CORNWALL COUNTY SHORT MAT BOWLING ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the 203rd Management Committee Meeting held via Zoom on Monday 9th May 2022.

Present: Elise Daniell, Peter Hore, Sandra Worton, Nick Truscott, John Worton, Rita Hancock, Steve Williamson, Dennis Shorthouse

203.00 Chairman's welcome:

In the absence of the Chairman, Elise Daniell was appointed Chair. The meeting was opened at 7.00pm and the Chair thanked everyone for attending remotely.

203.01 Apologies for absence:

Nigel Nicholls, Callum Beale, Chris Roberts, Steve Fletcher

203.02 Approve and sign minutes of the 202nd committee meeting:

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

Proposer: Rita Hancock Seconder: John Worton

203.03 Matters arising from previous meeting:

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

- A new email apply is yet to be sent to Club Secretaries regarding the vacant positions on the committee and will be sent with the minutes of this meeting.
- The ESMBA are also yet to be contacted regarding the previously awarded Covid-19 Grant as evidence of expenditure is required in order to claim the grant and the CCSMBA's Accounts are currently being audited by an independent person.
- Both teams (Premier & A Team) have been entered into the 2022/23 ICC Competition.
- All AGM paperwork has been forwarded onto Club Secretaries.
- New County foot mats have been purchased – the old mats are now available to any club looking for some second hand equipment free of charge, interested parties should contact the County Secretary.
- The Summer League entry forms have been emailed to Club Secretaries
- As agreed at the last meeting, the Committee Meeting Agenda has been updated to include a Safeguarding Report going forwards.
- Player opinions and new County shirt designs are yet to be investigated – deferred to next meeting.

203.04 Correspondence:

Email from Linda White (ESMBA General Secretary) advertising a Level 1 Coaching Course that the ESMBA will be looking to run together with Coachbowls during the summer. The course is part online via two separate Zoom meetings and one day practical with some home working at your club and a final assessment face to face. Anyone enrolling on the course will be taught how to coach rather than how to play bowls and would suit anyone who wishes to follow a coaching path. Interested parties should contact the County Secretary for further information.

Email from Linda White (ESMBA General Secretary) providing a copy of the ESMBA's Committee Meeting Minutes from 5th and 6th February 2022. Copy attached for club records.

Email from Brian Baker (ESMBA) attaching a copy of the entry form for the ESMBA Members Pairs and Fours competition which will be held at the TLH Leisure Resort in October. Copy attached for club records.

Email from Brian Baker (ESMBA) following a review of the CCSMBA's Constitution. Brian advised that although the ESMBA do not approve constitutions, the do give advice on areas they hope Counties will find useful in helping to archive best practice. Some of the points raised are already being addressed by the Management Committee with the proposals being considered at the AGM. However, one section that would benefit from an update is section 4.11 in Administration and Structure as this refers to CRB checks and is no longer the correct term. The committee agreed that as it is an update in terminology only, a new proposal would not need to be sent to the membership for approval and, instead, the term "CRB" will be updated with "DBS Checks" accordingly.

Email from Peter Colmer (Lanreath SMBC) enquiring whether the CCMSBA is intending on reducing the fees for the upcoming season as a result of the past inactivity due to Covid-19. The committee advised that the fees were reduced at the time due to the inactivity in Cornwall however the membership fees will be reinstated for the 2022/23 season going forwards as the CCSMBA returns to normal.

Email from Linda White (ESMBA General Secretary) attaching some revised proposals ahead of the ESMBA's AGM. At the last meeting, the committee agreed that any delegate attending the AGM on the CCSMBA's behalf would be instructed to vote in favour of the proposals.

203.05 Treasurer's report:

No report.

203.06 Membership Secretary's report:

As expected not much has happened since I gave my report at the AGM. My registration letter was sent to all clubs at the end of March and to date 10 clubs have returned their updated lists. These clubs are – in Central St. Newlyn East and Withiel, in the East Dobwalls, Duloe and Saltash Kernow, in the North Blisland, Boscastle, Tintagel and Wadebridge and in the West only Gweek. The affiliation numbers currently stand at 835. I do have cheques ready to bank but will hold back on this as I am sure more will come in over the next few days.

203.07 Competition Secretary's report:

I am currently waiting to receive the ICC fixtures for next season so that I can confirm the CCSMBA's Calendar. The fixture list will be forwarded to Club Secretaries along with the County Competition Entry forms in July as usual.

203.08 Team Manager's report:

No report.

Dennis Shorthouse confirmed that he has been asked by the Team Manager to be A Team Captain for this year and asked for some input from the committee regarding potential players. The Committee advised that the Team Manager should firstly hold a County Trials Day with players being invited from throughout the County and the team would then be selected in partnership with the Captain. The Team Manager is ultimately responsible for arranging County trial invites and picking both County Teams.

203.09 Social Secretary's report:

No report.

