

# North Yorkshire Short Mat Bowling Association

## Minutes of the 43<sup>rd</sup> ManCom meeting

April 5<sup>th</sup> 2022 at 6.30pm (Chez DR Wheldrake)

Attended by: Joseph Newsome, Jill Newsome, Pat Jones, Robert Mumford, Arthur Jackson, David Randon, Roger Green, Rod Dawson

1. **APOLOGIES** – None – all committee members were present.
2. **MINUTES OF LAST MEETINGS (Sept 23 & Dec 17)** – There were no corrections requested so the minutes of both meetings were signed by the Chairman as being an accurate reflection of the subjects discussed.
3. **ANY MATTERS ARISING**
  - **FACEBOOK** : Carried forward
  - **NESMBA**: Our donation towards cup replacements had been sent and all NESMBA counties had made similar donations: The Cups had been replaced and were of good quality.
4. **FINANCES**
  - **ANNUAL ACCOUNTS/TREASURERS REPORT**: The Accounts had been circulated and showed we had ended the season with a small surplus. RG commented that the bill for mat-hire from Easingwold SMBC had been incorrect. After discussion with their Treasurer a corrected figure of £170 had been paid. He felt that it was up to the Captains and the Competition Secretary to keep ESMBC informed when their mats are used as the season progresses so an accurate charge can be levied in future.
  - **HSBC BANK CHARGES**: These new charges were viewed with some concern. RG had investigated transferring our A/C to another bank but this had not been possible. He was reluctant to open up a brand new account and felt that we should review the situation next year.
  - **REVIEW “FEES & CHARGES”**: RM expressed concern that whilst competition entrants were charged £2.50pp to enter the National qualifiers, there was no equivalent charge made for taking part in the NESMBA championships. This cost of £5pp was currently paid for out of NYSMBA funds. This year it had amounted to £255 and largely contributed to the overall “loss” made in the County Championships. The entry fee had not gone up for 10 years. After much discussion it was agreed to recommend a flat fee for entry into the Championships of £7.50. This would cover the entry fee into the Nationals and also the Northern Championships. Further discussion then took place regarding the fee for playing in IC matches and it was agreed by a majority that we would not charge a fee for those travelling to away games but that to compensate and cover hall hire costs, the charge would be doubled at home games (to £6). These increases would be proposals to be put to the AGM.
  - **ANNUAL CHARITY DONATION**: It was felt that our annual donation to the YAA should continue and additionally a further donation should be made to the DEC Ukraine appeal.

