

**Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
Held on Friday 16th June 2006
At The Norbreck Castle Hotel, Blackpool**

Present: All Outgoing Officers with the exception of the Vice Chairman Mr. J. Ellis
Representatives from: Cambridgeshire, Durham, Essex, Hertfordshire,
Northumberland, North Tyneside, South Tyneside, Suffolk, Sunderland.
Plus 30 approximately other attendees.

The Chairman opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the 15th Annual General Meeting of the ECBA.

Apologies for Absence

Vice Chairman Mr. J. Ellis

Minutes of last meeting.

It was agreed that the minutes of the last AGM should be signed by the Chairman as a true record.

Matters Arising.

No Matters Arising

Chairman's Report.

The Chairman read a written report. A copy of which is not available at present.

Secretary's Report.

At last years AGM the ECBA agreed to give clubs the opportunity to become affiliated members although we have not been inundated with numbers at least clubs now have the opportunity to join the ECBA.

During the year the committee has met on four occasions plus one EGM, the following decisions have been made at those meetings.

RULE CHANGES – If any changes to or new rules are agreed at an AGM then it is up to each County delegate to inform their players before play commences in the next competition. This would mean that if we agreed any rule changes this evening then they would be in place and players would be expected to play to those revised rules tomorrow morning at 9:30.

LEAFLETS – It was agreed that we should update the promotional leaflet. Unfortunately this has not been pursued as quickly as it could have been, some new photographs have been taken and I repeat the request made at the meeting in September for delegates to come to the next meeting with ideas for the written contents.

INSURANCE – A meeting took place in September regarding a tiered Insurance system for Carpet Bowls. This would start with Insurance for the Governing Body down to County Associations then down to clubs. Unfortunately I have not had time available to me during normal working hours to pursue this matter I will during the next few weeks get this situation resolved.

BOWLS ALLIANCE

For much of the year there has been very little movement with The Bowls Alliance. However since the turn of the year things have started to move with a draft agreement waiting to be put to the next committee meeting.

The Alliance is bringing together different codes of bowls to work together on points of common interest. But each code will retain its own identity and continue to take care of their own financial affairs.

It has been agreed that we should continue to attend these meetings till we have sufficient information available to decide if we wish to be fully involved with that body.

A number of enquiries for information regarding Carpet Bowls have been received from a variety of areas in the country, hopefully we shall have further news of some of these at the committee meetings during the year.

The ECBA Competition Results for the past year were:

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

SINGLES – NORTH TYNESIDE
PAIRS – SUFFOLK
TRIPLES – ESSEX
RINKS – NORTHUMBERLAND
TEAM – ESSEX

OPEN TRIPLES – NORTH LUFFENHAM – CAMBRIDGESHIRE

INTER COUNTY LEAGUE – SUFFOLK

NATIONAL COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS – SUFFOLK

OPEN RINKS – DURHAM

FESTIVAL OF CARPET BOWLS

SINGLES – CARL PEARSON - DURHAM
PAIRS – DOREEN AND DIRK VETTEWINKEL - ESSEX
RINKS – ROY LONSBOROUGH, STEPHEN CAIN, NEIL JOLLY, ALI GOODRICH - SUFFOLK

Congratulations to all our winners and many thanks to those that have hosted or contributed in any way to the organisation of any of our competitions.

Treasurer's Report.

Copies of the balance sheet were made available to all those present.

The accounts for the year closed on 30th April and show an increase in our bank balance compared to last year. This was mostly due to the money coming in from the Potters Mid Week Break

The combined balances show the Association having a total of £20,555.71 in its bank accounts.

Thanks were passed to Mrs. S. Withey who had audited the accounts on our behalf.

Clubs Requesting Affiliation to the ECBA

The following clubs have during the year requested affiliation to the ECBA; Selsey, West Sussex, Haynes and Clophill Bedfordshire. It was agreed unanimously that affiliation should be given to these clubs.

Correspondence.

