

SOMERSET SHORT MAT BOWLS ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the meeting held by the above Association at Donyatt Bowling Club on 20 September 2016 at 7.30pm.

Present

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|------------------------|-------------------|
| Chairman. | Mr. Geoff Nixon |
| Vice Chairman | Mr. Deryck Lemon |
| Secretary | Mrs. Eileen Zoers |
| Competitions Organiser | Mr. Keith Hawkins |
| County Captain | Mr. Andrew Cowlin |
| South Somerset Rep | Mr. Alan Berry |
| Taunton Deane Rep | Mr James Scoins |

The Chairman welcomed Deryck Lemon to the meeting.

Also present, Mr Ian Bolton.

Apologies

Apologies were received from, Mr. Mike Browring and Mike Prowse.

Committee vacancies.

It was proposed by Geoff Nixon and seconded by Eileen Zoers that Ian Bolton is appointed representative for the Mendip District area and that at his request that Mike Browring is retained as the representative for West Somerset District area. All agreed

Minutes of the last meeting.

The minutes of the meetings held on 12th may and 14th July 2016 were agreed as correct records and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising

- a) Website. David Jury who had designed and built the original website required £25 to transfer the domain name. It was agreed, after discussion, that we required a change of domain name, to **somersetmba.co.uk** which we understand is available; the .org site is now down. James Scions to arrange.
Emails can be redirected to committee members through the website. There will also be a Google calendar where dates can be linked to personal calendars.
The Chairman, said he felt that content should be OKed by officers of the committee. After a discussion it was agreed that if there were any problems with content on the web site that the committee is consulted via the three inputting persons; County Captain, Competition Organiser and Communications Facilitator, who would be responsible for sorting such issues to the satisfaction of the committee as a whole.
The launch of the website date to be agreed by the persons named above with 1st October the favoured date for the launch.
- b) Donyatt Cost of rinks.
It was agreed that that the arrangements for use of Donyatt should be formalised together with the cost of rinks, to include accepted layout. It was suggested the agreement should be for minimum of 3years; Andrew together with Deryck to meet with Joe to discuss this further. Deryck said we must be clear in the agreement that all the short-mat equipment belongs to SSMBA and is insured by SSMBA and to be used only by SSMBA or with our agreement.

It was agreed we must establish an inventory of all our equipment; Eileen and James agreed to do this in the near future.

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Treasurers report

None tabled.

Note: Mike has left a cheque book with Eileen. All cheques require minimum of two signatories from the three appointed signatories: Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. All requests must be accompanied by appropriate paper work, invoice, receipt etc.

Secretary's report.

Eileen reported that ESMBA have decided to issue annual registration cards and that these would be sent out shortly and that Roger Green would be dealing with matter pertaining to registration.

Additionally ESMBA have produced an e-newsletter which has been forwarded to all SSMBA committee members.

Eileen presented the report on the survey sent to clubs.

The aim of the survey was to determine just how much support there was for some the recent changes.

- Time clock: the majority who replied liked the competitions being run without a time clock.
- Having a plate competition: there was over whelming support for a plate competition
- Number of woods in the pairs. There was overwhelming support for a return to three woods in the pairs.

In Conclusion.

The committee can feel assured that the non use of the time clock and the introduction of the Plate knock out have been very successful.

Those that want the return of three would pairs have good sound reasons for asking for this which is worthy of consideration.

The notes to questions and general notes are worthy of note by the committee as these give some light into why members replied as they did.

That we had a quarter of clubs respond, statistically makes this a survey we can rely on and take reassurance from. Some were returned by individuals others by the clubs as an overall view

The survey suggests that we are doing more right than wrong, as it is known, with any survey, we would have heard more from those dissatisfied!

No questions in the survey addressed the issue of the Autumn and National Qualifying rounds taking place within the same competition.

It was suggested that the District representatives visit clubs in their area, with the survey to increase the number of responses.

Competition Organisers report

The original aim for linking the Autumn and National Qualifying rounds was to try and increase the number of places offered by ESMBA through their formula based on the number of entries achieved, along with county membership numbers. We have achieved this but it would seem at the cost of entries into the Autumn Competition.

Following the concerns, expressed strongly by members at the AGM, the situation regarding the County competitions it became clear the committee needed to address the issues raised. There was particular concern where the Autumn competition and National Qualifying rounds took place within the same event.

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A suggestion was made that we needed to change the focus of the competitions taking into account the feelings of the general membership. After a long discussion it was concluded that the spring competition would be renamed; the Club Membership Competition where there would be three wood pairs, thus appealing to the general membership.

The autumn competition would become the Somerset County Championship with two wood pairs.

In addition we would hold an Open Competition with invitations going beyond the Somerset. Details to be discussed at future meetings to implement as soon as is reasonably possible.

Date changes of competitions.

Autumn/National

Oct. 15th triples, Oct. 30th singles, Nov. 5th pairs, Nov 15th fours

Results

Club 5s Winners Templecombe. Runner up Kingscliffe.

Champion of Champions Winner Alan Berry, Templecombe. Runner up George Nichols, Bradford on Tone

Keith thanked James Scoins for running the Champion of Champions in his absence.

County Captains report

Trials.

Good turnout. His plan was to establish a 50 strong squad.

Rinks.

Andrew reported that he had been short of player so had to pull someone in from the A team. They had qualified to the next stage.

ICC

First game would take place next Sunday at Bere Regis.

Travel expenses from last season.

Andrew had most of the details he needed and would initially pay them himself. He would provide all the details in order to reclaim from SSMBA.

Youth Team Report.

Alan reported that youth team had had a get together at Martock, unfortunately the numbers were poor.

Alan reported that his first aid certificate was due for renewal and asked if SSMBA would cover the £40 cost. Agreed.

Future Development of Short Mat Bowls in Somerset.

It was agreed to that we needed to have separate meeting to focus on this and pull in other interested parties such as Neil Middleton and Sue Smith. Date for meeting to be agreed.

District representatives report.

No reports given.

Any Other Business.

There was no other business

Date of the next Meeting.

Monday 14th November 7pm.

Signed

Date