

Suffolk **Carpet Bowls** *Association*

SCBA Website is www.carpetbowls.org/suffolk

**The Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the
Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association**

Held at Needham Market Community Centre on Monday 16th March 2015.

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Those present: Neil West(NW) Chairman, Keith Jolly(KJ) Treasurer, Carol West(CW), Keith Hull(KH), Jane Sago(JS), Richard Sago(RS), John Varden (JV).

1.Apologies for absence: Neil Jolly (NJ), Sally Goodrich (SG), Jim Goodrich (JG), Mick Watkins (MW) Andy Gilder(AG), Freda Wright (FW).

2.Approval of previous Minutes: The Minutes of the meeting held on 19th January 2015 were approved, proposed JV, Seconded RS and were duly signed.

3.Matters Arising:

KJ said that he had spoken to Clare CBC and established that they only play in the summer months. Two other clubs KJ had thought to contact have since folded.

4. Chairmans Report: NW congratulated the county squad on winning the ECCBA league. He also said that the recent closed competitions had gone well and thanked those involved in their organisation.

5. Secretary's Report: NW said that he'd received an email from Bealings requesting clarification of the rule 1d in relation to a club that enters more than one team in the league. Although NW had responded to the enquiry confirming that no player would be able to play for more than one of the club's teams, he thought that the rule as written was open to interpretation. NW therefore proposed that rule 1d of both the Winter and Summer League rules should be amended adding the following words "Where a club enters more than one team no bowler shall knowingly play for more than one team in SCBA league matches, without the express authority of the SCBA Executive Committee." The proposal was seconded by KH and agreed unanimously.

NW said that he'd received comment from Margaret Southgate regarding new format for the Singles Closed Championships. Because of the schedule, Margaret observed one player not having a break from either marking or playing, the losing player being obliged to mark the following game. It was agreed that if players find themselves in this situation they should

draw it to the attention of the organisers who will be able to find someone to mark in the player's place.

6. Treasurer's Report: KJ produced the balance sheet. He commented that while entry fees for the Closed Competitions was down on previous years, because of the move to Needham Market expenditure was also down.

KJ said that SG had arranged the trophies and would present the invoice before the end of the financial year.

KH asked why income from league entries was down on the previous year. KJ explained that the figure shown did not include Summer League entries, due shortly.

KJ has agreed to settle hall hire charges from Needham Market monthly rather than in response to individual invoices.

KJ said that he intended purchasing a bulk of postage stamps prior to the announced increase at the end of March. (KJ)

KJ will contact Henderson's shortly to get an alternative quote for insurance. (KJ)

RS asked about presentation of the money from the Charity Competition. It was agreed that this would be done on Finals Day. JS & RS will not be available on that day so NW agreed to make the presentation. RS will make arrange for a representative from the charity to attend. (RS)(NW)

KJ asked if he was able to shred old accounts paperwork. It was thought that anything over 7 years old could be disposed of.

7. Match Secretary's Report: there was no match secretary's report.

8. C.P.O. Report: there was no CPO's report.

9. County Captains Report: NW distributed NJ's report as follows:

In February we went into our fourth league match at Bildeston, top of the league but with our opponents Hertfordshire only nine points behind us. Some late withdrawals resulted in a last minute team re-shuffle but the players responded well, putting on a good performance to secure a 22-14 home win. This result kept us in top spot, seventeen points ahead of Hertfordshire and twenty eight points up on third place Cambridgeshire.

It was Cambridgeshire who we faced in our final match, this time at Needham Market. In arguably our best all round performance of this season, we dominated from start to finish. Losing only two games (out of eighteen) we secured our biggest ever win against Cambridgeshire, 29-7. This won Suffolk the ECCBA league title for the fifth consecutive season, with our largest ever points haul of 135. A great league campaign for the Suffolk team and everyone involved can be very proud of their efforts.

