

## SOMERSET SHORT MAT BOWLS ASSOCIATION

### **Minutes of the meeting held by the above Association at Donyatt Bowling Club on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at 7.30pm.**

#### **Present**

Chairman.	Mr Ian Collier
Vice Chairman	Mr Geoff Nixon
Secretary	Mrs Eileen Zoers
Treasurer	Mr Mike Prowse
Competitions Organiser	Mr Keith Hawkins
County Captain	Mr Andrew Cowlin
South Somerset rep.	Mr Alan Berry also Youth Team organiser
West Somerset rep.	Mr Mike Browring
Taunton Deane rep.	Mr James Scoins

#### **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Mrs Judith Shackelford.

#### **Minutes of the last meeting.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2015 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

#### **Matters arising**

##### a) Donyatt.

James reported that he had spoken with Joe about the need for a handrail to be added to the portable steps down to the rink and he has said he will deal with the matter.

Keith Hawkins pointed out that we have a duty of care for our members.

Fire escape. Although the area outside of the fire doors had been cleared it has grown back again and required more thorough clearing. It was agreed to speak with Joe and perhaps ask if Ken Glover could help. It was noted that we have not checked to see if there was a fire assembly point sign.

Keith reported that ESMBA had received a complaint about our venue in respect of the lack of paper towels in the toilets. Eileen reported that she had spoken to Joe about only supplying cotton towels, which are generally considered unhygienic. He is reluctant to supply paper towels due a past experience of them being put down the toilets causing a blockage that was expensive to have cleared.

It was agreed we would offer to purchase paper towels and request that these are put out whenever we hold a competition/league fixture.

The heating is now working in the bowling arena.

##### b) Website.

Ian reported that there has been no progress to date. Ian said there was a problem with the aspect of providing access to pages by clubs and others.

A discussion by members concluded that access could be restricted to certain persons who held a committee position that required them to communicate to club members through the website e.g. County Captain, Competition organiser, wed master/secretary for more the general association business, etc.

#### **Treasurers report**

Mike reported the bank balance as of 29/10/2015.

Current Ac. £4,530.00. Saver Ac.1 £4,717.68. Saver Ac.2 £4,174.39. Totaling £13,422.07

As requested by Keith Hawkins, Mike has produced a form for use for Umpire expenses.

There has as yet been no request for payment for ESMBA registrations from Judith.

County player's fees.

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There was a general discussion about the level these should be set now that there was no requirement to provide and pay for food for players for home matches. It was agreed that a fee of £2.00 per match (home or away) where no meal was provided and £4.00 for when a meal is provided, i.e Devon.

### Secretary's report.

Letter received from Templecombe SMBC questioning why some players entering the National qualifying element of the Autumn Competition paid £6.00 to enter while other paid the stated fee on the entry form of £7.00.

Keith Hawkins said the £7.00 fee was published in error and those players paying £7.00 would have their over payment returned to them.

The letter further stated that as the Open/National Competition were combined as a 2 year trial that it should be now be separated again. Reasons being that:

- 1) we did not get more national places by playing the competition that way as was originally thought.
- 2) a fairer outcome for national participants
- 3) it is probable that more people will enter the reborn Autumn Competition as entries are down and older people find it difficult to complete such a long playing days.

Keith Hawkins said he felt the combined competition had not worked as expected and felt the current situation should be reviewed.

It was agreed a review of the current situation at the next meeting.

### Competition organisers report.

a) Spring Competition Results. We are still awaiting information from Karl Hudson.

b) Autumn Competition results:

Singles Winner Alan Berry (Templecombe) Finalist James Scoins (Comeytrove)

National Qualifiers James Scoins and Lee Toleman(East Coker)

Pairs Winners Keith and Carol Hawkins (Kingscliffe) Finalist Andrew Cowlin (Kingscliffe) and George Nichols (Bradford on Tone).

National Qualifiers Chirs Shakshaffe and Catherine Cowlin.

