



# Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association

**The Minutes of an Executive Committee Meeting of  
The Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association  
Held at Needham Market Community Centre  
Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April 2008**

**The meeting commenced at 7.30pm**

**Those present:-** John Varden,(Chairman) Marion Brown,(Secretary) Keith Armes, (Vice Chairman) Rita Daniels {Treasurer} Mick Watkins, Pat Lingley, Peter Jones, Jane Sago, Richard Sago, Margaret Southgate, Neil Jolly, Graham Robinson, Jim Goodrich.

1. **Apologies for absence:-** Keith Hull, Sally Goodrich and Steven Cain.
2. **The minutes of the meeting of the 10<sup>th</sup> March -**were confirmed by the meeting as a true record and signed.
3. **Matters Arising:-** There were none.
4. **Chairman's Report:-** I would like to start my final report by congratulating the County Team on winning the Six Counties Championships at Soham. This was a wonderful achievement and the victory over our main rivals Cambridge was very impressive.

Yesterday was the Suffolk Junior Championships run by Keith Armes at Burstall Village Hall and despite a lower entry than last year, the same high standards of sportsmanship and tactical play were on show. The final was played between Mathew Last of Knodishall & Sorrell Knight of Withersfield with Mathew lifting the trophy. My sincere thanks to Keith for his organisation, Marion for obtaining the trophies and those present for undertaking the marking.

The Closed Championship Finals held at Needham Market on 6<sup>th</sup> April was another exciting day for both competitors and spectators, with the winners going on to represent Suffolk at the ECCBA Champion of Champions and Eastern Counties Champion of Champions. I would like to thank Richard and Jane Sago, together with Keith and Lindsey Armes for all their efforts during this season's championships. They do a great job which benefits us all.

Since our last meeting, volunteers from Suffolk, namely Jim & Margaret Southgate, Jim & Sally Goodrich, Jeremy Brown and Marion & Derek Brown undertook a demonstration of Carpet Bowls at the Genesis Mencap Club in Ipswich. There were a lot of enthusiastic novices keen to learn a new sport and my thanks go to our volunteers.

Mick Watkins & I also joined Westhorpe bowls club for a development evening to assist them in gaining new members and enjoyed their hospitality.

As this is my last report as Chairman of Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association, I would like to thank Marion and my fellow committee members for their enthusiastic support and their dedication in facing the challenges of the last three years.

5. **Secretary's Report:-** The evening at Ipswich Mencap Club went very well. In response to our request for equipment for the above club we had offers of mats from Stratford St. Mary and Ousden and a mat and set of bowls from Martlesham. This will be followed up by committee members. Rita Daniels of T&D Carpet Bowls has offered the centre and end blocks
6. **Match Secretary's Report:-**
  - a) Winter League cup and Finals Day- clubs participating in these events have been notified of the dates and timetable.
  - b) Summer Leagues- the participating clubs have been notified of details.
7. **Treasurer's Report:-** The treasure distributed a full report of income and expenditure with a net balance of £6146.27p.
8. **County Business:-**
  - a) The Six Counties Championships – see enclosed report.
  - b) The Closed Tournaments- Finals Day went well. The Singles was won by Claydon. Pairs were won by Copdock. Triples were won by Bramford and the Fours by Barking.
  - c) Junior Championships- Report enclosed.
  - d) Suffolk v Durham Weekend- Neil distributed menus and reported everything is going well. To date, 32 people are travelling on the coach.
9. **Eastern Counties Carpet Bowls Association:-** Peter Jones had nothing to report as there had not been a meeting. The next meeting will be for the AGM.
10. **English Carpet Bowls Association:-** Mick Watkins reported that David Storey was interested in standing for Referee, Suffolk agreed to nominate him for this position. (report enclosed)
11. **SCBA Closed Competition Rules:-** Thanks were extended to Neil Jolly and Steven Cain who have put together a set of rules for these competitions these were circulated to Committee members for their approval.
12. **Suffolk Info Link:-** Suffolk have agreed to advertise on this website for the foreseeable future. Peter Jones agreed to look into this.
13. **Charity Competition:-** This event will be held on the 27<sup>th</sup> July 2008 at East Bergholt Sports Centre. Graham Robinson has undertaken to run this competition with Neil Jolly assisting. Jane Sago has undertaken to research Raffle Prizes. Thanks go to Keith Hull and Ipswich Plumbers for their continued sponsorship. The SCBA have also offered funds towards this event. Entry forms and Raffle books to follow shortly. The named Charities this year are MENCAP and FIND.
13. **AGM:-** This will be held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2008 commencing at 7.30pm at Needham Market community Centre. This year we will be looking for a new Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary. Letter already been circulated.