The Hertfordshire match was our last match at Bildeston, as for convenience it has been decided to play all future home matches at Needham Market. NJ has written to the Bildeston Hall Booking Secretary to thank them for looking after us so well during the last seven years.

The squad will be taking a final vote at the end of the month regarding how we are going to proceed with changing (or not) the team uniform. NJ will report back at the next SCBA meeting.

The next event for the Suffolk team is the Six Counties at Braintree on Sunday 12 April. Before that on Sunday 29 March we are hosting our first fundraiser of the year, the ever popular Random Triples.

10. ECBA Report: No report

11. ECCBA Report: NW said NJ advised nothing to report except that the next ECCBA meeting is Thursday 19 March 2015.

12. Forthcoming events:

There was some discussion about the number of people required at events to set out chairs and equipment. NW said that MW had asked that we identify those available to help set up each event. RS said he thought the equipment was heavy and needed very able bodied people to lift mats up and down safely.

Forthcoming events identified as follows:

- Cup and Plate Semi-finals 18th March. JV, NW, RS will attend in addition to SG, JG & MW
- Random Triples 29th March. County squad fundraiser so squad members organising.
- Cup and Plate Finals 8th April. JV & NW will attend in addition to SG, JG & MW
- Winter League Finals Evening 15th April. KJ & JV will attend.
- Finals Day 19th April. NW, KJ will attend in addition to NJ & MW.
- ECBA Rinks 26th April NW, CW will attend in addition to MW & NJ
- ECCBA Champion of Champions 10th May. KJ & JV will attend in addition to MW & NJ
- East v West (no date set in calendar but thought to be 6th May) MW normally organises.
- Bury v Suffolk 13th May. Bury league to host. JV organising for suffolk. JV, JS, RS & KH as non bury league club members discussed which teams should be invited. They agreed to continue their discussion after the meeting. They did agree however that Suffolk would continue to not field current county squad players. NW said that Bury League may be playing some current squad members.

13. Any other business:

- NW said MW had forwarded diary dates for 2015 and 2016 saying that he'd had difficulty booking consecutive Sundays for one discipline. MW had asked the committee members to consider holding these events over one weekend, Saturday and Sunday. It was generally agreed that this was not a good idea and was likely to result in grossly unequal numbers for each day, the Sunday likely to be the more popular day.
- RS queried the dates proposed for the Charity Event. The previous meeting agreed to move this event to the second weekend in January (Saturday or Sunday). NW said this would be fed back to MW.

(NW)

- JV asked if there had been any feedback from clubs about the new playing format for the Pairs and Singles Championships. NW said that he'd not had any adverse comment. There was some discussion about why some clubs find it difficult to get members to enter the closed competitions. KH thought this may be because some clubs think they've little chance of doing well because the competitions appear to be dominated by county squad players. KJ said he had difficulty because members were just not interested in this type of competition, NW said he'd found the same at one of his clubs.

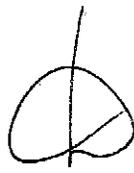
- NW said NJ has suggested having a meeting before the pre-AGM meeting on June 1st. It was proposed having a meeting towards the end of April. NW will ask MW to book the lounge for Monday April 27th.
(NW)(MW)

There being no other business to discuss the meeting closed at 20:50

All being well the next meeting will be 7.30pm Monday April 27th 2015 at Needham Market Community Centre.

Contact list amendments:

A copy of the current member contact list is distributed with these minutes


N.P. W 325
22/4/15

Suffolk – v – Cambridgeshire

On Sunday 15 March, Suffolk played their final ECCBA league match of the season against Cambridgeshire, at Needham Market.

Suffolk went into the match with a seventeen point lead over second place Hertfordshire, knowing a win would guarantee them retaining the ECCBA league title.

