

EASTERN COUNTIES CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at The Racing Centre, Newmarket, on Thursday 18th June 2015 at 8.00pm

Present: Officers: M. Walker – Chairman (also representing Bedfordshire)
M. Giddens – Secretary & Treasurer
County Representatives: B. Giddens (Cambs), M. Bennet (Essex), P. Cook (Herts),
G. Sutton (Norfolk) and N. Jolly (Suffolk)

1. Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from the League/Tournament Secretary – P. Daniels, P. Orrin (Essex), and G. Savage (Bedfordshire).

2. Minutes from Previous Annual General Meeting

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 19th June 2014 were agreed as a true record and signed.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Chairman's Report

The Chairman congratulated Suffolk on their record of wins and for winning the League with such a big score. Also well done to Hertfordshire for being runners up in the League and to Cambridgeshire for their success at the National Champion of Champions.

The dress code was remarked upon relating to the Champion of Champions this year where at the Eastern Counties there was one person not complying and two at the English. It was asked that all counties remind their players of the dress code.

The Chairman reported that it had been a successful year and he had enjoyed his term in office.

5. Secretary & Treasurer's Report

There was nothing to report from the Secretary side of business.

The Audited Statement of Account for the year ending 30th April 2015 was issued. It was noted a change in Auditor to Karyn Chivers as the Treasurer was no longer in contact with the previous Auditor. Karyn audits the East Cambs CBA accounts and Maureen was grateful that she was also prepared to audit the Eastern Counties accounts.

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5. Secretary & Treasurer's Report - continued

The accounts stand at: Business Saver Account £2,064.55, Community Account £177.33 and Cash £58.78 being a total of £2,300.66

Overall there was a loss of over £500.00. This loss was mainly due to the cost of hall hire for the league matches. Where the counties incur the higher costs this has an effect when they have three home matches.

Relating to the home matches a couple of comments were made. Hertfordshire advised their equipment is stored at Ware so it would be difficult to use a different venue. Braintree advised that all catering facilities have now been removed from the Braintree Leisure Centre.

Acceptance of the accounts as presented was proposed by Essex, seconded by Norfolk and agreed by all counties.

6. League & Tournament Secretary's Report

The winners of the Eastern Counties events were:

Inter-County League – Suffolk

Charity Teambowl – Suffolk

Six Counties Championships – Suffolk

Champion of Champions:

Singles Essex – Trevor Holbrow

Pairs Suffolk – David O'Brien and Andy Pooley

Triples Norfolk – Mike & Val Bond and Mick Fisher

Fours Suffolk – Tom, Sam, Rita & Peter Runnacles

Team Suffolk

7. Election of Officers

Mike Walker had previously advised he was standing down as Chairman and at all the recent events this had been advised but no nominations had been put forward.

Paul was happy to continue as League & Tournament Secretary and Maureen was happy to continue as Secretary & Treasurer

With these Officers willing to continue, Bedfordshire proposed they were voted in block, seconded by Suffolk and with all counties in favour, the following Officers were re-elected:

Secretary & Treasurer	Maureen Giddens
League & Tournament Secretary	Paul Daniels

With no elected Chairman Mike Walker advised he was prepared to continue to Chair the meeting.

Norfolk thanked the Officers for their work.

The Auditor Karyn Chivers confirmed she was willing to continue and all were in agreement to continue with the same Auditor.

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8. Fees

The Treasurer had looked at the costs predicted for next year and based on these forecasted a loss of around £400.00. The bank balance that would be considered as a minimum amount needed could not continue to absorb such high losses each year.

After discussion on the income from the events and costs relating to the league, the Treasurer proposed that fees are increased to £3.50 per player. This would apply to the 24 players in the county team and the 10 players in the champion of champions within each county. This proposal was agreed by all counties.

The Treasurer proposed the Annual Subscription of £60.00 remained the same. This was agreed by all counties.

It was advised the Annual Subscription is due for payment by the end of July and the League Fees payable in advance by the end of October.

9. Proposal from Hertfordshire re Scoring Method at Eastern Counties Events

The proposal from Hertfordshire as included on the Agenda was to amend the scoring method to:

Shots difference is used rather than shots scored as the first determining factor in deciding positions when teams are level on points.

The League & Competitions Secretary Paul Daniels forwarded his comments:

“While I agree with the argument put forward for changing the rule, the greater value will always be placed on whether or not a game has been won rather than the shots scored. In a round robin event, if you win all the games you will win overall, regardless of how many shots you have scored. Having had a quick look back over the last 5 ECCBA Champion of Champions results, the proposed change, as far as I can tell, would not have affected anything but some minor positions. The overall winners would have remained unchanged. I therefore believe that we should stay in line with the ECBA and keep the rule as it is”

Norfolk seconded the proposal and all counties gave their views as follows:

Norfolk – most of their competitions are shots scored.

Essex – the proposal is looking at the winners point of view.

Suffolk – with shots difference the players are more conscious of shots.

Hertfordshire – reiterated the reason for their proposal is that in their opinion this is a fairer method, as a 10-0 win is much more convincing than an 11-10 win.

Cambridgeshire – prefer shots scored as they are what have been achieved.

Bedfordshire – not worried either way but would prefer to leave as it is.

Following discussion the proposal was voted upon:

In favour 1, against 5. With the majority against the proposal, the scoring method will remain the same.

10. Meeting Dates

The next meeting date and the AGM for 2016 were arranged for:

Extraordinary General Meeting – to be held on Thursday 8th October 2015 following by a Committee Meeting

Annual General Meeting - Thursday 16th June 2015

All to be held at The Racing Centre, Newmarket at 8.00pm

11. Any Other Business

Appointment of Chairman

The position of Chairman will need to be appointed at the EGM. All counties are to make enquiries to find someone otherwise at the EGM a county will be drawn out and that county will be required to take on this role. Maureen felt that with Paul being League & Tournament Secretary and her being Secretary & Treasurer both Suffolk and Cambridgeshire should be excluded from being drawn to fill the Chairman role should this situation arise. Mike added that Bedfordshire should also be excluded as he was not prepared to continue in this role.

In the meantime, the Charity Teambowl will take place which is being hosted by Hertfordshire and at that event they will need to carry out the presentations.

The resigning Chairman – Mike Walker, was thanked for all the work he has carried out over the years.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.05 pm.

In confirmation of the foregoing minutes.

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Chairman

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Date