasonable fee they will mail out our material with their regular mailings. The majority of Halls are members of Suffolk ACRE.

Funding:

Unhappily a previous reliable source the Carnegie UK Trust has changed its criteria and now uses its money 'strategically' which means small grants for hall activities do not feature any more.

Suffolk ACRE operates a funding advisory service and will help any hall seeking funds. They suggest that as each County Councillor has access to a 'locality budget' this may produce funds.

(the accent would be on Carpet Bowls as a community building block- which Suffolk ACRE supports having been the midwife at its birth in 1982)

Some District Councils may have funds and the time for small dollops of cash is probably near the end of the financial year when budgets need to be used up.

SCBA resource:

When, hopefully, village halls or groups contact us we should be able to respond with help and equipment at short notice. We have done this on almost an individual basis in the past but we will need a little more organisation if we are to be successful. Many clubs now have old carpets quite surplus to requirements and we could log where these are and any other available equipment on a register for potential use by new clubs either loaned or given. A list of SCBA members willing to do the leg work with equipment and helping to set up new clubs could also be on the register.

Suffolk ACRE 01473 242500 - Village Hall adviser – Sam (part time) , other contact Andy (advice re funds) – Carol Deslandes – head lady with overview

David Cobbold

Eastern Counties Teambowl

The ECCBA Teambowl was held at Braintree Leisure Centre on Sunday 24th September 2006, involving teams from Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk and Suffolk.

This was the first event for the recently selected Suffolk squad for the 2006/07 season. With a few squad members unavailable and 28 bowlers needed, it was a much changed Suffolk team, with seven new bowlers making their County debut.

In the Teambowl each county is represented by four singles, pairs and rinks (fours), each playing a seven end game against each of the other counties.

Suffolk's opponents in the first session were Hertfordshire. This would be a tough start as the new bowlers would need a few ends in order to gain confidence. There were some comfortable Suffolk wins, but also a number of close games that ended in defeat. At the end points were shared with each county, winning two each of the singles, pairs and rinks. This was a fair outcome and a solid start, although Suffolk would have expected to pick up more points. However there were plenty of games remaining.

In the second session Suffolk's opposition were Bedfordshire. The singles delivered with three comfortable wins and a draw and this was followed up by a superb pair's performance, winning all four games, whilst the rinks won two out of four. Overall it was a good return with nineteen points out of a possible twenty four, exactly what was required.

Next up for Suffolk was Essex, with an improving team over the past few seasons this would be a difficult challenge. Again the singles got Suffolk off to an excellent start, winning three out of four, but unfortunately, despite close games, all four Suffolk pairs were defeated. It was down to the rinks to salvage the situation, which they partially did, gaining two wins and a draw. That meant overall, a disappointing result against Essex of eleven points out of twenty four. Would this be costly by the end of the day?

The penultimate session was against Cambridgeshire. If Suffolk were to have any hope of winning and retaining the Teambowl, a win by a healthy margin over their main rivals for the title was required and that would be difficult to achieve.

It started well, with the confident Suffolk singles winning three of four closely fought games. Next up in the pairs there was a comfortable win for each county, a draw and unfortunately Suffolk were beaten in a tight fourth game. It was up to the rinks to keep Suffolk hopes alive and they responded, putting on their best performance of the day, winning three out of four. The final result was fifteen points to Suffolk, but would that prove to be enough?

With just the one session remaining, overall Suffolk were still trailing their main rivals. Cambridgeshire had on paper the easier session against Hertfordshire, whilst Suffolk's final opponents were Norfolk.

The singles were able to get Suffolk off to a reasonable start, gaining two wins and a draw. Unfortunately, despite four close games, the pairs could not follow this up, securing a win and a draw. Whilst Cambridgeshire were not performing that well, Suffolk still needed wins from the Hertfordshire rinks, together with a maximum return against the Norfolk rinks for the trophy to be retained.

Suffolk County Team: Supported by Portmak Joinery

It was too much to expect, the four rinks were shared with Norfolk and the Cambridgeshire rinks did enough to secure them the overall victory, by five points over Suffolk.

So it was runners-up for Suffolk and the Teambowl to Cambridgeshire. Whilst it was disappointing not to win the event, the Suffolk captain and selectors were able to take many positives from the day. In particular the new bowlers fitted into the team comfortably, all gained valuable experience and are to be congratulated on their performances.

The next challenge for the Suffolk team is their first ECCBA league match, against Norfolk on Sunday 29 October 2006, at Bildeston Village Hall. After some encouraging performances at the Teambowl, the Suffolk team can look forward to their forthcoming league matches with confidence and hopefully retaining the ECCBA league title. It will not be easy, but with a committed team combining the potential of new squad members together with the experienced bowlers maintaining the team spirit of the last few seasons, Suffolk will again be difficult to beat.

Neil Jolly
Suffolk Captain

Suffolk – v – Norfolk

On 29th October 2006 the Suffolk team played their first ECCBA league match of the 2006/07 season, at home against Norfolk.

With Needham Market hall unavailable, Suffolk played for the first time at Bildeston.

Both counties were represented by six rinks (fours), each rink playing three nine end games over six sessions. The Suffolk team included four bowlers making their league debut, following their encouraging performances at the Teambowl in September.

In the first session Suffolk got off to a slow start, but the home rinks soon settled down as they got used to the carpets. At the end of the first three games, Suffolk had won two, 9-6 and 10-7, losing the other 10-4.

The second session followed a similar pattern to the first and ended with an identical outcome. Suffolk winning their games 10-6 and 12-4, losing the other in a close game 7-5.

With the Suffolk bowlers gaining in confidence, there was an improved start to the third session and all of the Suffolk rinks took early leads that they were able to maintain. The final game scores were 8-4, 13-5 and 13-5. At the half way stage overall Suffolk had a healthy 14-4 advantage over their opposition.

There were mixed fortunes for the home team in the fourth session. The first Suffolk rink secured an early lead and won convincingly 17-3. Meanwhile the second Suffolk rink found themselves 7-0 down, but recovered superbly to win 11-8. Finally the other home rink were involved in a low scoring game, but unfortunately they lost by 6-5.

In the penultimate session of the day, it was again the home rinks taking the honours, winning two of the three games. There was a comfortable win 15-3, with the other win coming in a tighter game by 9-7. In the third game the Suffolk rink got off to a slow start, finding themselves 9-0 down from which they did not recover, losing 13-6.

With Suffolk having won the match, the final session was a disappointing one for Suffolk. They could only manage one draw, 9-9, losing the other two games 13-4 and 9-7.

The final match score was Suffolk 23, Norfolk 13.

It had been a good performance from the Suffolk team and a healthy start to their league campaign. All of the rinks had contributed to the victory and it was particularly pleasing for the selectors to see the new bowlers fitting into the team comfortably.

Suffolk's next league match is against Hertfordshire on Sunday 10th December 2006 at Needham Market. They will be looking to build on the performance against Norfolk, with high hopes of retaining the ECCBA league title.

Neil Jolly
County Captain