



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 on 17 January 2022 (Zoom Online meeting)

Those Present: Andy Gilder (**AG**) – Chairman, Sally Goodrich (**SAG**) - Vice Chair, Neil Jolly (**NJ**), Paul Daniels (**PD**), Andy Pooley (**AP**), Jim Goodrich (**JG**), Clint Watling (**CW**), Peter Dent (**PD1**), Tom Runnacles (**TR**)

Apologies received from Adam Hubbard (**AH**). Richard Sago (**RS**), Jane Sago (**JS**) & Sue Gilder (**SG**).

1. **Chairman's report:** I really have not a lot to say at the moment. I have received mixed feelings from members regarding what we are doing now by way of restrictions and protocols, but I believe everyone understands that it is down to how the individual clubs feel at the moment.

My main concern is in which direction we would like to go regarding getting large numbers of players together in competition format. The wearing of masks for a complete day rather than just a couple of hours for an evening and how competitors would feel about it, and more importantly how it would be policed. I do understand that some people must wear masks for the day anyway, so are they being affected wearing them again at night?

Balancing the promotional and practical elements of the “restart” is difficult and very important to get right, we need to make any decision honestly and with as much information as we can, for the benefit of us all.

2. **Secretary's report:** There was nothing to report from PD1 & no contact from any of the clubs.
3. **Treasurer's report:** PD had nothing to report.
4. **Match Secretary's report:** There was nothing to report from RS, any matters regarding Closed Competitions would have to wait until we knew the outcome of the Government lifting their Plan B restrictions.
5. **County Captains report:** TR advised there was nothing to report.
6. **ECBA report:** NJ advised that the ECBA had an online meeting this coming Saturday. To be discussed would be the National Championships & whether Potters would continue to be used as the venue, due mainly to recently increased cost. The guidance for playing carpet bowls would also be discussed, & the current ECBA recommendations would ultimately depend on government guidance & individual choice.
7. **ECCBA report.** TR reported that nothing had been heard yet from the Eastern Counties.

- 8. Reaction to current situation regarding Covid & any playing restrictions:** In general terms no specific issues or problems had been advised. JG reported back that at a recent short mat bowls game, everyone also appeared to be following the guidance. At the end of the day it was up to the individual clubs as to what procedures should be followed & or what their playing venues stipulate.
- 9. Upcoming Competitions:** JG/SG confirmed they still hold trophies purchased pre-pandemic & it was agreed that these can be used (changing the dates on the plates) for our upcoming events. Generally, no decisions can be made until after 26 January, when the Government Plan B is due to be reviewed. It was hoped that the Pairs Qualifying will be played on 27 February as scheduled & the entry forms could be prepared and sent out as soon after the 26 January as possible. The Singles (scheduled for 6th February) should be cancelled, and a later date fixed. Triples (13 March) & Fours (3 April) will be played in a single day & subject to entry numbers, we may be able to do the same with the Singles & Pairs. There was a discussion as to whether there should be a cap on the number of entries, but as they are all open to all SCBA club bowlers, we could not restrict as to numbers.
- 10. Any other business:** CW queried whether the 2022 Champion of Champions & Nationals had both venues and date finalised. NJ confirmed the Champion of Champions event was set at Stanley on weekend of 4/5 June. The Nationals is set for 4 – 7 November at Potters but that this had not yet been finalised & alternative venues were to be discussed. NJ asked for opinions as to whether going forward, any evidence of vaccination evidence should be required to enable entry to our SCBA events. This topic was up for discussion at the upcoming ECBA meeting, so it would be interesting to hear views. A general discussion took place & it was agreed that this would be very difficult to enforce & administer. PD said that possibly all restrictions might be lifted by March making planning much easier. NJ confirmed the meeting action points - Singles Qualifying Sunday (6 February) to be postponed, NJ to email Needham Market Community Centre to cancel the booking, identify any alternative dates & all clubs to be advised, RS to prepare entry form for Pairs, with our final decision to wait until after 26 January. AP reported that currently over 200 individuals were following the Suffolk Carpet Bowls Facebook page.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.30pm

Date of next meeting: TBA