



CORNWALL COUNTY SHORT MAT BOWLING ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the 153rd Management Committee Meeting held at Ladock Village Hall on Monday 17th March 2014.

Present: Chris Roberts, Elise Daniell, Karen Watson, Lesley Barker, Peter Hore, Neil Gribble, Nick Truscott, Nigel Nicholls, Sheila Hodge, Ken Horrell, Ian Perry, Bob Flower, Derek Newton

153.00 Chairman's welcome:

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.25pm, welcomed everyone present.

153.01 Apologies for absence:

Henry Kendall

153.02 Approve and sign minutes of the 151st & 152nd committee meetings:

The minutes were taken as read and approved by those present.

Proposer: Bob Flower Seconder: Ken Horrell

153.03 Matters arising from previous meeting:

None.

153.04 Correspondence:

Letter from AR Mitchell-Harris (Goonbarrow SMBC) regarding a missed league fixture between Goonbarrow and Cubert in December 2013. Matter to be discussed further under item 153.12.

Letter from Keith Hawkins (ESMBA Administration) attached the proposed changes to the ESMBA Constitution as suggested at last year's AGM to reflect the administration role. They have also taken the opportunity to tidy up other parts of the constitution and each amendment will be voted on separately at the ESMBA AGM. The committee read through the proposed changes and agreed that proposals were sensible therefore if Cornwall does have a representative at the AGM they would be asked to vote in favour of the changes in order to streamline the committee and to tidy the current constitution.

Email from Keith Hawkins (ESMBA) attaching a copy of the ESMBA Committee Meeting Minutes from August 2013.

Email from Dennis Shorthouse (Landrake SMBC) enquiring whether the CCSMBA could buy new jacks in bulk in order to get some kind of discount and then distribute to the clubs. The committee raised concerns regarding this as no discounts had been received in the past when purchasing new jacks for the County venue even though it had been a bulk order. There were also concerns about the Association becoming a retailer and not being able to sell the stock if jacks were purchased in bulk. However it was agreed that the committee would be able to supply details of a company that do part exchange of old jacks to help save on costs.

Emails from Virginia Malcom (St Keverne SMBC) and Lynne Bonehill (St Ives SMBC) asking for the committee to consider amending Rule 2.2 of the Rules and Conditions of Play – Appendix 1 Area Winter League. It was requested by both clubs for this rule to be amended to allow league games to take place over two mats simultaneously and not just in extreme circumstances. It was explained that it was becoming increasingly difficult to raise teams and members were reluctant to travel long distances on winter evenings and could result in some clubs having to withdraw from the County League. The committee discussed this proposal and agreed that it was the responsibility to the committee to ensure the longevity of the County League and therefore an amendment to this rule could be considered; however it was felt that the amendment would have to be written in such a way to ensure that both captains would have to agree to playing over two mats to

protect those teams that would face difficulties with those players that do work late. If one team objected to this then the match would continue without prejudice in the current format. The committee took a vote and agreed to send this proposal to the Rule Revision Committee in order to draw up the amendment in the summer prior to the new season. Vote: 12 in favour of sending the proposal to the Rules Revision Committee and 1 abstention.

153.05 Treasurer's report:

The accounts since I was handed the books in September are now with the auditor to be finalised ahead of the AGM. Due to my job I am unable to get to a bank within opening hours and in order for me to be able to do the job more efficiently I am requesting that the relevant paperwork be completed so that we can use telephone banking when necessary. The committee unanimously agreed to this and the relevant paperwork was completed at the meeting.

Anything previous to this date is still with Chairman and we are trying to make provisions to get this period audited by another party before he stands down from office. It is in doubt as to whether this will be done in time for the AGM in April and therefore regrettably again we ask for patience while we work on this matter. We can assure members that as there is now a permanent Treasurer on the committee, the Association's accounts will be completed as per the Officer's Job Description.

For the period 1st September 2013 to 17th March 2014:

Total Income = £7668.35

Total Out = £12772.23

Loss in this period = £5103.88

Proposer: Lesley Barker

Seconder: Nick Truscott

153.06 Membership Secretary's report:

We are finishing the year with a total of 1165 registered members (5 of them juniors) and one new club, Truro, have applied to join in February which if all existing clubs renew for 2014/15 will bring our total to 60.

