

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE ENGLISH CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION HELD ON SATURDAY
16th January 2016**

Present: Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and representatives from Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Durham, Essex, Hertfordshire, Northumberland, Suffolk & Sunderland

1. Apologies for absence

Andy Gilder and Jill Emms

2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising from previous minutes

Development of Carpet Bowls

Mick Watkins reported that the usual enquiries continue to come in and recently received requests for Rule books. It was commented that lawn and indoor bowls clubs appear to have a trend of closing down and particularly in the north recent enquiries about where to play carpet bowls is more familiar.

Website contacts. It was suggested that if counties need their contact details updated then they must liaise with Paul Daniels

4 Correspondence

None

5. Chairman's Report

The Chairman had nothing to report that was not covered elsewhere in the agenda with the exception that Potters are able to offer a 2 night stay option for the National County Championships in November. This option is either Friday to Sunday or Saturday to Monday.

Friday 11th – Monday 14th November 2016

Standard Bungalow	£214.00
Bungalow Plus	£221.50
Hotel Premier	£266.50
Hotel Deluxe	£274.00

2-8 years £109.00

9-15 Years £139.00

Friday 11th – Sunday 13th November 2016

Standard Bungalow	£189.00
Bungalow Plus	£194.00
Hotel Premier	£224.00
Hotel Deluxe	£229.00

2-8 years £89.00

9-15 Years £119.00

Children's prices are based on Standard Bungalow accommodation.

At this time guests on a two night stay will have lunch included but MUST be out of their rooms by 12 midday at latest.

6. Secretary's Report

A card sent from Margaret Southgate was read out thanking the association for the kind gift that was presented to her at Gunton Hall in recognition of all her hard work and dedication as the ECBA Treasurer

7. Treasurer's Report

Community Account - £ 1,058.87
Business Saving Account 2 - £ 13,575.12. The total balances were £ 14,633.99

8. Referee's Report

The English Referee advised he would in conjunction with Sunderland be holding referees course hopefully in March or following the Northern League matches.

Cambridgeshire have completed their refresher course.

9. Child Protection Officer's Report

There was no report in the absence of the Child Protection Officer.

10. Review of National County Championships 2015

There had been confusion with meal times, the Chairman will discuss this again with Potters at a meeting later this year. Although the weekend is tailored around adults there were many children in attendance but the kitchen were not communicated that there was a request to ensure an appropriate menu was available.

The discussion about whether or not Potters is still the right venue continued but with very few alternatives this debate will continue

The Secretary proposed that the National County trophy which is over 21 years old be refreshed with a new one and asked that it be named in memory of David Storey who contributed so much to carpet bowls not only for the ECBA but was instrumental in the development of carpet bowls in the North. Agreed unanimously.

11. Champion of Champions 4th & 5th June 2016

Arrangements for this year's event which was planned to be held at Stanley IBC, the association has a rolling yearly contract which is slightly higher than the original proposal but we are not tied into a 5 year contract with penalty clause. There will be food at the venue and entertainment Saturday evening. Those bowling will be reminded that only bowls shoes and appropriate footwear will be allowed on the bowls rinks.

It was proposed by Northumberland and seconded by Durham that each county is charged £50 or £5 per bowler and raffle prizes to the value of £10.00 per county will be expected, this was proposed by Suffolk and seconded by Sunderland – unanimously agreed.

12. Competitions

Rinks April 2016 (Durham)

This event was confirmed for the 27th March and the venue will be Stanley IBC, entry form will be available on the ECBA websites. It was advised that the entry form needs to ask those people who were interested in having either hot or cold food whilst attending the event so that the venue can prepare accordingly

Triples 2016

The venue for this event will be Needham Market in Suffolk and hosted by Bedfordshire, 40 teams expected and refreshments will be available.

Festival of Bowls 2016

There have been a small number of cancellations but also additions so the number of entrants is approx. 176. The survey for transport contribution received a poor response. Sunderland and Durham to discuss their own transport arrangements for those bowlers travelling to the event.

13. Annual General Meeting 2016

This year's AGM is to be held on Saturday 23rd April 2016, with all officers happy to remain in office and no further nominations received Northumberland proposed and seconded by Cambridgeshire that the officers are voted in to continue. Agreed unanimously

14. Date of next meeting – 23rd April 2016

15. Any Other Business

The Special Olympics 2017 is being held between 7th and 11th August 2017 in Sheffield, Carpet Bowls will be an event and the ECBA are invited to oversee the events. Rebecca Hearn has been coordinating this on behalf of the ECBA and her efforts have been very much appreciated

Meeting closed at 13.20pm