

English Carpet Bowls Association

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting
held on Saturday 2nd June 2001
in The Herringthorpe Leisure Centre, Rotherham.

Present: All outgoing Officers.

Representatives from: Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Durham, Essex,
Hertfordshire, Norfolk, Northumberland, North Tyneside, South Tyneside, Suffolk.
Plus 35 other attendees.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the 10th Annual General Meeting.

1. **Apologies for Absence**

No apologies were received.

2. **Minutes of last AGM.**

These were approved and signed by the chairman as a true record.

3. **Matters Arising.**

Promotional Video: At present the cost for a professional production to be made could prove restrictive. But it could be done in the future.

Web Site: A computer has been purchased and is in the custody of the secretary, But at present it has been decided that we would not have our own Web Site. But details of the Association have been included on a dedicated Bowls site. We have already received some contact as a direct result of that, these details have been passed onto Mr. Bill Ramshaw.

4. **Chairman's Report.**

Copy attached.

5. **Secretary's Report**

Copy attached.

6. **Treasurer's Report**

The statement of accounts as put to the AGM showed a total bank balance of £10,068.17 as funds available to the Association. The accounts had been audited and signed by Mrs. June Laws. It was proposed and agreed unanimously that this statement of account be accepted by those present. A copy of the balance sheet is attached.

7. **Development Officer's Report.**

Over the past few months new clubs have been formed in West Sussex and Nottinghamshire. Representatives from Cropwell Butler have approached the Association with regard to some coaching, and getting details of forming a County Association, and eventually becoming members of the ECBA.

In Rutland Mr. Jason Ellis has been actively promoting the sport, there are now three maybe four clubs in that small county.

In the west country Upper Stanton Drew are now applying for grants to obtain equipment.

Carpet Bowls is now being played in Market Rasen and in Blackburn. Although some contact has been made with clubs in North Yorkshire, they are playing on 40 foot mats using Carpet Bowls woods, and have no intention to conform to the ECBA rules.

Throughout the coming months further contact with Sports Development Officers within various counties will be made.

8. **Referee's Report.**

There have been no major problems or disputes through the year.

A course is being developed so that we can have a number of Trained and Accredited ECBA Umpires. A draft copy was shown to the committee at our last meeting, this does need more progress, but it is hoped that the first course will be held later in the year.

9. **Changes to the Rules for Playing Carpet Bowls.**

Proposal received from Northumberland, seconded by South Tyneside.

To Add rule 3.6 as follows:-

The bowl must be delivered using the bias to determine the route it takes along the carpet. This could include using the reverse bias in some situations. Any bowler delivering a wood end over end, (sideways) to eliminate the bias will be deemed to have delivered a foul bowl, and that bowl will be stopped and removed from the carpet.

This proposal had first been circulated to the members in June last year, an amendment had been proposed by Essex, and the proposal had then been accepted by all the delegates. Following a lengthy debate, a vote was taken, the result was 4 votes in favour 5 votes against. Therefore the proposal was rejected.

10. **Amendments to the Constitution.**

Proposal from Executive Committee.

Article 2.1.

That there should be two Development Officers elected. One to represent the Northern area, and one to represent the southern area.

This proposal was agreed unanimously.

11. **Election of Officers.**

Chairman - Proposed by Essex Mr. Ray White, proposed by Durham, Mr. Tony Cuthbert. Following a show of hands and with 7 votes Mr. Ray White was elected Chairman.

With no other nominations forthcoming the following officers were all elected.

Vice Chairman - Mr. Tony Cuthbert, Secretary - Mrs. Ann Hardy,

Treasurer - Mrs. Margaret Southgate, Referee - Mr. David Storey.

Development Officer (North) - Mr. Bill Ramshaw,

With no nominations for a development officer in the South, that post remains vacant.

12. **Annual Membership Fee.**

The Treasurer proposed that the subscription for the following year remain at £100.00 per County/Metropolitan Borough. This was agreed by unanimously.

13. **Any Other Business.**

The Chairman invited the representative from Bedfordshire to speak to the members following the announcement that Bedfordshire would not be renewing their membership following this AGM.

Mr. Tumber was warmly greeted by those present and gave a brief but detailed background to the vote taken by the members of Bedfordshire as to whether they should continue their membership of the ECBA. There were 4 votes in favour, 7 seven votes against with 8 member clubs not attending. Finance and the response given to the suggestions from Bedfordshire which were discussed at the committee meeting held in March, as well as a feeling that they would be unable to meet the requirements to supply equipment for an event featured highly. Mr. Tumber had been asked to tell the ECBA that "Bedfordshire do not perceive the ECBA to be adequately promoting the sport, as defined in their constitution, and find the committee to be inflexible to constructive suggestions."

With all matters concluded the meeting was declared closed at 7.18pm.

