CORNWALL COUNTY SHORT MAT BOWLING ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the 201st Management Committee Meeting held via Zoom on Monday 10th January 2022.

Present: Chris Roberts, Elise Daniell, Peter Hore, Sandra Worton, Nick Truscott, John Worton, Rita Hancock, Steve Fletcher, Nigel Nicholls

201.00 Chairman's welcome:

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.00pm and thanked everyone for attending remotely.

201.01 Apologies for absence:

None.

201.02 Approve and sign minutes of the 200th committee meeting:

The minutes were taken as read and approved by those present.

Proposer: Rita Hancock Seconder: John Worton

201.03 Matters arising from previous meeting:

The committee reviewed the Action List resulting from the previous meeting –

- An email was sent to the National Safeguarding Officer to check the status of the CCSMBA's application for Safe Bowls Status on 23rd November. The NSO replied advising that the application was with the ESMBA Chairman for final signing off but to date this has not been received. A further email will be sent to chase.
- Porthleven and Callington were both contacted to confirm the players attending for the Truscott Plate – unfortunately Callington later pulled out of the final and did not attend.
- A statement on behalf of the Management Committee appealing for volunteers to sit on the committee was sent to all Club Secretaries and published on Social Media. As yet, no volunteers have come forward for any of the vacant positions.
- The National Safeguarding Officer was advised that the CCSMBA is currently without a Safeguarding Officer following Gill Smith's resignation and the County Secretary would be the contact in the interim period.
- Confirmation of the correct procedure for responding to and reporting Covid-19 cases has now been received from the National Safeguarding Officer and clubs have been updated accordingly.
- The East Area League Co-ordinator advised that all teams have been advised of the updated Covid-19 procedures and rules regarding postponement. All postponed fixtures from the first half of the season were completed before the Christmas shutdown.
- Sandra Worton confirmed that St Ives SMBC were contacted regarding their affiliation fee query and the matter has now been resolved.
- The Annual Membership return to the ESMBA has been completed.

201.04 Correspondence:

Email from Linda White (ESMBA General Secretary) providing copies of the ESMBA's Committee Meeting Minutes from 6th November and 11th December (copies attached for club records). The committee agreed to approach the ESMBA to query why they are proposing that all County Committee members must be affiliated members of the ESMBA. This would effectively prevent a committee from approaching a volunteer agency or time bank to find someone to take on a vacant position as they would need to be affiliated to the ESMBA.

Email from Lynn Dean (National Safeguarding Officer) in response to the CCSMBA's email advising that the County Safeguarding Officer has resigned from the committee. The NSO advised that a County must has a Safeguarding Officer in place to run National Qualifiers and enter the ICC therefore the position must be filled ASAP. A job description for the role was provided for further information to assist with finding a volunteer.

In order to ensure the CCSMBA is in line with the requirements of the ESMBA, it was proposed that the position of

County Safeguarding Officer is created as a separate position on the Management Committee rather than an added role taken on by a current committee member. This proposal will be put forward to the County AGM for ratification.
Proposal: Elise Daniell Seconder: Nigel Nicholls Unanimously Agreed.

Email from Lynn Dean (National Safeguarding Officer) providing the latest advice from the ESMBA regarding Lateral Flow Tests. The County Secretary will ensure the latest update is forwarded onto Club Secretaries along with a reminder regarding masks.

201.05 Treasurer's report:

The CCSMBA's bank balance currently stands at £22,303 which accounts for the Annual Affiliation payment made to the ESMBA and the hire of Carnmoggas over the last few months. Despite our appeal for volunteers, we are still without an auditor to look at the CCSMBA's accounts ahead of the AGM and we will need to decide how to proceed with this. Should we should present unaudited accounts for now and continue to look for a volunteer, pay for an auditor (although this is likely to be a significant expense as there are three years of accounts to be looked at) or approach a volunteer agency to assist?

