

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE ENGLISH CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION HELD ON SATURDAY 21 JANUARY 2012

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

1. **Apologies for absence**
Jamie Smith, Paul Dalliday, David Storey & Mike Walker.
2. **Minutes of last meeting**
It was noted that the demonstration at Staveley was yet to take place – otherwise the minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.
3. **Matters Arising from previous minutes**
Development of Carpet Bowls Contact had been made with a group of 14 clubs in Yorkshire, who were being encouraged to switch to ECBA rules. Cambridgeshire had helped to set up a club in Northamptonshire and Hertfordshire were actively assisting in Brighton with a Special Needs Olympics. Website – Mick Watkins reported that activity on the website had slowed, and was mainly concerned with requests for equipment. He would be grateful to hear of any more second-hand equipment available. He suggested that the Northern League could have its own home page within the website. Bedfordshire had reported positive results from their website.
4. **Correspondence**
A letter from Gamlingay Community Centre in Bedfordshire was read, expressing thanks to the Bedfordshire Association for help with advice and equipment.
5. **Chairman's Report**
The Chairman reported on arrangements with Potters for Tenth Anniversary mementos at the Festival of Bowls. Potters had agreed to provide commemorative pens, and it was agreed that the ECBA would provide commemorative fridge magnets at a cost of £288. The Chairman indicated that he would no longer organise the Festival after 2013 and appealed for someone to take over. The Treasurer expressed the appreciation of the committee for all the Chairman's efforts over the ten years of the Festival.
6. **Secretary's Report**
The Secretary reported that he had ordered a reprint of the Rule Book, and now had ample supplies.
7. **Treasurer's Report**
Community Account - £2,041.43
Business Saving Account 1 - £322.44
Business Saving Account 2 - £18,552.15 . The total balances were £20,916.02
The balances were approximately the same as at the same time in 2012. She asked that any expenses be sent to her in time for the books closing on 30th April.
8. **Referee's Report**
There was no report in the absence of the Referee.
9. **Child Protection Officer's Report**
There had been no further developments.
10. **Annual General Meeting**
It was noted that the Secretary, Treasurer and Child Protection Officer were available for re-election. It was agreed that all county associations be asked to notify the Secretary of their views on the election of officers.
11. **National County Championships 2013**
South Tyneside reported that they no longer had a county committee, and were extremely short of players. They would report by the AGM on their availability for the National Championships. The Secretary was requested to contact Nathan Moore to enquire if the accommodation was still allocated on the original formula.
12. **Champion of Champions, Blackpool 7/9 June 2013**
It was confirmed that Bedfordshire and Norfolk would not be competing, leaving eight teams taking part. A draft programme was circulated and approved with amendments to the Sunday schedule. Two alternative Sunday arrangements were proposed and it was agreed on the Chairman's casting vote that Sunday's starting time remain at 9.30 a.m., but that the Sunday programme be reversed to start with Singles & Pairs and finish with Triples and Fours.

13. Champion of Champions 2014 onwards

It was agreed that the Champions of Champions be held in the north for the immediate future, and it was agreed

14. National County Championships 2013

It was unanimously agreed to accept the proposal from Potters for 8-11 November 2013 at a price of £5 more than the 2012 event.

15. Competitions

Rinks 2012 - to be held by South Tyneside at Temple Park Leisure Centre, South Shields on 15th April. It was pointed out that this date conflicted with the Six Counties Championship, but that it would not be possible to alter the date.

Triples 2012 - to be held by Cambridgeshire at the Ross Peers Centre, Soham on 9th September.

16. Promotional DVD

Mick Watkins reported that the DVD was nearing completion, and final filming would take place on 5th February. It would be available for viewing at the March meeting.

17. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting would take place on 31st March, 2012.

18. Any Other Business

It was agreed to book future meetings on 18th August 2012, 19th January 2013 and 30th March 2013.

Jamie Smith mentioned that the winners of the ECBA Triples were late appearing on the website. Mick Watkins regretted this and reported that a complete historical record was being compiled for inclusion.

It was agreed that it would be possible for club contact lists to be included in county home pages.

Jamie Smith reported on contact with an A-Level student in Cambridgeshire who had produced a paper on provision of carpet bowls in Cambridgeshire and had been invited to extend this to national provision.

Colin Young reported on a conversation with Barrie Bridges, of the Norbreck, over a long-term contract for the Champion of Champions. It was agreed that the officers seek a meeting with Barrie Bridges at the event in June.