



Suffolk **Carpet Bowls** *Association*

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Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the Suffolk Carpet Bowls Association held at Needham Market Community Centre on Monday 7th September 2026 – 7:30pm

Those Present: Andy Gilder **AG** (Chairman), Paul Daniels **PD** (Treasurer), Lauren De Banks **LDB** (Secretary), Richard Sago **RS** (Match Secretary), Andy Pooley **AP** (Media Secretary), Frank Wilkin **FW**, Sue Gilder **SCG**, Jane Sago **JS**, Adam Hubbard **AH**

1. Apologies for absence: Neil Jolly **NJ** (Vice Chairman), Sally Goodrich **SG** (County Captain), Jim Goodrich **JG**

2. Approval of previous minutes:

The minutes of the meeting held on 29th June 2026 were proposed by **FW**, seconded by **PD** and approved and signed by the Chair.

3. Matters arising:

No matters arising.

4. Chairman's Report:

AG: Good evening my friends, good to see you all after such a long time, I hope you all had a good break and great holidays. There has been little going on in the bowls world for the past few weeks so there is little to report, but there are a couple of things I need to say.

It was a sad, sad day when we learned of the passing of our Life President David Schofield. On Monday 26th July, David Jeffery Schofield passed away in the nursing home where he was residing. He had been suffering from dementia and had had a number of falls; he passed peacefully in his bed. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his wife Jane and the rest of his family and friends.

David was one of the people responsible for starting the SCBA, ECCBA, the ECBA and was chairman for many years. He did so much for carpet bowls, it would take a book to cover everything. Suffice to say when he started Meld Leisure with Lynn, Tony and Biddy Webber he started a revolution in carpet bowls holidays, from annual competitions to pure holidays which included bowls, they were a resounding success.

David not only was successful in carpet bowls, he played outdoor bowls to a good standard, just to be with Jane, eventually becoming President of Suffolk outdoor bowls too.

It would take several pages for me to cover all of David's achievements, my apologies for missing the ones I have.

God bless David and may he rest in peace.

It was also a very sad day when learning of the passing of Roy Lonsborough. Roy passed away in the care home where he was residing. He had become a recluse, shunning away his friends of which he had many, his funeral was a sombre affair with few in attendance. His passing only came to light through word of mouth.

Roy was a founder member of Barking Carpet Bowls Club, he captained the team for many years, he played for the county for a long time, becoming one of the most consistent players in the squad. He won several bowls titles including the Suffolk triples, Suffolk fours and the Champion of Champions title on many occasions. He made many

friends along the way. Our thoughts go out to his family.

Well, I'm not sure how we follow that, but life must go on, I'm sure they would want that to happen, so onward we go...

5. Treasurer's Report:

PD: Accounts to date -

This year's Membership and Insurance took rather longer than usual to get finally sorted out. It was mid-August before the final responses came in, and even then, there were two clubs from whom we were unable to get any response: Badwell Ash and Capel St Mary.

Obviously, it's sad to lose these clubs, but it will also have a negative impact on this year's accounts given that our premium is based on the number of clubs we assume are going to renew.

More than one of the latecomers were clubs that are members only and don't take out insurance, forgetting that they need to be members in order to enter the League for the forthcoming season. So next year it might be an idea to amalgamate the Membership and Insurance with the League and Cup entry form; not only would that act as a reminder to all clubs to pay their membership fee, but it would also save on postage for clubs who don't use email or BACS.

It was agreed to amalgamate the membership and insurance with the Winter League/Cup entry form.

AG confirmed that clubs need to respond when requests for information are made as this impacts the work PD and the committee are doing.

6. Match Secretary's Report:

RS: We have had 26 teams playing in the Summer league this year and a good season was had by most clubs.

Group A was won by Withersfield.

Group B was won by Elmsett.

Group C was won by Barking

Group D was won by Claydon

Group E was won by Chelmondiston (on the last game of the season)

Results from a good finals night last week,

	Barking	Chelmo	Claydon	Elmsett	Withers	Pts	For	Agst	Pos
Barking		12-2	6-8	3-12	10-5	4	31	27	3rd
Chelmo	2-12		8-10	8-5	7-9	2	25	36	5th
Claydon	8-6	10-8		5-9	12-4	6	35	27	1st
Elmsett	12-3	5-8	9-5		6-10	4	32	26	2nd
Withersfield	5-10	9-7	4-12	10-6		4	28	35	4th

Key: Fours Pairs

Winter League season starts with the first game between Whatfield and Hitcham tomorrow (8th Sept).

I am still waiting for a few fixtures lists to come in but the spreadsheet is almost complete.

The entry form for the SCBA Fours is now ready to be sent out to clubs / website.

7. Captain's Report:

SG: Suffolk has had a nice Summer's break, but we now start looking for new players and all the extra's that go with league matches and competitions.

My thoughts for our charity on the 4th October ECCBA Teambowl would be cancer related. Also, as have lost David Schofield as Life President; not a necessary position to fill. Nationals at Potters is fast approaching: 6th to 9th November, which we can watch on YouTube.

The first County Game at Needham Market is Hertfordshire on 22nd November then Suffolk at home to Bedfordshire on 13th December, Suffolk at home to Essex on 17th January, away to Norfolk on the 21st February and lastly away to Cambridgeshire on 21st March.

8. ECBA Report:

NJ: Nothing to report since last meeting.

We have the ECBA Triples on 13th September and an online ECBA meeting on 19th September which **NJ** will report on at the SCBA Committee next meeting.

9. ECCBA Report

PD: 4th October is the ECCBA Team Bowl. I asked SG about the charity, she thought Blood Cancer UK but wanted to ask committee opinion. All agreed this was a good idea.

AG added that he had asked for clarification about what was expected of Suffolk at the Team Bowl (4th October). I haven't had a reply to confirm any of the details. A discussion was held around this and details were confirmed.

10. Media Secretary's Report:

AP: Nothing to report.

11. Winter League

RS: Nothing to add.

12. David Schofield – Life President

AG: David was Life President of the SCBA. The life presidency of the SCBA can either cease or we can elect a new Life President.

RS added that there is nothing in the constitution to say that there should be one.

A discussion was held and it was agreed to cease the position with David Schofield.

In memory of David, there will be a tournament in his name. Do we try to add another name in the calendar or rename a current event?

A discussion was held amongst the committee with a proposal to be made to the county squad at the end of September for agreement for the 2027 tournaments.

13. Forthcoming events:

13th September – ECBA Triples – Littleport

27th September – Chairman's Triples

4th October – ECCBA Team bowl – Littleport

14. Any Other Business:

AG: I received an email from Sally stating that she wishes to step down as County Captain due to personal reasons. She will fulfill the role until the end of the year if no one else wishes to take it on. I need to ask what you think about this.

It was agreed it was wise to relieve Sally of her duties after the TeamBowl but a discussion with the selectors was needed about who could step in. AG and NJ to hold a meeting with the current captain and selectors to discuss future plans.

NJ: A replacement tub pot for the measures, etc is needed. **SCG** agreed to sort this.

Meeting closed: 8.32pm

Next meeting: Monday 26th October 2026 – Needham Market

Attachments with minutes:

SCBA 2026/27 calendar,
Squad Trials flyer & Entry Form
Suffolk Fours entry form
ECBA Festival flyer & entry form