

ESSEX COUNTY BOWLING ASSOCIATION GROUP 6

COMMITTEE MEETING 9th MAY 2022 at 7pm

Meeting opened at 19.04

Chairman David Jacobi welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Officers Present

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

Apologies for Absence

Jim Bunce

Other members present (by invitation)

Ray Woollard

Discussion Items

Group 6 Travel expenses – Following the decision of the ECBA Executive to cease paying expenses to the Group Officers when attending executive meetings and Representative games and instead allocate an extra £200 to each group to manage their expenses themselves, the Group 6 Officers discussed how this process would be implemented.

- The Group 6 Officers agreed that the following events would be eligible for a mileage claim
 - ECBA Executive Meetings
 - Ashford Cup games
 - Wally Ball games
 - Inter Group Knockout games
- The Officers also agreed that cost per mile for any claim would be £0.35
- The maximum number of Officers that could claim mileage for each event was agreed as 'one'
- The expenses would be claimed on a 'annual' basis using a specific form to be created by the Secretary

Ashford Cup team selection – It appears that the selector was not aware that a couple of Group 6 players were receiving the County badge this season, but only if they played two Ashford Cup games this year. This means that the Group 6 squad selection will need to be amended to include these two players.

Both the Group 6 squad and team selection is expected to be published by the end of this week and sent to all Group 6 clubs, participating players and uploaded to the Group 6 website.

Ashford Cup qualifying process:-

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Ashford Cup games	2	2	2	2	2
County games		1	1	1	County Badge awarded

Wally Ball team selection – With The Ashford Cup squad selection nearly complete and the Inter Group team selection proceeding well, the Wally Ball selector expects to name his squad within the next two weeks.

Wally Ball team selector from 2023 - The current selector (Dave Starkey) informed the meeting that with the added responsibility of being County Junior Deputy President for the next few years it will be difficult to continue in his role as selector and he is giving us advance notice of his resignation.

Having received advance warning of this decision, the Group 6 Officers had approached Ray Woollard (ECBC) to take on this role from next season. Ray has provisionally agreed to take on this role and was invited to tonight's meeting to give him an insight into the Group's activities. The approval of his nomination will be sought at the Group 6 AGM

Inter Group Knockout team selector from 2023 – Group 6 do not currently have a selector for this competition, the job being shared amongst all Group 6 Officers. The Secretary believes that we should appoint a specific selector for this competition. The Officers discussed our options and a couple of names were suggested, the secretary will approach both options and report back.

Inter Group Knockout team selection method – Following the 2021 Group 6 AGM when a suggestion was made to ask the top four teams in Division 1 of the Group 6 league to provide a rink of four bowlers to the team of six rinks.

This suggestion has been acted on and of the teams that finished in the top four positions ECBC 'A', ECBC 'B' and Rayleigh will be providing a rink.

South Benfleet & Canvey BC were asked and have replaced Hockley as the fourth team to provide a rink.

The Officers are currently seeking players to play in the other two rinks, which hopefully should not be a problem.

Having said all the above the Group 6 Officers are concerned that this selection method is not proving to be easy, with the Group 6 officers losing control of the selection process. This subject will be reviewed prior to the 2022 Group 6 AGM.

Group 6 Shirt stock – Currently we 39 shirts of various sizes available, which we agreed should be enough for this season.

Group 6 bowls stickers stock – Currently we have up to 100 stickers available, which we agreed should be enough for this season. The treasurer has been asked to purchase a further stock of 2000 for future seasons.

Group 6 scorecards stock - Currently we have over 500 scorecards available of, which we agreed should be enough for the foreseeable future.

Moving Group 6 league games to a Wednesday evening – Following the previous vote at a Group 6 AGM where the vote on this subject was very narrowly defeated, the officers felt this matter should be discussed.

The Officers agreed that for every reason for changing to a Wednesday there was a

reason for keeping to a Tuesday, however the Officers agreed that we should seriously consider proposing a move to a Wednesday for a trial period, we could then re-evaluate the result of the trial prior to the following AGM.

There are two opposing factions in the argument to change:-

1. The clubs who play more competitive bowls as well as those who play in the Basildon league would probably favour a move to Wednesday, as this would provide more options when playing games against Group 9 teams.

The County play some of their friendlies on a Tuesday, giving clubs some selection problems when they have players away on County duty.

2. The Park Circle clubs would argue that they play some of the friendlies on a Wednesday and would like to keep to a Tuesday, but others would say they play a couple of leagues on a Tuesday, so moving would help.

A.O.B.

County Badge qualification - The Secretary raised the subject of County Badge qualification via the Ashford Cup. Currently the ECBA rules state that if you DO NOT play your qualifying County game for two consecutive seasons you will not be permitted to play in the Ashford Cup for the following two seasons.

This, in the opinion of the Secretary, is discriminating against those players who work and find it difficult to take time off work during the week to play a County game, there being no alternative weekend County games available to play in.

This will involve players in Group 6 who will be directly affected by this rule from next season.

The Secretary is asking the Officers if they would support him in raising this at the next ECBA executive meeting, the Officers unanimously agreed.

Future Group 6 Officers - The Secretary asked if he should add the email address of Ray Woollard to any Group 6 email communications, the Officers unanimously agreed.

Group 6 league result reporting – Group 6 now has a new website and this could lead to problems with clubs having difficulties reporting league results.

The League Secretary agrees that he anticipates some issues, but hopefully these will disappear after the first couple of weeks of the season.

Group 6 friendly games – The Match Secretary expressed his concern that the meal provided at the Group 6 verses ECBA Vice Presidents game could be at risk because of issues at ECBC.

The Secretary assured the Match Secretary that ECBC were aware of this game were working at finding a solution in good time for this game. Group 6 will keep the pressure on ECBC

Group 6 Friendlies – Group 6 Officers agreed that we should only have two Group 6 friendlies each season. There appears to be no appetite for an increase in friendly games.

They're being no other business; the Secretary closed the meeting at 8:45pm