

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE ENGLISH CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION HELD ON
SATURDAY 6 SEPTEMBER 2008**

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

1. **Apologies for absence**
Referee and representative from Durham .

A minutes silence was observed in memory of Gordon Thirsk who died recently. Mr Thirsk was a former Treasurer of the Association and was for a number of years a representative member of the committee for North Tyneside .

2. **Minutes of last meeting**
Minutes agreed and signed as a true record. Proposed Essex, seconded Suffolk

3. **Matters Arising from previous minutes**
(a) **Bowls Alliance** (discussed later in meeting)

(b) **Development of carpet bowls**

Moving into areas not part of this Association, i.e. Bedfordshire, Sussex by current counties on behalf of themselves.

We need a job specification/job description for the job of development officer. Perhaps we should look into our own counties for people who may be able to do the job.
Perhaps we should show a video of the game on the website.

(c) **Promotional leaflet/website**

Website in progress by Paul Daniels/Mick Watkins.
Promotional leaflet - Mick Watkins to pursue.

4. **Chairman's Report**
Nothing to report.

5. **Secretary's Report**
Nothing to report.

6. **Treasurer's Report**
Community Account - £398.76
Business Premium Account - £1256.22 (for development of bowls)
Business Reserve Account - £17,384.70
All counties have been annual subscription.
The Treasurer to purchase a gift for the auditor of our accounts.
Bedford may be interested in joining the Association.
The Association has recently purchased a new supply of Rules Books. The Treasurer asked if we will be charging for these booklets. It was discussed and unanimously agreed that each member Association will receive 40 copies free of charge and subsequent copies will be charged at 50p each.

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

8. **Correspondence**
(a) Norfolk CBA request for all ECBA delegates expenses to be paid by the Association and not individual counties indicating that officers of the association received their expenses

The Chairman indicated that only reasonable expenses was claimed by the Officers which is proper and acceptable considering the work they do on behalf of the association.

(b) The Norbreck Castle Hotel letter requesting a revised invoice for the supplement for Champion of Champions showing the VAT as a separate item.

The Secretary indicated that their request is reasonable as we should only be claiming £8.51 (£10 less VAT) as the taxman claims the other £1.49.

The Chairman asked for ideas at the next meeting for collecting the £10 supplement without using the hotel.

9. Items Referred from AGM

(a) Alternative venues for Champion and Champions and National Championships

Although the Norbreck Castle is not perfect, it has the playing surface and accommodation we need to holding these tournaments. Until we have someone who has the time to find alternative venue(s), it is all we have at the moment that provides for our requirements.

10. Review of Champion of Champions

Thanks to Chairman and Secretary for administering the competition.

Thanks to Durham for providing the equipment.

Thanks to Cambridgeshire for running the raffle.

Thanks to Vice Chairman for presenting the trophies.

More help is needed for putting away the equipment.

11. National County Championships

Administration - Peter Boyton/Alex Russell

Travel subsidy same as last year.

Mats and woods to be provided by Northumberland.

Scoreboards - South Tyneside/Sunderland/Suffolk - 6 each.

Raffle prizes to the value of £25 from each county.

Friendly pairs - depends on demand.

12. Programme of Future Events

Agreed with amendment to include Norfolk.

13. Proposed Child Protection Policy

The draft report was discussed but no clear outcome as to the way forward with this policy was forthcoming. Further investigation was needed before any conclusions can be reached and a policy implemented. The Vice Chairman suggested that he contact his local council for advice and the Secretary to pursue further.

14. Bowls Alliance

Various documents circulated by the Chairman before the meeting. The Chairman and the Treasurer attended a meeting of the Alliance (as suggested by the Committee) so we can only reply on their feels of this meeting. Discussion took place on proposals put forward by Steve Rodwell. A considerable amount of discussion and time was spent on this item without any firm solutions or decisions being reached.

Finally, it was proposed by North Tyneside and seconded by Essex that 'The ECBA leave the Bowls Alliance'. This was carried with 6 votes.

15. Date of Next Meeting

Saturday 10 January 2009.

16. Any Other Business

(a) New Contact list to be circulated.

(b) Triples 2008 hosted by Norfolk has entries from 39 teams.

(c) Peter Boyton is starting next week, i.e. Monday 8 September to teach carpet bowls to pupils of a Special Needs School in Essex

(d) ECBA will pay for engraving for their trophies. Send account to Treasurer.

