



# *Suffolk* **Carpet Bowls** *Association*

SCBA Website is [www.carpetbowls.org/suffolk](http://www.carpetbowls.org/suffolk)

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

Held at Needham Market Community Centre on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

Before the Meeting proper the Chairman welcomed Peter Dent (**PD**) from East Bergholt Carpet Bowls Club.

The Meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

Those Present: John Varden (**JV**) Chairman, Sally Goodrich (**SG**) Vice Chairman, Keith Jolly (**KJ**) Treasurer, Neil Jolly (**NJ**), Richard Sago (**RS**), Keith Hull (**KH**), Peter Elmy (**PE**), Andy Gilder (**AG**), Mick Watkins (**MW**), Bill Damant (**BD**), Andy Pooley (**AP**), Jim Goodrich (**JG**).

1. **Apologies for absence:**

Jane Sago and Ian Hunt.

2. **Approval of the Minutes:**

The Minutes of the meeting held 15<sup>th</sup> January 2018 were approved. Proposed by Andy Gilder, seconded by Andy Pooley and duly signed.

3. **Matters Arising:**

JV - the position of Secretary was still vacant.

A nomination for the position of Treasurer had been received and will be taken forward to the AGM.

The presentation to the retiring Needham Market Community Centre hall manager had been undertaken by MW.

The practice match with the New Zealand team had been arranged for Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May prior to the International match at the ECBA Festival of Bowls being held at Potters Leisure at Hopton-on-Sea.

No further matters for discussion.

4. **Correspondence:**

No correspondence received.

5. **Chairman's Report:**

I would like to start my report by thanking all those who have helped with the setting up and putting away of all the mats and equipment at the many events recently held at Needham Market. It is greatly appreciated and saves putting the workload on just a few committed committee members each time.

The recent snow and ice has, not surprisingly, had an impact on the Winter League fixtures with some matches being carried into April, but we recognize this cannot always be avoided.

Since our last Executive Committee Meeting, Clint Watling won the Random Triples at Needham Market following, not only a very competitive event, but also a most enjoyable day's bowling.

The Suffolk Closed Pairs competition was held over two dates due to the high level of entries, which is very encouraging, and produced two pairs from Barking and two from Kelsale, together with pairs from Knodishall, Old Felixstowe, Hoggards Green and Gt Blakenham qualifying for the finals. Individual bowlers' names are, as always, on the website. The finals will be on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April.

The Joe Rice Cup has now reached the final following Claydon's win over Stanningfield and Brockley's victory over Needham Market. The final will be on Wed 11<sup>th</sup> April and, as is customary, it will be combined with the final of the Chairman's Plate competition between Gt Blakenham, who overcame the challenge of Old Felixstowe and Chelmondiston, who won through against Bildeston. This should prove to be an enjoyable and very competitive evening.

The Winter League Finals will take place on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April when we will be presenting the cheque for £1300 to our chosen charity, The John Le-Vay Cancer Support Centre at Ipswich Hospital. I look forward to meeting with Debbie Logan to present the cheque which reflects the generosity of all those who took part in the Charity Fours event and shows our commitment to those less fortunate than ourselves.

As Chairman, I would like to congratulate all members of the Suffolk County Team who, following a great victory over Norfolk yesterday, succeeded in retaining the Eastern Counties League Title. No doubt our County Captain will have more to say in his report.

I would like to close my report by asking members to give some thought to the forthcoming AGM on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June. Volunteers to join the committee are always welcome to ensure the views of all bowlers in Suffolk are heard.

**6. Secretary's Report:**

KJ reported that the Summer League entry form had been sent out to all clubs either by email or hard copy.

There had been some changes to the contact list and these are detailed at the end of these minutes.

Nothing further to report.

**7. Treasurers Report:**

KJ circulated the current balance sheet to members and asked if there were any questions.

Proposed by BD seconded by RS that the balance sheet be accepted.

KJ reported that he had agreed with RS/JS that raffle proceeds – expenditure receipts from the JRC/CP quarter and semi- finals and the forthcoming finals night would be collected following this event.

