

ECBA Emergency Committee meeting 2 July 2020 5 pm.

The committee met virtually via the Zoom application, those present were: Sandy Dron, Dave King, Richard Dodd, Alex Wightman, Pat Finney, Stephen Hill, Tony Ellis, Terry Mizen and John Tully. The Chairman welcomed the members to the meeting.

The Secretary had nothing new to report.

The Treasurer reported that he would be changing the badge supplier as better terms were available. This was supported by the committee.

The Competition Secretary reported that the three minor singles were operating and results were beginning to come through. A question was raised about a possible second wave spike of the Coronavirus. It was agreed to monitor the situation and follow the Government and BE advice.

The Competition Secretary then reported that research had been carried out with the development of a new online competition portal. This was much along the lines of the portal currently employed by Bowls England. A paper had been circulated to the committee before the meeting setting out the major aspects of the portal and the financial implications. The Competition Secretary asked for the support of the committee to move forward and purchase the portal with it being installed on the county website. A comprehensive discussion took place with several issues and questions being raised and points answered by the Competition Secretary. He also reported that enquires had been made of Group Officers and in general terms there was support for the suggestion. It was resolved that the Emergency Committee approve and endorse the proposal and to comply with some constitutional issues all members of the ECBA Executive Council would be emailed asking for their view on the proposal. Results to be returned to the County Secretary no later than Monday 20th July.

(Minute takers note: If anyone would like further details on how the system would work please contact the County Competition Secretary direct).

The Match Secretary reported that all fixtures for 2021 were in place and most venues had confirmed availability.

The Chairman reported that the Coaching report would be circulated to each executive and had been produced in booklet form.

The Chairman reported that his Zoom meeting with the new BE CEO (John Cockcroft) had taken place and some issues had been discussed, including:

i) the impact of Covid19 on Bowls generally, ii) Age-restricted competitions, iii) The Essex Coaching report, iv) BE Recruitment strategy, v) Generation competitions, vi) The Commonwealth Games, vii) The integration/amalgamation of ALL English Bowling Associations/Federations, viii) the age profile of the BE Board, ix) Data collection by BE/Go Membership, x) Bowls shorts logos, xi) BE Regulation 9. A number of these issues had been raised at meetings the CEO has had with other counties.

A document relating to markers duties had been received by the County Secretary and it was agreed that this would be posted on the County website for information of members.

The Treasurer will be attending a Grant Funding meeting on behalf of the County and will report back.

Clarification was sought concerning visiting clubs by members of other clubs. It was agreed that this issue was a matter for each club.

Clarification was sought about the registration of shorts which were of a colour other than white. It was noted that clubs wishing to revise their dress code should notify the County Secretary.

It was reported that Ed Morris of Essex County BC had suggested starting a County Super League, which would consist of triples. This was discussed and it was resolved that the committee had no objections to the running of this competition so long as it complied with the Government and BE guidance. The administration of the competition would remain in the hands of Ed Morris.

It was agreed that the next meeting of the committee would take place on Thursday 23rd July at 17.00. There was no other business and the meeting closed at 18.05.