

## **==MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE ENGLISH CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION HELD ON SATURDAY 17 AUGUST 2013**

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

1. **Apologies for absence**  
Andy Gilder (Child Protection Officer) and Alex Russell (Essex)
2. **Minutes of last meeting**  
The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.
3. **Matters Arising from previous minutes**  
Website It was pointed out that the reason no dates were available on the website for the 2014 Rinks was that the dates had not yet been arranged.
4. **Matters arising from the Annual General Meeting**  
Co-option It was agreed to renew the co-option of Paul Daniels as Competitions Secretary.  
Future Venue It was agreed that the AGM should in future be held at the National Championships. It was further agreed that an Extraordinary General Meeting be held immediately before the next meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2014 in order to make the necessary changes to the constitution.
5. **Chairman's Report**  
The Chairman thanked members who had supported his election as Chairman.
6. **Secretary's Report**  
The Secretary stated his intention of not seeking re-election at the 2014 AGM for health reasons.
7. **Treasurer's Report**  
Community Account - £995.45  
Business Saver Account 1 - £1,322.48 (for development of bowls)  
Business Saver Account 2 - £19,054.57 . The total balances were £20,372.50  
The account for the production of the promotional DVD amounted to £2,320, and had been paid.  
The authority for the change of signatories had still not been received from Barclays Bank.
8. **Referee's Report**  
The Referee reported that, thanks to Mick Watkins, there were now 15 referees. It was difficult to obtain volunteers in the north. Mick Watkins called for a rota of qualified referees to be available throughout the National Championships who would normally carry out all measuring and adjudicating.
9. **Child Protection Officer's Report**  
The Child Protection Officer in a written report said that, by the next meeting, there would be a CPO report for the membership for information. At present, however, and for the foreseeable future, there was no change to circumstances.
10. **Correspondence**  
The Chairman reported the death of Ernie Burrows, Chairman of West Sussex for many years and of his wife, Iris. The ECBA had been represented at the funeral by Rita Daniels.
11. **Review of the Champion of Champions 2012**  
Sunderland were thanked for organizing the raffle, which had raised £135.  
The Secretary reported that, at the request of Essex, he had consulted the Competitions Secretary about the possibility of changing the format of the Champion of Champions Pairs to four woods. It had, however, become apparent that the impact on running times would cause serious problems and it was agreed to take no action.  
The venue at Wolsingham, Co. Durham, had been booked for the weekend 7/8 June 2014 at an approximate cost of £1,400, although there was a possibility of sponsorship being available.  
It was proposed by Suffolk, seconded by Durham, and agreed that an entry fee of £100 per participating county be levied – payable at or before the event.
12. **National County Championships 2011**  
Programme – The draft programme was approved, with the amendment that the penalty for breaches of the dress code should be stated.  
Raffle – The Treasurer reminded members that a contribution of £25 per county was payable towards the cost of the raffle prizes.

**13. National County Championships 2014**

Proposal from Potters – The proposal from Potters for 31<sup>st</sup> October – 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2014 was circulated.

Future Dates – The Secretary agreed to consult Nathan Moore with a view to obtaining a regular date for future Championships in early October.

**14. Programme for future events**

**Open Triples 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2013,:** It was reported that 30 applications had been received for the event at Ashington, Northumberland.

**Open Rinks 2014, Sunderland:** Colin Young undertook to make the booking, and would hope to book the Easter weekend.

**15. Festival of Carpet Bowls**

The revised entry form was circulated. It was reported that 35 entries had so far been received.

**16. Email Marketing**

The facility now existed for members to register on the website to receive regular information by email. Members were encouraged to make use of this.

**17. Promotional DVD**

The promotional DVD was viewed, and was generally approved with the addition of photographs of young players. Members congratulated Rebecca on her efforts. She undertook to enquire if it would be possible to produce a shortened version suitable for use on U-Tube. 60 copies of the DVD would be produced under the original contract and it was agreed that at least one copy would be supplied to each county. The Chairman suggested that the best use of the DVD would be to work through Local Government Sports Officers to arrange mass demonstrations to parish councils, village halls, etc.,

**18. Development**

A discussion took place on development of carpet bowls. Jamie Smith instanced problems of loss of participation and felt that this trend would continue without action. He urged that more time be devoted to development at future meetings. Mick Watkins reported a proposal to take a full page advertisement feature in the East Anglian Daily Times at a cost of £1,000 less the income from advertisers. The Chairman & Secretary undertook to seek a meeting with Potters to enquire about help with sports development expertise.

**19. Dates of future meetings**

The next meeting would be on 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2014.

**20. Any other business**

Mick Watkins asked that more paperwork be made available at the AGM for non-delegates.

The Chairman stated that complaints about the conduct of the AGM should be made as points of order at the meeting.

Rebecca Hearn reported that she and Craig were attending the Special Needs Olympics in Bath to assist with the carpet bowls that was included in the activities.

The Chairman reported that Essex had an annual fixture with West Sussex, and Bedfordshire were also planning one. He recommended other counties to consider similar fixtures.