MW had (tonight) given KJ the balance of the pair's competition entry fees and the singles entry fees together with raffle proceeds from the pairs.

Hire of Hall accounts for March are outstanding. Two hundred 2nd class stamps (£112.00) have been purchased but not included in this balance sheet.

Taking the above into account plus reimbursement from the ECCBA for hall charges I anticipate that the total income to year end to be approximately £20137.

However, would be expenditure to year end would be approximately £20544 this could mean a potential shortfall of just over £400 for the year.

This may have been expected due to the fact that public liability insurance for the Association had been purchased for the first time this year.

There will be one more meeting before the AGM when any potential loss may become more apparent and then might be the appropriate time to discuss any increase of the fees.

KJ has spoken to the nominated treasurer and it has been agreed with them that I will continue my duties until the AGM. In the meantime I will supply information to them for their perusal.

#### **8. Match Secretary's Report:**

JG reported due to the recent inclement weather conditions some teams had requested an extension to the Winter League. JG had agreed to this with the teams involved.

Some teams are requesting a Summer League geographical switch (for various reasons). The Committee would leave this JG to consider when all the Summer League teams are known.

East Bergholt had asked if their home fixtures could start before 7.30pm (i.e 7.15pm), this was due to a playing venue change.

JV invited PD to comment and PD advised this matter was open for discussion with the new hall management.

JG reported that only 3 teams competing in the Winter League out of 40 have to date consistently played with a full team of 16. JG was requested to present a full analysis at the next meeting to enable that data and the playing format for the 2018/19 winter league season to be discussed.

#### **9. County Captain's Report:**

Since our last Committee meeting, we have played our final three ECCBA league matches. Prior to that in our first two matches, we had won 20-16 away to both Hertfordshire & Cambridgeshire, albeit we had not played well.

We were hoping for an upturn in performance in our next match, at home against Essex. We made a good start to the match & at the halfway stage we were comfortably 14-4 ahead. Unfortunately we did not have a good afternoon & we struggled on our way to another 20-16 win. This left us in third place in the league, a few points behind both Cambridgeshire & Hertfordshire.

In our penultimate match, we were at home again, this time against Bedfordshire. If we wanted to improve our chances of defending the league title, a much improved performance & a big win was needed. The team delivered, generally we played better, we maintained our performance level throughout the day & finished with a massive 33-3 win. This took us to the top of the league, six points ahead of Hertfordshire.

The final round of league matches saw us travel to Norfolk & Hertfordshire playing away at third place Cambridgeshire. Right from the start of our match at Norfolk, we were on our game and it was just a case of could we maintain that level of performance throughout the day. We did & this took us to a well deserved & significant 30-6 win.

Whilst Hertfordshire also won their match, Suffolk are ECCBA league champions & this is for the eighth consecutive season. It's not be an easy league season for the team, but that makes the winning all the more rewarding. The Suffolk bowlers continue to do their county proud, not just with their ability but also in the manner in which they play the game.

Looking ahead, the squad's next event is the Six Counties Championship at Littleport Leisure Centre on Sunday 8 April & we are the defending champions. Counties take turns to host this event & this year is Suffolk's turn. I will cover this in my ECCBA report.

#### **10. ECCBA Report:**

There has not been an ECCBA meeting since our last Committee meeting.

However as mentioned in the Captain's Report, it is Suffolk's turn to host the Six Counties Championship, at Littleport Leisure Centre on Sunday 8 April.

I've had a preliminary conversation with the ECCBA secretary and I am hopeful that the equipment can all be sourced/ provided locally. However if more sets of bowls, scoreboards, etc are needed, I will liaise with Mick Watkins.

Paul Daniels will run the event scoring on the day, so we don't need to worry about that.

SG has already kindly agreed to buy the required £90 of raffle prizes, the SCBA will be refunded £80 from the ECCBA & other counties.

However what we do need are volunteers to help set up & run the raffle on the day. This is the SCBA's responsibility, not the county team, as they will be bowling all day.

JV thanked the County Captain and his selectors for all their workload throughout the season and SG for undertaking the raffle at home matches.