Treasurers Report AGM 2001

I would like to present the accounts for the year ended 31st March 2001 and start by reporting an increase in our income over the last twelve months.

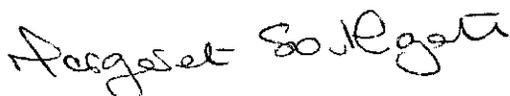
If we look first at the Income side of the balance sheet there is a new entry which gave us an extra £500.00 after your delegates voted to charge all counties an entry fee for the Champion of Champions, there is also a refund from the English Bowls Council which was disbanded last year and all subscriptions for the year were refunded. The Association set up the ECBA Rinks this year (played 1st April) and the costs of this event will be spread over two years, therefore, these accounts shows part entry fees on this side and part expenses opposite. Bank Interest went up again this year, after dropping last year, we have received an extra £130.00 making a total of £282.15. The sale of Rule Books continues to go well, we have had a reprint and the sale of a further 40 books will see us in profit.

On the Expenditure side meeting expenses have increased slightly because the committee now meet on four occasions during the year, the Office expenses also went up owing to the purchase of a secondhand Computer for the Secretary. As I have already told you we needed a reprint of rule books and it was also decided to order fresh ECBA badges and trophy centres for use on all our trophies. The Champion of Champions cost more to stage as this year we had to bear the entire cost of hiring Herringthorpe Leisure Centre but this was partly offset by the entry fee to counties. County Championships at Hemsby expenses were slightly down due to the fact that I was able to get a very good deal on our trophies.

I said at the beginning of this report that we had more money in the Bank but this does not mean we should be complacent, we must carry on working to increase our finances because the cost of venues etc will continue to rise and as we make progress with setting up our own Tournaments such as the Rinks and Triples we may have to subsidise them to some extent until they are established.

Can I end my report by thanking my Auditor, if you were at last years AGM you will know that Henry Gowlett was elected as auditor again for this year, however, as I was due to give the accounts to Henry he was admitted to hospital for a Knee operation. Fortunately I was able to call upon Mrs June Laws who is Practice Manager at a local GP Surgery and she was willing to step in at short notice and do the necessary audit. I would like to thank her very much and also record my thanks to Henry Gowlett, he has been auditor since 1996 but has stated that he does not wish to stand for the post this year.

If anyone has any questions regarding these accounts I will endeavour to answer them.



Margaret Southgate

Treasurer

2nd June 2001

ENGLISH CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION

Balance Sheet-----Year to 31st March 2001

INCOME

Balance brought forward from 2000	7,898.67
10 County Fees @£100.00	1,000.00
Raffles	
English Pairs	845.50
Champion of Champions	175.50
County Championships	609.00
County Championships (Seacroft commission and Pairs competition)	3786.12
Lapel Badges	48.50
Rule Books	170.00
Refund of English Bowls Council Subs for 1999/2000	100.00
Entry Fees for Champion of Champions 10 @ £50.00	500.00
ECBA Rinks. Entry Fees received to date	305.00
Bank Interest	282.15

EXPENDITURE

<u>Administration</u>	
Officers Expenses, eg Postage, Telephone, Photocopying etc	521.60
Meeting Expenses, Venue & Travel	579.87
<u>Development/Promotion</u>	
Travel, Meals, Postage etc	258.70
Re-Print of Rule Books	158.00
Badges & Trophy Centres	300.00
Raffles. Prizes & raffle books	377.44
<u>Champion of Champions</u>	
Hire of Herringthorpe Leisure Centre, Rotherham	507.60
Trophies	42.50
Officers Expenses inc Administration	491.29
Equipment Transport	115.41
<u>County Championships</u>	
Administration	198.89
Travel Subsidy	1523.00
Pairs Competition	176.00
Equipment Transport	60.00
Trophies	234.43
<u>ECBA Rinks</u>	
Trophies	102.94
Combined Bank Balances	10,068.17
Cash in Hand	4.60

15,720.44

15,720.44

Auditor

J. Laws
JUNE LAWS
PRACTICE MANAGER.

ENGLISH CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION

Chairman's Report to the A.G.M. - 2nd June, 2001

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to the tenth A.G.M. of the Association.

You may recall last year in my Report stating that the Association was withdrawing from the English Bowls Council. Shortly after our withdrawal the E.B.C. also decided not to continue.

Since the last A.G.M., the Committee has met in July, September and January at Rotherham, and in March at Newcastle.

Whilst we hold our Champion of Champions here in Rotherham we are still on the lookout for other suitable venues. Recently some of the officers have looked at a Sports Centre at Barnsley, only a few miles from here. The County Delegates will have the opportunity of seeing the Centre by the end of June.

