

# ESSEX COUNTY BOWLING ASSOCIATION GROUP 6

## A.G.M. MEETING 5<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2022 at 7p.m.

Meeting opened at 19.03

**Chairman David Jacobi** welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **1. In Memoriam**

A minute's silence was observed in memory of fellow bowlers who had passed away during the past 12 months.

### **2. Apologies for Absence**

Carreras; Gt. Wakering; Memorial Park; Wickford

### **Delegates Present**

Alexandra: Belfairs; Bournemouth Park; Castle Point; Essex County; Fairwood; Hadleigh; Hockley; Prittlewell; Rayleigh; Rochford; Runwell; Shoebury Park; South Benfleet & Canvey; Southchurch Park; Southend; Thorpe Bay; Whitehall;

### **Delegates Absent**

Chalkwell Park; Eastwood Park;

### **Officers Present**

David Jacobi; Chris Flack; Chris Chorley; Kevin Robertson; Ken Griffiths; Jim Bunce; Dave Starkey

### **3. Chairman David Jacobi**

As you know due to Covid in 2020 and my health problems in 2021 I was unable to get involved with Group 6 affairs during those years, as much as I would have liked, but I am pleased to say that I have been able to get more involved during this past season and have again enjoyed my year as your Group 6 Chairman.

I am sure you will agree with me that the affairs of the Group have been ably managed with every member of the committee playing their part and I would like to have recorded, my thanks, to all the officers for the time and effort they have put in on your behalf.

I am sure I can safely say that 2022 was another successful year for Group 6. We reached the final of the Ashford Cup, again against Group 3, and as in the previous season it was a very close match with Group 6, this time, coming out as winners, winning by shot difference in what was a very exciting final.

As in past seasons, I have tried whenever possible to attend the County Executive meetings, as well as supporting Group 6 players in the various competitions. This year I was able to go along and support the Ashford cup team in all their round robin games as well as the final and was also able to support the Wally Ball team in a couple of their games.

I continue to act as Group 6 selector for the County friendlies. Most County games are played on a Tuesday and Thursday and finding players for the Tuesday games has not always been easy as many players feel that they should support their own club in the group 6 league. The motion which is being put forward tonight to change

the Group 6 league to a Wednesday would make it much easier to get players for the Tuesday games so I would urge you to vote in favour. Furthermore a thank you to all the players who have stepped in at the last moment to take the place of last minute drop outs.

I don't normally mention by name one of the committee members but tonight I will do so. Dave Starkey has been on the Group 6 committee for several years and has been one of the selectors with responsibility for running the Walley Ball competition. Because of his involvement with the County I would like to thank him for all his hard work and I wish him well as County Senior Deputy President for next season.

Finally I would like to thank you all and your clubs for your support throughout the season.

#### **4. Approval of Minutes of the 2021 AGM held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021**

The chairman asked the delegates if the minutes of the AGM were an accurate record of that meeting.

Proposed by: Runwell

Seconded by: Hadleigh

The meeting unanimously agreed

#### **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising

#### **5. Officer Reports**

##### **Treasurers Report**

We started the year off with a bank balance of £1409.97, and thanks to the ECBA, who increased their contribution to include travel expenses for this and last year by a further £280, as well as their annual contribution of £250, we have increased our balance to a total of £1648.

We continue to purchase shirts for members who participate in both Group 6 and County Representative games, as well as maintaining our website and trophy engraving. I wish to thank those selectors and committee members who despite many journeys to and from different clubs, do not desire compensation for their travel expenses.

This has helped swell our funds by a further £240 this year, which will help if any unforeseen expenses occur

##### **Secretary's Report**

Firstly, I would like to thank every club for returning your 2023 Affiliation Fees & League subscriptions on time, this will allow Kevin to report next year's League structure at today's meeting rather than later. Thank you all.

