

ESSEX COUNTY BOWLING ASSOCIATION GROUP 6

COMMITTEE MEETING 21st SEPTEMBER 2022 at 7pm

Meeting opened at 19.04

Chairman David Jacobi welcomed everyone to the meeting.

David expressed his pleasure at being able to participate in these meetings and hoped to be able to play more bowls next season as his stamina improves.

Officers Present

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

Apologies for Absence

None

Officer Reports

The Officers were previously reminded that they should each prepare a report for the Group 6 AGM.

All the Officers had these available at the meeting and each one was read out, to the satisfaction of the Committee.

Treasurer

Chris reported this current year to date we have made a profit of >£300 This is mainly due to the increased contribution from the ECBA to cover expenses to cover County events, this used to be claimed directly from the ECBA. Their contribution has been raised by £150 to £400 per year.

Our profit is further enhanced by some officers not claiming for travel expenses they were entitled.

We continue to hold stocks of County and Group 6 shirts which count as an asset until sold. It appears that we may not need to purchase Group 6 shirts next season, or stocks being sufficient.

We also hold stocks of scorecards, stickers and scorecard holders.

Our current bank balance is £1700

Secretary

Chris reported that all 24 Group 6 clubs have paid their 2023 Affiliation & League Fees, with the result being that the leagues will have one less team next year, 42 down from 43.

The Representative game nominations forms are slowly being returned, three so far, the deadline is 5th October

Group 6 have proposed ECBC member Paul La Plain as the next County Junior President, at his request.

Officers expressed concern that ECBC should have written to Group 6 with their proposal prior to Group 6 making their proposal, to follow protocol.

The Secretary will write to Paul asking him to request his club to write to Group 6 retrospectively, to correct this procedural error.

Group 6 have received the official invite from the County to this years County Luncheon. Historically Group 6 have always paid for one Officer to attend this function on their behalf, even more so this year as winners of the Ashford Cup, when the trophy will be presented. Group 6 previously we won the Ashford Cup asked members of the winning team if they wanted to attend (at their cost), with the price this year being very high, do we wanted to do that.

Jim Bunce (Ashford Cup selector) stated that, in his opinion, he could not recommend players attending if only because of the excessively high drink prices, he does not think the venue is the correct location for this event, and he himself will not be attending for these reasons.

After much discussion, Kevin Robertson volunteered to represent Group 6 and collect the Ashford Cup trophy.

The Secretary will also email to Ashford Cup players asking if they want to attend, ensuring they understand the price of drinks.

The Secretary suggested that during his AGM report he list the winners of County & National Finals, the committee agreed to this suggestion.

Lastly. Group 6 competition finals take place this coming weekend, Kevin Robertson will mark the Singles and present the trophies, hopefully some officers will attend at South Benfleet & Canvey BC

League Secretary

Kevin confirmed that the league will have one less team this year, also 2 of the 6 divisions will have 3 clubs from Essex County, he asked the committee if this is acceptable, has there been a rule on this in the past ? gossip around the Group suggests there might have been, although investigations with previous officers say not

The Secretary was asked to contact the source of the gossip and check the rumour, before the AGM

Kevin's thoughts on the 2023 league structure are as follows: -

1. 3 divisions of 8 teams, 2 divisions of 7 and division 6 has 4 teams who play each other 4 times during the season.
2. 4 divisions of 8 teams, 2 divisions of 5 teams

Kevin will make his recommendation at the AGM

There will be one minor rule change for next season: -

6. Matches abandoned or cancelled because of adverse weather

- If a match is not started or abandoned before a total of 20 ends have been played then it should be rescheduled before the last match of the season.

would change to: -

6. Matches abandoned or cancelled because of adverse weather

- If a match is not started or abandoned before a total of 20 ends have been played then it should be rescheduled before the last match of the Group 6 season.

The Chairman related an experience he had during the season where the opposing skip insisted that both skips should leave the head together, the current rules do not state this. He asked to opinion of the committee if this rule should be changed or not.

The committee agreed that a motion should be added to the AGM agenda asking members to vote on their preference.

Match Secretary

Ken expressed his disappointment that both the Group 6 Friendly fixtures organised for this season had to be cancelled due to lack of interest from the clubs. The Secretary stated that he had prepared a motion for the AGM that the committee should discuss later in today's meeting.

Ashford Cup Selector

Jim read his AGM report to the meeting, with everyone agreed that the report was an accurate report of this seasons Ashford Cup.

Jim reiterated his disappointment that a number of the players who were selected in the squad but not selected to play, chose to not attend any of the games, this will be reflected in future Ashford Cup selections during his tenure.

Wally Ball Selector

Dave read his AGM report to the meeting, with everyone agreed that the report was an accurate report of this seasons Wally ball.

Inter Group Knockout Selection

In the absence of a named selector, Dave Starkey had prepared an AGM report, which the committee agreed was an accurate report of this seasons Inter Group Knockout

Discussion Item – Travel Expenses

The Treasurer had previously outlined our financial status including claims for travel expenses, officers were reminded to submit their 2022 claim before 30th September

The Chairman suggested that the rules on claiming travel expenses for County events could be changed from one officer per event to two, this would reflect any special circumstances that dictate more than one car was needed for a particular event.

Discussion Items – Constitution Changes

The Secretary suggested the following two motions should be added to the AGM agenda for delegates to vote on: -

1. The role of County Competition Results Sectary should be removed from the list of Group 6 Officers
2. The role of Match Secretary should be removed from the list of Group 6 Officers
3. To reduce the Group 6 Committee Meeting quorum from 5 to 4 to reflect the reduced number of officers

A copy of the proposed AGM agenda including the three motions above was presented to the committee who approved them all.

Discussion Items – Move Group 6 league night to a Wednesday

The Secretary has received the same motion from two Group 6 clubs (Prittlewell and Runwell) recommending the same thing.

The Officers whilst in general agreement of the above feel that a delay of one year to the induction of the move plus an opportunity to review the decision after two seasons would give all the clubs the time they needed to change their diaries was a better option and agreed that a motion worded to that effect should be added to the agenda.

Following discussions the committee asked the Secretary to contact both Prittlewell

and Runwell and ask them to discuss their motion with the possibility of withdrawing the motions prior to the vote, this would make the voting procedure a lot simpler for the delegates

Officer Nominations

The Secretary has received two nominations for the vacant officer position from Essex County Bowling Club.

With no other nominations received, delegates will be asked to approve the two nominations at the AGM

A.O.B

The Secretary updated the selectors on the 2023 Wally Ball and Ashford Cup fixture dates: -

Wally Ball

Sunday 11th June home to Group 8

Sunday 18th June away to Group 4

Sunday 25th June home to Group 5

Sunday 9th July – Final

Ashford Cup

Sunday 21st May away to Group 9

Sunday 28th May home to Group 5

Sunday 4th June away to Group 3

Sunday 30th July – Final

The Wally Ball home games will be played at Rayleigh BC

The Ashford Cup home game will be played at South Benfleet & Canvey BC

Both home venues are subject to their greens being deemed fit for play by the Group 6 Officers

The Match Secretary asked if each Club Captains name could be listed in the County Handbook.

In his opinion the Club Treasurer's name could be removed from the handbook without detriment to create space.

The Secretary reminded the meeting that this matter has been raised with the County Executive within the last two years and rejected, because the Executive feel the Treasurers name should be retained.

The committee agreed that we should not approach the County Executive again on this matter.

They're being no other business; the Secretary closed the meeting at 8:54pm