

## ENGLISH CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the English Carpet Bowls Association held on 22<sup>nd</sup> April 2017 at the Holiday Inn Rotherham

Present: Chairman, Treasurer, and representatives from Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Durham, Norfolk, Northumberland, Suffolk & Sunderland

**1. Apologies for absence**

Rebecca Hearn

**2. Minutes of the 25th AGM**

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

**3. Matters Arising from previous minutes**

None

**4 Chairman's Report**

Regrettably, our meetings over the last 12 months have not been well attended, with one meeting close to being abandoned because of the risk of lacking a quorum. It is very important that Counties ensure they are represented at all of our meetings.

It is also disappointing, that we had to stop our application to Sport England, because the information requested from Counties was not forthcoming. However, my thanks to those few who did their best to comply.

We continue to have to work without the support of a secretary, this of course just adds to the workload of Paul and myself. So please do your best to find someone to fill this post.

On a positive note, as you will see from our balance sheet, our financial situation has been addressed in just one year, way beyond our expectations in such a short period.

Also, Carpet Bowls Europe will be formally established at the Festival of Bowls. This is a non-governing body that has been established to promote our sport to a wider audience, particularly as a healthy pastime for an aging population, and to work with all the health organisations.

This I believe will bring much needed public awareness of our sport over the coming years.

I take this opportunity to thank all the officers and delegates for their contribution to our success this year, with special thanks to Rita Daniels for all her hard work with the Festival of Bowls, which looks like being an exciting event again. We must be getting it right as Avon Compton of New Zealand is flying over to join us again this year, along with 28 Norwegian bowlers.

My thanks to all who supported our competitions this year, and a well done to the winners.

**2016/2017 ECBA Champions**

2016 National Championships – Suffolk

2016 Inter County Championships - Suffolk

2016 ECBA Triples - Steven Cain, Jaxon McKenna & Neil Jolly (Suffolk/Sunderland)

2017 ECBA Rinks - Paul Rita & Mike Daniels and Neil Jolly (Suffolk)

2016 Champion of Champions

Singles – Ian Clark (Durham)

Pairs – Don & Maxine Poulter (Essex)

Triples – Pete, Mick & Marilyn Cook (Hertfordshire)

Rinks – Sue & Andy Gilder Mick & Shirley Watkins (Suffolk)

Team - Sunderland

**5. Secretaries Report**

The Secretary had nothing to report

**6. Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer was pleased to report that in the year 2016/17 the accounts showed a profit of £8.12. This was in marked contrast to losses of around £3850 in 2015/16. The turnaround was mainly as a result of increased profits from the Festival and Rinks/Triples and reduced losses from the Champion of Champions and National Championship. The balance sheet was presented and duly approved as a true record.

**7. Referee's Report**

Mick Watkins reported no further referee training has been carried out over the past 12 months but hopes to put that right by visiting the North for a training session in the next year.

Mick reported his concern about the number of measures being called for at the Nationals. While there are occasions where an independent referee is required to settle a measure, it was felt that far too often the players at the mat could have settled the matter without the need to call in a referee. He asked that counties encourage their players only to seek an independent measure when the two competing teams

cannot decide for themselves.

**8. ECBA Membership**

It was agreed that point 2.1 and 2.2 of the Constitution should be amended to include Carpet Bowls Associations formed to represent Unitary Authorities as well as Counties and Metropolitan Boroughs as being acceptable for consideration by the ECBA for membership of the Association.  
Proposed by Suffolk, Seconded by Norfolk.

**9. Election of officers**

As no nominations had been received It was agreed that the current officers should be voted back into their positions for the forthcoming year, although it was recognised that the association lacks a Secretary in the absence of a volunteer for the position.  
Proposed by Sunderland, Seconded by Northumberland

**10. Membership Fee**

It was agreed that the membership fee for the forthcoming year would remain the same.

**11. Any Other Business**

It was agreed that Rule 1.8 should be amended to remove the requirement for woods to be a specific weight.  
Proposed by Suffolk seconded by Northumberland

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 2.35 PM