On the same theme I would like to thank those clubs who have returned their nominations for next year's Representative games, I am a little surprised by the low numbers returned, so if you have forgotten, it is not too late, just email me a copy please.

I would also like to thank the 19 clubs who returned their Green Testing Forms back to us at the beginning of the season, so they could be viewed on our website for everyone to see, hopefully next season will see the same response.

As last year, you will be receiving emails directly from the ECBA regarding your 2023 Affiliations Fees and your club contact details for next seasons County Handbook.

As last year, I will also be asking you to provide me your club contacts for 2023, once received I will forward to complete list to all club secretaries and delegates.

The Group 6 Finals Day took place at South Benfleet & Canvey Bowling Club on 25<sup>th</sup> September with the following results: -

Singles: 17 competitors – Kevin Barber/Runwell 22 – Ken Smith/ECBC 10

Triples: 18 competitors -

|                |         |
|----------------|---------|
| R Ramsey -     | ECBC    |
| Rhys Eyles -   | ECBC 18 |
| Craig Ramsey - | ECBC    |
| Andy Dawes -   | ECBC    |
| John Lloyd -   | ECBC 17 |
| David Dar -    | ECBC    |

Group 6 would like to formally thank South Benfleet & Canvey Bowling Club for the use of their facilities and the help of the club members to make it a successful day. I would also like to thank our officer Kevin Robertson for marking the singles competition and presenting the trophies.

I would like to congratulate the players from some of the smaller clubs who put in some really outstanding performances, namely John Turley/Carreras in the Singles and the three guys from Memorial Park skipped by John Harms who had some great results, it was really great to see. I would ask the clubs to encourage new bowlers to enter these competitions as they are an ideal place to play some competitive bowls. These competitions don't start until early August and they are finished by the third week in September, so a very short period. The entry list is quite small so good entry level competitions.

Finally, I would like to encourage all clubs to use the Group 6 website for all the latest information about Group 6 bowling.

In addition to all the normal information on leagues, representative games, green testing etc, we are putting more and more information on our website, such as the results of all our games, which hopefully will prove useful to our members.

A lot of time goes into ensuring that it contains all the latest information about Group 6 bowls, this year for instance we added the results of all the league games for the first time, so please use it.

Finally I would like to draw your attention to some of the bowlers from Group 6 who we must congratulate for achieving some outstanding results this season.

### **European Championships held in Scotland at the beginning of the summer**

- Ed Morris (ECBC) partnered by Tom McGuinness) won the Pairs beating Guernsey in the final

### **British Isles Championships held in Wales in June**

- Ed Morris (ECBC) won the Singles
- Ed Morris Chris Muir and Steve Gunnell (ECBC) won the Triples

## **English Nations Championships**

- Ed Morris won the Singles 21-17 for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year running
- Ed Morris and Chris Muir (ECBC) on reaching Leamington and the final stages of the Pairs.
- Shane Rowney and Ben Amos (ECBC) on reaching Leamington and the final stages of the Junior Pairs.
- Ryan Ramsey, Rhys Eyles, Craig Ramsey and David Dar on reaching Leamington and the final stages of the Fours.
- The County of Essex winning the Balcombe Trophy (an Inter County Competition) with Ed Morris and Mark Welton (ECBC) in the team beating Yorkshire in the Final.

## **County Competitions**

- Ed Morris (ECBC) won the Singles (Four Wood)
- Ed Morris and Chris Muir (ECBC) won the Pairs
- Shane Rowney and Ben Amos (ECBC) won the Junior Pairs
- ECBC won the Double Fours beating Colchester West End in the Final
- ECBC won the County Shield beating Silverend in the Final
- Adam Miller (TBBC) won the Unbadged singles

A fantastic season for Group 6 and won that should be celebrated.

## **League Secretary's Report**

All the Divisions within the league ran smoothly this year with results being reported generally on time and with the league tables updated within days of the games. Who would have thought that our extreme weather rules would apply due to very high temperatures, as on the 19<sup>th</sup> July. Almost all of the games that needed to be rearranged were played (bar one which had been scheduled for after the end of the season – against the league rules). As with last year it is satisfying to see the practical approach that people take to re-arranging games - it makes my job a lot easier.

