



English Carpet Bowls Association

Zoom Meeting 16th January 2021 @ 11.16am

Present:

Chairman	Colin Young (Sunderland)
Vice Chairman	Neil Jolly
Secretary	Pauline Charleton
Treasurer & Tournament Secretary	Paul Daniels
National Referee & Development Officer	Mick Watkins
Child Protection Officer	Rebecca Hearn

Delegates: Cambridgeshire, Durham, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk, Northumberland, & Suffolk

1. Apologies for absence

Bedfordshire - due to technical difficulties

2. Minutes of last meeting

Read by Chairman and agreed as a true record, apart from amending article (b) DCMS Vote.

3. Matters arising

Amendment to the second vote (b) from 8 votes to 7 votes - Northumberland inadvertently voted, however as the issue had not been discussed with their committee due to the Covid 19 crisis, the delegate was not at liberty to vote, Kay confirmed this in the meeting.

4. Correspondence : None

5. Chairman's report : None

6. Secretary's report : None

7. Treasurer's report

All County delegates received Balance Sheets 2019/2020 & Interim Balance Sheet 2020/2120 - accepted with no comments offered.8

8. Referee's Report

Mick Watkins suggested that we should undertake a proper review of the dress code for ECBA events.

9. Child Protection Officers Report :None

10. ECBA Action Plan: Neil's Report

Following the last ECBA meeting our action (for return to play) & Risk Assessment documents were emailed to the Department for Digital Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) on the 18th November. A standard acknowledgement email was received, advising they were dealing with a high volume of enquiries but they aimed to reply within a week. After four weeks, in the absence of a reply, I sent a chasing email & a reply was received in the week before Christmas. The DCMS advised they only clear "return to play" guidance for team sport & they redirected us to contact Sport England. At the time we submitted our documents to the DCMS , their website did not state their remit was limited to team sports, but this seems to have subsequently changed. On 24th December, I emailed our documents to Sport England. This week I received a reply from them, advising that only team sports require their "return to play" guidance be reviewed, due to them being high risk sports. Also, for all other sports, "return to play" guidance documents don't require a review & it is down to each organisation to be responsible to ensure Government guidance is followed.

Finally, Sport England advised that they don't approve or sign off Action Plans/Guidance Documents. Whilst this brings us back to where we started, it has not been a wasted exercise as we now have a framework to work with, as & when we are in a position to return to playing bowls. At that time, we can review our Action Plan & Guidance documents.

11. Competitions:

a) Festival of Bowls -

In view of the current situation, and with no prospect of substantial change in the near future, the decision was taken to cancel the event for this year and concentrate on 2022.

b) Champion of Champions

With no bowls being played, and no championships being played, it was decided that this year's event would be cancelled.

c) National Championships

In view of the current uncertainty, and the fact that we are still some way from knowing when competitive bowls would recommence, it was felt that it would be best not to cancel this year's Nationals, to give time for individual counties to regroup.

12. Any Other Business

Mick Watkins (Suffolk) would like confirmation from Potter's if there is an All inclusive package for **non-alcoholic** drinks, and if so at what price.

Kay Cuthbert (Northumberland) spoke with regards to paperwork for the AGM having been sorted yet. It was stated that necessary forms would be sent prior to the AGM.

Clifford Richardson (Essex) suggested if a Zoom meeting could be arranged with Potters to discuss matters.

Potters - with Potters having to change their business model at least for the time being, and going "all inclusive" with consequential price rises, concerns expressed for subsequent ECBA events may see substantial increases. It was agreed that representation would be made to potters to discuss the above matters and arrange dates for 2022.

AGM all existing officers confirmed that they were willing to stand for re-election at the forthcoming AGM.

13. Next Meeting

Saturday April 10th @ 11am followed by the Annual General Meeting at 12 noon.

Clifford will send Zoom invites to all committee members and delegates the week of the arranged meeting

10th April 2021 @ 11am followed by the Annual General Meeting at 12 midday

Meeting concluded at 11.56am