The rinks selected were:

Suffolk 1 (S1): Jim Goodrich, Don Allum, David Ford, Paul Daniels

Suffolk 2 (S2): Trevor Cain, Ellen Grube, Andy Pooley, Sue Gilder

Suffolk 3 (S3): Sam Runnacles, Peter Fellingham, Mick Watkins, Tom Runnacles

Suffolk 4 (S4): Peter Runnacles, David O'Brien, Clint Watling, David Mittell

Suffolk 5 (S5): Sally Goodrich, Rita Runnacles, Andy Gilder, Steven Cain

Suffolk 6 (S6): Sue Davey, John Varden, Colin Fellingham, Neil Jolly

As is usually the case in the first session, it was S1 who got the Suffolk team off to a confident start. Their consistent bowling secured them an 8-1 lead after five ends and they don't lose games from that position, finishing up as comfortable 11-5 winners. Not far behind them were S5 who were looking good at 4-1 and 7-2 up. However a couple of lost ends and the game was back in the balance at 7-6, but they bounced back well to win the last two ends and the game by 11-6. The tightest game involved S3, who played well enough to gain a lead, but not quite well enough to keep it. They were up 4-2, 7-4 and 9-7 ahead, but two shots lost on the final end saw the game finish a fair 9-9 draw. Suffolk could be pleased with the unbeaten start though.

The second session saw S2 fly out of the blocks, they completely dominated the first three ends to be 12-0 up. There was simply no way back for the opposing rink and S2 cruised to a 17-6 win. The other two games were far closer though and would be decided by the final bowls. S6's game was a real see-saw affair, 0-2 down, then 4-2 up, then 4-6 down and still a shot behind playing the last end. It was the perfect last end though, accurate early bowls, a conversion shot to tuck the jack in and a couple of blockers, four shots scored and a hard earned 9-6 win. S4 were also not having it all their own way but were always in front, 6-2, 7-3 and 8-4. Unfortunately, a couple of double shot dropped ends resulted in an 8-8 draw. However a good point gained and Suffolk's unbeaten start had been maintained.

In the third session it was S3 who made the better start of the Suffolk rinks, playing well to win four of the first five ends to be 8-1 up. This enabled them to share the remaining ends and ease their way to an 11-3 win. The other two games were low scoring encounters, with the outcomes uncertain until the last ends. S5 were never behind in their game, but couldn't build a healthy lead. They were 2-0, 5-2 and then 7-4 up going into the last end, in which they did enough to score another shot and earn an 8-4 win. Finally S1 were involved in a real battle, in a game where they were only ahead once. At 1-4 down they did well to get the game back to all square at 4-4 and going into the last end it was 5-5. It was an excellent team final end though building a head that protected the jack, scoring a single shot they needed to win the game 6-5.

At the halfway stage, Suffolk had not lost a game and held a commanding 16-2 lead. There was still work to be done though.

The start of the fourth session was all about S4, hitting top form they controlled the early ends and after six ends they were 9-0 up. That proved to be more than enough and despite losing a couple of ends, they ran out comfortable 11-3 winners. It was a bizarre start in the game involving S2, as in a poor first end they dropped five shots and in a great second end they levelled the game. Things took a turn for the worse again when they lost three ends to go 6-8 behind but they hit back again, winning the final three ends to win an incredible game 11-8. S6's game started well with a two shot first end but they were chasing from there on out, 2-5, 5-7 and then 6-8 down playing the last. They didn't give up though, indeed had an opportunity to win the game but had to settle for two shots and a well earned 8-8 draw.

Suffolk's unbeaten day came to a shuddering halt in the penultimate session, but it certainly wasn't down to a lack of effort. First the good news, another win for S1, but again they didn't have it all their own way. Things were looking good at 4-0 up, but not quite so good at 4-6 down with just two ends to play. S1 never know when they are beaten though and true to form they scored two shots on each of the final ends to win 8-6. For S3 it was always looking like a slow start would cost them, 0-4 and 2-6 behind, but they did really well to square the game at 6-6 going into the final end. However they were just unable to build a winning head of bowls, three shots dropped and a 6-9 loss. Conversely S5 had got off to a decent start, 4-1 and 6-2 up and they remained two shots in front playing the final end. It was a tight last end and the Suffolk skips final running bowl hit the target perfectly but unbelievably left three opposing woods holding and the game was lost 6-7.

