

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF KENT COUNTY SHORT MAT BOWLING
ASSOCIATION HELD AT BURHAM VILLAGE HALL ON SUNDAY 13TH JUNE, 2010

OFFICERS/	MR T RYCRAFT	CHAIRMAN
COMMITTEE	MR D CARPENTER	VICE CHAIRMAN
PRESENT	MS M FITZGERALD	SECRETARY
	MRS J DAVEY	TREASURER
	MRS S WATSON	COMPETITION SECRETARY
	MR T COLES	COMMITTEE
	MRS I BENTON	COMMITTEE
	MR C ENGLAND	COMMITTEE

Representatives of the following Clubs were present at the Meeting:

Borden	Tovil
Burham	Tunbury
Chalk	Tunstall
Eastling	West Malling
Harrietsham	Wye
Hempstead Valley	
Joydens Wood	
Langley	
Shorne	
Snodland	

1. APOLOGIES Apologies for absence were received from Mark Wiedeholz, County Team Manager, Alfie Spelman, Rules & Regulations Officer, Ditton (2) Club, Detling Club & Boughton Monchelsea Club.
2. MINUTES The Chairman asked the meeting if they agreed that the minutes published for last year's meeting were a true record? Mick Sayer, Langley club proposed that these were a true record & that it was not necessary to read them aloud. This was seconded by Brian Rust, Harrietsham club & agreed unanimously by the members present.
3. M A T T E R S There were no matters arising.
ARISING

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT The Chairman read his report as follows;

"Good morning everyone; welcome to our 22nd AGM and my report for my 3rd season as Chairman. I believe it has been a steady year for the association with the county consolidating in a number of ways.

It is my duty and my pleasure to make today's report and as in previous years I will try to keep it as brief as possible.

I don't want to steal the thunder from the following officer's reports but nevertheless wanted to say something. As Chairman, I have again been proud of our County teams; they showed great character despite disappointing finishes in the knock out stages of the national competition. I am sure that our players will bounce back again next season and will be more determined than ever; I have no doubt Mark will do his utmost to continue developing our teams and will make them as successful as possible. I am also pleased that we have been able to remain financially stable and are again on track under the guidance of our Treasurer Jan...thank you Jan for your hard work, support & guidance throughout the year.

Next I have a few thank you's to make and in particular Sonia our competition secretary and Michelle our Secretary. The sheer volume of work that they process on all our behalf's is staggering and we should recognise and acknowledge this. Both role's need dedication, effort and a never ending enthusiasm; both jobs take a special person and Kent should be grateful we have two sat here today.

I am also proud to make a huge thank you to the rest of the committee; they are all dedicated and work tremendously hard for our game and association. Without this committee we wouldn't have an association.

I hope that the lack of proposals mean we are working from a sound and proper platform; I still believe we are one of the countries best administrivly run counties, although I can not believe we are perfect in all areas. This leads me nicely into one more thank you; I want to thank Mick Sayer for his tireless efforts on our website; I know many players use this information to regularly update themselves on the events through the county.

As Chairman I am pleased that this AGM will be simple as we do not have any difficult proposals...in fact we don't have any proposals other than those to re-elect the current committee. Members should note that new blood will be required at some stage; these people will not stand for ever and should not be expected to stand for ever. Members should consider this when they continue to play their bowls. I also have to ask a question noting we do not have any other proposals.... are we perfect in every way? It seems to me that if we are not careful this association and its members will drift along and is becoming apathetic to being involved, helping, developing & growing our county. I would like to invite members in a positive way to challenge the committee, our association's procedures and the things that we do; no doubt we would all enjoy the healthy debate! From debate come great ideas...please feel free to air your views to us during the season.

I am sure that as a sport we continue to face very tough times; this committee recognises this and is determined to consolidate our association and grow wherever possible. We have been able to continue to sell surplus bowling equipment. This has obvious benefits for our association and members & I hope we will be able to continue this practice in the future.

I am sorry to repeat the previously announced resignation of our Child and Vulnerable Adult Protection Officer...unfortunately her personal circumstances have changed and we are now seeking new ways to fulfil our commitment.

I could not do a report without mentioning or thanking all of the helpers at Strood....without them we simply could not operate. There are so many unsung heroes...thanks to all.

Finally, I know this committee will continue to do its best for the association and will continue to work with you the members for the smooth running of our game & association.

As Chairman I would like to wish each & every member continued success into the next season and look forward to seeing you all on or around the bowls mats sometime soon
Thank you.....now over to the Treasurer for her report.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT The Treasurer opened her Report by welcoming members present. For once this will be a very short report as really there are no surprises this year. 2010 has been, once again, a successful financial year for the Association. I am pleased to report that our bank balance remains healthy. We started the year with a balance of £13102.49 and ended with £14195.28 meaning that we kept to a very tight budget.

We managed to absorb successfully the 50p increase per member by the ESMBA. It is worth noting that we now have 75 clubs, the highest total since 2005 although membership has dropped again this year by 15 members. Only a small drop but I think the association offers outstanding value.

The cost of halls and coaches were less this year; mainly due to playing fewer games at Strood and to the fact that unfortunately no coach was needed for the ICC final this year. Donations & grants were also at the lowest since 2005 but there are really no great items of equipment needed apart from run of the mill things like score boards.

I have deliberately continued the policy of encouraging fund raising to raise income and thanks to the hard work and considerable efforts of the Committee this has once again raised nearly £3000.

