

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE ENGLISH CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION HELD ON  
SATURDAY 21 AUGUST 2010**

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

**1. Apologies for absence**

Jamie Smith (Vice-Chairman), David Storey (Referee), Andy Gilder (Child Protection Officer) and Cambridgeshire.

**2. Minutes of last meeting**

The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

**3. Matters Arising from previous minutes**

Website – Mick Watkins reported that there had been a reduction in the amount of information received from counties for inclusion in the website, and explained that counties could have their own home page and use it for publicising their news.

Development of Carpet Bowls – It was reported that further initiatives had taken place to develop new clubs, notably in Derbyshire and Norfolk.

**4. Chairman's Report**

Nothing to report.

**5. Secretary's Report**

Laptop Computer – the Secretary reported that, following the breakdown of the Association's computer at the Champion of Champions, a replacement had been purchased at favourable terms.

**6. Treasurer's Report**

Community Account - £344.99

Business Premium Account - £856.58 (for development of bowls)

Business Reserve Account - £ 21,028.31 . The total balances were £22,229.88.

All annual subscriptions had been received, except for South Tyneside.

The payment for the free places at the Champion of Champions had been received from the Norbreck and the repayment of the supplements was awaited.

Supplements of £10 had been received from all members who had booked via the internet, apart from three Suffolk members who were refusing to pay. The Secretary was requested to write to the Suffolk Association asking that the county take responsibility for obtaining payment.

**7. Referee's Report**

There was no report.

**8. Correspondence**

**CHILD PROTECTION OFFICERS REPORT.**

First of all apologies for not being able to attend this month's meeting. Unfortunately I was unable to get the day off.

I was pleased that the Child Protection Officer's position was recognised at the AGM and that the Child/VA Protection Policy was placed on the constitution also at the meeting.

The current situation has changed again slightly with regard to implementation of the policy, this does not alter what we have done or where we stand at the present, all is correct and as it should be. However, the current coalition government said during their election campaign that they "would look at the whole registration of people dealing with vulnerable children and adults issue, in particular the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA) and CRB checks, implemented by the last government, with a view to using a more common sense approach to the whole thing". This they have started and probably mean that they are looking to make changes.

After consultation with SAVO, Suffolk Association for Voluntary Organisations, I was advised to hang fire with regarding CRB checks until we have more information on the government's direction. It is anticipated that they may well look at leaving the smaller local organisations, such as ours, to look after our own affairs thus alleviating the need for CRB checks etc. But we have to wait and see.

I have therefore held back on all CRB checks, as we don't want to pay for something we don't need. I hope I have made the right decision for the committee, if not I will be guided by your decision.

At this time I have been unable to commence the 4 modules training regarding my position as CPO due to other commitments, I will do them as soon as possible.

That is all I have to report to you at this moment in time, I will of course keep you informed as and when anything changes.

Andy Gilder CPO ECBA

9. **Items referred from Annual General Meeting**  
Affiliation of Bedfordshire – The Chairman welcomed Mike Walker, Chairman of the Bedfordshire Association, who said that he was pleased that, after some years of trying, the county had been persuaded to re-affiliate. While it was the long term aim to take a full part in the ECBA events, shortage of numbers and only nine clubs would make this difficult in the immediate future.  
Constitution – The constitution, as amended at the AGM, was circulated to members.
10. **Review of the Champion of Champions 2010**  
Competition arrangements - It was agreed that the competition had gone well and the scoring arrangements, even with the computer breakdown, had been an improvement. It was suggested by Hertfordshire that the presentation ceremony had been an anti-climax, and photographs had not been available for the website. It was agreed to examine ways in which the arrangements for the presentations could be improved.  
Norbreck Hotel - The handling of the health problems by the hotel was criticised, in that two South Tyneside players were quarantined, without the organisers being informed. After lengthy discussion, it was agreed that, for the 2010 National Championships, 50 bottles of antiseptic gel be purchased and made available at every carpet, in addition to the hotel's dispensers. It was also agreed to prepare notices for display in the arena, stressing the need for hygiene precautions, and to insert a similar message in the programme.
11. **National County Championships 2010**  
Equipment – As Northumberland no longer had sufficient sets of equipment, Durham undertook to provide 15 sets for the event.  
Programme – The Secretary undertook to obtain 300 copies of the programme.  
Raffle – South Tyneside would run the raffle, and the Treasurer reminded counties to contribute £25.  
Scoring – The Treasurer and the Secretary would organise the scoring.  
Photographs – Shirley Watkins would take the photographs.
12. **National County Championships 2011 – booking arrangements**  
The Chairman reviewed the terms of the original offer from Potters Leisure for the 2011 National Championships and subsequent improvements resulting from his negotiations with the Potters management. In particular, more basic rate accommodation had been made available, the deposit had twice been reduced from £40 per person to £300 per county, and the schedule of dates had been relaxed. He stressed that it would be helpful to have early details of the dates of county trials, and the names of the persons appointed by counties to collate the bookings.  
The Chairman then reported on correspondence with Jamie Smith regarding the cost of the Potters event and an email dated 19<sup>th</sup> August objecting to the cost of single occupancy and accommodation for children and families. As a result, Cambridgeshire was reversing its original support of the move to Potters and calling upon the Association to take a further vote on the subject.  
After lengthy discussion, it was proposed by Suffolk and seconded by Essex that the views of Cambridgeshire be noted, but that the move to Potters go ahead. This was agreed with 10 votes in favour and none against.  
Rebecca Gammage thanked the Chairman for his efforts in negotiation with Potters.
13. **ECBA Competitions**  
**Open Triples** – It was reported that the arrangements were complete, and that programmes were currently being distributed. It was anticipated that the event would show a profit, and that only two more applications were needed to fill the event.  
**Open Rinks** – This would be held by Hertfordshire in April 2011, but the venue was yet to be finalised.  
**Open Triples 2011** – This would be organised by Durham, probably on the second Sunday in September.
14. **Date of next meetings**  
The next meeting would be on 22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2011.
15. **Any Other Business** *Eve Wavren*  
**Travel Subsidy** – ~~The Treasurer~~ proposed that the travel subsidy be increased by 50% from £1 to £1.50 per mile each way, which would increase the total cost from £4048 to approximately £7000, and that the subsidy be further reviewed in 2011. This was seconded by Essex and agreed unanimously.

*Dis. [Signature]*