



# Devon County Short Mat Bowls Association



## Minutes of the AGM

Held at Christow on Thursday 13 April 2023

Rose Morrison welcomed all those present and opened the meeting at 19:00.

### **PRESENT:**

See Appendix A.

### **APLOGIES:**

Apologies were received from the following Clubs; Bideford Strand, Bishopsteignton, Bow, Chulmleigh, Diptford, Dittisham, Hemyock, Fremington, Silverton, St Teresas & Totnes Creameries

### **MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:**

The minutes of the last meeting were approved. Proposed by Hilary Iley and seconded by Alan George.

### **MATTERS ARISING:**

There were none

### **CHAIRMANS REPORT:**

Rose Morrison gave the following report.

Good evening to you all, thank you for attending this year's AGM, and to Christow for hosting the meeting.

At last year's AGM I said how important it was to try to get grass roots bowling back up and running after everything had stopped for the pandemic, North Devon had their local leagues up and running very quickly, this was followed by the other areas, restarting by the autumn of 2022, some only able to run afternoon leagues, but it was a positive step to competitive league bowling again. Unfortunately, the Exeter league has still to resume, hopefully this will happen again soon. Leagues & committees need volunteers to help organise and run, please consider putting yourself up for election to ensure the continued existence of committees to run leagues, the county, & the ESMBA. The county saw growing entries for most of our county /national competitions this past season, with some excellent bowls being played, please encourage others from your clubs to enter these competitions, as this will give experience and in turn will improve their game.

Congratulations to Elliott, George, Gill, & Diane for winning the National Mixed Fours. Well done to all the players who reached the National finals this year.

It was great to see Devon back bowling in the ICC this past season again, with some excellent bowls from both the Premier & A team, both being narrowly defeated in the semi-finals.

To sum up, my grateful thanks to all of you, the County Committee, for your hard work, and continued support over the past twelve months. With the purchase of new county mats this summer, let's look forward to bowls in Devon continuing to grow and are enjoyed by you all.

### **SECRETARYS REPORT:**

Alan Woodacre gave the following report.

This has been my first full year as Secretary and I would like to thank all the Clubs for their support and the Committee for their help and advice throughout the year.

The current county membership is 1492 with 268 new members and 214 returning members unfortunately we have 228 lapsed members. We only have 5 under 18's and the ESMBA life member, from last year, has not registered in Devon this year. The membership is higher than last year (last year 1263) and the number of Clubs registering, 79 has also

increased, 1 club notified me they had closed (Countess Wear) and 1 new club registered, which is Withleigh near Tiverton.

I would also like to register my thanks to Brian Baker at the ESMBA for his help and advice when dealing with ESMBA related matters.

#### **TREASURERS REPORT:**

Rob Bartlett issued copies of the associations financial report. Rob then informed the meeting that although the title of the auditors had changed to W R Frost there was no actual change to the auditor as Wheelers had combined with W R Frost. Rob also noted that as there were no proposed increase in subscriptions by the ESMBA out subscription level would remain the same.

Acceptance of the accounts was proposed by Alan Woodacre and seconded by James Trott. These were approved.

The accounts are provided in Appendix B.

#### **COMPETITION SECRETARYS REPORT:**

James Trott gave the following report.

##### Devon Competitions

Competition entries were up from 186 across all competitions to 246 this season. Thanks to all the helpers this year for their help with setting up and packing away and assisting with the running of the competitions whilst I was either playing or absent. The winners of the competitions were as follows,

Singles	John Steer
Pairs	Mikey Ivings & James Trott
Triples	Mikey Ivings, David Glennerster & James Trott
Fours	Kim Wright, Sandra Weston, Barry McPhillips & Eric Pavey
Mixed Fours	Carol Dummett, Chloe Rundle, Nick Wyatt & James Trott
Under 18's	Not Held (Sean Woodley was the only entry)
Over 55's	Cedron Caine & Eric Pavey
Margaret Elliott Pairs	Marcus Cattell & Steve Collins
Brian Medland Mixed Fours	Shirley & John Parnell & Lee & Alan Woodacre
Ho! Ho! Ho! Triples	Pam & Colin Palmer & Caroline Pavey

Comments – As per the previous season I ran the competitions in my own style, giving players as many games as possible (value for money) and as much information on the day with schedule handouts (which mat, what time etc) which took a lot of my spare time in the days leading up to the competitions. We used social media as much as possible to help promote the sport and to give players absent updates on the competitions. The days were played in great spirits with only a few negative comments (which centred around players dropping out of competitions). We will continue to try and make improvements to the competitions next season including slight changes to the Margaret Elliott Pairs and perhaps the Brian Medland Fours which will be played later in the season. There will also be a return of the team competition (date and format to be finalised). Next years calendar and entry forms will be out as soon as the venue is booked and all agreed.

