

6. Referees Report

I would like to begin my report by apologising to the counties and officers at the lack of activity within the referee area since taking over the position in June. It is my intention to address this during 2007, some of which is covered later in my report.

Whilst I am not looking to offer excuses I feel I should explain to the counties that elected me to this position.

Shortly after being elected to the position of referee my responsibilities at work changed quite drastically. I have increased responsibility in the global sourcing of partners for our business which requires increased European and Far Eastern travel. This leaves my time with my family more precious than before. I would like at this stage to thank the Chairman for his understanding of this situation.

Blackpool, November. 2006

We had a successful tournament in Blackpool. The carpets ran well and I had many positive comments on the running of the event. These thanks should be passed to the Officers as the success of the tournament was down to their hard work. I would personally like to thank Tony and David for the help in setting up the Hall. Personal thanks go to the counties whose members offered themselves to measure throughout the event. Despite speaking to the captains of each county requesting assistance I feel there could have been more effort in that area - but we got by! Looking around over the 2 days I saw the same few individuals offering their services whilst known qualified referees sat by and watched. I will enforce a rota at the next national tournament and expect each county to provide referees.

This comes to my next point - not all counties have referees. I would like each of you to go back to your county committees and where you do not have any or sufficient representation, identify individuals that play at county level and put them forward for referee training. I would remind the counties that there is a levy of £10 per individual trained to help cover the costs of the venue used for training.

I would like a list of names from each county at the next meeting. I will then undertake to complete the training within 2 months of that meeting.

I need assistance from the North with a venue and equipment for this training. I would hope that the current trainers in this area would offer their services to assist in training new referees.

With regards to the south, I will undertake these arrangements.

In closing my report I would like to wish everyone the very best for 2007.

7. Insurance

The Treasurer attended a meeting with Insurance Broker Sutton Winston with a view to taking out public liability insurance. Various insurance options were obtained and circulated to committee members. Following discussion it was tentatively agreed to take out the Wanderers Policy but we need to ask the insurers for more clarification on the level of cover we need.

8. Bowls Alliance

Considerable discussion took place on whether we should join or not as they seem unable to tell us how much it will cost. The meeting discussed the possibility that Margaret attend the next meeting to try and find out the cost (vote 4/4 with 1 abstention). However as an immediate answer was necessary for or against joining, a vote was taken for which

**3 were for joining and
6 against joining the Bowls Alliance.**

Therefore it is not for us at the moment but we would like to continue to receive information.

9. Updating of Constitution

Suggested changes/inclusions to the current Constitution to be put forward to the AGM from the Committee.

- Version number on each page.

- Administration - include the following:

List of assets

All assets to be signed for and returned

Insurance

- AGM - include the following

All proposals and nominations for Officers at the AGM or EGM to be seconded by another County.

All nominees must be in attendance at the AGM. Extenuating circumstances may prohibit this occurrence. Must be majority agreement of meeting.

Draft document will be circulated at the next meeting.

10. Development

Development initiatives from counties:

Norfolk

County committee contacting all Chairpersons of Village Halls who do not play carpet bowls. 43 letters sent out, 4 replies received from Village Halls who's members are retired and see it as a social evening.

Suffolk

Have set up a programme of development over the next 12-15 months into areas not playing carpet bowls.

More copies of the Rule Book need to be purchased. Possible advertising in Rule Book by Shot Bowls.

Any changes to the Rules to be discussed at next meeting.

Leaflet is being updated. Printing of 1,000. Jason Ellis/David Russo progressing.

It was proposed that a 'pool' of money be set aside for counties affiliated to the ECBA who require financial assistance in developing the sport in their area. This proposal was unanimously agreed. Counties who have development projects requiring assistance will be considered by the committee as to their suitability for financial support. Applications to the Secretary in writing.

Whilst we continue to develop the sport in existing carpet bowls areas, we should not ignore other areas of potential development.

11. ECBA Funds

The suggestion at the last meeting that each county should receive a **one off** payment of £500 was agreed unanimously. The Treasurer to arrange payment.

12. Date of Next Meeting

Saturday 31 March 2007 commencing at 12.00 noon.

13. Any Other Business

Champion of Champion trophies - Mrs Southgate to arrange.

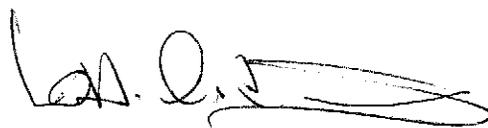
Associate Members - Secretary to contact the three clubs involved offering our sincere apologies and send minutes, competition entry for and free membership for next year.

Pairs Competition at Seacroft, Hemsby. The Secretary has spoken to the Manager at Seacroft enquiring about the possibility of holding a pairs competition at this venue in 2008. Various dates were discussed and the Manager seemed receptive to our request. Some of the dates were for exclusive use of the venue and others we would have to share with other organisations.

Following discussion the committee agreed on the last weekend in April 2008 (previously time of English Pairs).

English Triples - to be held in the North East hosted by Sunderland on second Sunday in September (9.9.07). Suitable venue to be found.

List of dates of ECBA events for the next 2 years to be circulated.


31/3/07