**14. Any Other Business:-**

Champion of Champion Subsidy- It was proposed by Keith Armes and seconded by Jane Sago that this will be increased to £45.00 per head. This was carried by the meeting with 2 abstentions namely Mick Watkins and Margaret Southgate.

The Eastern Counties Team Bowl this year will be held at East Bergholt on the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2008. Suffolk to host this event

The East v West is to be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2008.

The Suffolk v Bury is to be held on the 14<sup>th</sup> May 2008.

The date of the next meeting which will be the AGM will be held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2008.

The meeting closed at 22.04pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Southgate". A thin black arrow points from the text "The meeting closed at 22.04pm" towards this signature.

## SUFFOLK JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS -2008

This year's championship was held in excellent conditions at Burstall Village Hall on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> April.

There were eight entries this year with none of last year's semi-finalists competing and this made the event wide open. The winner would need to adapt to two contrasting mats as they would have to play on each mat during the group matches. The faster mat having a wide draw and the slower mat needed a narrower line.

Played in two groups the winner of group A was Sorrell Knight of Withersfield and the runner up was Matthew Hardy of Fornham All Saints. The winner of the other group was Matthew Last of Knodishall and the runner up was Elizabeth Rose of Fornham All Saints.

The all girls semi final was very close and this went to an extra end. Sorrell took out two of Elizabeth's holding woods to win the deciding end. The boy's semi was also very close with Matthew Last running out the winner 6 shots to 4.

In a very good final Sorrell went into an early four shots lead but by the fifth end Matthew had drawn level. The sixth end saw Matthew score three shots and this was too much of a hurdle for Sorrell to overcome in the final end. Matthew winning 7 shots to 5.

Matthew Last was a very worthy winner on a day which saw a high standard of both bowling and sportsmanship. Congratulations to all who took part.

Keith Armes

## Six Counties Championships 2008

On Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2008 the Suffolk team took part in the ECCBA Six Counties Championships at Soham.

The six Eastern counties were represented by six rinks (fours), each rink playing one nine end game against each of the other counties.

Suffolk's first games of the day were against Bedfordshire. There were high expectations of getting off to a good start, but the Bedfordshire rinks played well and the scores remained close. At the end of the six games, whilst having not performed well Suffolk had secured four hard earned wins, 9-7, 16-7, 11-4 and 15-6, drawn a game 10-10 and unfortunately lost the other 7-6. Nine points won, but in reality three points dropped.

Norfolk were the next opposition and Suffolk would need to improve. As always Norfolk proved to be difficult opponents. Again most of the games were tight until the later ends. However at the finish the Suffolk rinks had gained four wins out of six, with scores of 7-4, 7-6, 11-5 and 14-5. The other two games were lost 18-7 and 9-6.

Suffolk's next games were against Hertfordshire and Suffolk got off to a disappointing start, losing two out of the first three games 11-6 and 13-4. However the other rinks recovered the situation winning all the remaining games by 15-6, 8-3, 14-3 and 9-3. As with the Norfolk games, an eight point return.

With three counties played, Suffolk had a slender overall lead in the competition, but had yet to perform particularly well. With Cambridgeshire and Essex to play, improvement would be needed if the trophy was to head back to Suffolk.

Next up were Cambridgeshire, these would be Suffolk's toughest games of the day and would probably decide the overall winner. As is usual between the counties, all of the games were tactical, close and low scoring. This had the effect of raising Suffolk's performance level. The games were not decided until the last few ends and all of the Suffolk rinks held their nerve to win five and draw the other. The final scores were 12-6, 7-6, 8-6, 10-9 (having been 9-1 down) and 8-6, with the draw of 7-7.

After a fantastic eleven point return against Cambridgeshire, Suffolk now only needed a couple of wins against Essex to win the competition. This would not be easy, but the Suffolk rinks were now playing well and confidently.

The first two games against Essex were shared, Suffolk winning 11-5 and losing the other 7-4. However in the final four games it was the Suffolk rinks who gained early leads and won three games by 15-1, 10-3 and 11-7, drawing the other 7-7.

Suffolk were the Six Counties champions, finishing with an impressive 45 points, with Cambridgeshire ten points behind in second place. Whilst the Suffolk rinks had generally struggled at the start of the day, vastly improved performances from every bowler against Cambridgeshire and Essex had won Suffolk the trophy.

Looking back at the 2007/08 season, the Suffolk team were disappointed not to have retained the ECCBA league, but were delighted to have won both the Teambowl and Six Counties events.

Neil Jolly (Suffolk Captain)