



English Carpet Bowls Association

ENGLISH CARPET BOWLS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting 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 last meeting

The minutes were read and agreed as a true record.

3. Matters Arising from previous minutes

None

4. Correspondence

None

5. Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported that he had paid a visit to the Vale of Mowbray in North Yorkshire, where there are a group of 6 clubs. They were introduced to what the ECBA does, and were offered the opportunity to join, but not being keen to travel, have decided not to do so.

We will keep in touch with them, and look to invite them along to an ECBA even, and possibly try to arrange some kind of friendly with them, with the hope that this will generate some interest.

6. Secretary's Report

None

7. Treasurer's Report

The report was held over until the AGM.

8. Referee's Report

None

9. Child Protection Officer's Report

Rebecca has remained in touch with the Bowls Alliance Safeguarding Group, and has sat in on meetings. Although there have as yet been no cases which have impacted on Carpet Bowls, she has been impressed by their work, and is ever more aware of how important it is to be a part of the group so that we do become aware of any instances where we are impacted, and to have that support should we need it.

10. Competitions

- a) ECBA Rinks - There are 33 teams entered for the Rinks, which will be held on 30th April, there are still a couple of places free, which we hope to fill.
- b) Festival of Bowls - The entry for this year will be much the same as last year, at around 100, including a contingent of 10 from Norway.
- c) Champion of Champions - All the equipment for the event at Stanley has been put in place, so there will be no need to transport any mats this year. The programme will be issued shortly.

- d) Nationals - There was a discussion about the number of ends being played, and a consensus was reached that 11 ends was too much for some of the older players. It was unanimously agreed to bring the games back down to 9 ends. It was also requested that ramps are put in place to help bowlers get on and off the green. Northumberland will be in charge of the raffle.
- e) ECBA Triples - The entry form for the event will be issued shortly, which will be hosted by Sunderland on 3rd September.

11. Any Other Business

Northumberland proposed that the additional £100 allowance for the Nationals travel subsidy which was agreed last year, should continue for 2023 as well, to help defray the increasing cost of coach hire.

There was some discussion around the commission paid by Potters in regard to the guests we bring to the Nationals and Festival of Bowls. While the cost of accommodation has risen steadily, the small commission we receive has never altered. It was therefore agreed that we would look to negotiate an increase since this is a vital source of revenue for the Association. The same applies to the entry fee for the Festival, which has remained unchanged since the event was instigated over 20 years ago, and it was felt that a small increase would be in order.

All counties submitted copies of their dress codes, to be held for future reference.

12. Date of Next Meeting

16th September 2023