

The Annual General Meeting of The Cambridgeshire Short Mat Bowls Association was held on Wednesday 20 July 2016 at the BRAZA Function Room, Elm Road, March, PE15 8NZ commencing at 7.30 pm. The Chairman welcomed the Delegates and members and thanked them for their attendance.

Clubs Represented:

BRAZA, Doddington, Emneth, Fen Drayton, GER, Gorefield, Holme, Sutton St Edmund, Sutton St James, Tydd St Giles, Walpole Highway. (20 delegates)

Apologies: There were none.

The minutes of the AGM held on the 15 July 2015 had already been circulated to Club Secretaries.

Adoption of AGM Minutes:

It was proposed by Janet Goff and seconded by Rob Elmore that the minutes be accepted as a true record. All in favour.

Matters Arising: There were none.

Adoption of Reports:

It was proposed by Janet Goff and seconded by Bill Harrison that the previously circulated reports from the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Membership Secretary, League Secretary, Competitions Secretary and A Team Captain be accepted. Agreed unanimously.

Janet Goff also thanked Tony Hart for all the work he does to run the competitions.

Motions

a) **As minuted on 17 October 2015, item 8 f) to be reworded as follows:-**

*A quorum will consist of six committee members. Each member who is present will have one vote, with the Chair of the meeting having a casting vote.*

Proposed Janet Goff and seconded by Janet Russell - Unanimous.

b) **We need to include the Ladies team in Section 10 and to take out the need for a Team Manager, so the proposed wording is:-**

*10. County Teams*

*The County shall have an A Team, Ladies Team and Seniors Team. The committee shall appoint Captains for the three squads and these Captains will in turn choose their Vice-Captains. The appointees can be players, non-players, committee members or non-committee members but all will be responsible to the committee.*

*The committee reserves the right to replace the appointees should they prove unsatisfactory and their decision is final.*

Proposed Rob Elmore and seconded by George Jupp - Unanimous.

c) **The following addition to Section 8 of the Constitution (possibly inserted before point b) has been proposed by Linda White and seconded by Rosemary Cooper.**

*All Office Bearers and Committee Members shall serve a maximum term of three years with the proviso that should a vacancy for a particular position not be filled the present incumbent could be asked to continue for a further year.*

After discussion it was felt that this addition could lead to a non-viable committee and it was therefore defeated.

Election of Officers to serve for 2016/2017

Chairman Gerry Russell (Sutton St Edmund)

Secretary Linda White (Doddington)

Caretaker Treasurer Linda White (Doddington)

Catering Officer Sue Thompson (Sutton St Edmund)

League Secretary June Parish (BRAZA)

Competition Secretary Tony Hart (BRAZA)

County Welfare Officer Tony Hart (BRAZA)

*Committee* Gwen Siggee (BRAZA)

 Joe Peters (Doddington)

 Margaret Newton (Sutton St James)

 Barrie Newton (Sutton St James)

It was proposed by Josie Charter and seconded by Janet Russell that the above people be voted en bloc. Unanimous.

One nomination had been received proposing Jayne Thorpe and this was carried 15 votes for, 1 against and 1 abstention.

Linda White proposed the co-option of Rosemary Cooper as Membership Secretary. This was seconded by Gerry Russell and agreed unanimously.

The Committee are still missing a Vice-Chairman and have two vacancies for committee members. Everyone was asked to keep in mind that a Treasurer needed to be found as the position was being covered on a temporary basis at the moment.

Auditor

Debbie Buck had again audited the books this year and thanks were extended to her. She would be approached to see if she was willing to take on the job for a further year.

Date for AGM 2016/2017

The date for next year’s AGM would be Wednesday 19 July 2017.

AGM meeting closed.

Members’ Open Forum

The Chairman opened the Forum and Val Ware was given a vote of thanks for all the work she had done as Treasurer.

1. **The Association’s Committee propose the following amended wording (shown in bold and underlined) to Item (2h) of the League Rules:-**

*Each team will play each other home and away and games should be spread out evenly throughout the season,* ***with the recommendation that*** *50% of the games are played before the 31 December. Teams from the same Club and in the same division must play both games (Home and Away) before the 31 December.*

After discussion a vote was taken with 4 against and everyone else in favour. Carried.

2. Catering

 Sue Thompson explained the pitfalls of providing refreshments ourselves in respect of health and safety and had obtained a quote from a professional company which amounted to £4.75 per head for a buffet meal. Val Ware said that we should at the very least have a notice about allergens displayed on the table and said she could provide the relevant information.

 It was agreed that this change in catering was a good thing but we had to find some way to subsidise the cost. Rob Elmore suggested having something like a 20-week draw and Sue said she had been looking at getting sponsors to advertise their companies on the wooden storage boxes which we have in March Indoor Bowls Club. The other possibility was to use some of the profit gained from raffles to make up the deficit, particularly in respect of paying for food for visiting teams. We only have to cater for about three matches a year so the committee were asked to consider the best way forward in respect of finance.

 This change to use caterers was carried with 29 votes in favour and 2 abstentions.

3. Roly Fincham asked if items put on the website could also be sent out by email to club secretaries. It was, however, felt that secretaries could easily download direct from the website. He also asked for a form to be circulated to clubs so that members could indicate their interest in playing for the County, the Seniors, the Ladies or friendlies. Linda White agreed to do this.

4. Gerry Russell said he had been approached by the Essex B team who would like to play our Seniors home and away. This would be progressed.

5. Cooling fans had been used in MIBC recently and had been successful so the members were asked if they agreed to four more being purchased. Agreed.

6. Rob Elmore asked if we could run a similar championship to the Top Club one run by ESMBA. This would be a knockout competition and be won by a club instead of an individual. The idea was welcomed and would be pursued.

7. Gerry Russell informed the meeting that we had renewed our Agreement with MIBC for a further three years. Barry Fox was now in the process of making a further six boxes for storage of mats which will be placed along the back wall below the scoreboards.

8. Josie Charter asked if clubs from nearer Cambridge were willing to join the CSMBA would it be possible to run a separate league for them. She was told that there would be no problem with doing this.

9. Going back to the League, Rob Elmore asked if there was any reason why a game could not start at 7.30 pm instead of 7.15 pm. It was agreed that this was fine as long as the opposition agreed.

Presentation of the Cambs League trophies and cash prizes was made by the League Secretary, June Parish.

Division 1 Winners: Doddington Tornadoes

Runners-up: GER Robins

Division 2 Winners: Walpole Highwaymen

Runners-up: Emneth Extras

The Chairman thanked all members for attending the meeting.

Meeting closed.