



English Carpet Bowls Association

ENGLISH CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the virtual meeting of the English Carpet Bowls Association held on 21st January 2023

Present: Representatives from Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Norfolk, Northumberland, Suffolk and Sunderland

1. Apologies for absence

Durham and Hertfordshire were not present.

2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes were read and agreed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising from previous minutes

It was suggested that the arrangement with Bowls Development Alliance, to be a member of their safeguarding group, should be added to the constitution at the AGM.

Several counties stated that playing 11 ends at the Nationals was too much. It was agreed that all counties would seek feedback for a discussion at the next meeting.

4. Correspondence

None

5. Chairman's Report

None

6. Secretary's Report

None

7. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented an up-to-date balance sheet, showing that the overall cost of the Nationals was just over £2000. This is in line with previous events, but means that the Association is eating into its reserves, and that as such, it is important to promote the Bowls Festival since this is our major source of income.

8. Referee's Report

Mick Watkins reported that we had received an enquiry from a league around North Allerton, in North Yorkshire. Colin Young offered to make contact and try to pay them a visit.

Essex asked if there was any documentation on what is covered in referee courses, as they were seeking to do some refreshers. Mick reported that he had some paperwork handed down from David Storey as to what should be covered, and that he would pass this on.

9. Child Protection Officer's Report

None

10. Competitions

- a) ECBA Fours - Hertfordshire hosting at Needham Market on 30th April. Neil Jolly will liaise with Hertfordshire regarding the issuing of the entry form.
- b) Festival of Bowls - Around 90 booked in at present. The flyer will be circulated to all counties with

- the minutes, with the request for them to circulate it to their member clubs.
- c) Champion of Champions - 3rd & 4th June at Stanley, venue booked.
 - d) Nationals - All counties should have received 2023 booking details by now, some were able to confirm that they had, the rest were asked to check, and if not, report back to the Chairman.
 - e) ECBA Triples - Sunderland will be hosting on 3rd September at Sherburn Community Centre.

11. Any Other Business

Champion of Champions is in the last week of half-term, and there was a request to try and avoid that time, when some might not be able to attend, and hotel prices are higher. The Chairman agreed to take this onboard for 2024.

Bedfordshire asked whether counties arrange insurance for their clubs, Suffolk agreed to forward contact details for the company they use.

Northumberland commented on the state of the seating areas in the hall at Potters after the Nationals. It was agreed that it was very disappointing that some people were not willing to take responsibility for clearing up after themselves, and that a reminder to do so should be included in the programme from now on.

Northumberland were not happy with the dress code at the Nationals, that some people were spotted wearing faded black jeans, and that this reflects badly on all. It was previously agreed that each county should be responsible for writing and policing their own individual dress codes, but it was decided that further discussion was now needed. Every county has therefore been asked to provide details of their Dress Code before the next meeting, so that they can be reviewed at the next meeting.

12. Date of Next Meeting/AGM

tbc April 2023 - in person meeting