Given the outcome of last season, we now have 2 divisions containing 3 teams from the same club (ECBC). The Committee have had discussions regarding this situation and will be monitoring it closely.

For next season, we have lost one team – Hadleigh B from Div 6.

This either means 4 divisions of 8 teams and 2 of 5

or

3 divisions of 8, 2 of 7 and Div 6 with just 4.

The 4 teams would play their opponents 4 times (12 games in all). I personally favour the later as it does not interfere with the promotion/relegation of teams from 2022.

I have 2 other points to make:-

1. I propose a very small rule change, to make the rule regarding playing re-arranged games before the end of the Group6 League season more specific.
2. The fixture list for next season depends on the decision regarding make-up of the divisions. We will continue to publish the results of all games on the website on a weekly basis, along with the tables.

Finally, congratulations to all the Divisional winners and I look forward to summer 2023.

**Question from the floor** - The delegate from Essex County BC asked if there were any plans to reverse to decision on the provision of food after league games.

The League Secretary advised that he had not been approached by any club asking for this decision to be reversed, it was still up to each club individually to decide if they wanted to or not, with no obligation to do so.

The Whitehall BC delegate advised that his club did make the decision to provide food after league games and it was always well received.

The Essex County BC delegate explained that his concern was those bowlers who came straight from work and if no food is provided, would not have the opportunity to eat until gone 9pm on league nights.

**Question from the floor** - The delegate from Essex County BC asked if the League Secretary was looking at a fixture list that avoids the same team playing at home ( or away) for a number of consecutive weeks.

The League Secretary explained that for the most part the fixture list carries over from one season to the next, he has looked at moving fixtures around to avoid this happening, but it often leads to problems in the second half of the season for the return games, providing no improvement.

However, he will look at it again before distributing next seasons fixtures

**Question from the floor** - The delegate from Bournemouth Park BC asked the League Secretary if it was still the plan to make teams from the same club play each other at the beginning of the season, made worse next season with three teams from the same club in two separate divisions.

The League Secretary confirmed that was still the plan.

## Match Secretary

The Match Secretary was not a happy man following last seasons events regarding friendly fixtures.

In his experience (over forty years) this has been his worst year for organising friendlies.

Group 6 only organise two friendlies a season and both were cancelled last season due to lack of interest.

One against the Southend Parks Circle and one against the Essex Vice-Presidents Unfortunately the Park Circle game was cancelled by the Park Circle though lack of playing members, more disappointedly was the Vice-Presidents game that has been played for many years.

In all instances he contacted clubs asking them to name a rink of 4 bowlers for each game (not the same clubs for both games, but different clubs), in most if not all instances the clubs did not bother responding to that request and he had to chase the clubs for a response.

In a lot of cases he was met with the response that the club member didn't know anything about the game, in spite an email being sent to two club officers.

There is a motion coming up later in the meeting where you the delegates can decide if you want to continue with Friendly fixtures.

I enjoy doing the job of Match Secretary and I will be very disappointed if the delegates decide that the job should be discontinued.

## Selectors

**Ashford Cup** - After being runners up to Group 3 for the last three years, we finally gained our revenge, by winning the final against Group 3 on shot difference.

We played our first two games at South Benfleet & Canvey Bowling Club winning very well 9 out of the 12 rinks played .

We went to Brentwood (Kings Chase BC) for our final group game knowing that a good result would see us through to the final. We were not disappointed, winning on all six rinks, a great performance from the whole team.

The final was another close affair, with again the score being rinks each, but this time the shot difference was in our favour by 13 shots.

I would not normally pick out individuals, but the rink of Dave Dale, Len Pope, Andy Dawes and Lewis Miller won by 30 shots, ensuring we won on the shot difference, a great performance in the final.

