



EAST KENT SHORT MAT BOWLS ASSOCIATION

MINUTES COMMITTEE MEETING

Held on Thursday 2nd September 2021
at Minster Village Hall

1. Welcome by the Acting Chairman

Barry welcomed all members to the meeting with a view to discuss how we are move forward following what has been a disastrous 16 or so months for most indoor short mat players. He also thanked the committee and the web master for their continuous support. A minute's silence was observed for all past members and people we may have known who have been lost due to covid.

2. Apologies

Apologies were received from: Les Marsh (Wingham), Brenda Castle (Ash), Tony Fitzgerald (Macknade), Brian Kennett, (Bekesbourne)

3. Minutes of Committee Meeting held on 9th March 2020

As there was such a long time period since this meeting most members present did not seem to respond, I offered to read these out but this was declined so These were taken as read, accepted as a true record and to be signed.

Proposed by Barbara Hadler (Whitstable) and Seconded by Paul Andrews (Sturry)

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

5. Insurance cover if registered with ESMBA/KCSMBA

It has been brought to the committee's attention that those players who are playing with KCSMBA who are therefore registered with ESMBA have insurance which states that they should not be playing with members insured elsewhere. We therefore have no option but to look at this with our insurance company to make sure that all our members are insured correctly from a health and safety aspect. This may only apply to clubs who do not have their own premises and not those who have their own club houses and therefore their own health and safety insurance.

During an internally meeting earlier in the year our then chairman felt that our association should join the English Short Mat Bowls Association in order to get their safe bowling certificate. This would have meant each club paying out fees to register. Other committee members preferred to stay independent especially as we have our own risk assessment plan. Our then chairman resigned over the matter and following this current meeting we had a phone call from a member to say the Swalecliffe member acted in an unprofessional way at today's meeting and it was a personal attack on Barry who has tried to get the Association up and running safely following Covid. Many members had no interest and ask for us to move on with the meeting and it was left for Hugh to contact our insurance to clarify that all members are insured correctly. Hugh is to see if a representative can attend our next meeting to explain things

6. Rules Changes

Due to the observation both at league games and competition games at Hawkinge a member is playing forcing/running/hard shots well over what is necessary to break up the head and there is a concern over the safety. With this in mind due to the changes of the insurance policy requirements and the requirement for Risk Assessments covering Health and Safety for all roles and activities changes to the Constitution and Rules are needed

7. The committee therefore asked Colin who is a qualified umpire for his comments to which he said "It speaks for itself it is downright dangerous."

8. Moving forward/ friendly games/ competitions

Without any one coming forward to take over the position of league secretary there will not be any league games this season. The committee were prepared to organize some structured friendly games (mini league) but having randomly asked several clubs all said they will organize their own friendly games. When it comes to competitions at Hawkinge a suggestion was made to hold one 3 wood pairs competition, (prizes awarded at the end of the day), with a maximum of people to be covid safe but that the fee would have to be £7 per person to cover the cost. This needs to go back to the clubs for members to discuss so no competition can be organized for the time being.

9. Election of Officers and Committee

There has been no interest from anyone to take over the following roles, Treasurer or League Secretary. Discussions will take place at our next AGM

10. Any other business

Both the Staple Club and Minnis Bay Club have closedown and currently the Bekesbourne Club does not have a venue for the rest of the year and so their members are playing elsewhere.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

The next Meeting will be the AGM which was called for to be held on Wednesday 3rd November 2021 at 7.30 p.m. at Minster Village Hall

Signed Date