

Minutes of the Emergency Executive meeting held on 8 September 2020 starting at 17.05.

Those present were:

Tony Ellis, Sandy Dron, Dave King, Richard Dodd, Stephen Hill, Pat Finney and John Tully.

Apologies had been received from Alex Wightman.

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting with good wishes.

There was nothing to report from the Secretary.

The Treasurer reported that he anticipated an excess of income over expenditure for the year to be in the region of £250, which is down on the previous year, but that the accounts will show a provision of the payment of further instalments on the competition portal software.

A discussion took place in relation to the payment of affiliation fees and when these were payable to Bowls England. It was agreed that payment would be required by the end of December from clubs and that competition entry fees would be dealt with separately via the new portal system. It was further agreed that the new form X would have a return date of 31 December.

The Competition Secretary reported that old forms C and Y were obsolete and that a new form X had been developed to include all of the information required. The Treasurer stated the new form fulfilled all of his requirements. It was noted that the fee's shown on the draft new form X were not correct and would be amended before it was circulated to clubs. It was agreed that all fees would remain at 2020 levels for season 2021.

The Treasurer reported that claims for expenses had been very low this year as expected. It was noted that there may be a request for funding from the new Essex Coaching Board.

The Competition Secretary reported that the semi-finals of the minor competitions had been completed successfully at Romford BC, the finals would be played at Braintree on 13 September. The Benevolent and Unbadged Singles would be at 10 am with the final of the Secretaries Singles following at an appropriate time. The Competition Secretary reported that the trophies and finalists mementoes would be in place at Braintree in time for the finals. There have been no reports of any problems concerning the playing of these competitions and it is to the credit of the County that they were completed, many other Counties have not played any competitions at all. Richard Dodd reported that special arrangements had been put in place to ensure Covid19 security at Braintree for the finals. It was reported that note had been received about the number of spectators at Romford, this has been addressed directly with the individual raising concerns and reassurance was given that all Covid19 precautions had been taken in line with Government and BE guidelines. A secondary issue was raised by the same individual to why Major Championships had been cancelled. The reason for this was a decision by BE to cancel all major championships, Essex followed BE guidelines. The issues raised were considered resolved.

The Competition Secretary reported that progress on the Competition Portal was slow, that said there was progress and the planned demonstration for next week would be going

ahead at Grays Town BC. A power point presentation would be circulated and displayed on the County Website for members information. It was anticipated that registration and entry would be available on the portal by early October. The Treasurer asked for clarification on the charges for online payments, this information was not to hand and would be forwarded separately.

The Match Secretary reported that all fixtures were in hand and he had confirmed officers games, OIC notification had gone out and that he did not anticipate any problems. Clarification was requested in relation to eligibility for the Wally Ball, the Competition Secretary would investigate and report back. It was agreed that the Competition Regulations would be reviewed in time for the AGM.

Tony Ellis reported that he would be attending an online coaching workshop organised by BE and would report back in due course.

There was a discussion on the future of the County website, it was agreed that Tony Ellis and John Tully would contact Pat Foley for discussion. It was reported that there was a potential replacement volunteer to take over from Pat Foley on his retirement.

It was agreed that there was need for a meeting of the EBA Board and that Tony Ellis would make the necessary arrangements.

It was reported that vacancies for a County Coach, Development Officer and Safeguarding Officer had been advertised and would be appointed in due course.

There was a discussion around the issue of a full executive meeting in October and it was resolved to hold a meeting on 5 October at The Falcon BC, and that there would be Zoom facilities for those unable to attend in person.

Clarification was requested in relation to the Presidents Tour, it was resolved to hold this over until the next meeting when more information would be available.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 6pm.