

MINUTES OF THE EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF KENT COUNTY SHORT MAT BOWLING
ASSOCIATION HELD AT TUNBURY VILLAGE HALL ON SUNDAY 11TH JUNE, 2006

OFFICERS/	MR E MESSER	PRESIDENT
COMMITTEE	MR B SMITH	CHAIRMAN
PRESENT	MS M FITZGERALD	SECRETARY
	MRS J DAVEY	TREASURER
	MRS S WATSON	COMPETITION SECRETARY
	MR M WIEDEHOLZ	COUNTY TEAM MANAGER
	MR T RYCRAFT	RULES & REGULATIONS OFFICER
	MR D CARPENTER	COMMITTEE
	MRS I BENTON	COMMITTEE
	MR C ENGLAND	COMMITTEE

Representatives of the following Clubs were present at the Meeting:

Borden	Hempstead Valley
Burham	Langley
Chalk	Malling
Culverstone	Ryarsh
Detling	Shorne
Eastling	St Mary's Platt
Harrietsham	Tunbury
Hawkinge	Tunstall

1. APOLOGIES Apologies for absence were received from Derek Ford (Vice Chairman), Hamstreet, Joydens Wood & Wye Clubs.
2. MINUTES Members present were asked if they agreed that the Minutes of the Seventeenth Annual General Meeting were a true record of that Meeting? Unanimously agreed.
3. M A T T E R S There were no matters arising.
ARISING

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT The Chairman opened his address by welcoming all members present to the Meeting. He followed with his report which read as follows;

“Over the last year I think the County has been very successful in all the events run for our members. There is still plenty of room for the word to get passed around to members of the county as to what we do – by this I feel sure I am right in saying that there are still some club secretaries not passing on enough information to their club members. I get this feeling by talking to members who still do not know we have our county competitions at Strood Leisure Centre. You might find this strange, but I had this answer not so long ago from a member.

This leads me on to say about our new venture this year of using Strood Sports Centre for our competitions. Some reports from the membership are very good – but I feel some people have the reverse idea. I don't think beggars can be choosers in this situation – we do get noises from other parts of the hall when only half the hall is booked, but this is overruled when we have the whole hall. I don't think we could find another venue that will store our 20+ mats and fenders etc. If any of you can find a better solution, please let us know.

Moving on to the playing part of the year, I think we should all say to our 'A' team “Congratulations on winning the National League title this year” – Well done.

Our Premier team did very well to reach the National final again, but were just pipped at the post by Staffordshire.

The B team had a very successful season with a recorded 100% winning record until their last game of the season when the wheel fell off.

At this point, I would like to take this opportunity, on your behalf as a county, to propose a vote of thanks to our team manager, Mark Wiedeholz for all the time and effort he has put in over the last year for us to gain these successes and also to Ray Anns for the A team and Derek Carpenter for the B team.

Our own internal competitions have really gone well this year. We have had perhaps somewhat better support in numbers than last year. A big thank you for all her hard work in running these must go to our Competition Secretary, Sonia Watson, not forgetting her behind the scenes helper – Colin.

Congratulations must go to all our winners over the whole of the competitions – it is nice to see some new names coming up as winners as well as some of the old names.

I would just like to say again this year about the presentation of the trophies. In the past the Committee have organised a special evening for this, but only some of the prize winners have attended – which defeats having a presentation evening – perhaps people are not proud of collecting their cups etc. This year, we as a Committee are trying something different; the presentations will take place at the first get together on the 23rd July 2006 at Strood. All winners & runners up will be invited to attend.

As Chairman, I wish to extend a warm vote of thanks to my retiring vice-chairman – Derek Ford for his dedication to the association over a number of years and for the help he has given to me personally.

