

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE ENGLISH CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION HELD ON  
SATURDAY 29 MARCH 2008**

Present: Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and representatives from Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk, Northumberland, North Tyneside, South Tyneside, Suffolk, Sunderland

1. **Apologies for absence**  
Representative from Durham and Vice Chairman, Jamie Smith
2. **Minutes of last meeting**  
Minutes agreed with the following amendments :-  
  
**Matters arising, item (a) English Pairs, second paragraph**  
"It was suggested and agreed that the Vice Chairman approach T & D to see how they were running their pairs tournament."  
**Item (c) ECBA Website, first paragraph**  
"It was suggested that Paul Daniels from Suffolk be approached to take over the administration of the website."  
Mr Watkins, the Suffolk representative said that Mr Daniels will assist with the administration of the website.  
**Item 12, Bowls Alliance**  
To move carpet bowls forward, a ballot agreed that officers would attend the next three meetings of the Bowls Alliance on 27 March 2008. (6 votes for and 1 against)
3. **Matters Arising from previous minutes**
  8. **County Championships**
    - Raffle PrizesIt was said that with counties only bringing 2 raffles, we would have a lot less prizes than in previous years. It was discussed and agreed to revert to **prizes to the value of £25.00 per county.**
4. **Correspondence**  
Nothing to report.
5. **Chairman's Report**
  - (a) **Bowls Alliance**  
The Chairman attended a recent meeting of the Alliance.
    - No fee anticipated for the foreseeable future from the Alliance. However, it would cost the ECBA approximately £1300 per year to send a representative to the meeting.
    - Bowls Alliance Calendar - they need our events calendar.
    - Do we want to attend Retirements shows - £1200 for stand?
    - Name change - Bowls Alliance Partnership
    - Money from Sport England (probably none available)First impressions - first half of meeting good, second poor. Advice and Experience - good. Money - not good.  
  
Unfair to make judgement on one meeting, wait until attend other two meetings.
  - (b) **Child Protection Policy** - to be included on the Agenda for our next meeting. The ECBA need a Child Protection Policy. We have, however, some insurance under the Alliance umbrella. The ECBA Secretary to action.
6. **Secretary's Report**  
Nothing to report.
7. **Treasurer's Report**  
Community Account - £1399.72  
Business Premium Account - £1248.60 (for development of bows)  
Business Reserve Account - £13,232.19  
**In Total - all accounts - £15880.51**

Money to still go into bank account:

- The Norbreck Castle Hotel - subsidy from County Championships - £3410.00
- Free place not taken up at County Championships - £108.00
- Potters - £240.00

(Officials of the ECBA take up the free places from venues for ECBA tournaments and pay the total cost of the accommodation into the ECBA account.)

Changed insurance company and now use Ensleigh Business Insurance. Total cost of package is £367.50 for this year. Last year we paid £644.

8. **Referee's Report**  
Nothing to report.

9. **Annual General Meeting**  
Friday 13 June 2008 at The Norbreck Castle Hotel, Blackpool.

Documents to be circulated to Counties giving notice of the AGM and requesting nominations for Officers of the Association and proposals for any amendments to Constitution and/or Rules for Playing Carpet Bowls.

The current Referee has resigned but to date we have no knowledge of any other changes in Officers.

10. **Champion of Champions**  
Dress Code - Counties to make sure their players adhere to the ECBA dress code.  
Administration - Tony Cuthbert and Gordon Thirsk for the weekend.  
The Secretary to produce necessary paperwork for the weekend.  
Equipment - Durham will provide carpets, woods, scoreboards, centres, blocks.  
Raffle administration - Cambridgeshire.

11. **ECBA Tournaments**  
**Rinks 2008**  
Northumberland is administering this event. Venue moved from Blyth to Ashington at a lower cost. 39 entries.  
**Potters 2008**  
Entries: 54 rinks; 114 pairs; 140 singles.  
**Triples 2008**  
Administered and hosted by Norfolk. Sunday 14 September 2008. Maximum 60 entries, cost £7.50 per team.

Secretary to generate a draft for the hosting and administration of ECBA tournaments in the future (For discussion at the next meeting.)

11. **Dates of Future Meetings**  
Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2008  
Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2009  
Saturday 28 March 2009

12. **Any Other Business**

- (a) ECBA Website  
Suggested Material to be included on the website:
- Promotion of carpet bowls
  - ECBA events
  - List of Officers
  - Contact for each County
  - Photographs
  - ECBA Results - Roll of Honour
  - Links to other websites
  - results for Northern and Southern Leagues.

- (b) Development of Carpet Bowls

Where are we going with development? We need a development policy. Agenda item for next meeting.

(c) The domestic situation at the County Championships in November was dealt with by Suffolk Committee. However, as the ECBA pay for the hire of the venue, they must be informed of all situations which may be contravene the ECBA Code of Conduct.  
The ECBA Officials must be made aware of any incident whilst the event in in progress.

(d) Do you have to be an Officer of a County to be a representative on the ECBA Committee?  
The reply from the Chairman is NO.

(e) Northumberland has not bought the jack yet which was to be replaced after the County Championships in November 2007.

(f) Information to be included in the Short Mat magazine should be sent to Bob Weafer.

(g) Does the ECBA we have a first aid kit at venues. No, but first aid is available from the venue (i.e. The Norbreck Castle Hotel).

(h) Promotional leaflet - what should be included. Agenda for next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 2.15 pm