153.07 Competition Secretary's report:

The majority of the county finals have now been completed; trophies have been given to the winners and medals to the runners up. The only competitions yet to be completed are the Bebbington Cup, the Inter Area Competition, the Rae Francis and the Team of Three, all of which will be played over the next 2 weeks. Unfortunately there was one non-attendance at the county finals day and the player involved has been written to informing him of the rules to be applied regarding loss of points and a ban from that competition next season. There are still a number of trophies to be returned for engraving. It is vital that these are returned by the end of the month to allow sufficient time for engraving ahead of the county meal. Attention now turns to the various National Championships that take place over the next 3 weeks, good luck to all involved.

153.08 Team Manager's report:

The ICC competition has now been completed. The Premier Team reached the final after a quarter final victory over Herefordshire by 30 points to 10, followed by a 22-18 win against East Sussex. Unfortunately, the final was lost to Northamptonshire 16-24 but the result was in doubt right to the end. It was a creditable performance at Northants' home venue. The two trips to Northampton pushed our costs up once again. The A Team lost their quarter final to Suffolk 14-26. I would like to express my thanks to all the players for their support during the year and to those that assisted me, especially Peter Hore, Chris Cawrse and Henry Kendall. We await deliberations by the ESMBA about the format for next year's competition.

153.09 Social Secretary's report:

I have had a couple of people approach me regarding the Presentation Luncheon, however I have not been given details regarding the venue so have been unable to assist with the queries so far.

It was explained that those in attendance at January's meeting (which had to be cancelled) felt that a venue for the Luncheon needed to be booked that month as our next scheduled meeting was not due until mid-March. This may have made it difficult to book a venue in time and issue the menus etc. to clubs. Various venues had been contacted

and it was agreed that the menu, price and facilities offered at the Carnmarth Hotel were favourable. Therefore this hotel was booked and menus distributed to clubs. Contact details for the hotel have now been given to the Social Secretary so that she can agree table arrangements once the final numbers have been received.

153.10 Press & Promotion Officer's report:

County reports are continuing to be sent to the press and the website is being kept up to date where time allows between work commitments.

153.11 Area Representatives' report:

Central area: The winter league is now completed except for the Goonbarrow v Cubert game which will be discussed later. The Premier Division came down to the last game to determine who won and who was relegated. Lostwithiel and Treviscoe Whites finished on 58 points with Lostwithiel winning the league with most mats won. At the bottom St Newlyn East and Cubert Blues were relegated, this again being very close with Withiel surviving by one point. In Division One Kea Plums had a grand total of 75 points winning the league by a good distance, with Lanjeth in second place with 64 points both of these clubs being promoted. Once again I would like to thank Secretaries and Captains for sending in results promptly and look forward to clubs entering the summer league.

East area: The final league positions for the East Area are as follows: Landrake won the Premier Division with Dobwalls in second place. In Division One Callington Falcons won and Callington Hawkes were runners up. My thanks go to all Club Secretaries for their help during the season, there have been a few hiccups and several late entries but we got there in the end. I have been proposed and seconded again and so I intend to carry on as Area Rep, even though at times it can be very stressful! Hoping all clubs enjoy the summer break and come back to the new season raring to go.

North area: The clubs have now completed the league matches. The 1st Division was won by Tintagel as in the very last match Blisland lost at home to Altarnun making the final result Tintagel 22 points and Blisland 21 points. The 2nd Division was won by Lanteglos Red with 21 points and Poughill coming 2nd with 18 points. I am having problems with finding someone to take over from me and at our next meeting (10th April) we have to decide whether to change from two divisions to one. I am still having great difficulty with finding 8 teams of 4 players for the inter area.

West area: The Premier Division table finished with Jowsters on top, with Illogan 2nd but the other two regular top performers, Grylls and Holmans, were edged out by St Ives and Marazion Blackbirds. The 1st and 2nd Divisions present a familiar picture with St Ives Belyars returning to the Premier Division along with Praa Sands Buckets and Porthleven Treza bouncing straight back up to Division One along with either St Keverne Manacles or Hayle Copperhouse. The 2nd promotion place from Division Two is yet to be confirmed as a likely deduction of points for breach of league rules would result in Manacles not being promoted. The play-offs for the afternoon triples leagues, scheduled to take place this Wednesday will now be a straight fight between Porthleven Tregew and Penlee Lidden as the winner of the "Red" division, Tolcarne, have withdrawn as they are unable to raise a team. The area competitions are nearing completion, with numbers slightly down on last year and unfortunately it seems likely that our league team numbers will contract further next season as it appears that one or more teams and one club might not feature in future arrangements.

