



English Carpet Bowls Association

ENGLISH CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the AGM of the English Carpet Bowls Association held at Brentwood Hotel, Rotherham,
on 15th April 2023

Present: Representatives from Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Northumberland, Suffolk and Sunderland

1. Apologies for absence

Bedfordshire, Durham and Mick Watkins. Essex were not present.

2. Minutes of 2022 AGM

The minutes of the 2022 were read and agreed and signed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising from previous minutes

None

4. Chairman's Report

The Chairman thanked the committee for all their support over the past year.

5. Secretary's Report

The Secretary echoed the Chairman's thanks to the committee.

6. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer presented the meeting with the accounts for 2022/23. The association recorded a deficit of just over £1000 for the year, owing to increased costs, and a fall in revenue from the Festival which continues to be a knock-on from the pandemic. As discussed in the Committee Meeting, an approach would be made to Potters to seek an increase in the commission paid by them for the events we hold at their venue, as a means of increasing our revenue.

7. Referee's Report

None

8. Election of Officers

The existing officers all agreed to stand again and, there being no other nominations forthcoming, were voted in en bloc.

Chairman : Colin Young

Vice Chairman : Neil Jolly

Secretary : Pauline Charleton

Treasurer : Paul Daniels

Child Protection : Rebecca Hearn

Referee: Mick Watkins

9. Annual Membership Fee

The annual membership fee of £100 (£20 for associate members) was agreed.

10. Any other business

Bowls Development Alliance Safeguarding Group

It was agreed that the ECBA Constitution should be amended to include a reference to being members of the Bowls Development Alliance Safeguarding Group, as part of our commitment to

maintain a policy for the protection of children and vulnerable adults. It was reiterated that such membership was not contingent upon the ECBA becoming a member of the Bowls Development Alliance itself, since it is a mutually beneficial arrangement.

Future Meetings

There was a discussion about whether it was sufficient to continue the current arrangement of only holding in-person meetings for the April meeting and AGM, with the January and September meetings being held via Zoom.

While it was agreed that ideally the meetings would be in-person rather than virtual, and that for some it is difficult to get a reliable connection, the cost, both in terms of travel and time, are hard to justify. That said, it was felt that the Zoom meetings should be more structured, and that greater time should be taken to ensure that everyone at the meeting is given the opportunity to be heard.

In addition, it was recognized in view of occasions where it is not possible for someone to connect to the meeting through no fault of their own, and that the Constitution allows for extenuating circumstances in regard to non-attendance of meetings.

11. Date of Next AGM

20th April 2024