Last year's Champion of Champions was held here at the Herringthorpe Leisure Centre, Rotherham. To say that all games were keenly contested would be an understatement. Congratulations to all the eventual winners. From the standard of play to-day it is obvious that we have another great week-end. Best wishes to all contestants.

The County Championship was held at Seacroft. The North v South clash on the Friday evening was a repeat of last year's final with Norfolk and County Durham. This time County Durham gained their revenge and became the League Champions.

The Championship which was fought out over the Saturday/Sunday was won by Cambridgeshire for the fourth consecutive year. County Durham were runners-up. The Cambridgeshire players are to be congratulated on the standard of their consistency. The 2001 County Championship will be held at Seacroft on the week-end 2nd - 5th November.

Since the last A.G.M. Tony Webber, the Development Officer, resigned. It is right that we record our thanks to Tony for all the work he did on behalf of the Association.

In April of this year, for the first time, we held an E.C.B.A. Rinks Competition at Ashington, Northumberland. The winners were a rink from Northumberland. Our thanks to the Northumberland Committee for running a first-class competition. Next year the Rinks Competition will be organised by Essex and will be on Sunday, 5th May, 2002. It is hoped that this competition will be run in alternate years on a North/South basis, with a different county running the event.

Later this year we will be re-introducing an E.C.B.A. Triples Competition. This will be organised by Cambridgeshire. The date of the Triples Competition will be Sunday, 16th September, at Soham. Again it is hoped that this will become an annual North/South event. I think a provisional date of 1st September, 2002 has been pencilled in by South Tyneside.

In the last few weeks, Bedfordshire have decided to withdraw from the Association. I am sorry that they are leaving and hope that some time in the future they may rejoin the Association.

In closing my Report, I would like to thank my Officers and Committee for all their hard work since the last A.G.M.

I would especially like to record my thanks to Ann Hardy who has continued to work very hard as Secretary.



RAYMOND WHITE

ECBA0206

**ENGLISH CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2001**

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Membership:

This has remained constant over the past year at 10. Those are, Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Norfolk, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, Suffolk.

However Bedfordshire have decided that they will not be renewing their membership this year.

May I take this opportunity in wishing the members of the Bedfordshire Association well for the future, and hope that they will rejoin us in the not too distant future.

Having spoken to all the delegates, every county feels that they should not have withdrawn their players that had qualified for this years Champion of Champions.

The players from across Bedfordshire will also be missed when the Triples takes place at Soham in September and the Rinks at Braintree next May. But alas we live in a democracy and must accept decisions like these no matter what.

Since the last AGM we have unfortunately had to accept the resignation of Mr. Tony Webber a much valued and respected officer. This has not meant that the task of development has remained unattended, as Mr. Bill Ramshaw has carried out some demonstrations, as have both myself the chairman, and treasurer.

But we do need to elect someone that can oversee the development of our game in the Southern part of the country. This need not just include arranging demonstrations, development can cover many things that are for the furtherance of the sport of carpet bowls. Working with other officers on a many items.

Holding our AGM here this year has ensured that all our member counties have the opportunity to attend. As the Champion of Champions is the one event that is attended by all our member counties, and has ensured that all our members have the same opportunity to vote on any item put forward for discussion.

The results of our competitions during the year 2000 are as follows:

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS:

Singles: R. Washbrook of Hertfordshire. Pairs: G. And R. Donkin of Northumberland.

Triples: J. Brown, S. Cain, D. Mittel of Suffolk.

Rinks: J. Kinghorn, B. Smith, D. Morgan, P. Graham of Durham

The team trophy went to Durham.

Congratulations to all that took part, both winners and those that felt they were the losers, for losers they were not, as they all represented their various counties admirably.

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS:

This was to be a rematch of the victors from the previous year. Norfolk from the eastern region versus Durham from the Northern Counties. However the result was reversed with Durham being the victors.

COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS:

Once again nine of our ten counties were represented, the only absentee being Bedfordshire.

The overall winners for the fourth consecutive year was Cambridgeshire.

A rota has been drawn up for the loan of equipment for our various championships. I am aware that for most of our counties it is not going to be easy keeping to this, but let's give it a try before we condemn it out of hand.

But of one thing I am certain, without carpets we cannot hold any event.

I have had some contact from Nottinghamshire, to be specific a club from Cropwell Butler, they have asked for assistance with coaching some of their players, and hopefully from there a county association will be formed and it will not be too long before they become members of the ECBA.

There have also been developments in Oxfordshire. I have been contacted by the Rural Community Council who are looking to introduce Carpet Bowls into their village halls. They are trying to arrange a one/two day taster event. This would mean that they would have people from several villages all in the one place.

May I conclude by thanking the chairman and fellow officers for their help and support throughout the past year. Also the delegates many of whom have and are willing to help at all of our events.