

# **EASTERN COUNTIES CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION**

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting  
held at The Racing Centre, Newmarket, on Thursday 20th June 2018 at 8.00pm**

Present: Officers: G. Sutton – Chairman  
M. Giddens – Secretary & Treasurer  
P. Daniels – League & Tournament Secretary

County Representatives:  
M. Walker - Bedfordshire, B. Giddens - Cambridgeshire, G. Evans - Essex,  
M. Cook - Hertfordshire, M Fisher - Norfolk and N. Jolly - Suffolk

## **1. Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from G. Savage – Bedfordshire, P. Orrin – Essex, and P. Cook – Hertfordshire.

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

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on the 15th June 2017 were agreed as a true record and signed.

## **3. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

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

The Chairman gave the following report:

I would like to thank Maureen and Paul for all their hard work during the past season and to all the delegates of the counties.

Thanks to all counties who have ran ECCBA tournaments during the last season.

Congratulations to Suffolk for winning the Eastern Counties League, to Cambridgeshire for winning the Six Counties Championships and to Suffolk for winning the Teambowl and the National Championships at Potters.

Congratulations to all the winners of the Champion of Champions at the Eastern Counties and to the players from the Eastern Counties in winning all the disciplines at the English Champion of Champions, especially to Hertfordshire for doing so well at the Nationals.

The Chairman thought this was the first time ever that in December all the league matches were postponed due to the snow. All counties were thanked for rearranging their games so quickly.

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

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

Treasurers Report:

The Audited Statement of Account for the year ending 30th April 2018 was issued showing a balance of £3,497.39 giving a profit of £497.40.

The Treasurer said the profit was higher than predicted being helped by the cost of hall hire with moving the Six Counties Championships from Braintree to Littleport.

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

The Treasurer wished to record her thanks to Karyn Chivers for auditing the accounts.

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

The League & Tournament Secretary reported that all had gone well even with the match postponements.

The results of all events were:

Inter-County League – Suffolk

Six Counties – Cambridgeshire

Teambowl – Suffolk

Champion of Champions:

Singles – David Folkes (Cambridgeshire)

Pairs – Barry & Maureen Giddens (Cambridgeshire)

Triples – Clint Watling, Sam Runnacles & Tom Runnacles (Suffolk)

Fours – Jack Smalley, Paul Harris, Marilyn Cook & Jason Ellis (Hertfordshire)

Team - Cambridgeshire

**7. Election of Officers & Auditor**

The Chairman advised that although he had taken on other commitments but after taking everything into consideration was willing to continue. With all current Officers willing to continue and with no further nominations they were voted in block, proposed by Suffolk, seconded by Essex.

With all counties in agreement, the following Officers were re-elected:

Chairman	Gerald Sutton
Secretary & Treasurer	Maureen Giddens
League & Tournament Secretary	Paul Daniels

The Treasurer advised the current Auditor was willing to continue and proposed that Karyn Chivers remains as Auditor. All counties were in agreement.

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**8. Fees**

Firstly the Treasurer gave a forecast for next season which covered:

League - based on the number of league home matches for each county and the cost of their hall hires, a small profit was predicted.

Insurance – it is expected to see a small increase.

Champion of Champions – it is already known there is a £10.00 profit.

Six Counties – taking into account the cost of hall hire for next year the profit is expected to be less than this year.

From the above forecast the Treasurer proposed that all fees remain the same. These being Annual Subscription £60.00 per county, all other fees £3.50 per player.

This was seconded by Norfolk and agreed by all counties for the fees to remain the same.

The payment of fees being:

Annual Subscription is due by the end of July.

League Fees payable in advance by the end of October.

Teambowl, Six Counties Championships and Champion of Champions – either payment on the day or in advance of the event.

**9. Eastern Counties Rules**

Suffolk looked for clarification on the ruling regarding when a team arrives with a player short at a League Match as the current ruling regarding the deduction of 1 point per player could be misinterpreted.

With the current sentence of: “A deduction of 1 point per player short will be made from the final score”, it was agreed by all counties to amend this to read:

A deduction of 1 point per player short will be made from the final score (not 1 point per game). The final points for a team cannot be less than zero.

**10. Designated Diary Dates – League Matches**

The suggestion from Suffolk to reserve a Sunday in case of cancellation of a league match due to bad weather was discussed. The main points raised were the reserve date could only be set after the last match and the cost involved for booking a hall which may not be hired.

This last season all counties fitted in the rearranged matches within a short space of time.

It was decided that it was not practical to set a reserve date and the main thing was to play a rearranged match prior to the last game where possible.

**11. Mats at Littleport**

The quality of the mats at Littleport was raised as it was felt there are some that are not good enough to use for the county events.

Overall all counties thought the venue and the facilities were right at Littleport but were concerned the mats used would deter players taking part in the team when at Littleport.

Following discussions it was agreed to firstly find out how many mats need to be replaced, the storage facilities at Littleport, and if any county has any mats for sale or to donate. Bedfordshire will check the possibility of 4 mats that may be available that are currently in storage.

Hertfordshire also commented on the set of yellow woods which are used at Littleport and would look to donate some woods so that particular set would not be used.

It was agreed by all counties that the yellow woods will not be used for the Eastern Counties tournaments.

**12. Date of Next Meeting**

Meetings were arranged for the following dates, to be held at the Racing Centre, Newmarket at 8.00pm.

Committee Meeting: 11th October 2018  
Annual General Meeting: 20th June 2019

**13. Any Other Business**

i. Hall Hire Venue / Dates

The Treasurer advised she had a meeting with the Manager at Littleport to finalise the cost of hiring the main hall for the Teambowl and Six Counties. Their pricing structure has changed and although there will be an increase for this next season the hire will still be at a reasonable cost.

Car parking at Littleport was also mentioned to advise that cars are not allowed beyond the parking area unless being a blue badge holder or bringing equipment.

For booking the venue for future dates, the date of the Teambowl was queried as it was brought forward a week this year. It was agreed for the designated date for the Teambowl to be changed to the 3rd week in September. This to avoid clashing with another event where players would probably not be available for the Teambowl.

The designated dates for the Six Counties Championships and the Champion of Champions will remain as stated.

**13. Any Other Business - continued**

ii. Venues for Champion of Champions

Cambridgeshire checked on the venue for the Champion of Champions. It was advised that it is up to each county where it is held when it is their turn to host this event.

Cambridgeshire will be the hosts in 2019 and confirmed they will arrange within their county.

Norfolk will be the hosts in 2020 and asked Suffolk if they could book Needham Market. Suffolk will check the availability and confirm with Norfolk.

iii. Other Diary Dates

Cambridgeshire enquired when the National Champion of Champions will be held next year. Members of the English CBA present at the meeting advised it is still likely to be the same, the first week in June at Stanley.

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