My thanks, as always, goes to the reserve players who attended all the games.

Reserves attending the games is most important to the success of the team, ensuring we can always field a full team in the event of travel or other problems.

It is an honour for you and your club to be included in the squad of 30.

My thanks go to all our supporters and also to South Benfleet and Canvey Bowling Club for hosting our home games so well.

Lastly well done to all those players who were awarded their badge this year.

Selector – Jim Bunce

**Wally Ball** - On behalf of group 6 I would like to thank South Benfleet & Canvey B.C & Rayleigh B.C for the use of their green and facilities for the Wally Ball competition 2022.

Group 9 asked if South Benfleet & Canvey BC could hold our away match as Thurrock BC had a problem with parking on that day, accepting this would be good for Group 6, giving us a bit of home advantage

We won on all 4 rinks.

The next match Group 1 v Group 6 was at Colchester West End BC the green was not the best we lost 3 rinks to 1.

The final match Group 6 v Group 2 was at Rayleigh BC we needed a 4 rink win plus Group 1 to slip up, unfortunately we only manage to draw 2 rinks each this was the end of the Wally Ball for Group 6 this year.

A big thanks to the Wally Ball Squad for giving their time up over 3 Sundays in June.

Because of my commitment to Essex County Bowling Association I have decided to stand down from Group 6 Committee. I have been involved with the group for many years playing in both the Ashford and Wally Ball, and as well as being a part of Group 6 committee. I will still be supporting the group as much as I can.

I wish the Ray Woollard, who will be taking over the running of the Wally Ball all the very best.

To the present committee it has been a pleasure working with you and a big thank you for the wine and card.

A special thanks to Kevin Watkins and Jim Bunce who gave me the chance to get my County Badge

Selector - Dave Starkey

**Inter Group Knockout** - For those delegates who didn't attend last year's AGM, a short update: -

The delegate from Thorpe Bay Bowling Club questioned the method used by selectors to pick the Intergroup Knockout teams. With no success in this competition over the past few seasons, for a group of our size and with the players we have, who have won many County titles over this period, we are under achieving. Isn't it about time we tried something different?

**He suggested that each of the clubs who finish in the first six places of Division 1 of the Group 6 league, should nominate a team of four bowlers (a rink) to represent the Group in the Inter Group Knockout. the top four clubs could nominate a team of four.**

In his view this would give the clubs in Division 1 an extra incentive to finish in the top four or six, rather than the small number of clubs involved of late, as well giving more players the opportunity to play in this competition.

Responding on behalf of the selectors, Dave Starkey agreed that our recent performances in the Inter Group Knockout had not been good enough and agreed, maybe it was time to try something different and the ideas suggested by TBBC deserved serious consideration.

### **Group 6 Intergroup 2022**

We would like to thank Essex County Bowling Club for hosting our only game.

The officers contacted the clubs who had finished in the top half of division 1 the previous season asking them to nominate a rink of 4 players each, Hockley BC declined but Essex County BC A side and B side both nominated a rink, plus rinks from Rayleigh and South Benfleet BC. The Group 6 Officers then contacted various individual players around the group to make up the 6 rinks.

All players tried their best but were not good enough on the day, against a very strong Group 4 who put all their top bowlers out.

Without a selector / manager responsible it was always going to be hard. We do have some top bowlers that should have been selected but were not, that could have made a difference, hopefully with Steve Gunnell joining the committee and given responsibility for this one competition, he may be able to talk the really top bowlers from Essex County BC and other clubs to take part and form a very good squad in 2023

Selector - Dave Starkey

## **6. Motions/Proposals**

- Proposal received from Group 6 Officers

1. Remove County Competition Secretary from Group 6 Officers list and Constitution

*With the introduction of an on-line entry and results system for County Competitions, the need for this position is no longer required.*

The Secretary provided further justification for this proposal, and no questions were asked from the floor of the meeting.

