

The chair thanked RD for attending the AGM. RD reported that there would be an increase in ESMBA players membership fee by 50p to £4.50 and that national championship competition fees would also rise by 50p. ESMBA are also seeking a Vice Chair. There were no other matters arising from the minutes and RD offered to go again next year.

RG asked for the ESMBA bimonthly newsletter(The Extra End) be continued to be sent to ManCom members and all club contacts.
ACTION JF

8. NESMBA

RM and JiN attended the meeting. The application from Cheshire was withdrawn, as was the application from Greater Manchester. All proposals were defeated except for extending the season by 2 weeks which was approved.

9. Competitions

RG informed the committee that all county championship competition forms are now available on the website with the date required for completion.

JiN informed the committee that flyers for ladies v gents had been sent to all club contacts and NESMBA contacts and she was awaiting replies to finalise the competition. The fee for playing will be £5 and as this should cover costs with a little spare. It was decided not to hold a raffle and any surplus would be donated to charity.

The little cup will go ahead as usual.

After some discussion it was agreed that the high 5's would be run by the county this year. The current date clashes with a national final event so will need to be changed and RM would discuss this with Arthur Jackson. CP would also discuss further years and the trophy with Richard Good
ACTION RM and CP

10. County Teams

The three captains will consider together the format of the practice day. The cost will be £5 per player, casual attire and RD will confirm the start time. ACTION RD

11. Safeguarding

JiN gave an update. Clubs are not legally required to have in place a safeguarding officer until 2028 but will be encouraged to do so ASAP. There are plenty of safeguarding courses available through Bowling Development Alliance (BDA) and specifically for adult safeguarding. JiN has a safeguarding newsletter which she will circulate to clubs and there is a link to an excellent presentation on Bowls and Dementia which she recommends. She will also arrange for ICE cards to be available to clubs.
ACTION JiN

12. Diary of forthcoming events

All in order

13. ESMBA rules update

JoN reported on 2 rules changes namely no Velcro is allowed to secure the fenders to the mat and that players should only have one sticker on each side of their woods.

14. AOB

RG will no longer be providing the individual player's statistics on the website, but some are available on NESMBA website

JoN informed the meeting that more umpires are required. Anyone interested would have to complete a written practical and oral test and the cost is £10.

CP brought to the attention of the meeting that some county players aren't happy with the format of county games. As NESMBA set the format a proposal would have to come from the committee on a change. The committee decided that CP would look at alternative formats to bring back for discussion ACTION CP

15) The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 16th January 2024 at 6.30pm. PJ agreed to host.