Triples Winners Carol and Keith Hawkins, Barry Keirle,(Kingscliffe) Finalist Mike Pinkawa, Alan and Hazel Berry (Templecombe).

National Qualifiers. Carol and Keith Hawkins, Barry Keirle. Andrew Cowlin, George Nicholls, Craig Little. Kevin and Andrew Pinkawa, Chris Shackshaft. Karl Hudson, Dan Winmill and James Scoins

Fours Winners

Winners Karl Hudson, Dan Winmill, Brona and Lee Tolman.

National Qualifiers. Karl Hudson, D, Winmill, Brona and Lee Tolman. Carol and Keith Hawkins, Barry Keirle, Jack Baker. Chris and Celia Jeans, Neil Middleton, James Scoins. Andrew Cowlin, Kevin and Andrew Pinkawa, Chris Shakeshaft.

Mixed Fours and under 18s to take place on December 12<sup>th</sup> 2015.

c) Champion of Champions.

Winner Andrew Cowlin. Kingscliffe Finalist George Nichols

d) Purchase of second hand mats.

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The Officers of the committee were made aware, by Keith Hawkins, of the opportunity to purchase good quality second hand Verdi mats to replace our Wygreen mats for the cost of £1,800 including blocks and fenders and Jacks. Due to the requirement to make a quick decision in order to secure the sale, the Officers made the decision between meetings to advance the funds immediately.

Members of the committee unanimously endorse the actions on the Officers on behalf of SSMBA.

It was agreed old mats to be sold for £150 including fenders and blocks. Efforts should be made to for the mats to go to Somerset schools.

- e) Keith Hawkins raised the possibility of organising a triple league to be run at Donyatt. The idea met with support. It was agreed:
- I. The league entry fees would be £10 to SSMBA.
  - II. Fee per player would be £2.00 on the night of the game, be paid to Donyatt
  - III. Initially, the league would be limited to Somerset clubs only. Can be reviewed at a later date.
  - IV. Teams to be from the same club.
  - V. Clubs are able to name more than three persons to be in the team.
  - VI. No person is to play for more than on team in a given season.
  - VII. All players to registered as per ESMBA rules.

### **County Captains report**

All players who had attended the trials had been informed if they had a place in the squad for this season.

Andrew reported that the squad “get togethers” had proved popular with squad members. A friendly had been played against Dorset in the Rinks format. Both Premier and A teams won.

#### Rinks qualifying games for the Knock outs

The A team played against Hereford, Devon and Cornwall and won all sessions. They will go on to play at Daventry on 30<sup>th</sup> January.

Premier won their games against Cornwall and Wiltshire and will go on to play at Daventry on 5<sup>th</sup> March.

There is an intension to hold an end of season dinner for player, to include committee members.

### **Youth Team Report.**

Alan reported that the Youth team had played Trull and drew their game. There are some good players in the team, two are now in the County team and 4 in the County Squad.

All those involved in the youth team are CRB checked. When travelling there must be two youngsters with more than one adult also present.

Alan said he needs to update his First Aid certificate. It was agreed to fund the first Aid course being offered at £40 by Somerset Activity Sports Partnership.

### **ESMBA**

Keith Reported that ESMBA had had a complaint from Devon re. Lack of paper towels and a couple of other niggles about Donyatt. These are all in hand to be dealt with.

### **District representatives report.**

It was agreed that the District representative should find out about other clubs in their area that are not registered in order to provide them with information about SSMBA and encourage them to register their players. It will enamel us to get a better picture of the amount of Short mat bowls being played in Somerset.

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Eileen to provide some general information to give to clubs.

### **Any Other Business.**

James Scoins informed members that the Scoins family would like to donate a cup to be awarded for the player of the year in memory of Bob Scoins, who played Short mat Bowls for many years.

### **Date of the next Meeting.**

Date of next meeting 10<sup>th</sup> December 2015.

Signed

Date