Finally, I would like to finish by saying on your behalf 'thank you' to all my Committee for their help and support over the last 12 months – Michelle as your very competent Secretary, who sends all information out to club secretaries from which you should know everything that is going on in the county, also to Jan for her bookkeeping and money spending as Treasurer, and all the other members – Chris, Derek, Irene, Mark, Sonia and Tim, and by no means least a mention to our life President, Ted, for all his interest and support to the county over the past year – we all know how busy he is as the England Team Manager – but he always finds time to support us.

Thank you to you all.”

5. TREASURER'S REPORT The Treasurer opened her Report by welcoming members present. She stated that this being her second year as Treasurer, financially it had been a very successful one. Our bank balance is now £12849.43 compared with a balance of £6350.41 this time last year. We were successful in obtaining a lottery grant from Awards for All of £3466. During the year we have purchased 4 Verde mats with a mat replacement programme of 4 mats a year and we now have 20 jacks which are in good condition. 16 new fenders and 8 centre blocks are going to be produced ready for September.

We have cut the costs of the coaches from £5436 to £3930 a saving of £1506; Mr Carpenter secured a very good deal and this was with both teams reaching the final. Congratulations to them both.

We are now insured with the ESMBA cutting costs from £785.91 to £318. The ESMBA insurance is very competitive with comprehensive cover. It is worth clubs and leagues checking their insurance.

In a way, we have been successful by everyone helping out. It's often the little things that count and make a big difference so thank you everyone who has given raffle prizes or purchased tickets or who have taken part in any of our events or have been active or contributed in any way.

Finally Thank You to Tunbury for hosting this event today – again a little thing it helps so much – thank you.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Davey for her report and asked if there were any questions from the floor.

Sue Smith of Tunbury club asked if there was any info that could be given to clubs regarding the insurance. The Treasurer informed the room that for every £1000 worth of equipment the insurance was £14.50 and the public liability with the ESMBA was £43 but clubs must be affiliated to get this deal.

Ray Anns of Borden club asked if this covered member to member; the Treasurer confirmed that it does.

It was proposed by Brian Rust of Harrietsham that the accounts be accepted.
Seconded by Thomas Coles of Langley. Agreed unanimously.

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

"I would like to open by saying a big thank you to everyone who has been a part of making my first season as County Team Manager a pleasant and successful one. The enthusiasm and commitment last season from all the county players was excellent, I feel this coupled with the new venue at Strood Leisure centre has resulted in Kent achieving in the 2005-2006 season.

Now on to the individual team reports:

The Premier Team again reached the final of the ICC event beating the likes of Shropshire and Devon on the way. Unfortunately Kent were out bowled on the day of the final by Staffordshire losing 24pts to 12pts. It was hard handing over the trophy but Kent will regain it again. Special thanks must go to my Captain Cliff Henry for his efforts and support.

The Premier team as winners of the ICC trophy last season were hosts to the British Isles Inter Team Challenge at Folkestone where the English (Kent) Irish (Oriel) and Welsh (Pembrokeshire) county champions played. After the weekends bowling the final results had Kent in second place (72pts) behind the winning Oriel team (84pts) and Pembrokeshire coming third with 24pts. If Kent had managed to secure 5 more shots against Oriel in the team rinks event we would have won the tournament – nevertheless Kent achieved their best points total since playing in this competition.

Thanks to the Committee for help in organising this event with special thanks to Ted Messer and Derek Ford for organising the accommodation and the brochure respectively. Ray Anns and Evelyn Nobbs for scoring the event on the day.

The A-Team proved they were the best team in England by going one better than last season by winning the ICC cup. Kent played Wiltshire in the final and I believe achieved one of, if not the best winning margin in competition history winning 31pts to 5pts – a great result.

Special thanks must go to Ray Anns (Manager) and Keith Austin (Captain) for their efforts and support.

The B-Team proved that they also could win trophies by beating West Sussex in the Shield Match for the eighth time by an impressive 41pts to 11pts. This success continued all through the season with Kent notching up an impressive set of results played 15, won 12, drew 2 and lost 1.

