

North of England Short Mat Bowling Association

Annual General Meeting Held on Zoom 4/6/2023

Attendance

Chairman: Arthur Jackson, Vice Chairman: Graham Stubbs, Secretary: Andrew Bebbington, League Secretary: Bill Burn, Competition: Secretary Andy Miles.

Derbyshire: Rachael Cooper. Durham: Trevor Burns & Alan McCallum. Humberside: Rhonda Barnes, Staffordshire: John Skelding & Peter Johnson. Stockport: Susan Banfield & John Pajak, West Yorkshire: Jill Newsome, North Yorkshire: Robert Mumford.

1. Apologies for Absence.

Derbyshire: Wendy Empett, Durham: Jean Rhodes, Humberside: Kath Fussey, West Yorks: Royston Lewis & Kathryn Jones. Treasurer: Mike Shaw.

2. Minutes of AGM 2022.

The minutes, having been previously circulated, were approved unanimously.

3. Matters arising. None

4. Chairman's Report

A. Jackson See attached

5. General Secretary's Report

A. Bebbington See attached

6. League Secretary's Report

B Burn See attached

7. Competition Secretary's Report

A Miles See attached

8. Treasurer's Report & adoption of Accounts

M Shaw See attached

9. Agree Fees and subscriptions for the 2023/24 Season

Item 8 & 9. Due to the absence of the Treasurer, Michael Shaw, the accounts had been previously circulated. It was proposed that there should be no increase to the fees and subscriptions for the coming season. This was accepted, by a unanimous vote.

10. To consider applications to join the League.

The application by West Yorkshire B. to re-join the League was accepted unanimously.

Cheshire had withdrawn their application prior to the meeting. Greater Manchester had indicated that they were prepared to withdraw their application if Rule 15 (Number of teams in the League) was adhered to. Consequently, their application was not accepted. The Secretary was asked to convey this decision to GM.

11. To discuss the League Structure.

After some discussion it was decided that a proposal should be put forward at the next AGM to give the Executive Committee powers to restructure the League as they see fit.

Proposals

12. **Durham SMBA – J. Rhodes.** See attached

Modifications to NESMBA rules relative to ESMBA Laws F9 and F10.

After some discussion a vote was taken: 8 Against the proposal, 4 for, with 2 abstentions. The proposal was defeated.

13. **Humberside SMBA – K. Fussey** See attached

Changes to rule 8 (practice)

After some discussion a vote was taken: 4 For the proposal, 9 against, with one abstention. The proposal was defeated.

14. **Humberside SMBA – K. Fussey.** See attached

Changes to rule 22 (dress code)

The proposal was defeated. 4 For, 8 against, with one abstention.

15. **North Yorkshire SMBA – A. Jackson.**

Change to Rule 17 (Date of Matches).

The proposal was carried unanimously.

16. **Appointment of Auditor to check annual accounts**

Julian Yates was proposed as auditor as last year, this was accepted unanimously.

17. **Date and Venue for 2024 Annual General Meeting**

It was decided that the AGM should again be held on Zoom on Sunday 2 June 2024, with an earlier start time of 9:30 am.

18. **Election of Officers**

Chairman	Graham Stubbs	Humberside
Vice-Chairman		
General Secretary	Andrew Bebbington	Stockport
League Secretary	Bill Burn	Durham
Competition Secretary	Andy Miles	West Yorkshire

Treasurer

Mike Shaw

Stockport

The Officers were voted in unanimously en-bloc.

It was the turn of Derbyshire to fill the position of Vice Chairman, but they were unable to provide a candidate. The Derbyshire representative was asked to go back to the County and try to find someone to fill the post.

19. AOB

Susan Banfield (Stockport) thanked the Committee for their hard work during the season, and congratulated Andy Miles on his organisation of the Annual tournament at the new venue in York.