The committee agreed that, although the rules regarding financial regulating may have changed since the CCSMBA's constitution was written with the requirement for audited accounts, it is important for the Association's accounts to be checked in order to protect the Treasurer. It was therefore agreed that a specific appeal for an auditor would be sent out to the membership to see if anyone would be willing to come forwards before approaching an outside agency which may incur a significant cost to the CCSMBA.

201.06 Membership Secretary's report:

Membership since our last meeting in November has slowed as expected for the time of year. The number of affiliated players is now 839 which is slightly lower than November because of St. Ives over affiliating at the start of the season. I hold 2 cheques totalling £21.00 which will be banked shortly.

201.07 Competition Secretary's report:

We have now caught up with the outstanding 2019/20 fixtures with the exception of the Team of Three which is still to be played following an injury. The Bebbington Cup was won by Withiel Oaks and the Truscott Plate was won by Lanteglos B, unfortunately only two of the four areas sent teams for the Truscott Plate but the competition was still played in good spirits. Later the same day the 2019/20 Champion of Champions was won by Peter Hore, beating Callum Beale in the final. The new season is now underway and there have been no issues to raise so far. The National Qualifiers have been played and we have received confirmation of our allocations – we have two places in the Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours and one place in the Mixed Fours and Over 55's Pairs. Finally, there is a provision friendly against Somerset arranged for Saturday 2nd April at Carnmoggas which we will need twenty players and a Manager for.

201.08 Team Manager's report:

No report.

201.09 Social Secretary's report:

No report.

201.10 Press & Promotion Officer's report:

Reports have been published on the website and sent to the local press every week as events have happened. There has recently been a big shift around in the local media as a lot of the sports writers from the Voice Group have now formed their own company reporting on local sport. Following this, one of our contacts at the Guardian has now joined the Voice Group and I hope they will continue to be a good outlet for us.

201.11 Area Representatives' report:

Central Area: May I wish all members of the CCSMBA a happy New Year and hope that we can get through the next three months without too many problems. December saw the Central area league of six teams reach the half way stage with only a couple of alterations to the fixture sheet due to Covid associated problems. At this half way point the league is led by St Agnes Choughs with 39 points, second is St. Newlyn East Phoenix with 38 and third is Withiel with 37 points. Good to see a really close contested league. A special mention must go to Goonbarrow Bowling

club who have stepped up to play in the Premier division for the first time. It has to be said they have struggled a bit but have played every game in a good spirit. The second half of the fixtures is due to start on Thursday 13th January.

East Area: All fixtures that were due to be played before Christmas were completed. There have been a few issues surrounding player registrations which will need to be discussed further under Any Other Business. There has also been a slight issue regarding players changing clubs during the season where clubs haven't followed the procedure set out in the Constitution and this will need some further consideration. The leaders of the East Area are Duloe by 7 points ahead of Callington and Landrake.

North Area: The second half of the North Area League has just commenced and the last match of the first half of the season is taking place this week following it's postponement due to Covid. To date, Blisland are top with Lanteglos B in second. All of the clubs in the North Area seem to be following Safe Bowls Guidelines successfully.

West Area: To date the Premier League is running smoothly however I am having some issues in the First Division with two matches outstanding due to Covid. Alongside the County League we also have three afternoon leagues running in the West Area, unfortunately we have had teams drop out mid-season but I am trying to keep these leagues running as they are enjoyed by a lot of people. I have recently sent out a questionnaire to clubs in the West Area to try to understand if any are struggling due to Covid. From the responses I have received, two teams have advised that they are struggling with members and these teams are both from the same club. I will contact them to discuss this matter further and to ascertain whether they will be able to fulfil their fixtures.

201.12 Items for discussion from correspondence (if necessary):

None.

201.13 Any other business:

Vacant Committee Positions: Following the recently published statement, the committee have received no response to the appeal for volunteers to come forward and take on one of the vacant positions on the committee. It was agreed to publish a new statement on Social Media and send to all Club Secretaries appealing for volunteers once more however, moving forwards, the committee discussed the action that would be taken should there be no volunteers for these roles. It was agreed that some activities would need to be scaled back in order to ensure the Association could continue to be effectively managed.

