

# **Minutes of the North of England Short Mat Bowling Association Annual General Meeting held at Great Moor Sports and Social Club Stockport on SUNDAY 9th JUNE 2019**

## **1 Apologies for Absence and Attending**

Attending- Staffordshire John Skelding Peter Johnson, Stockport Bernard Fennell Daniel Sands, West Yorkshire Barbara Miles Janet Pearson, North Yorkshire Francis Boatman Arthur Jackson, Humberside Graham Stubbs Derbyshire Anne Fish Graham Fish, Derbyshire Rachel Cooper Howard Cooper, Greater Manchester Charles Cooper Barrie Chadwick, Durham P McCallum, A McCallum Helen Jarvis, Officers Bill Burn Timothy Pearson Andy Miles Mike Shaw

Apologies

no apologies were given

## **2 Minutes of AGM 2018 (distributed after that meeting)**

The minutes of AGM 2018 were accepted as a true record unanimously

Proposed A Jackson seconded B Fennell

## **3 Matters arising**

There were no matters arising

## **4 Appointment of 2 Tellers**

G Fish and A Fish



Accounts accepted proposed Francis Boatman seconded Barrie Chadwick

Passed unanimously

## **Proposals**

### **11 Elected Officers**

Change to the Constitution 6.6.2

Amendment to Change to the Constitution 6.6.2

After explanation by Mike Shaw and discussion by the meeting this was put to a vote

Proposer A Jackson Seconded B Fennell

Passed unanimously

### **12 North Yorkshire SMBA**

Request to change NESMBA League Rule 6

After explanation by Francis Boatman and extensive discussion by the meeting this was put to a vote

For 7 against 12 motion defeated 19

### **13 North Yorkshire SMBA**

Request to change NESMBA League Rule 8

After explanation by Francis Boatman and discussion by the meeting this was put to a vote

For 3 against 14 abstaining 2 motion defeated

### **14 North Yorkshire SMBA**

Request to change NESMBA League Rule 20

After explanation by Arthur Jackson and discussion by the meeting this was put to a vote

For 8 against 9 abstaining 2 motion defeated

### **15 North Yorkshire SMBA**

Request to change NESMBA League Rule 24

After explanation by Arthur Jackson and discussion by the meeting this was put to a vote

For 2 against 14 abstaining 3 motion defeated

### **16 Elected Officers**

Proposal of new NESMBA League Rule "30"

Amendment by West Yorkshire Rule "30"

After extensive discussion about the amendment and rule, it became clear that the meeting felt that the "fours" could sometimes take a long time to complete their games, however there was no support for the motion in its present form and also no agreement could be found on what a replacement could possibly be, the Elected Officers and West Yorkshire jointly decided to withdraw the motion

A request from the elected officers was made to the meeting for any ideas prior to next years AGM on what the possible changes (if any) there could be in the "fours" to speed things up

### **17 A.O.B.**

## **17 (a) Date of Annual NESMBA Tournament 2020**

### **North Yorkshire SMBA**

Discussion about the dates and how the dates were decided on was held at the request of North Yorkshire

Andy Miles explained that the dates for 2020 had been confirmed as the second weekend in March, the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> the dates were brought forward from the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>th</sup> of March in 2020 for two reasons, firstly that Mother's Day in 2020 was on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March, and so it was felt that this day should be avoided, the second being was the gap in the NESMBA League finishing and the end of year tournament was too long if the date would have been the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> so the date chosen was the prior weekend

Arthur Jackson of North Yorkshire raised the point of North Yorkshire possibly qualifying for the Semi-finals of the ICC that were scheduled for the 15<sup>th</sup> of March and the problems that could cause them, and also remarked that none of the counties / area had been consulted

Andy Miles replied that he had booked the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> in 2019 at the request of North Yorkshire, again just in case North Yorkshire qualified for the ICC knock out, as it transpired they did not, he also confirmed that the counties not being consulted was "usual practice" and had been for a considerable number of years

A number of individuals / Counties / Area voice their opinions, in the main it would appear agreeing that it would be too long a gap to go to the 28<sup>th</sup> / 29<sup>th</sup> and also commenting that to go earlier on the 7<sup>th</sup> / 8<sup>th</sup> the first full weekend in March, could cause problems, as in 2019 a number of Counties were still playing League matches on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March, the first weekend

## **17 (b) Numbers for promotion and relegation between divisions / number of teams in each division**

### **Elected Officers**

After discussion by the meeting general agreement was reached that for the season 2019/20 one team would be promoted and relegated, however no vote was taken on this