5. **MEMBERSHIP:** DR referred to his annual report which showed a good recovery in registrations, which, with 3 recent additions now totalled 687. Both Tollerton and North Bay had re-joined. The classification of all members as M or F maybe should be modified to allow for an “transgender” classification. JiN agreed to speak with Lynn Dean (ESMBA) about this. It was agreed that all clubs should be reminded of our Code of Conduct that we expect all members to adhere to.
6. **COMPETITIONS:** RM was satisfied with the way the season had gone. It was suggested that in cases where a “dropout” caused an imbalance in the size of the RR groups adjustments should be made to even them out. (e.g., a 5 group and a 3 group should be adjusted to 2 x 4 groups). RM explained that the restrictions imposed by his computerised system made this extremely difficult. It was also agreed that in future teams missing a game due to a “dropout” should be allowed to practice on their designated mat in the vacant session.
7. **COUNTY TEAMS**
- **REVIEW:** The difficulties of team selection experienced during this season were reviewed. The problems had been more acute in the early part when both the A and B teams had needed support from C team players, and each had to travel away to Stockport with reduced numbers. However, as the season progressed the situation eased as new players were “found”. Of the 82 players finally used, 18 were new to IC play. It was known that there would very likely be some “drop-outs” next year but there were also several players who were expected to return to the fold. After much discussion, all captains declared that they were prepared to continue with the task of selecting their 3 teams for the 30 planned fixtures.
  - **STARRED PLAYERS:** If we stuck with our current team names, it will remain a requirement for the A and B team a “star” 12 players each. The lists would be agreed at our next meeting and RG reminded that as stated in our “Selection Policy”, ***Captains should ensure that all these players agree to being “locked in” to a single team from the start of the season***.
  - **WARM-UP WEEKEND (17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> Sept):** One day will be used for a Northern Ladies v Northern Gents match which will be organised by JiN. The other day will be a county team players get together. The format and organisation of this will be a joint effort by the 3 captains.
8. **DIARY DATES:** It was noted that of the 30 county games to be played, 21 would be on days when all 3 teams had fixtures. It was also noted that all but 3 were on Sundays. RD pointed out that 2 of his top players could not play on Sundays and felt that his email regarding Saturdays earlier in the year had been ignored. There was then some debate regarding our opposing team’s willingness to play on Saturdays. They do this for Stockport, why not for us? This year also all our County Championships are scheduled for Saturdays. It was felt that if some of these had been scheduled for Sundays, some extra Saturdays could have been available for IC games.
9. **NESMBA:** The AGM (using Zoom) is on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. PJ and RM agreed to be our delegates but asked AJ to request on our behalf that the start time be moved to 11.30. We had not been informed of any proposals so the meeting should be brief.
10. **ESMBA:** The AGM is on July 23 and RG and RD agreed to go as our delegates. The 8 management proposals to change the Constitutions and one put forward by Greater Manchester were all reviewed. The latter, which limits the Chairman to a casting vote only, will be supported. The others will also be supported apart from Proposal 5. This seeks to impose a deadline registration renewal date of October 15 (currently November 30<sup>th</sup>). It was felt that with

many of our clubs not opening until late September, this date is unachievable. Additionally, our own constitution allows our clubs until the end of October to register their players.

## 11. OTHER

- **COVID AND SAFEGUARDING:** We would continue to circulate and adhere to any advice received from the ESMBA. Currently there are no legal restrictions in place but the use of masks, adherence to social distancing, use of sanitiser etc are subject to personal choice and common sense.
- **FUTURE MANCOM DATES:** The dates of the next 2 meetings were agreed. These would be on Tuesday Aug 23 and Tuesday January 31<sup>st</sup>.
- **CLUB CONSTITUTIONS:** We had been asked by the ESMBA to consider imposing a requirement for all clubs to lodge copies of their constitutions with the Secretary. The reason was so that we would have immediate reference to them in the event of any dispute. It was decided not to do this but to remind all clubs of the need to review their constitution to see that it was fit for purpose.
- **EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE:** It was agreed that we needed to replace 4 of our jacks. However, before any purchase was made, PJ/RM agreed to approach one of their members who apparently can re-condition old jacks to a very high quality. Our fenders and blocks all need re-painting prior to next season. RD agreed to take this in hand when he organises the planned painting of the ESMBC kit.
- **PROPOSALS 1 and 2:** A proposal had been received to allow black trousers as well as grey. This was discussed and had a mixed response and will be put to the AGM. A proposal had also been received to alter JiN's job title to "Safeguarding Officer" and this was agreed. A constitution change will be put to the AGM.
- **WEB SITE CHANGES:** RG outlined some changes he would like to make to the website, and these were all approved, including one chargeable change that would be made by Bow House.
- **SAFEGUARDING:** JiN had had little response to her last club letter in which she had floated the idea of a "**Safeguarding Awareness Day**". She was still keen to organise this and although RD and PJ had expressed their interest, she requires more names of those willing to attend from our general membership. The cost of any room/hall hire would be met by NYSMBA.
- **DIVISION 2 WINNERS:** The NESMBA had dispensed with the individual trophies usually given to all team members for winning their Division. Instead RD had been given £100 and he had yet to decide what this should be used for.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked DR for hosting the evening declared the meeting closed at 10.10hrs

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This DRAFT approved for publication on 8/4/22

RBG Secretary