I would like to thank everyone who has contributed in making 2009/10 so successful & hope that the future years will prove to be so profitable & enjoyable.

It was proposed by Tony Mulcuck of Ditton that the accounts be accepted.
Seconded by Brian Rust of Harrietsham. Agreed unanimously.

6. **MANAGER'S REPORT** The County Team Manager opened his report as follows;

“Good Morning everyone, unfortunately I cannot be with you today but things are a little hectic following the birth of our baby son 3 weeks ago.

The 2009/2010 season saw 10 members qualify for their Kent County Badges and I'm pleased to say that all these individuals

played for the county in their respective teams and did well.

The ICC competition, again this year comprised some great and some not so great results for both the Premier and A-Teams

but again the County B-Team had a great season and brought home a trophy.

Now onto the individual team reports:

The Premier Team: -

The team this year comprised 3 new players in addition to 17 of last year's team, Kent started the Round Robin season with

a 38pt – 2pt annihilation of London and from there went onto win their next 3 games. East Sussex, the whipping boys from

last season proved to be too strong for Kent both home and away which meant East Sussex won the group and Kent where

runners up. Runners up spot in the group left Kent having to play a pre-lim game against Worcestershire; this was played at Hampshire and saw Kent win 29pts-11pts. Kent Prem then played Hampshire in the Qtr Final, the competition

through the

day was fierce but fair, but Kent could not get over the finishing line in any session and unfortunately lost the Qtr final 28pts – 12pts.

Special Thanks must go to Tim Rycraft (Captain) for his efforts and support.

The A-Team:-

Under the management of Derek Carpenter and the introduction of 3 new players the Kent A- Team proved their worth. Kent started the Round Robin season with a perfect score, a 40pts–0pts win over East Sussex, this as for the Premier team

last season was the first 40pts-0pt victory in the new format A-Team competition. On their way to winning the group Kent

went unbeaten (5 wins and 1 draw) securing a place straight into the Qtr final, which this year was a match against Essex at

the Caroline Chisholm school. The Qtr final was a close fought affair but I'm pleased to report that Kent won 24pts–16pts;

the win landed Kent a semi final game against improved West Midlands. In true Kent fashion the games were hard fought

and close but unfortunately the result went West Midlands way. West Midlands 25pts and Kent 15pts.

Special thanks and well done must go to Derek Carpenter (Manager) and Alan Hadfield (Captain) for their efforts and support.

The B-Team: -

Under the management of Dave Kruse and his new Captain Ray Ryder and with the introduction of 4 new county badge holders the Kent B- Team again had an impressive season. As last year Kent B Team proved that they could win trophies by beating West Sussex in the Shield Match (33pts – 3pts) which is held between the 2 counties. Kent has now won the trophy on 11 occasions and this year made it an impressive 7 years in a row. This success continued all thorough the season

with Kent notching up an impressive set of results Played 13, Won 9, Draw 0 Lost 4. The most satisfying games were against East Sussex at Snodland where Kent won 33pts-7pts and away to London winning 32pts-8pts.

Special thanks and congratulations go to Dave Kruse (Manager) and Ray Ryder (Captain) for their efforts and support.

County Friendly Match:-

This match was played away in Dorset on 6th June against the Dorset Premier Team and included players from the Kent Premier “A” and “B” Teams the day although long was enjoyed by all and the result was the right one for Kent. Kent won

24pts (163 shots) to Dorset Premier team 16pts (175 shots). I hope to arrange a return fixture with Dorset Premier in Kent

later this year.

Thanks to all involved for your support and let's hope Kent will be successful in the forthcoming season”.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Mark for all his efforts during the past season.

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS The Chairman asked the floor that because there were proposals for all the current officers with no opposition that these were elected en bloc; this was proposed by Tony Mulcuck of Ditton club, seconded by Ruth Baker of Shorne.

Chairman: Mr Tim Rycraft

Vice-Chairman: Mr Thomas Coles

Secretary: Ms Michelle Fitzgerald

Treasurer: Mrs Jan Davey

Competition Secretary: Mrs Sonia Watson

Rules & Regulations Officer: The Chairman confirmed that in line with the constitution Alfie Spelman had issued a ballot to all the umpires and had received support that he carry on as Rules & Regulations Officer.

8. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE As the existing Committee members all had proposals which again were unopposed, the meeting agreed to accept them en bloc. Proposed by Ron Champion of Snodland & seconded by Sid Brown of Hempstead Valley.

Committee: Irene Benton
Chris England
Derek Carpenter

President: Three nominations were received for this position; Andrea Rycraft, Tony Mulcuck & Bryan Smith. A vote was taken with the following result;
Tony Mulcuck – 6 votes, Andrea Rycraft – 9 votes and Bryan Smith – 12 votes. Although he wasn't present, the Chairman welcomed Mr Smith in his new role as President.

9. PROPOSALS None received.

10. INCREASE OF MEMBERSHIP FEES On behalf of the Committee, the Treasurer recommended that all of the current playing, registration & membership fees remain unchanged; she stated that the Committee honorariums should be decided by the delegates present.

Brian Rust from Harrietsham Club proposed & Martin Matthews from Tunstall club seconded that all the playing fees continue as suggested however he felt that the honorariums should be increased by 10% for this year only. After some debate where Tony Mulcuck from Ditton club highlighted that financial proposals ought to be confirmed prior to the meeting so all members can consider them. Brian Rust's proposal was accepted by 24 votes & 2 abstentions.

The Chairman declared the Meeting closed at 11.05am.