22. Close of meeting

Meeting closed 12:26 pm

NESMBA Chairman's Report 2022-23

My season as Chairman has been interesting to say the least,

With having to hold TWO E.G.Ms and an A.G.M. Congratulations to Staffordshire for winning the Division One. Stockport B for winning Division Two. Well done to both teams.

I would like to thank all the committee officers for all their hard work this last season. With the end of the season finale's weekend now in January. and being held at York for the first time. The event was held very professionally Well Done to Andy and Barbara. Thanks to Graham for organizing the Umpire's. Thanks to Simon and Mark for returning all the mats and equipment.

Arthur Jackson

NESMBA General Secretaries Report 2022-23

It has been an eventful year, to say the least, with some interesting challenges.

Well done to Andy Miles for organising the move from Barnard Castle to York, which has proved to be an excellent choice of venue. Thanks must go to all the committee for their efforts during the year, and once again to Mike Shaw for his help and support.

For personal reasons I do not wish to continue In the position of General Secretary. I am prepared to carry on for another year to allow time to find a replacement.

Andrew Bebbington
General Secretary

LEAGUE SECRETARY REPORT SEASON 2022-23

I am pleased to report to you all we have had another good season from my point of view with all games being completed on time with no problems.

Congratulations once again to first division winners Staffordshire and second division winners Stockport B.

Average winners for the first division was Peter Roberts Stockport A with a average of 11.10. Second division average winner Ivan Lunn Derbyshire 8.73.

I would be grateful to all Secretary's to forward all fixtures for the coming season ASAP once they are completed.

May I remind you all that match result sheets should either be sent via post or email ONLY.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank all my fellow committee members, secretaries, captains and all players for your support and help throughout the season which make my life as league secretary an easy one.

Bill Burn
League Secretary
NESMBA

Competition Secretaries Report presented by Andy Miles

This year's competition took place on the weekend of This year we moved the Competition to York and District Indoor Bowling Club.

There were uncertainties over the future use of the smaller hall at Teesdale and I could not get any guarantees that it would be available for us in March. After permission from the Committee, I investigated the possibility of moving to York. Everything fell into place and after balloting Counties, we made the move.

We are able to utilise the mats belonging to the Short Mat Players Tour, who are there the weekend before.

The venue itself is just perfect, comfortable and the management are so welcoming and couldn't do enough for us.

Food and drink is available on site and everyone agreed that it was of good quality and reasonably priced.

This year's competition took place on the weekend of the 14th and 15th January 2023.

Mats were provided by SMPT, and I'd like to thank everyone who came on the Friday night for their help setting up.

I'd like to thank all the Umpires for their time and effort and Graham Foote for organising them.

Lots of people helped with the raffle and once again we made a very good profit.

I'd also like to thank Simon Smith and Mark Breame from Humberside for transporting the mats back to Chelmsford after the weekend.

I have booked the centre for the competition next year, 13th and 14th January 2024 at the same price as this year and also arranged the loan of the mats from SMPT again at the same price.

2023 Roll of Honour

Pairs

Winners - Humberside, I Bratton and J Burrow

Finalists - Stockport, S Roberts and P Roberts.

Triples

Winners - West Yorkshire, S Briggs, P King and D Sands

Finalists - West Yorkshire, T Farrar, R Lewis and D Cookson.

Fours

Winners - Stockport, A Almond, D Almond, T Morgan, B Holbrook

Finalists - North Yorkshire, D Hunton, A Mather, D Brown, J Newsome

Singles

Winner - West Yorkshire, D Sands

Finalist - Derbyshire, I Lunn

County Shield was won by West Yorkshire.

Alice Hollas trophy was won by Stockport.

NESMBA Treasurers report 2023

Affiliation / League Fees remained the same at £350.

IC League Fees down £35 to £185 due to one team dropping out.

Championships made a profit of £270 compared to a loss of £765 the previous Year.

The breakdown of this being -

Raffle up £36

Centre hire cost down £230

Officials Expense's down £43

Umpire Expense's up £100 this is due to having a full complement of Umpires this year as last year Graham Foot dropped out due to illness.