#### **11. ECBA Report**

MW advised the Committee that the ECBA had not held a meeting since he last reported.

The ECBA AGM will be held in April.

The ECBA had circulated a draft revised Code of Conduct to all Counties for their comments.

This will be more stringent and allow the ECBA to take appropriate action in the event of a disciplinary incident. The new Code of Conduct will also include reference to social media.

MW advised the Committee that he would not be continuing as a National Referee.

#### **12. Forthcoming Events:**

Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> March: Suffolk Closed Singles

*Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> April: ECCBA Six Counties Championships (at Littleport Leisure Centre)*

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April: Joe Rice & Chairman's Plate Finals

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April: Winter League Finals

Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> April: Suffolk Closed Championship Finals

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> May: East v West

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> May: Bury League v Suffolk League

*Monday 14<sup>th</sup> – Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May: Festival of Bowls (at Potters)*

Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> May: ECCBA Champion of Champions

All the above to be held at Needham Market Community Centre apart from those in *italics*

Where it was needed, cover has been arranged to set up and clear away equipment.

MW reminded those helpers that the Suffolk Singles would start at 9am.

#### **13. Any other business:**

JV – Charity cheque to be presented on 18<sup>th</sup> April and arrangements will be made for a representative of the John Le Vey Prostate Cancer Unit to be present.

KJ- (forgot to mention earlier) the yearly subscription to the Indoor Bowler magazine had been paid and AG would be the sole contributor on behalf of the Association, he would also take delivery of the magazines.

MW informed the Committee he would not be standing for re-election at the forthcoming AGM. Therefore he would standing down from his duties as the Association's ECBA representative, co-ordinating the Suffolk Closed Competitions, arranging the hall bookings and he would not be a keyholder for the Needham Market Community Centre.

JV offered his thanks to MW for all of the hard work that he has done over the years and his input at Committee meetings, both of which would be sorely missed.

AP suggested that a master scoresheet be implemented in the Joe Rice Cup and Chairman's Plate quarter, semi-final and finals, as in league matches.

NJ agreed that we need to change what we do, to alleviate any potential scoring dispute at the end of any given match, which could arise currently with team captains running only their own scoresheets. NJ suggested that individual game scorecards be used, which skips can sign at the end of each game, as a true record of the score. These would then be handed in to the SCBA representative running that evening, to collate the scores of each match. The SCBA would need to purchase some (8) mini clipboards for use on these evenings & pens.

It was proposed by BD and seconded by SG and agreed unanimously that individual scorecards be used in future.

AG referred to the earlier Match Secretary's report. JG should be allowed to resolve any league match related issue, without the need to bring them forward to the Committee. In general this was agreed.

AG - on behalf of Barking Carpet Bowls Club he apologised for the incident that happened between Barking and Claydon during their Joe Rice Cup quarter final match.

JV apologised on behalf of the Association for the incorrect wording displayed on our website regarding the result of the Barking / Claydon match.

NJ – following this incident he has looked at the Winter League rule relating to the drawing out of bowler(s), in the event that a team is short of bowlers. NJ read out the existing rule and his suggested revised wording.

JV – requested that the revised rule wording be circulated to all Committee members and this will then be discussed at the next meeting.

JV hoped that PD had an interesting evening and had seen first-hand how the SCBA Committee works.

Next Meeting Monday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2018 at Needham Market Community Centre.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm.

#### Contact changes

Hitcham: Dot Hounsell , 13 The Ranch Mobile Home Park, Hitcham IP7 7LW Tel: 01449 741113

Tuddenham St Martin: Keith Hull, 15 Glencoe Road, Ipswich IP4 3PS Tel: 01473 711274

(Email address remains the same)

Westhorpe: Jeff Moore, Little Thatch, The Green, Westhorpe, Stowmarket IP14 4SR

Email: [jeffmoore297@hotmail.com](mailto:jeffmoore297@hotmail.com) Tel: 01449 780090

Wisset: Bill Simpson: Email: [billcsimpson@outlook.com](mailto:billcsimpson@outlook.com)