

ENGLISH CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the virtual meeting of the English Carpet Bowls Association held on 10th April 2021

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

1. Apologies for absence

Mick Watkins, Norfolk

2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes were agreed and agreed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising from previous minutes

None

4. Correspondence

None

5. Chairman's Report

None

6. Secretary's Report

None

7. Treasurer's Report

None

8. Referee's Report

None

9. Child Protection Officer's Report

None

10. Competitions

National Championships

After a long discussion a vote was taken on the 2021 event, and it was agreed that this year's event should be cancelled in view of the fact that even if all restrictions have been lifted, the individual counties will still need time to restart the game, and there may well still be an understandable reluctance on the part of players to attend large gatherings.

It was however agreed that the date should be left open, and that there should be discussions with Potters with a view to running a Pairs event in its place, providing there was sufficient interest from competitors, and that it could be run safely.

11. Any Other Business

National Governing Body

Essex raised the subject of the ECBA becoming a National Governing Body and obtaining recognition from Sport England, and that they had members who were willing to advance such a move.

It was pointed out that this was something which the previous Chairman had gone into in some depth, but that he had been unable to progress the matter after a meeting with Sport England.

Neil said, that having looked into the matter he believed that, for a sport of our size, the added responsibilities which are incumbent upon NGBs outweigh the potential benefits.

Essex were asked to bring forward a proposal, but said that in view of the feeling of the meeting, they would like to defer any further discussion until a further date, when the committee can meet in person.

Zoom Meetings

Rebecca has the ability to set up unlimited timed meetings, and offered to do so for future meetings.

Triples and Fours

Neil suggested that as a way of encouraging entries, that rather than swapping these competitions between North and South each year, that we consider running them both North and South each year, with the winners being invited to compete in the Champion of Champions.

Covid Guidelines

Essex asked if the current set of guidelines would be reviewed in light of the lifting of restrictions. It was confirmed that this had recently been done, and had been circulated among the counties.

12. Date of Next Meeting

18th September 2021