203.10 Press & Promotion Officer's report:

The Summer League format has now been agreed and fixtures will shortly be forwarded to team contacts. There will be six teams competing in the West Area and seven teams in the East Area.

203.11 Area Representatives' report:

Central Area: This is more of an observation than a report. Before Covid in the 2019-2020 season, my report then said the trend implied that we were losing teams. In the two years of Covid we have not only lost teams but clubs also. In the Central area we have lost Cubert and Lanjeth who I fear will never restart. This is a more worrying case that if we cannot keep existing clubs what chance do we have of finding new ones. I have tried contacting clubs that used to be in our area and unfortunately some are no longer interested. However, I am hopeful that we may be able to attract Truro and Lostwithiel back along with the 6 teams from last year. My thanks go to Nick for organising the summer league and good luck to all teams participating.

East Area: Firstly, I would like to thank Nick Truscott on behalf of the East Area for standing in for last year to ensure we had a league to play in. Looking forwards, I have started to contact clubs to see who may be entering teams into the East Area League and it looks as though we will have the same 12 teams entering from last year with the possibility of two additional teams.
North Area: The North Area have done well in entering the Summer League, with two clubs coming back as they only have enough members to play triples . This highlights need for a triples league and, if this isn't possible, there will be no North Area next season as clubs will organise their own triples league. Please could we have a reasonable discussion about the format of the North Area league for the upcoming season.
West Area: No report.

203.12 Safeguarding Officer's Report

The ESMBA's website now points to being a member of bowls umbrella organisation the BDA and act in unison with the other 4 bowls codes to ensure there is a cohesive and consistent approach to the safeguarding. My suggestion for the CCSMBA moving forwards is that our policy should also direct us to this organisation, with a policy statement detailing specifics for the County alongside it on our website. This would be in place of the CCSMBA hosting all of the various resources on the website.

203.13 Any other business:

Failure to Attend Bebbington Cup: Although they were the North Area League winners, Lanteglos B failed to attend the County League Final with the reason being an increased risk of Covid-19. The committee discussed this matter and learned that the league came down to the last league game which was played with full knowledge that the winners would be required to attend the County Finals. The committee agreed that the CCSMBA had all of the required procedures in place to offer a Covid safe environment for bowls – this includes ventilation, sanitisation and more than sufficient space between mats. These procedures were likely to be more robust than those at club venues visited throughout the North Area League programme. The committee therefore agreed that as the final league game was played with full knowledge of their requirement to attend the Bebbington Cup, this in turn prevented another team from attending and the Competition was therefore effected by the non-attendance. It was therefore agreed that the usual rules would be applied and Lanteglos B will be penalised with a 12-point deduction from their points for the 2022/23 Winter League.

ICC Travel Arrangements: Deferred to next committee meeting.

Rules Revision: The Committee appointed a sub-committee (Chairman, Secretary, Competition Secretary and Assistant Competition Secretary) to meet and review the CCSMBA's rules with any proposed changes to be approved at a committee meeting.

County League: In order to assess whether a later deadline for the County League will help more teams enter, the Committee agreed to extend the deadline for entries to 30th June. Clubs are encouraged to enter their teams as soon as possible to help Area Representatives co-ordinate the league. The committee will also be exploring marketing opportunities available to the CCSMBA such as targeted Facebook adverts, contact with local WI and U3A groups and, taking inspiration from Bowls England, organising a County led campaign similar to the Bowls Big Weekend.

Due to the declining membership in the North Area, there is a real threat that the Area would be lost from the Association should there not be changes to the league format. However, there are some concerns that by changing the format to accommodate a declining membership the cause of the issue is not addressed. Therefore, the committee agreed that the North Area League would be changed to a triples league for the 2022/2023 season with a focus on marketing within the area. This will be reviewed again ahead of the 2023/24 season.
Proposer: Rita Hancock Seconder: Nick Truscott Unanimously agreed.

203.14 Date of next meeting:

The next meeting will be held on 11th July 2022 7.00pm via Zoom.

203.15 Close meeting:

With no further business to discuss, the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.47pm.

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

Signed……. (Chairman) Dated…….

Hon: Secretary: Elise Daniell **Dated: 16th June 2022**

Action List

- E.D to email Club Secretaries regarding the vacant positions of the Committee
- C.B & P.H to get player opinions re County Shirts and investigate alternative suppliers for shirt designs.
- E.D to update the term "CRB checks" in the CCSMBA's Constitution
- E.D to respond to Peter Colmer's recent correspondence
- C.B to send invites to the County Trials ahead of the new ICC season
- S.Wi to draft a new Safeguarding Policy for the CCSMBA
- P.H to write to Lanteglos regarding their failure to attend the Bebbington Cup
- E.D to add ICC travel arrangements to the next agenda
- E.D to arrange Rule Revision Meeting via Zoom
- N.T to draft a proposal for a CCSMBA led marketing campaign in Cornwall.