

MINUTES OF THE ECWBA COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 19TH JULY 2023

AT THE MILLENNIUM HALL, GREAT BADDOW AT 2.00PM.

PRESIDENT'S OPENING REMARKS: Joan Barrett welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for coming.

A minute silence was held in remembrance of Ceyla Franklin (Brentwood & Central Essex), Pat Page (Rainham), Judy Bacon (Frinton) and Pam Butler (Billericay).

APOLOGIES: Received from Ann Poole, Chrys Mole, Silver End, Dovercourt, Romford, Woods, Chelmsford, Corringham & Fobbing, Courtauld Halstead, Frinton, Clockhouse, Bocking Alliance, Thorpe Bay and Kings Chase.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING: These were agreed and signed.

Proposed by: Sylvia Bloomfield

Seconded by: Kim Wiggins

MATTERS ARISING:

- No nominations had been received for the Presidential positions vacant for this year or next year.
- So far it had been impossible to arrange a meeting with regard to implementing the competition portal for next year. Until this has been achieved the affiliation forms cannot be prepared, so their circulation will be delayed. Whatever happens the paperwork will still have to be returned by 1st November 2023.
- There has been no report from the Bowls England working party who are reviewing all aspects of the competitions. Therefore Jill is unable to confirm the dates for next year, say what the format for play will be or report on any changes to the rules.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Change of phone number for C. Finch (Harlow) 07762550244.
- Phone number for S. Waite (Elsenham) 07956 899326.
- Phone number for L. Meade (Match Sec. Epping) 07437 736797
- Correction for the Match Sec. Southminster – Mrs J Waumsley. Telephone number is correct. Email address is jwaumsley@googlemail.com
- Change of secretary for Wickford – Mr Bob Price. Tel: 01268 781942. Email: bob_price@btinternet.com

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Current Account: £5479.87 Deposit Account: £30,500.00. Due to the advantageous higher interest rates Jenny Hyland had transferred £10,000.00 to the Deposit Account. We are now receiving around £25 per month in interest.

We have received £1460.00 sponsorship from the Essex WI. The original amount was £1500 but £40 was deducted for the advert in the County handbook. 150 white pouches showing "ECWBA Sponsored by Essex WI" have been purchased at a cost of £381.75. These will be presented to the competitors, umpires, markers and officers present at the County Finals at Witham on Saturday 29th July and Sunday 30th July, also the Unfinished Finals at Braintree on Saturday 5th August and will

- Bowls England, The Bowls Club, and the Bowls Development Alliance are joining forces this summer to offer community groups free sessions, hoping to grow lawn bowls participation in a fun and casual setting. Two sites in the heart of London at Finsbury Square and Battersea Park will host these. More information on the website.
- Bowls England President Deepak Tanna has created a website and email address to encourage bowlers to contact him if they have unanswered problems or questions and he will do his best to resolve them. Email: askDEEPAK@play-bowls.fun Website: www.play-bowls.fun

Adoption of the report: Proposed by Pauline Mount

Seconded by Judy Bohannon

PRESIDENT'S DAY TRIP REPORT:

President Joan reported that we had a lovely day with good weather. After a stop for coffee we arrived in Stamford for lunch and shopping. In the afternoon we went on a cruise on Rutland Water. The whole party were accommodated under cover and Joan was able to circulate and speak to everyone. We enjoyed a cream tea whilst listening to an interesting commentary about Rutland Water. It only rained as we were boarding the coach for the return journey. Everyone enjoyed the day out.

COUNTY DAY TRIP IN 2024

A County day trip could be arranged for next year if it would be supported. Suggestion for a lunch/retail therapy stop at Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk then a visit in the afternoon to the National Trust Property Ickworth House & Gardens. This would be on Tuesday 9th July 2024. Approximate costs would be £18 for the coach, including the gratuity. Entrance to Ickworth House would be free for National Trust Members and about £12 for non-members.

It was agreed that this would be supported so Jill will circulate a booking form. There will be 53 seats available. Places will firstly be offered to the 11 ladies who were on the waiting list this year, then it will be first come first served for the remaining seats.

E.C.W.B.A. CERTIFICATE OF MERIT:

Nominations must be sent to Jill Polley by 31st July 2023 for presentation at the County Luncheon.

COUNTY LUNCHEON:

Will be held on Wednesday 11th October 2023 at Stock Brook Manor Golf and Country Club. Reception is 11.15am for 12 noon. Cost is £34 per person which has been subsidised this year. Menu is Heirloom Tomato & Mozzarella Baby Salad with Micro Basil, Free range Breast of Chicken with Thyme and Red wine jus, Crushed New Potatoes and root vegetables. Dietary option is Creamy Linguine with Wild Mushrooms and Rocket Salad. Lemon Roulade with Raspberries. Tea/coffee & Mints. Raffle prizes would be greatly appreciated and tickets will be sold in sets of 6 for £5.

Booking forms have been circulated. Please support your President Joan and return the slip with the names of the ladies attending and any dietary requirements by 31st August if possible. Jill hoped that all prize winners will be able to attend to collect their trophies.

The Thelma Herring Fund is there to assist ladies to attend the County Luncheon. In cases of hardship a written application can be made to Jill Polley.