In the final session S2 got off to a more conventional start and had soon secured themselves an advantage, 4-1 and then 6-3. However by the last end their lead was slim at just 6-5, but they held their nerve building an accurate head of bowls, four shots scored and a 10-5 win. S4 again got off to a sluggish start losing the first two ends and then dropping a four on the sixth end saw them 3-6 down. They responded very well though, a crucial double on the seventh and single shots on the last two ends resulting in a 7-6 win. Lastly S6 (now including "super-sub" Ralph Sadgrove) were always ahead in their game, although dropping a five on the penultimate end made for a nervy final end. They played it well though, another two shots and a deserved 12-7 win.

Overall the match finished with a Suffolk win 29-7 (shots: 169 - 111).

Suffolk had certainly saved the best for last. A fantastic all round team performance, early bowlers dominated all day and were ably backed up by the thirds and skips.

Every Suffolk rink played well, S1 and S2 winning all three games, and S4 and S6 were also unbeaten, winning two and drawing one.

This result means Suffolk win the ECCBA league for a fifth consecutive season, winning all five matches and finishing comfortably ahead of all the other counties. Everyone who has played for Suffolk this season should be very proud of their efforts and a big thank you from the team to those that have come along and supported us.

The Suffolk team's next outing is the Six Counties competition at Braintree Leisure Centre on Sunday 12 April.

Neil Jolly (County Captain)

Suffolk – v – Hertfordshire

On Sunday 15 February, Suffolk played their penultimate ECCBA league match of the season against Hertfordshire, at Bildeston.

Suffolk were looking for their fourth consecutive win, to maintain their top spot in the league. A tough test was expected, as Hertfordshire were having a good season, sitting in second position in the league and only nine points behind Suffolk.

After a couple of late withdrawals from the team selected, the selectors were grateful to Ann Hathaway and Heather Cain who stepped in to play. The rinks that faced Hertfordshire were:

Suffolk 1 (S1): Jim Goodrich, Don Allum, David Ford, Paul Daniels

Suffolk 2 (S2): Sam Runnacles, Peter Fellingham, Colin Fellingham, Tom Runnacles

Suffolk 3 (S3): Trevor Cain, Ellen Grube, Andy Pooley, Sue Gilder

Suffolk 4 (S4): Peter Runnacles, David O'Brien, Sally Goodrich, Clint Watling,

Suffolk 5 (S5): Sue Davey, Rita Runnacles, Andy Gilder, Steven Cain

Suffolk 6 (S6): Heather Cain, Ann Hathaway, John Varden, Neil Jolly

The first session of the day saw the consistent bowling of S1 get the Suffolk team off to a great start. Five shots on the fourth end extended their lead to 8-1 and despite losing the last couple of ends, the first points went to Suffolk with a comfortable 13-5 win. The other two games were far closer though and in both the advantage changed hands numerous times. S5 had got off to a decent start, leading 3-0 but from there they went 3-5 and 5-7 behind. However a couple of shots on the final end salvaged a hard earned draw. Meanwhile S3 had got off to a poor start, dropping four shots on the very first end. They bounced back well though levelling the game by the fourth end, only to go 4-7 behind, which they got back to 6-7 with an end to go. On the final end they were holding the two shots they needed, only for the Hertfordshire skip's last bowl to fortuitously clip a short bowl in for shot. A cruel way to lose 6-8.

