

ENGLISH CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION

The minutes of the **Annual General Meeting** of the
English Carpet Bowls Association
Held on Saturday 23rd April 2016
at the Holiday Inn, Rotherham.

Those present: Mike Walker (Chairman) Colin Young (Vice Chairman & Sunderland Delegate) Paul Daniels (Treasurer) Mick Watkins (Referee), Rebecca Hearn (Hertfordshire) Cliff Richardson (Essex), Kay Cuthbert (Northumberland) Aline Pearson (Durham) Harold Ball (Bedfordshire) and Members of the Association from Suffolk, Sunderland, Northumberland and Hertfordshire.

Apologies for absence were received from Jill Emms (Norfolk), Jamie Smith (Secretary & Cambridgeshire Delegate) and Andy Gilder (Child Protection Officer)

The meeting commenced at 1.45pm.

The Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Saturday 25th April 2015 were taken as read (having previously been circulated), confirmed and signed.

Matters arising: There were no matters arising.

Correspondence: Letters of resignation were received from Jamie Smith and Andy Gilder.

Chairman's Report:

Mike Walker began his report saying that we have enjoyed another successful year but we must not take our eyes off the finances as this will ensure our future and we must make sure that our income meets the requirements of the Association albeit organising events or the development of the sport.

Touching on the future, Mike said we needed to develop the sport over the coming years we should look at the bigger picture were we could become involved in a European Carpet Bowls Council. A meeting to discuss this will take place at Potter's Leisure Resort in May when Carpet Bowlers from Norway will be attending and taking part in the event. I believe this could well open doors to greater funding and publicity opportunities as well as international events.

The Chairman said that the committee meetings had been well attended and thanked the offices, delegates and members for their support throughout 2015. Rita Daniels was thanked for her hard work with the Festival of Carpet Bowls. There was also thanks for those who supported the various competitions over the past 12 months.

Treasurer's Report: This had been fully explained at the Committee meeting prior to the A.G.M. Annual Statement of Accounts attached. The adoption of the accounts was proposed by Kay Cuthbert (Northumberland) and seconded by Mick Watkins (Suffolk).

Referee's Report: Mick Watkins read the following report:

My first year as National Referee. I have carried out refresher courses in Essex and Cambridgeshire. The main object is to produce some consistency in the standard of performance at our main events. This, I believe, has shown in the willingness of most people holding the qualification being willing to administer the rules at the Nationals. The aim is to hold these courses in more counties. The main problem at the two major events that we organise is the dress code. This will be addressed when required. From the website the most popular query is about the delivery and these have been dealt with quickly.

Once again, I wish to thank those that have supported the attempts to maintain the standards of referee that we all deserve.

CPO Report: The following report had been received from Andy Gilder:

As it stands at the moment there are no changes to the practices we encourage the member counties to use. Unless counties are arranging coaching sessions and children and vulnerable adults are attending, we do not need the coach or the arranging club to be checked by the DBS (Vetting and Barring Service.)

As the children and vulnerable adults attend clubs and events with parents and or guardians, their own guardians automatically take the role as protector for the individual concerned.

With this in mind, the young people attending the Special Olympics will be covered in the same way, in that they attend with their guardians.

I would like to thank the committee for their support over the years I have been on the committee.

Election of Officers:

The vacant positions of Secretary and CPO were elected as follows:

Secretary Rita Daniels (Suffolk) Proposed by Cliff Richardson (Essex) and seconded by Kay Cuthbert (Northumberland)

CPO Rebecca Hearn (Hertfordshire) Proposed by Colin Young (Sunderland) and seconded by Kay Cuthbert (Northumberland)

The positions of Chairman: Mike Walker (Bedfordshire), Treasurer: Paul Daniels (Suffolk) Referee: Mick Watkins (Suffolk) and Colin Young (Vice-Chairman) were voted en bloc

Annual County Subscription: This is to remain the same at £100.00

Any Other Business: Nothing was raised.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 2p.m.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - SATURDAY 23TH APRIL 2016 CHAIRMANS REPORT

I think we have enjoyed another successful bowling year, However, we must not take our eye of the balance sheet in order to ensure our future success we must ensure our income is meeting future development. Our meetings were in general well attended.

If our sport is to continue to develop over the coming years; we need to look at the bigger picture. To this end I am convinced that we should join the proposed European carpet bowls Council.

A meeting to discuss this is scheduled to take place At Potters, during the Festival of Bowls.

I believe such a move could well open doors to greater funding, and publicity opportunities, as well as international competition.

I take this opportunity to thank all the officers, delegates and members for their support throughout 2015. Plus my thanks to Rita Daniels for her hard work with the Festival of Bowls and all who took part, and supported our various competitions over the past 12 months.

REFEREE REPORT 2016

My first year as National Referee. I have carried out refresher courses in Essex and Cambridgeshire. The main object is to produce some consistency in standard of performance at our main events. This, I believe, has shown at the willingness of most people holding the qualification, being willing to administer the rules at the Nationals. The aim must be to hold these courses in more Counties. The main problem at the two major events that we organise, is the dress code. This will be addressed, when required. From the web-site, the most popular query, is about the delivery, and these are dealt with quickly.

Once again, I wish to thank those that have supported the attempts to maintain the standards of referee that we all deserve.

Mick Watkins

Child Protection Report.

For AGM of the ECBA 23rd April 2016.

Dear fellow committee members,

Because of work commitments, I have felt that I am not putting enough commitment to the committee as I should, so have decided to withdraw from my position as Child Protection Officer. I am sorry I cannot attend to give my report personally, but again it is due to work commitments.

As it stands at the moment there are no changes to the practices we encourage the member counties to use. Unless counties are arranging coaching sessions and children and or vulnerable adults are attending, we do not need the coach or the arranging club to be checked by the DBS (Vetting and Barring Service.)

As the children and or vulnerable adults attend clubs and events with parents and or guardians, their own guardians automatically take the role as protector for the individual concerned.

With that in mind, the young people attending the Special Olympics will be covered in the same way, in that they will attend with their own guardians.

I would like to thank the committee for all their support over the years I have been on the committee.

Kind regards to you all,

Andy Gilder.