NOMINATIONS FOR 2024:

Nominations for ALL COUNTY OFFICERS FOR 2024 must be received by Jill Polley by 15th September 2023.

COUNTY FINALS 2023:

These will be held over the weekend of the 29th and 30th July 2023 at Witham B.C. There is limited car parking along the club drive and additional parking nearly opposite the club in the Newlands Drive Car Park. The car park charges are 1 – 3 hours £2, 3 – 6 hours £3.50 and over 6 hours £6. Refreshments will be available to purchase on the Saturday – tea/coffee/biscuits, cheese or ham rolls (order by 10am) and the bar will be open. Refreshments on the Sunday will just be tea/coffee and biscuits.

The order for play:

Saturday 29th July 9 for 9.30am. Championship Singles: Donna Law (Silver End) v Elaine Score (Essex County). Semi-finals 2 Wood Singles: Maxine Watling (Dunmow) v Helen Grant (Loughton), Jean Hough (Elm Park) v Rebecca Smith (Clockhouse), followed by the Final. Championship Senior Fours: Sue Knowles, Sue Clarke, Carole Riley, Pauline Lowe (The Springhouse) v Nancy Powell, Heather Shadbolt, Steph Heard, Judy Bohannon (Tiptree Jobserve).

Saturday 29th July 12.30 for 1.00pm. Championship Pairs: Elaine Score, Emma Chapman (Essex County) v Doreen Butcher, Tina Howard (Dunmow). Championship Triples: Hayley Kenny, Michelle Carlin, Rebecca Smith (Clockhouse) v Edna Woods, Steph Heard, Judy Bohannon (Tiptree Jobserve).

Sunday 30th July 9 for 9.30am. Championship Fours: Hayley Kenny, Michelle Squires, Serena Madgewick, Rebecca Smith (Clockhouse) v Lyla Horley, Sue Ockwell, Cheryl Williams, June Linehan (Holland-on-Sea).

Sunday 30th July 12.30 for 1.00pm. Top Club Final: Fairwood v Clockhouse.

Please come to support the County Finals.

PROVISIONAL DATES FOR 2024:

These will not be available until Jill has had the National dates from Bowls England. Please use the 2023 dates as a guide.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- Please return all County Trophies to Jill Polley as soon as possible. Please make sure that they have been cleaned.
- The entry form for Essex Patrons' Day has been circulated to club secretaries. Friday 15th September 2023. Venues are Aveley B.C. and Chelmsford B.C. Please return forms with payment to Sheila Brickel by the 16th August 2023.
- At the Executive meeting held prior to the Council Meeting the following points were discussed and agreed:
 1. Affiliation forms and competition entry forms will be the same as last year. Once completed they must be returned by the 1st November 2023.
 2. A proposition put forward by the Executive to the ECWBA AGM that 8.2 will read as follows, "The Team Manager shall be appointed annually by the members of the Selection Committee at their first meeting after the Annual General Meeting. The

Team Manager may be, but need not be, an existing member of the Selection Committee. The Team Manager and Selectors will not be eligible to play in the Johns Trophy or Walker Cup.”

3. All the Dress Codes as written on Page 145 of the 2023 County Handbook will be brought up to date for 2024. A copy will be attached to the minutes.
 4. Competition By-Laws No. 19, the second sentence will be deleted. It will no longer be a requirement to enter and play in a County Competition to be eligible to play in the County Friendly matches or Inter-group games.
 5. Competition By-Law No. 19 will be re-written to include the following: Cancellations for county matches must be notified to the County Match Secretary no less than 48 hours before the day or the full match fee will be payable.
 6. For 2024 the clubs hosting home County Friendly matches will be given £10 for the meal and will be able to hold a raffle. Fees for matches away by car will be £12. Home matches and those away by coach will be £18.
- Pam Sharratt (Woodford B.C.) raised the question about severe weather conditions, either extreme heat or torrential rain, stopping play. The Competition By-Law 14 advises that one extra day can be allowed, but this is difficult to arrange for a team game like the Albert Crabb or Top Club. With some games not starting until 6pm delaying the match is not feasible as it gets dark. Discussion followed about declaring the number of ends that constitute a game and other factors affecting the result of a match. It is difficult to make a rule that covers all eventualities that give a fair outcome. This matter will be discussed further by the Executive.
 - It was suggested that items that need to be discussed by the Executive should be sent to the County Secretary in advance. It is impossible to anticipate what topics will be raised under Any Other Business, but if it is a subject requiring input from the Executive Committee these could be notified to the County Secretary in advance if possible.
 - Jill Polley thanked the delegates for attending the meeting as their input is valuable. The outline of the meeting is reported in the minutes, but the discussions leading to these conclusions can only be heard by those in attendance.

THANKS TO THE CHAIR: Proposed by Pat Barrett

Seconded by Ann Aston

MEETING CLOSED AT: 3.35pm

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY 4TH OCTOBER 2023 AT THE MILLENNIUM HALL, GREAT BADDOW AT 2PM

Attachments:

Benevolent Fund Rules dated 19th July 2023 to be signed by the four Trustees.

Dress Code