- A hand vote was taken (delegates only) with the majority approving the motion.

- Proposal received from Group 6 Officers

2. Remove the Match Secretary from the Group 6 Officers list and Constitution  
*Following the cancellation this year of the 'only' two friendlies that Group 6 hosted, due to lack of interest from the members and the difficulties experienced finding players for friendlies in previous years, despite the hard work of the current Match secretary, we think the only sensible option is to cancel friendly games from our itinerary, the consequence is that the position of Match Secretary is no longer required.*

The Secretary provided further justification for this proposal.

The Match Secretary following on from his report explained that in his opinion there was an appetite for friendly games from the players, the problem appears to be with individual club officers not disseminating the information to their members before the games, and resolving that problem was beyond the remit of the Match Secretary.

The Essex County delegate expressed the view that this motion was a kneejerk reaction to one bad year and we should reject the motion and review the situation again at next year's AGM.

The Southchurch Park delegate (who organises the Park Circle friendly) expressed the view that this year's cancellation was a one-off due the extenuating circumstances and Park Circle players were interested in playing this game.

His view was that the Park Circle game should be played during September when the number of games was reduced. Also; he thinks that the venue for this game should be rotated between a Park Circle club and a non-Park Circle club.

- A hand vote was taken (delegates only) with the majority rejecting the motion.

- Proposal received from Group 6 Officers

3. Reduce the Group 6 Committee Meeting quorum from 5 to 4 members  
*To reflect the reduction in committee members following the previous 2 proposals from Group 6 Officers*

The Secretary explained that with the rejection of the last motion the Group Officers were only reduced by one, so the justification for this motion had been reduced. Following comments from the floor the Group 6 Officers withdrew the motion and no vote was required.

- Proposal received from Group 6 Officers

4. Move Group 6 League night to a Wednesday, with conditions  
*We propose to move Group 6 League games to a Wednesday night from season 2024*  
*This move should be for a trial period of two years after which the Group 6 AGM should vote to continue or change.*

The Chairman explained the both Runwell and Prittlewell BC had previously proposed a similar motion and have subsequently decided to withdraw their motions on being aware of the Group 6 Officers motion, their delegates both confirmed their withdrawal at this meeting. He also explained the reason for the implementation delay of one season being part of the motion, this to allow individual club Match Secretary's time to re-organise their fixture list should the motion be approved.



The League Secretary went on to explain the background to this motion for the benefit of those delegates who were not familiar with the history of this subject, stating that in the officer's opinion this matter was very much a live issue as previous votes on this matter were always very close.

He outlined the main points behind the proposal: -

- Group 6 were the only group within the County who play their league games on a Tuesday, all the others are played on a Wednesday, which leads to problems for players who are trying to organise National and County games against players from the other groups.
- Some clubs on the western side of the group play in the Basildon league which is also played on a Tuesday, giving those clubs problems with trying to find enough players for both competitions on the same night.
- Group 6 have a two week break at the beginning of June, to allow clubs with players who are playing in the early rounds of County competitions the opportunity to play those games without affecting the quality of their clubs Group 6 league teams.
- There are some County friendly games played on a Tuesday, again potentially affecting the quality of their clubs Group 6 league teams should they decide to play in the County friendly rather than their clubs Group 6 league team.

The Hockley delegate asked what would be the implication on the Cutler Shield competition.

The Secretary explained that for the purposes of this meeting the Cutler Shield cannot be discussed, it is outside our remit. The clubs who participate in the Cutler Shield will have to make a decision on that competition based on the outcome of this meeting.

The Essex County delegate asked why the motion is for a two year trial period, his view being that we should make a decision and stick to it, not keep revisiting the issue.

It was explained that it is the clubs who bring this matter to the AGM, the Group 6 Officers are simply reflecting that within this motion. There is nothing to stop clubs raising this matter at every Group 6 AGM if they so wish, that is the purpose of the AGM, to give the clubs the opportunity to raise issues that are important to them, even if that is only one club.