153.12 Items for discussion from correspondence (if necessary):

Following receipt of a letter from AR Mitchell-Harris (Goonbarrow) regarding the missed league fixture between Goonbarrow and Cubert, the committee discussed it's contents and spoke with Ken Horrell (Central Area Rep) to understand what had happened. It became clear that Goonbarrow travelled to Cubert on the 3rd December for what was believed to be their fixtured game however this date had been rearranged to take place on the 17th December due to issues with the hire of the hall due to a Christmas event. Subsequently this event had been cancelled due to the health of the organiser so Cubert were able to use the hall on the 3rd December however another rearrangement of the fixture would not have been allowed within the County Rules. The revised fixture was clearly shown on the official confirmed list sent to all central clubs and also to the Press and Promotions officer to be published on the County website, the initial fixture list sent to clubs was a provisional list only and therefore could be subject to changes prior to the start of the league as in situations like this. As the revised fixture was two weeks later Goonbarrow did have a chance to play the fixtured match however this was declined, they were also somewhat leniently offered the chance to try to rearrange the fixture but a new date was not agreed and the game remains unplayed.

The committee considered the evidence presented to them and felt that as the official fixture list clearly shows the game as the 17th December (Section 7.4 Rule and Conditions of Play – Area Winter League applies) the fault was unfortunately in the hands of Goonbarrow. The committee agreed that the revised fixture was outside of the period outlined in Section 7.1 Rules and Conditions of Play – Area Winter League however the Area Representative

admitted that this was an oversight on his behalf and the committee now considered this period to be very restrictive and would be looking to amend this in the rules revision meeting. It was also agreed that the provisional and confirmed fixture lists could be headed better in future to prevent any further confusion. This being said, the committee felt that they had no other option but to regrettably enforce Section 8.4 Rules and Conditions of Play – Area Winter League as in previous similar situations and therefore Goonbarrow SMBC will be penalised 4 points and Cubert will be awarded 6 points with no shots scored for or against.

153.13 Any other business:

Summer League: The committee discussed the fall in the number of teams entering the Summer League each year and a proposal put forward by Nick Truscott to change the format to 15 ends of 3 wood triples. It was hoped that this format would make it easier for teams to be raised throughout the county and the committee agreed that it would be worth trying a different format for this year’s competition to see if it would help increase the number of entries. A letter would be draw up by Nick Truscott explaining the changes to the format which will be sent out with the entry forms.

AGM: Will be held at Luxulyan Village Hall on Sunday 27th April at 2.30pm. Nominations forms have already been sent out to clubs and these need to be returned to the County Secretary by the 1st April.

Hire of Carnmoggas: The first initial two year period of our agreement with the owners of Carnmoggas Indoor Bowls club is nearing its completion. Due to this the rate of hire is able to be reviewed and has been proposed by the owners to increase to a daily rate of £150. The committee discussed this proposal and agreed that as this was the same rate we were paying to hire the hall at Fowey two years ago and as this rate will be held for another two year period then this increase would be acceptable. The owners have also agreed to reduce the minimum number of dates that we need to book which the committee are appreciative of as our current calendar only just met this requirement for the past two years.

Player’s Subsidy for National Championships: As the County have received a record number of places at this year’s National Championships and it is hoped that this will continue for future years it was proposed by Peter Hore that the player’s subsidy rate be reduced from £35 per player per discipline to £30 per player per discipline in order to keep the overall cost at a similar amount to previous seasons.

Proposer: Peter Hore

Seconder: Bob Flower

Unanimously agreed.

153.14 Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on 19th May 2014 7.30pm at Ladock Village Hall.

153.15 Close meeting:

These are a true record and representation of the minutes taken at the above meeting.

Signed..... (Chairman) Dated.....

Hon: Secretary: Elise Daniell

Dated: 23rd March 2014