Mat Transport and Hire this is made up of Mat Transport £358 and Mat Hire £160 so Transport was up slightly due to having to take the mats back to Chelmsford by £54

Trophies last year cost £1,267 this figure included cost of replacing the four main trophies, so the actual cost of the individual trophies was up by £5.

Administration

Zoom Meeting cost of £14 was due to the League having to purchase a commercial zoom licence to hold an EGM.

Web site fee was due to two invoices for £10 relating to cost of WEB hosting increasing.

Honoraria was £140 as two of the Elected Officers declined to accept their Honoraria.

No charges for bank this year with a cost of £7 for some mat tape to repair one of the mats.

Opening balance £3739 closing balance £4363 a bank balance increase of £624 against a loss last year of £133

This I consider a healthy bank balance to have, so will not be suggesting to the NESMBA any increase of Affiliation / League fees or IC League fees for 2023/2024.

Michael Shaw

Treasurer NESMBA

PROPOSALS

JEAN RHODES - DURHAM

PROPOSED MODIFICATIONS TO NESMBA RULES RELATIVE TO ESMBA LAWS F9 AND F10

(9) ABSENTEE PLAYERS

- (a) No change
- (b) No change
- (c) No change
- (d) No change
- (e) A Triple or Fours game shall commence in accordance with Law F(10).
- (f) No change

(10) PLAYING WITH A MISSING PLAYER

- (a) In a single Fours game if a player is absent the number of bowls shall be made up by the Lead and Second players playing three bowls each but one quarter of the total shots scored shall be deducted from their score at the end of the game. Fractions shall be taken into account.
- (b) In a single Triples game if a player is absent the number of bowls shall be made up by the Lead and Skip playing three bowls each but one third of the total shots scored shall be deducted from their score at the end of the game. Fractions shall be taken into account.

Reason for Proposed Change

The main reason for this proposal is to assist any team for whatever reason who are short of a player or players to enjoy the game and feel competitive.

In respect to Durham we as a team regularly struggle to find 20 players from the ever lessening panel who are willing to play league matches both at home and away.

This can be due to illness, the ages of our players and the long coach journeys which necessitate early starts in the winter months.

Some members who have in the past been without the full complement in their discipline are becoming evermore reluctant to play as they are frustrated with the existing system which by its very nature is not enjoyable, confusing to both teams involved and we see this as a major problem for Durham going forward.

As a team we collectively enjoy playing league matches both home and away meeting old friends and making new ones. Whilst we take our bowls seriously winning is a bonus and taking part is our enjoyment.

KATH FUSSEY – HUMBERSIDE

Pre-Match Roll Up

Humberside would like to propose that the 20 minute pre-match practise session be replaced by two up, two down prior to the start of each of the four sessions of play.

This would assist those players who are playing in the first and fourth sessions of the match and who may not have played for up to three hours.

DRESS CODE

Humberside would like to propose that Grey or Black regulation shorts be introduced to the County Match dress code

Current Dress Code

County Shirts with long or short sleeves and a collar, no T-shirts. Grey or Black regulation trousers (men)
Grey or black regulation trousers or skirts (Women) Regulation bowling shoes

Proposed Dress Code

County shirts with long or short sleeves and a collar, no T-shirts Grey or black regulation trousers or shorts (Men) Grey or black regulation trousers, shorts or skirts (Women) Regulation bowling shoes

Arthur Jackson – North Yorkshire

(17) MATCHES

Existing rule: All matches are to be completed by two weeks prior to the Individual Competitions weekend.

Proposed rule:

All matches are to be completed by the third weekend in March.

REASON FOR PROPOSED CHANGES TO NESMBA LEAGUE RULE (17)

The Individual Competitions Weekend is now played in January instead of March, which is too early to finish the season, particularly if any matches have been cancelled due to bad weather.