

# **EASTERN COUNTIES CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION**

## **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at the New Astley Club, Newmarket, on Thursday 20th June 2013 at 8.00pm**

Present: Officers: M. Walker, M. Giddens, P. Daniels  
County Representatives: B. Giddens (Cambs), P. Cook (Herts), N. Jolly (Suffolk)  
M. Bushe (Essex), G. Sutton (Norfolk) and J. Emms (Norfolk)

### **1. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Mr G. Savage (Bedfordshire)

### **2. Minutes from Previous Annual General Meeting**

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 21st June 2012 were agreed as a true record and signed.

### **3. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

### **4. Chairman's Report**

The Chairman reported that it was another good year, with no problems.

The Chairman then updated the meeting on the English regarding the potential change of date in 2014 for the National Counties Championships at Potters. With a change to either the end of November or brought forward to October, this will need to be sorted at the next English meeting. Potters have been asked to provide a fixed date for this event which is likely to be in October.

### **5. Secretary & Treasurer's Report**

The Audited Statement of Account for the year ending 30th April 2013 was issued.

Business Saver Account £2,761.28, Community Account £115.98 and Cash £64.32 being a total of £2,941.58

Overall there was a loss of around £200. From the analysis of each event this was due to the cost of hall hires for the league matches. It was pointed out that the cost of hall hires will be higher some years depending on whether the counties with the higher costs have two or three home matches. The other events had more or less broke even and the annual subscription covered other costs.

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

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**5. Secretary & Treasurer's Report**

Contacts List

The contact details were reviewed and apart from Hertfordshire, there was no other change. An updated list will be circulated with these minutes.

**6. League & Tournament Secretary's Report**

Paul Daniels congratulated Suffolk on winning the Eastern Counties League.

The paperwork and arrangements for the Teambowl being held in September 2013 was raised by Essex who will be hosting the event and the details were confirmed.

Jill Emms advised the Champion of Champions being hosted by Norfolk on the 11th May 2014 will be held at Hingham.

**7. Election of Officers**

With no other nominations and the present Officers willing to continue, Norfolk proposed the existing Officers were elected in block. Seconded by Suffolk. With all counties in favour, the following Officers were re-elected:

Chairman	Mike Walker
Secretary & Treasurer	Maureen Giddens
League & Tournament Secretary	Paul Daniels

The present Auditor Billy Wilson confirmed he was willing to continue and all were in agreement to continue with the same Auditor.

**8. Fees**

Although it would be expected to see a small increase in costs for this next season but bearing in mind Braintree will see a reduction in cost, the Treasurer recommended the fees remain the same at £60.00 Annual Subscription and £3.00 per player for all events.

This was seconded by Norfolk and all were in agreement.

It was noted the Annual Subscription is to be paid by the end of July and the League Fees payable in advance by the end of October.

**9. Proposals re Rules**

The proposals relating to the Rules as put forward from the previous Committee Meeting, were taken in the two parts.

Part i. Relating to Registration. From the proposed wording shown, this was amended to read:

Once played in a closed competition or county team match for a county, that is the county you have chosen to represent for that season, and is the only county in which you can play in either closed competitions or county team events during that season.

In discussion it was enquired how this ruling can be policed as it is known that some players who are in one county have taken part in closed competitions in another county.

It was decided that it is up to each county to ensure all their clubs are fully aware of the rules but suggested this ruling could be put on the entry form and would be left for the counties to action.

Part ii. Relating to League Match Postponement. After the first paragraph, to add:

Should a match need to be rearranged, every effort should be made for the match to be played before the last set of matches are played.

All counties were in agreement with the above proposals. An updated copy of the rules will be issued with these minutes.

**10. Any Other Business**

i. Open Tournaments

The Chairman raised the matter of numbers dropping with the open competitions and that we are not making enough use of the web page to advise details. To inform as many people as possible, if details are passed to Paul Daniels, he will place them on the Eastern Counties website.

ii. Eastern Counties Funds

Norfolk (Jill Emms) enquired what the Eastern Counties plans are with the amount of money they have in their account. The Treasurer responded that although it would be anticipated around break-end or maybe a small loss suffered another year, she felt a cushion of around £3,000 was not excessive and as any future increase in costs could not be assumed would be too high, she would not like to see a reduction in the amount held. With this in mind, should the finances be reduced would not feel happy in then having to increase charges should an unforeseen situation arise.

The Chairman commented that it is due to the prudent manner in which the accounts are handled, and with other counties in agreement and not wanting to see too much of a drop in finances, the general view was to remain as it is.

**10. Any Other Business - continued**

iii. League Match Venues

Each county advised their home venues would be the same as last year unless informed otherwise.

iv. Dress Code

The Chairman reminded counties of the Dress Code to be followed at Eastern Counties events, in particular that of no blue jeans.

**11. Meeting Dates**

The next meeting date and the meeting dates for 2014 were arranged for:

- Committee Meeting - Thursday 10th October 2013
- Committee Meeting - Thursday 13th March 2014
- Annual General Meeting - Thursday 19th June 2014

All to be held at the New Astley Club, Newmarket at 8.00pm

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9.10 pm.

In confirmation of the foregoing minutes.

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Chairman

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Date