Letters regarding statements made by the Chairman during the Mid Week break at Potters from both Cambridgeshire and Norfolk were read by the secretary. Copies are held on file. The Chairman responded by reading a pre-written statement of his own. A copy is not available.

Election of Officer's.

The Chairman past control of the meeting to the Secretary whilst the election of Chairman took place.

The Chairman was willing to stand for a further term and a nomination for Mr. J. Ellis by Cambridgeshire had also been received. Mr. Ellis was seconded by Hertfordshire.

Votes were cast as follows: 4 in favour of Mr. Cuthbert, 5 in favour of Mr. Ellis and 1 abstention by Suffolk.

At this point delegates and members of Durham, North Tyneside and Sunderland left the meeting shortly followed by Northumberland.

As Mr. Ellis was not present at the meeting the secretary continued holding the chair and asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman. Hertfordshire proposed and Norfolk seconded Mr. J. Smith. 6 counties voted in favour of Mr. Smith.

The 6 counties that remained in the meeting agreed that Mrs Hardy and Mrs. Southgate remained as Secretary, Treasurer respectively.

Mr. D. Storey had stated that he wished to stand down from the post of Referee, Mr. D. Russo was nominated by Cambridgeshire and with no other nominations it was agreed by 6 counties that Mr. Russo became referee.

There were no nominations for either Development Officer positions both will remain vacant.

Auditor – Mrs. Southgate asked the meeting to agree that Mrs. Withey who had audited the accounts this year was asked to do so at the end of the current financial year. Those counties present agreed to this request.

Mr. Jamie Smith – Vice Chairman to the position of Chairman for the remainder of the meeting.

Annual Membership.

The treasurer proposed that the annual membership fee for 2006/07 remains at £100.00

This was agreed unanimously by those present.

The Treasurer reminded all members that their fees are due within the next 28 days

Any Other Business

There were no items for discussion

With all matters concluded the meeting was declared closed at 9:07 p.m.



ENGLISH CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 16th JUNE 2006

CHAIRMANS REPORT

Welcome to the 15th AGM of the Association the first one at this venue.

Since the last AGM we have had the normal scheduled meetings at Rotherham in July and September 2005 and January and April 2006, in addition we had an extra general meeting immediately after the planned April meeting.

As we did last year I will let the secretaries report cover the detail of the competitions and restrict my comments to a very sincere thank you to every county and individual who has supported the ECBA over the last year, we hope for your continued support in the future.

As ever my personal thanks go to the officers on the committee all of these people deserve not just my thanks but yours as well for all the work they do throughout the season.

All of the County delegates should be fully up to speed on everything that has happened at our meetings since the last AGM so I will not need to go into detail during this report.

By our standards up until the last few weeks this had been a quiet year, other than an incident at Seacroft during the county championships. This incident has been discussed at length at the subsequent committee meetings culminating in an extra general meeting and the implementation of a code of conduct, this was probably long overdue and it will be in force this weekend. This is not designed to spoil your fun but we do need you all to take responsibility for your own actions and remember to respect the property and feelings of other players and guests during your stay here and any ECBA events in the future.

I am led to believe that at the end of the year Meld Leisure will no longer be involved with carpet bowls, on the assumption that this is true can I say that personally I am genuinely sorry that this is the case. Over the years they have provided a service that a lot of bowlers have enjoyed and I wish them all good luck, health and happiness for the future in particular Tony & Biddy whom I believe will be retiring to France.

I will also take this opportunity to thank David Storey for his support and hard work over the years as your referee, David has decided to stand down this year, I know he didn't take the decision lightly and there are many factors involved. David has been a fine ambassador for carpet bowls his sense of fair play and sportsmanship is second to none I think it is safe to say on behalf of all carpet bowlers a very sincere thank you and good luck for the future.

This report has been very brief because I feel events over the last few weeks deserve an explanation and a chance for yourselves to ask any questions that may be of concern, after item seven on the agenda we will give you that opportunity.

Tony Cuthbert
Chairman