The Secretary then read out a letter from Carreras BC, who could not attend this meeting but felt their views should be aired.

Carreras would oppose this proposal for the following reasons:

Background: Carreras is a small club with 42 playing members in 2022, increased from 27 in 2021 as a result of vigorous recruitment. Carreras play in the Basildon League on either Thursday or Friday evenings. Wednesday afternoons are reserved for the weekly Club Day. Tuesday evening is reserved for Group 6 games.

Wednesday's Club Days are well supported as they allow members to meet, play and socialize, receive coaching and instruction as required, volunteer to play in friendly and league matches, and catch up on news and other communications. A rolling club competition has been arranged and played during Club Days for the last three seasons, thereby giving structure to Club Days and opportunity for new members fresh to the sport to gain experience and confidence. Club Day has thus developed into a key component for creating club loyalty, bonding and team spirit and has been accurately described as creating a 'family atmosphere'.

Club Day will undoubtedly be defended fiercely by members. It is also inevitably true that our Group 6 men would be unlikely, or unwilling, to play 21 ends on Wednesday afternoon and a further 21 ends in the evening, particularly after driving some distance in rush hour traffic to away matches in between. The absence, or abstinence, of 8-10 key members on Wednesday afternoons would seriously damage our Club Day concept. Soundings indicate that to switch Club Day to either Monday or Tuesday afternoon is unlikely to be successful. You will appreciate that most people run their lives to set routines, having other arrangements already in place for those earlier days, especially if married, and as bowls is not necessarily the most important activity in their lives, would be unwilling – even unable in some cases - to change those arrangements, particularly where the routines of other, non-bowling, people and family members might also be involved.

**Conclusion : Carreras' Committee's view is therefore that a switch from Tuesday to Wednesday would present the Club with two dilemmas (1) Accept the Group 6 decision to switch days and live with the adverse consequences as regards Club Days and membership, or (2) Leave Group 6 and seek to replace by applying for acceptance elsewhere to retain the profile of our fixtures.**

**The Group 6 AGM Agenda states that the Group 6 Officers believe the change 'may encourage other clubs to join or enter more teams'. I can tell you now that with Carreras it would have the exact opposite effect, quite seriously leading in all probability to our club withdrawing from Group 6 unless an alternative can be arranged eg to allow our club to continue playing on Tuesdays.**

If at the Group 6 AGM on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> a proxy vote is allowed, please accept this statement as our authority to Chris Flack to vote against the motion on our behalf.

Ray Wells

Hon Secretary – Carreras Bowls Club

The Secretary stated that proxy votes are not allowed within the current Group 6 Constitution.

The Prittlewell delegate believes we should support the County by moving the Group 6 league games to a Wednesday and rearrange each clubs in-house activities to another day of the week, all clubs should support the competitive bowling activities of the County and Prittlewell believe moving it's league games to a Wednesday would achieve this.

Dave Starkey from South Benfleet stated that Carreras are in the Basildon area and close to the Group 9 area who play their league games on a Wednesday, so potentially moving to Group 9 would have no benefit to them, assuming the ECBA would allow this, which is doubtful.

Dave also added that for Group 6 teams that play in the Basildon league and enter their competitions, currently players only have 3 days in the week to play the games, by moving to a Wednesday those players would have 4 days.

- A hand vote was taken (delegates only) with the majority approving the motion by 11 votes to 7

- Proposal from the Group 6 League Secretary

5. Change of League Rules to include ‘skips to leave head together’

*The League Secretary is seeking the views of the clubs of Group 6 as to whether we add an additional league rule to the current bullet point under 4. Matches – that starts ‘Playing with “Three's up” is not allowed’*

The League Secretary provided more background information to this proposal, with other officers providing input.

This would be a local rule applicable to our league and does not conform to Bowls England rules where skips can leave the head separately.