Special thanks must go to Derek Carpenter (Manager), Jan Davey (Assistant Manager) and John Hallett (Captain) for their efforts and support.

The County Youth Team has progressed and grown this season with around 40 juniors now in the squad playing external and internal competitions. Amongst the competitions run this year two have been dedicated to Burt Allard who was instrumental in forming and progressing the juniors, these competitions will continue to take place on an annual basis.

We took three junior teams in May to represent Kent in the under 18's Woodbridge Trophy, all three teams did well with our best placed team ranking 4th out of the 25 teams. We also had five juniors play with West Sussex juniors in a select game against England under 18's. Kent and West Sussex beat the England squad convincingly. Following from this great performance several juniors from Kent were picked to represent England.

Special thanks must go to Gary Best and Gary Allard for their efforts and support.

Finally, it's great to see such a depth across the county; this will bode well for the forthcoming season".

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

7. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS** Ted Messer, President, informed the meeting that the following nominations had been received;

Chairman:

Mr Bryan Smith; Proposed by the Secretary, Seconded by the Treasurer – no other nominations received. Agreed unanimously.

The next position for election was Vice-Chairman. A nomination had been put forward for Mr Derek Carpenter; proposed & seconded by Tunbury club but the President opened it to the floor; no other Nominations came forward so the President asked the meeting if they were in agreement to Derek Carpenter's nomination. Agreed Unanimously.

Vice-Chairman:

Mr Derek Carpenter

Secretary: **Ms Michelle Fitzgerald;** Proposed & Seconded by Wye SMBC – no other nominations received. Agreed Unanimously.

Treasurer: **Mrs Jan Davey;** Proposed by June Faulkner and seconded by G Cook – no other nominations received. Agreed unanimously.

Competition Secretary: **Mrs Sonia Watson;** Proposed by Balfour SMBC & Seconded by Tovil SMBC – no other nominations received. Agreed unanimously

Rules & Regulations Officer: **Mr T Rycraft;** Proposed and seconded by the umpires – no other Nominations received. Agreed unanimously.

8. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE Nominations had been received for the following; Derek Carpenter from Tunbury Club, Irene Benton from Burham, Chris England from Tovil & Michael Levings from Ditton. Derek Carpenter's proposal was scrapped due to him taking Vice Chair position, Michael Levings did not attend the meeting therefore his proposal became void. The president asked the meeting if anyone would like to become a member of the Committee. Thomas Coles from Langley put himself forward for this position. Agreed unanimously.

The President welcomed Mr Coles to the Committee.

The Meeting agreed that the following should be representatives for the Committee.

Committee:
Irene Benton
Chris England
Thomas Coles

9. PROPOSALS A proposal from Kemsing club regarding the Competition Secretary; their request was that this position be re-imbursed for the work & time involved. The President stated that the Treasurer position should also be included in this and that the meeting should discuss whether an honorarium be granted for both positions.

Thomas Coles from Langley asked if it was financially viable. Hazel Rider from Culverstone asked if it was granted would it run from year to year or would it be reconsidered every year at the AGM.

The President stated that there would need to be a safeguard in place should the county get into financial difficulty.

Brian Rust from Harrietsham SMBC proposed that the Competition Secretary & Treasurer be paid an honorarium which will be reviewed at the AGM. Thomas Coles from Langley Seconded. Unanimously agreed.

Ray Anns from Borden proposed that the Competition Secretary be paid £400 and the Treasurer £200; Brian Rust from Harrietsham SMBC seconded. Unanimously agreed.

10. INCREASE OF MEMBERSHIP FEES The Treasurer recommended the individual membership (£7) & the Under 18's memberships (£3.50) remain the same next year. Club affiliation fee will rise from £5 to £10. All other fees will remain the same next year.

Proposed by Ray Anns of Borden & seconded by Alan Clarke of Chalk. Agreed Unanimously.

The President declared the Meeting closed at 11.45am.