



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE SHORT MAT BOWLS ASSOCIATION

Website: nsmba.co.uk



Committee Meeting 2025

Friday 23rd May 2025, 7.30pm at Harpole Short Mat Bowls Club

This meeting will be conducted in accordance with the NSMBA Constitution of May 2021

Minutes

Attendees

Sue Gunter (Chair) John Fox (Secretary) Janice Fox Dave Ekins Chris Weston
Adam Hawkings Mike Edwards Paul D'Inverno

Apologies

Brenda Hart Wendy Keene

Meeting commenced 19.35hrs

(SG) Welcome

1. **Co-opt** Mike Edwards and Paul D`Inverno . (Unanimous)
2. **Previous minutes of committee meeting** 15/4/25 agreed by DE & AH.
3. **Circulation of AGM minutes** SG raised the issue that the minutes of the NSMBA AGM 2025 had been released and circulated to all club secretaries without the required ratification by the NSMBA committee. It was agreed that it is a requirement that they be ratified prior to circulation and that JF will email all secretaries explaining the situation. It is noted that as no paperwork, contact details and laptop has been forwarded to JF this may have to be delayed. CW offered to provide the contact details he has. CW also stated they were not circulated until just before the following years AGM that he had received complaints that the minutes from the AGM historically has been too late and questioned why. ME also raised the issue of ratifying minutes 12 months after the meeting. It was agreed that any minutes should be completed and circulated to the NSMBA committee within 7 days.
4. **Resignation** SG stated that BN has resigned from the committee and any nomination at the AGM was not approved by the floor. It was agreed that this is now a moot point as Brian had resigned.

5. Constitution JF stated that the constitution has no mention that everyone should be treated with dignity and respect and that it should contain this term. PD agreed. SG requires an amendment. DE stated add a sentence to 2a of the constitution and that it was not fit for purpose. PD asked what the process is for a grievance CW referenced No10, appeals process.

6. Accounts

SG there needs to be clarity re the ESMBA fees as this is not clear. BH to be asked for clarity. SG will also ask Brian Baker.

7. SG accounts appear different and cannot work out what goes where.

8. JF suggests that the accounts need more detail and stressed that there is nothing untoward but in the interests of all, more itemisation is required. All agreed and was also noted that BH does a good job in difficult circumstances with only 5 members previously being on the committee.

9. Nomination results

County Captain -DE

County manager – CW

Competition secretary- CW

League Coordinator - DE & AH

Registration secretary – SG & ME

10. Competition SG suggested reinstating various competitions such as over 60's and Earl Spencer. Agreed in principle with AH and Tim Gunter to research with a view to implementing.

11. Develop potential for more clubs to join the league.

All committee members had suggestions and referenced clubs they had spoken with e.g. Redwell, Oundle, Kisslingbury and Islip. SG Chris Terry has offered to visit clubs to help. SG had previously sent out flyers and will look to review. Also, the committee were happy to allow clubs to amalgamate.

12. Vice Chair DE asked for someone to stand as VC. There was some discussion regarding too many from one club taking roles. This was not seen as an issue as everyone has the right to stand.

(Left in abeyance)

13. Website SG nothing appears to be updated immediately. CW stated Brian and Brenda can add to it along with AH. ME & PD will ask (Mark) from Harpole to maintain it as he is very good and manages their club's website.

14. Match play rules (dress) following the open forum at the AGM DE requested that the wearing of shorts should not be allowed as it would be a retrograde step and only trousers be worn. Jan F suggested certain women find it unbearably hot in the warmer months particularly, the wearing of shorts or $\frac{3}{4}$ length would help. CW this

aligns with ESMBA rules. Following a long discussion, it was agreed that the dress code be amended to include shorts which allows for $\frac{3}{4}$ length for ladies. NO JEANS or CARGO TROUSERS / SHORTS. DE to make amendments and circulate to committee.

15. Charitable donations. SG Peter Alexander suggested this should be for local charities. SG to contact PA.

AOB

1. SG canvased the aim of this committee. It was agreed that the main goal this year is to increase the number of league clubs.
2. CW Need to sort competitions and notify clubs early.
3. SG led discussion on the possibility of extending the season. This was not resolved and will be taken forward.
4. SG stated there are issues with trophies not being available or presented i.e. evening 8`s Harpole won but not had a trophy. SG will follow up with BN.
5. NSMBA membership cards. Following discussions this will be finalised at the next committee meeting.

Meeting concluded 22.15hrs

Date of next meeting

Tuesday 24th June 2025 10.30. At Harrold.