For the 2020/21 season the meeting requested the elected officers to poll the opinion of all Counties / Area for their views and a decision would be made on this prior to the end of the 2019/20 season

### **The Acting Chairman allowed a discussion requested on behalf of Greater Manchester about representation in the annual championships**

Greater Manchester requested clarification about why they could not have representation in the NESMBA Annual Championships

This was discussed by the meeting with reference to the NESMBA championship rules (5) in that ***Players can only play for the Area / County they have been playing for. No player may enter that has played for a County outside of the Northern Zone. Unless said players have played at least two games in the NESMBA league for the Area / County they are entering through in the season concurrent with the NESMBA Championships at Barnard Castle***

There was a very lively discussion about the interpretation of this rule with most individuals / counties / areas contributing

Bernard Fennel of Stockport commented that rule 5 meant that only players having played 2 league games in the NESMBA league were eligible to play, and if playing were only able to represent the County / Area they played for

Greater Manchester challenged this interpretation, and also asked the question “if this is the case what do we pay our money (affiliation fees) for”

The acting chairman replied that he agreed with Stockport’s comments and was supported by the Andy Miles, also in respect to the affiliation fees reference was made to the original application by Greater Manchester being accepted on the basis of encouraging them by allowing them to affiliate, to help them enter a team in the NESMBA league

The acting chairman did also comment that Greater Manchester could if they so wished, have their request to enter players in the annual championships reviewed and clarified by the full executive committee of the NESMBA

Andy Miles also replied that places at the annual championships were allocated by county / area so how could it be decided for the number of places being allocated if an county / area could not muster enough people to field a team in the league, again it was offered that Grater Manchester could if they so wished try to have this clarified by the full executive committee of the NESMBA

**The acting chairman allowed after being requested by North Yorkshire a discussion on the interpretation of league rule (24) MULTIPLE TEAMS IN THE LEAGUE parts**

*(b) Areas with 2 teams in the NESMBA league and 1 team in the ESMBA ICC*

*(‘A’, ‘B’ and ‘ICC’ teams).*

*i 12 players must initially be starred and these 12 can only play for the ‘ICC’ team.*

*ii 12 additional players must initially also be starred and these 12 can only play for the ‘A’ and/or ‘ICC’ teams.*

*iii Any other player will also be starred after playing their 3 rd game for either the ‘A’ or ‘ICC’ teams.*

*iv Only non-starred players can play for the ‘B’ team.*

*(c) Areas with 1 team in the NESMBA league and 1 team in the ESMBA ICC (‘A’ and ‘ICC’ teams*

*i 12 players must initially be starred and these 12 can only play for the ‘ICC’ team.*

*ii 12 additional players must initially also be starred and these 12 can only play for the ‘A’ and/or ‘ICC’ teams.*

*(d) This will permit any ICC player to play for any 'A' team but not any other lower team.*

*All initially starred players must be registered with the NESMBA League Secretary before any matches are played by any team in an area.*

This was discussed at length by the meeting, with the vast majority of members present voicing their opinions on this rule, so much so that it would be impossible to list the individual comments in these minutes

In general, though there was confusion expressed on the part of some members as to how the rule was to be applied to star players in some circumstances

Comments were made that if there was a doubt over a rule the point in question should be raised with the Elected Officers

### **18 Appointment of Auditor to check annual accounts**

Andrew Bebbington FCA was appointed as auditor

Proposed Mike Shaw Second Andy Miles agreed unanimously

### **19 Date and Venue for 2020 Annual General Meeting**

14<sup>th</sup> June 2020 was agreed as the date for the next AGM, Timothy Pearson very kindly agreed to take on the management of arranging this as the retiring Chairman was not present, Timothy to communicate the venue when arranged

### **20 Election of Officers**

The following Officers were elected unopposed

<b>Chairman</b>	Timothy Pearson	West Yorkshire
<b>Vice-Chairman</b>	Michael Mann	Durham

<b>General Secretary</b>	Mike Shaw	Stockport*
<b>League Secretary</b>	Bill Burn	Stockport
<b>Competition Secretary</b>	Andy Miles	West Yorkshire
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mike Shaw	Stockport

\*just for reference Mike Shaw confirmed to the meeting that he did not wish to stand as General Secretary, however as no other person could be found willing to be considered for the post, he would do it for a further year, but under the strict understanding that this was to be his last year in the post

## **21 Close of meeting**