With regards to the East Area Representative, the committee agreed to call an Area meeting to discuss this matter further with the clubs involved. Due to the current climate and to help with logistics, the meeting would be held via Zoom on Wednesday 16th February at 7.00pm. All members of the East Area are invited to virtually attend to discuss the future of the East Area. The committee agreed that should no volunteer come forward to take on the East Area Representative role, there will be no East Area League or East Inter Area team for the 2022/23 season. Proposer: Nick Truscott Seconder: Elise Daniell Unanimously agreed.

Ongoing Response to Covid-19: Further to the recently increased threat of Covid-19, updated advice from the ESMBA has been forwarded onto Club Secretaries. Players are reminded that face coverings should be worn in all indoor communal settings while walking around including on entrance and exit. The ESMBA guidance allows masks to be removed while playing or while members are seated. Clubs should also ensure there is ample ventilation and sanitiser available for players to use.

Reserved Inter Area Dates on County Calendar: There are two dates on the County Calendar currently reserved should we wish to run the Inter Area League / Competition this season – 22nd January and 27th February. It was agreed that the Inter Area would not be held this season and to cancel 22nd January. An Open Day would be run in place of the Inter Area on 27th February as this proved to be successful at the start of the season.

ICC Entry for 2022/23: Although the format for the ICC is yet to be decided, the committee discussed how to proceed should the Team Managers role remain vacant once the entry forms are published. The committee agreed that our current position would be that Cornwall will not enter the ICC for 2022/23 if the Team Managers position remains vacant. Proposer: Nick Truscott Seconder: Peter Hore Unanimously Agreed.

Player Registration Query: There has recently been an incident in the East Area where an unregistered player took part in a league game. The rules have been applied and the matter has been resolved amicably between the two teams involved, however there is a question as to whether it is right for a team to be stripped of a shots advantage

if their opponents have played an illegal player. It was agreed for this matter to be reviewed again at the next rules revision meeting ahead of next season.

There have also been cases where players have switched clubs mid-season but the procedure as set out in the Constitution has not been followed which has caused some confusion. The committee agreed that the current procedure may be slightly convoluted and agreed that it could be simplified going forwards. A proposal will be put together for consideration at the next committee meeting ahead of the CCSMBA's AGM.

County AGM & Presentation Luncheon: Although there is a date in the County Calendar, a venue hasn't yet been booked for the County AGM and Presentation Lunch as this would usually be the responsibility of the Social Secretary. The committee discussed this matter and agreed that as the position of Social Secretary is currently vacant, the Presentation Luncheon would not be arranged by the committee. Instead, an AGM will be held at a venue to be advised and the trophies could be collected by the winners if they are in attendance.
Proposer: Elise Daniell Seconder: Steve Fletcher Unanimously Agreed.

201.14 Date of next meeting:
The next meeting will be held on 14th March 2022 7.00pm via Zoom.

201.15 Close meeting:
With no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35pm.

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

Signed……. (Chairman) Dated…….

Hon: Secretary: Elise Daniell Dated: 3rd February 2022

Action List

- E.D to write to National Safeguarding Officer to chase the CCSMBA's Safe Bowls application.
- E.D to write to the ESMBA to query why they are proposing that all County Committee members must be affiliated members of the ESMBA.
- E. D to update clubs with the latest Covid-19 advice from the ESMBA.
- E. D to write to Club Secretaries specifically appealing for a volunteer auditor to examine the CCSMBA's accounts.
- E. D to publish a new statement appealing for volunteers for all vacant positions on the committee.
- E.D to write to all East Area secretaries inviting them and their members to attend an Area Meeting via Zoom on 16th February.
- E. D to advertise 27th February Open Day.
- Rule Revision Committee to review penalties for playing an illegal player - could a team be penalised by losing a shot advantage when having beaten an offending team?
- N.T to put together proposals to update the CCSMBA's Constitution for consideration ahead of the AGM.
- E.D to enquire about availability at Carnmoggas for the County AGM.