- A hand vote was taken (delegates only) with the majority approving the motion.

## **7. Election of Officers**

All Group 6 Officers are standing un-opposed for next season

The un-opposed positions are: -

|                          |                 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| <u>Chairman:</u>         | David Jacobi    |
| <u>Secretary:</u>        | Chris Flack     |
| <u>Treasurer:</u>        | Chris Chorley   |
| <u>League Secretary:</u> | Kevin Robertson |
| <u>Match Secretary:</u>  | Ken Griffiths   |
| <u>Selector:</u>         | Jim Bunce       |
| <u>Selector:</u>         | Vacant          |
| <u>Selector:</u>         | Vacant          |

Two nominations have been received from Essex County Bowling Club for the vacant positions: -

Ray Woollard  
Steve Gunnell

**Ray Woollard** provided some background information regarding his suitability for the job.

For those that don't know me, hopefully not many. I have been playing in the Wally Ball for the last three seasons under the guidance of Dave Starkey and have enjoyed that experience.

Previous to that I joined Southend BC in 2004 and stayed for 10 years holding various positions on their board, I then moved to Rochford BC for 3 years before moving to Essex County where I still play my bowls.

I would like to thank David Starkey for the work he has done with the Wally Ball squad over the last few years, he should be proud of his achievements. Obviously reaching finals is an achievement but winning them will be my objective should you approve my nomination.

**Steve Gunnell** who most of you will know me from our bowling together over the last 36 years. I started bowling in Middlesex where I won the County Triples and received my County badge.

I moved to Southend in 2000 and joined Bournemouth Park BC where I served on their committee for a good number of years.

During my time there I won the County Singles and part of the team that won the County Triples.

I moved to Essex County BC in 2020 and won the County Triples and the National Triples in 2021

This year part of the team winning the British Isles Triples

I have a lot of experience playing at a high level and feel I could select a Group 6 team for the Inter Group Knockout who could win that competition.

The Secretary asked Steve if he had a view as to why Group 6 hadn't been more successful in the IGK competition.

Steve feels that having a selector that knows all the top players in the group would make it easier to mould a team that could win it, not necessarily all the players from one club, but players from different clubs playing together.

He doesn't think that picking four players from one of the top four clubs in the Group 6 league is the way forward, there are players from other clubs than ECBC who can play at this level and he will try his best to select the right team for the job.

The Chairman asked if there were any objections to the two nominees joining the Group 6 committee as selectors, there were none, the two nominees are duly elected, welcome to the committee.

## **8. Presentation of Group 6 League Trophies**

David Jacobi presented the winners Trophies to the delegates from: -

Division 1 – Essex County 'A'

Division 2 – Bournemouth Park 'A'

Division 3 – Prittlewell

Division 4 – Carreras

Division 5 – Essex County 'G'

Division 6 – Thorpe Bay 'C'

Congratulations to all the above clubs

## **9. A.O.B.**

### **1.**

Alan Furne (Hadleigh delegate) asked if it was possible for the Match Secretary to could give the clubs more notice that a Group 6 friendly game had been arranged and players will be required. Maybe at the beginning of the season when clubs were organising their games.

Ken promised he would look at giving the clubs as much notice as possible but he was sceptical that this alone would lead to less cancellations.

### **2.**

Pat Whitbread (Southend delegate) asked if the current league rule that states: -

- *Rinks must not be pre-allocated by the Home Club but should be drawn by both team captains prior to the start of the match.*

Reflects what actually happens, where clubs do allocate rinks to games. He feels this rule is ambiguous.

The League Secretary pointed out that whilst 2 rinks were allocated to specific teams prior to the game, the draw for which 'four' plays on which rink doesn't take place until immediately prior to game, which is the point of the rule

## **10. Close to Meeting**

There being no other business; the chairman thanked Rochford B.C. for the use of their facilities and opening the bar this evening, he subsequently closed the meeting at 8:40pm