

North Yorkshire Short Mat Bowling Association

Minutes of the 41st Man Com meeting

September 23rd 2021 at 6.00pm (Chez RD Easingwold)

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

The Chairman welcomed DR and RD to their first ManCom meeting.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: None

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING: The minutes of ManCom 40 – (July 2nd, 2021) were accepted without correction as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chairman.

MATTERS ARISING

- Facebook – no progress
- National finals 2020 – see ESMBA below
- ESMBA/GOV restrictions – see below
- YAA donation had been paid
- NESMBA donation still to be paid

COVID MATTERS:

- ESMBA bulletins had been circulated as they were received, the last being July 19th which defined a set of “minimum standards” to be observed after the government relaxation of lockdown and introduced a Covid Awareness Guidance checklist. (CAG). This had now been completed and filed with JiN by all but 3 of our clubs. A chart on the website Noticeboard shows which clubs had achieved a Safe Bowls Licence and which had filed a CAG. JiN circulated a proposed Covid risk assessment for the Galtres centre which would need to be approved prior to use for IC home games and county championships.

FINANCES

- A refund of £85 had been obtained from the ESMBA relating to our entry fee for the 2019/20 ICC competition. NESMBA invoice and donation still to be paid (£205). Balance now £6765.
- It was mentioned that banks were going to make a charge for every cheque paid into non-personal accounts which could mean significant charges for us. We currently pay no charges at all. RG was not aware of this and would investigate.

MEMBERSHIP

- RG had successfully handed over all relevant files to DR and had gone through all the procedures contained in the Job Statement.

- DR has since successfully sent out the registration requests to all 38 clubs (including Tollerton who were re-joining after opting out last year). North Bay SMBC will not be joining as they had decided to join Humberside SMBA. DR had already received back details from 5 clubs.
- A few minor problems had been resolved. Also, despite his request, clubs were not identifying those members who were re-joining and were classifying these as “new”.

COMPETITIONS

- It had been necessary to change the dates of our County Championship Singles, Pairs, Triples and Fours (see ESMBA below). Luckily the Galtres had been available. The website diary has been updated and the Championship entry forms had been amended before sending out to all clubs. The YNL had been asked to move their 5th and 7th weekends so as not to clash. Unfortunately, this meant that the Championships now clashed with the SMTP York British Open which several of our players had intended to enter.
- RM had originally asked for the closing date for entries to be October 16th but after further consideration now considered he could accept entries up to October 22nd.
- RM had modified some of his files to cope with the change of format proposed last year when it was thought some Championships would still be held. He had now put them all back into “normal” mode so was ready to go ahead as normal.
- Now that the North Duffield Christmas Triples had been cancelled it was decided to move the U18 Championships to December 11th (tbc).

NESMBA

- Andrew Bebbington (Stockport) had come forward to fill the vacant Secretaries post so the spectre of NESMBA dissolution had receded. An updated contacts list had been issued and circulated to captains along with a copy of this year’s results sheet.
- Andrew had recently requested details of any restrictions that would be in force at county venues. These were discussed and several issues were agreed (in line with our SBS application) There would be no drinks/biscuits supplied and no raffles held. The Galtres have requirements to wear masks within the building but not the hall. Sanitiser points were available. We would recommend that all players take a Rapid Antigen test before travelling to matches. A full list will be drawn up and sent to Andrew post haste.
- AJ had agreed with the Galtres where lunches could be eaten for each home fixture, and he passed copies to PJ and RD. He was asked to request that all food and drink could be consumed within the hall as this would limit movement around the building. If allowed, visitors would be made aware of the need for cleanliness.

COUNTY TEAMS

- PJ expressed sadness at the fact that the B team that had gained promotion for the first-time last season now found themselves short of players due to a combination of factors. She was reminded that she could select any non-starred A team player or any C team player (none of which were starred) but had to be aware that picking any of these for more than 2 matches would in effect lock them in to the B team. Any such players must be made aware of this.
- PJ also felt that holding games for all 3 teams on the same day (which occurs 4 times) is detrimental to our ability to share players between teams. Could this not have been avoided? AJ said he had no option due to the availability of the Galtres.
- The view was expressed that the heart of the problem was our decision to field 3 teams, a decision we must live with. Much discussion followed and it was agreed that the captains must work together to make the best of the players we have. It may also be necessary to fulfil some fixtures with a reduced team.
- The C team's first match was this coming Sunday (26th) and RD had a list of 27 players who had expressed a wish to play in the C team and he was holding a 3hr team get together on Saturday for these players. PJ and RM felt that such a practice should have been publicised and open to all. However, they were reminded that we had previously agreed that our usual county wide full practice day would not be held. RD had taken this initiative at short notice purely to introduce himself to the team and finalise his team positions ready for his first match as the captain. The cost would be met by those taking part.

ESMBA

- The National Finals for 2020 had taken place over the last few weeks and there had been many dropouts meaning a much-reduced number taking part. A full report is on the website. Daniel Agar had reached the U18's Semi Final (his last appearance as a junior). The Triples had produced an all-North Yorkshire Final with Daniel, James Clark and Danny Langdon losing to Bronagh and Lee Toleman and Lawrence Moffatt. David Newsome had become our first ever Singles Champion. Together with the fact that we had also been runners-up in the Mixed Fours this had been our best ever year in the National Finals.
- Those who had attended had been impressed with the way the ESMBA had managed the event, taking care to follow the Safe Bowls guidelines that they had defined.
- Danny Langdon had recently been selected into the England squad and by virtue of his win in the Singles, David Newsome has also been offered a place. This meant that we were forced to move our County Championships so there would be no clash with the designated England days.
- The British Isles Championships were to be held at Scarborough over Jan 29/30. The team would also be there over Jan 15/16 which had been billed as

a “Northern Promotion” although no details had been provided. An invite to play the England Ladies on Jan 15th had been received. RG to canvas clubs and Northern counties to see what support there may be for this.

A.O.B

- RG had finalised the OOM (Order of Merit) for 2020 now that the National results were known, and this was posted on the website. Danny Langdon was the winner with 4 players in second place. Bronagh Toleman was the top lady. Although he would get the trophies engraved, he stated that he would not be carrying on with this tabulation for the future. He had kept it going for the last 14 years but he felt the work involved was too much for what was after all just a bit of fun.
- No other points were raised. The Chairman thanked RD for hosting the meeting and closed proceedings at 21.10hrs.
- Next meeting at Wheldrake in the New Year - date tba.

This draft approved and cleared for publication by ManCom October 1st 2021

To be formally ratified at the next ManCom meeting