



# EAST KENT SHORT MAT BOWLS ASSOCIATION

## MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015  
at Canterbury

### 1. Welcome by the Chairman

Paul welcomed all members and thanked Canterbury for holding the meeting and the helpers for teas and coffee.

### 2. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Liz Trappitt (Westgate), Lew Harrison (Aylesham), Ivan Cordier (Swalecliffe) and Bob Castle (Ash).

No apologies were received from Preston.

### 3. Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2015

These were taken as read, accepted as a true record and to be signed.

Proposed by Terence Terry (Aylesham) and Seconded by Bob Holliday (Boughton).

### 4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Paul wished to clarify that the Hugh Bradbury Open Triples Competition means open to the Association and not all those who play short mat bowls in Kent.

### 5. Secretary's Report

Lynn's report "Welcome to the new season, and welcome to Barham SMBC who have joined this season as an Associated Member.

The Short Mat Season may have finished for some during the summer but we, the officers, still have lots to do to get things ready and prepared for the forthcoming season.

Address and Fixtures Booklets have been sent out. Further copies are available at £2 each.

Public Liability Insurance Certificates have also been distributed and clubs should now have these displayed on their premises. Completed Public Liability Insurance forms/lists of clubs members have not been received from Ash, Aylesham, Macknade, and Minster.

I would like to remind clubs that names of all members, whether they play in the league games or not should be included on the list which will ensure they are covered for insurance purposes, this is a requirement of Zurich Insurance Company.

Hawkinge Community Centre is the venue for competitions this coming season, Singles, Pairs and Triples. The Oyster Cup will be held at Bysing Wood in December.

Please note: in the Address and Fixture Booklet on Page 30 Spray Chalk should read £3.40 each and not £2 as shown - apologies for error.

### 6. Treasurers Report

Spreadsheets were circulated earlier. Hugh reported "Since the AGM

Income has been £877.01 and expenditure £517.97. Naturally for this time of year income has been League Registration and Affiliation (£592), Insurance (£240), Oyster Cup (£37.50) and Miscellaneous (£7.51 - Trophy £5.50, Account Interest £2.01). Expenditure has been Insurance (£227.15), Secretarial (£172.69), Post (£38.13) and Venue Deposit for Oyster Cup (£80).

**7. League Secretary's Report:** Barbara's report: "Preparation for the 2015/16 season league has been ongoing during the summer. I am detailing the part of the process and problems encountered.

On receipt of all applications for renewal, the Officers met to confirm the divisions. We had 31 teams and it was decided to have 2 division of 10 and 11 in division 3.

We held a draw for the fixtures, fixed the dates for the rounds, the dates and venues for the meetings, competitions and social events.

The fixtures are automatically created using an Excel programme. The information is typed into the Address and Fixture Booklet and with all the amendments are double checked with the help of Lynn Hall. This file is then sent to Brian Castle for printing and to Les Marsh for amendments to the web page.

Around mid-July the fixtures and all relevant information is sent to all the fixtures secretaries to be completed by the end of August.

A few days after the information was sent, we were informed that Chilham would have to unfortunately withdraw from the league. This left only 9 teams in Division 1. We endeavoured to equalise the divisions but the next 2 teams in Division 2 declined to be promoted to the first division. This maybe something we should look into.

As in previous years, I had to chase up late fixtures, most delays caused by the non-arrival of the confirmations (its different clubs each year). Unfortunately at the end of August there was further aggravation when Whitstable SMBC had to change one of their club nights hence a further wait to receive confirmations. All fixtures are then entered onto an Excel file and cross checked.

Therefore in a very short timescale to work in I am pleased to be able to have all the fixture sheets authorised and ready to hand out. This is mainly due to the excellent work of the fixture secretaries with so very few queries to deal with this year and the very helpful prompt responses I have received from the majority. Thank goodness for modern technology as one posted confirmation took 7 days to arrive by second class mail, so for those who send results by post - please note the delay using 2<sup>nd</sup> class mail!

The Excel file can now be passed to Hugh Bradbury who has been waiting to complete the update of the database for next season.

It's apparent that there is a problem with confirmations, however, I do feel that the current procedures as set by the Association should be followed.

To date we currently have 248 players registered to play in the league, with a further 2 teams players to be added.

Paul said he now wanted to discuss some of the situations that have arisen during the summer causing extra work for Barbara, he finds it unacceptable putting extra pressure on her. Barbara had advised the officers that she will not be standing as League Secretary at the next AGM and Lynn Hall has also advised that she will also not be standing as Association Secretary at the next AGM. So we would ask you to go back to your clubs and inform them of the vacancies arising. I will also be sending out a letter to all clubs regarding this.

A particular person from a club told Barbara that they wouldn't waste a stamp on sending relevant information to her. So because of this, next year we will bring in clause "Non-Compliance to Constitution and Rules" (page 10 item 8) to any club not adhering to the Rules and Constitution of the Association. Unfortunately as a majority we suffer for the minority. We need co-operation.

Paul continued, after being informed of Chilham withdrawing from the league and clubs declining to be promoted, officers agreed that in future any equalisation of the divisions coming into effect, clubs would actually be told what division they would be playing in the forthcoming season - see "Promotion and Relegation" (page 14 item 15). Again, we need co-operation.

**8. Competitions Secretary Report:** Brian said Competition forms had been sent out and all entries must be in by the end of November. Remember all the competitions will be held at Hawkinge this season - there will be 8 mats so it will be a shorter day. Paul said please remember there is no restaurant at Hawkinge so please bring your own food/lunch.

### **9. Any Other Business**

Terence Terry said he was not able to use the e-mail link on the web site he just got a lot of screens. Hugh said he would contact Ray to see what is happening.

Damian Mageean (Chilham) apologised for Chilham having to come out of the league, but said if any clubs wanted a game then Chilham are quite happy and willing to play friendlies.

Paul said Invicta Bowls Association is made up of players who do not play outdoors during the summer and in the past we have had very enjoyable days at Snodland playing short mat bowls. So for those club members who do not play outdoors we have booked Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2016 to play Invicta in a return match at Hawkinge Community Centre. 12 teams are required and we would like to see each club submit a really good team so please get your club to sign up for this and contact Lynn expressing your clubs interest.

Everyone pays a £1 for all day tea and coffee, bring your own lunch/food as there are no restaurant facilities.

Ros Chandler (Capel) asked perhaps a poster could be done so it could be put on notice boards. Lynn said she would get one done.

The meeting closed at 8.25p.m.

### **REMINDERS**

The next Meeting will be the Pre-AGM - to be held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at Canterbury at 7.30 p.m.

Signed .....

Date .....