##### National Competitions

We had success AGAIN WINNING the mixed fours competition – congratulations to Gill Smith, Diane Shepherd, George Main and Elliott James.

Cedron and Eric also reached the semi-final of the Over 55's Pairs.

At the main Nationals at Melton there were no successes but full attendance from the 16 qualifiers across the various competitions with several of these getting to the knockout rounds. The best of which was the four of Maddy Edmondson, Adam Parris, Gill Smith & Nick Wyatt narrowly losing out to the eventual winners from West Midlands in the semi-final.

## International Honours

Elliott James and Nick Wyatt both represented England in the A series at the British Isles in Belfast and were part of the team that finished second to Ireland.

James was asked about the possibility of additional non-National/Open events. James responded that this was being considered but there were very few dates free in the calendar this year.

## COUNTY TEAM MANAGERS REPORTS

**Premier Team:** Richard Ivings reported:

This season was the first time the Devon County team had entered the ICC since Covid 19 hit us all. The Devon premier team faced Dorset in the first game of the season and literally got our ass handed to us. However, the team did recover from this and then went on to beat Cornwall and Hampshire both home and away thus securing second spot before facing Dorset in the final game of the group stage. Dorset again in the final group game did beat us confidently and although the score was heavily in favour of Dorset it did not reflect how tight many of the games were.

We thus qualified for the semi-finals where we face the West Midlands at Guildford. The West Midlands have dominated the ICC winning the title every time since the 2016/17 season. The team fought hard and only just lost 22-18. The West Midlands now face Dorset in the final this weekend.

I am pleased with the progress we have made this season. The team have shown real togetherness at times. As I said in my last message to the team, I really do believe we are heading in the right direction and we as a squad can only get better. This year both teams also appointed captains to act as support to both the manager and also the players. I have found this invaluable this season and so I would like to thank James Trott for his efforts this season.

Looking forward we will again be holding trials for new players before next season starts. Trial forms can be downloaded from the website or you can speak to me or Rob and we will get a form to you. Finally, I would like to thank the committee for their support good as well as Rob, the A team manager. However, the biggest thanks from me goes to every single player who has represented Devon this year. Without your support there would be no county team

**A Team:** Robert Ivings reported the following

This season the A team played Dorset where we lost away and won at home, we also played Cornwall home and away and won both our games, which set us up for a semi-final match against Hampshire in Solihull. After a long hard fight, we lost the match 19-21.

I would like to thank the players, Elaine Clements for her help and being Team Captain this year also I would like to thank Richard the Premier Manager and the committee for all their support this year.

## Safeguarding Officers Report.

Marcus Cattell gave the following report.

Post the pandemic a more proactive approach to safeguarding has been adopted. As the age demographic increases there is a need to be aware of related mobility and other conditions and how to manage them in a club environment to assure the best experience for all. Still also need to react to any issues that come to the surface that affect one or more members.

On 20th September I attended a county wide Safeguarding Forum where it was explained that 44 safeguarding cases had been reported, illustrating the importance of having safeguarding representation. Regular Safeguarding Bulletins and Forums are used to share latest information and best practice. Safeguarding is about all of us and for all of us. Such good practices as using applications forms for club membership, a clear constitution and set of rules for members to sign keeps us all safe.

Please don't hesitate to contact myself or any club safeguarding officer with any issues/concerns you have so we can work with you to find the best solution for everyone.

## ELECTION OF COUNTY COMMITTEE.

Position	Nominee	Proposer	Secunder	Approved
Chair	Rose Morrison	Ann Summers	Dave Summers	Yes
Vice Chair	Eric Pavey	Richard Watson	Colin Palmer	Yes
Secretary	Alan Woodacre	Lee Woodacre	John Cole	Yes
Treasurer	Robert Bartlett	S R Young	Luis Inacio	Yes
Competition Secretary	James Trott	Robert Bartlett	Alan Woodacre	Yes
Safeguarding Officer	Marcus Cattell	Ian Nicholls	Steve Collins	Yes
South/West Area	Trevor Tregillus	Jim Preston	Janet Ellis	Yes
East Area	Vacant			
North Area	Hilary Iley	Mike Gregory	Alan Turner	Yes

It was agreed that if persons came forward to fill the vacancies, East Area Representative and two Committee members they could be co-opted by the committee.

### APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS:

Rob Bartlett proposed that W R Frost be appointed as auditors for the coming year. This was seconded by Trevor Tregillus. Approved.

### ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

#### a. Area Designations:

There was some discussion on team/club area allocation and it was noted that being in an area for administration did not preclude a club from playing in any of the leagues, admission to any bowls league is governed by the local league rules and organisers.

It was also noted that any registered ESMBA member could play matches at any ESMBA registered Club or County.

#### b. Open Competitions:

There was a long discussion regarding the need for additional "open" competitions to try and attract more of the membership into competitive bowling as many prospective competitive bowlers could feel intimidated by the presence of County and National bowlers. There are already a couple of open competitions not linked to the ESMBA Nationals and the entry requirements to those were being looked at. James Trott pointed out that the calendar was already quite full but that he would be looking at the availability of free dates. It was also noted that someone would need to volunteer to organise additional competitions.

An Exeter local league was discussed but again this would need someone to organise it. No one was forthcoming.

There was no other business and the meeting was closed at 20:00.



Appendix B – Treasurers Report – 1 of 4

Devon County Short Mat Bowling Association  
 Year ended 31 December 2022  
 Income and Expenditure Account

	£	£		£	£
<b>Income</b>			<b>Expenditure</b>		
Administration			Administration		
Subscriptions			ESMBA registration		6,368
DCSMBA	4,723				
ESMBA	<u>6,368</u>				
New clubs		11,091	Telephone	395	
			Computer usage	46	
Bank interest		127	Postage	44	
			Stationery	30	
			Photocopying	80	
			Sundry	<u>177</u>	
			Travel		772
			Insurance	248	
			Professional fees	<u>168</u>	
			Accountancy		416
Merchandise		135	Merchandise		
Sales			Opening stock	129	
			Purchases	<u>129</u>	
			Less closing stock		129
<b>Carried forward</b>		<u>11,353</u>	<b>Carried forward</b>		<u>7,685</u>

Devon County Short Mat Bowling Association  
 Year ended 31 December 2022  
 Income and Expenditure Account

	£	£		£	£
<b>Brought forward</b>		11,353	<b>Brought forward</b>		7,685
County & national competitions			County & national competitions		
Entries			Entries ESMB	1,020	
DCSMBA	3,172		Hall hire	965	
ESMB	<u>1,020</u>		Trophies	540	
		4,192	Raffle expenses	217	
			Umpire expenses	329	
Raffle proceeds		1,300	Score cards		
Refund ICC			Depreciation	516	
			Repair of Jacks		
Inter-county competition			Miscellaneous		<u>3,587</u>
Match fees	-		Inter-county competition		
Refund ICC			Entries ESMB	200	
			Hall hire	214	
Raffle proceeds	151		Catering		
Sponsorship	<u>400</u>		Travel	1,293	
			Umpires expenses	73	
			Raffle expenses		
			Stickers		
			Photo		
			Banners	159	
			Refund		
			Sundry	<u>20</u>	
					1,959
<b>Carried forward</b>		<u>17,396</u>	<b>Carried forward</b>		<u>13,231</u>

Devon County Short Mat Bowling Association  
Year ended 31 December 2022  
Income and Expenditure Account

	£	£	£	£
Brought forward		17,396	Brought forward	13,231
		<u>17,396</u>	Surplus for the year	4,165
				<u>17,396</u>



Devon County Short Mat Bowling Association  
 Year ended 31 December 2022  
 Balance Sheet

	£	£	£
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			<b>ACCUMULATED FUND</b>
Equipment	2,064		Balance brought forward
Brought forward	-		
Additions - Plant & Machinery	<u>2,064</u>		
	516		
Less: Depreciation		1,548	
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Stock in hand		-	Surplus for the year
Santander current account	10,905		
Community account HSBC	17		
Business money manager HSBC	9,420		
Money Market fixed term deposit HSBC	<u>12,424</u>	32,766	
		<u>34,314</u>	
			<u>34,314</u>

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS AND ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT  
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022**

**Accounting Policy**  
 Equipment is being depreciated on a reducing balance basis at 25% per annum.

In accordance with instructions given to us we have prepared without carrying out an audit the annexed financial statements from the accounting records of the Association and from information and explanations supplied to us.

Signed : .....  
**W/R Frost Chartered Accountants**  
 Tourism House  
 Pynes Hill  
 Exeter  
 EX2 5WS

Date : .....