CORNWALL COUNTY SHORT MAT BOWLING ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the 195th Management Committee Meeting held via Zoom on Monday 11th January 2021.

Present: Gill Smith, Elise Daniell, Peter Hore, Sandra Worton, Nick Truscott, Nigel Nicholls, John Worton, Rita Hancock, Steve Fletcher, Yolanda Featherstone

195.00 Chairman's welcome:

In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice Chairman opened the meeting at 7.00pm and thanked everyone for attending remotely.

195.01 Apologies for absence:

Chris Roberts

195.02 Approve and sign minutes of the 194th committee meeting:

The minutes were taken as read and approved by those present. Due to the remote meeting, the minutes were signed by the County Secretary on behalf of the Vice Chairman.

Proposer: Rita Hancock Seconder: Nick Truscott

195.03 Matters arising from previous meeting:

None

195.04 Correspondence:

Letter received from Barry Hedges (ESMBA Chairman) and Michelle Donnachie (Sutton Winson) in respect of the upcoming renewal to the ESMBA's Civil Liability Insurance Scheme. This letter states that the insurance scheme is subject to all members from a club being affiliated to the ESMBA and if only the minimum number are affiliated that club would be in breach of the ESMBA's Constitution. Due to this, the letter states that in order to receive the renewal invitation a club must have made their affiliations no later than the 31st January 2021. The committee expressed their disappointment regarding the content and tone of the letter particularly due to the current climate the country finds itself in. Many of these concerns have been echoed by clubs within the County and also from other County Associations in particular emails have been received from Wiltshire, Humberside, Gloucestershire and North Yorkshire. The committee agreed that a letter should be sent to the ESMBA raising the concerns regarding the current position they are taking which seems to be an effort to replace lost membership. In the meantime, a statement will be sent to all clubs advising that the ESMBA is currently insisting on all members of a club to be affiliated, even if it remains closed due to the pandemic, in order to be eligible for the insurance renewal invitation. Clubs may find that there are alternative insurance policies on the market if they wished to look elsewhere for their insurance cover. Clubs are asked to forward a copy of their current certificate of insurance to the Membership Secretary with their annual affiliation renewals for our records.

195.05 Treasurer's report:

Since our last meeting the only transactions that have taken place relate to the affiliation fees being paid into the CCSMBA and in turn being forwarded on to the ESMBA. The payment to the ESMBA was roughly £3000 less than it normally would be due to the large number of members not renewing their membership for the 2020/21 season. The committee are reminded to forward any expense claims onto me by the 31st January so that they fall into this financial year.

195.06 Membership Secretary's report:

What a strange year 2020 was and it looks like 2021 may follow in a similar manner. At the end of November the annual return was sent to James Smith (ESMBA Membership Secretary) stating we had 366 affiliated members which generated a payment of £1464.00. Since then I have been contacted by 6 clubs requesting further affiliations. These clubs are Gweek, Saltash, Lanteglos, Withiel, Helston and Landrake. I have a list of these new affiliations and presume a second return will need to be made at the end of January. The current membership

stands at 407 and I hold 10 cheques totalling £268.00 which will be banked as soon as I can. I have been contacted by a number of clubs recently asking advice on the insurance situation and the letter issued by Sutton Winson and I have said that communication will follow after our meeting tonight.

195.07 Competition Secretary's report:

Given the present situation, I feel that it is now time to make the decision that no competitions or events will be held in Cornwall this season and agree to plan our return as usual for the 2021/22 season depending on how the situation develops. I have spoken to the Friends of Essex secretary regarding their planned tour to Cornwall in May 2021 and it has already been agreed to postpone this once more to 2022. We will look to complete any outstanding County Competitions from the 2019/20 season once we are able to return.
Proposer: Peter Hore Seconder: Nick Truscott Unanimously agreed.

The committee also agreed to contact the ESMBA for clarity regarding the scheduled National Championships and National Top Club Competition which are still scheduled to take place this season.

Nigel Nicholls (Assistant Competition Secretary) gave his apologies and left the meeting following this discussion.

195.08 Team Manager's report:

No report.

195.09 Social Secretary's report:

No report.

195.10 Press & Promotion Officer's report:

We will soon need to discuss how to promote Short Mat Bowls within the County to encourage members back to clubs once the situation allows. I would suggest holding some open days throughout the County utilising those clubs with multiple mat venues and could look at allocating the money received from the Cornwall Bowls Development Alliance for this.

The committee agreed to defer the discussion until the summer where there may be a better indication of when this might be able to take place.

195.11 Area Representatives' report:

Central Area: No report.
East Area: No report.
North Area: No report.
West Area: No report.

195.12 Items for discussion from correspondence (if necessary):

None.

195.13 Any other business:

Back to Bowls Update: The Safeguarding Officer informed the committee that there have been no new applications for Safe Bowls Status or updates from the ESMBA following the last meeting. However, as England is now under National Lockdown restrictions clubs are not currently able to open.

Open Sessions at Carnmoggas: Deferred to next meeting.

County AGM: The committee agreed to inform the Hotel Victoria that it is unlikely that we will be able to hold the Annual General Meeting and Presentation Luncheon in a hotel setting and to enquire whether it would be possible to defer the deposit once more. Further discussion regarding the AGM deferred to next meeting.

195.14 Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on 8th March 2021 7.00pm via Zoom.

194.15 Close meeting:

With no further business to discuss, the Vice Chairman closed the meeting at 7.50pm.

These are a true record and representation of the minutes taken at the above meeting.

Signed……. (Chairman) Dated…….

Hon: Secretary: Elise Daniell Dated: 24th January 2021