The second session saw S2 and S4 make superb starts to their games, both scoring five shots on their first end. The games then followed a similar pattern. S2 lost a couple of ends but then scored nine unanswered shots over the next five ends, eventually winning well by 14-4. S4 also lost the second and third ends but then scored six shots in the next four ends to extend their lead. Swapping a three shot count over the last two ends, resulted in a 14-5 win. S6's game was far closer and things were looking promising at 3-1 up after four ends. However losing five shots on the fifth end proved costly and despite their best effort they were unable to overturn that deficit and the game was lost 5-10.

In the third session it was S5 who made the better start of the Suffolk rinks, securing an early lead which they extended to 6-1 after six ends. They then made things difficult for themselves though and going into the last end, they were only 6-5 up. It was just enough though as a single shot saw them home by 7-5. S3 meanwhile had made a disappointing start dropping three shots on the first end, but they took control after that. They levelled the game at 4-4 after four ends and winning three of the remaining five ends was sufficient for a 10-6 win. Lastly S1 had also got off to a bad start but got themselves back in the game, at 3-3 after five ends. In a see-saw finish to the game, they were then 3-6 down, then 7-6 up, only to drop two shots on the final end to lose 7-8.

At the halfway stage, Suffolk held a slim 11-7 lead and on the evidence of the games played, the outcome of the match remained uncertain.

The fourth session though was to prove crucial, a session in which none of the Suffolk rinks got off to convincing starts. S4 dropped three shots on the first end and looked out of the game after five ends, when they were 1-6 down. It was then that matters took a turn for the better, having pulled the game back to 4-6, they scored a fantastic four shots on the penultimate end to take the lead for the first time. A controlled last end earned them another two shots and a remarkable 10-6 win. The game involving S6 followed a similar pattern, as they were 2-5 behind after four ends. Again the game then swung Suffolk's way, S6 winning all of the remaining five ends and scoring seven shots to win 9-5. It was equally as tight for S2, a game where they were never behind but also never in complete control. They led 2-0, 3-2, 4-3 and 5-4 but going into the last end it was 5-5. However they showed great composure, scoring two shots for an important 7-5 win and a maximum six point session for Suffolk.

If the last session belonged to Suffolk, the penultimate session was nearly all Hertfordshire, with the away team showing what a resilient and quality team they have. It was looking good for S5 after four ends as they earned a 5-0 lead. However it was a game of two halves as they were unable to win another end and the game was lost 5-9. It wasn't any better for S1, 0-5 down early on which they got back to 3-5, only to lose single shots on the next four ends. Second defeat of the session, again 5-9. It was looking more hopeful for S3 though when they held an early 6-0 lead, which they maintained to 10-4 with two ends to go. It was then that it all started going wrong, three shots dropped on the penultimate end made for a nervy last end and despite their best efforts another three shots down and a 10-10 draw.

Suffolk went into the final session 18-12 up overall and Hertfordshire now had a sniff of a drawn match. S2 were playing well though and quickly settled any Suffolk nerves by securing an early advantage in their game. Whilst not running away with their game, the lead was always theirs and winning five out of the nine ends was enough for a crucial 10-6 win. S6 meanwhile were involved in a real battle, 2-1 up went 2-3 down and then 4-3 up. The seventh end proved pivotal when they scored three shots and another three count on the final end saw them home by 10-4. Unfortunately S4 were unable to get their third consecutive win of the day, in a game where they were unable to recover from a slow start. Finding themselves 0-8 behind proved too much to claw back and the game was lost 4-10.

Overall the match finished with a Suffolk win 22-14 (shots: 153 - 122).

Suffolk had been made to work very hard for the win, by a Hertfordshire team who showed great determination and ability. There was very little between the teams all day and maybe home advantage was enough to swing the match in Suffolk's favour.

Every Suffolk rink had contributed points to the victory, but particular mention should go to S2 who won all of their games.

The win keeps Suffolk at the top of the league and extends their lead over Hertfordshire to seventeen points. Suffolk's final league match of the season is at home against Cambridgeshire, at Needham Market on Sunday 15 March (10.30am start).

Neil Jolly (County Captain)