

ESSEX COUNTY BOWLING ASSOCIATION GROUP 6

A.G.M. MEETING 11th OCTOBER 2018 at 7p.m.

Meeting opened at 19.00

Chairman David Jacobi welcomed everyone to the meeting.

In Memoriam

A minute's silence was observed in memory of fellow bowlers who had passed away during the past 12 months.

Apologies for Absence

Carreras B.C.; Wickford B.C.

Delegates Present

Alexandra: Bournemouth Park; Castle Point; Eastwood Park; Essex County; Fairwood; Hadleigh; Hockley; Prittlewell; Rayleigh; Rochford; Runwell; Shoebury Park; South Benfleet & Canvey; Southchurch Park; Southend; Thorpe Bay; Whitehall

Delegates Absent

Belfair's; Carreras; Chalkwell; Memorial Park; Wickford

Officers Present

David Jacobi; Chris Flack; Chris Chorley; John Welton; Ken Griffiths; Richard Shillitto; Jim Bunce; Alan Simpson; Dave Starkey

Chairman David Jacobi

I have again enjoyed my year as Group 6 chairman and I am please to say that the Groups affairs ran smoothly during the past year without any problem as far as I am aware.

Every member of your committee has played their part well in the efficient organization and running of the group and I would like to have recorded my thanks to all the officers for their sterling work this year.

2018 was a successful year for the group having reached two finals; the Ashford Cup and the Wally Ball. We were successful in the Wally Ball but unfortunately we lost the Ashford Cup on shot difference. Nonetheless; it was a tremendous achievement. We have a great group of talented bowlers in Group 6 and there is no reason why we cannot reach the finals again next season.

I have tried where possible to attend the matches and support the players in all three competitions and have seen some great bowling.

I continue to act as Group 6 selector for County Friendlies and I have thoroughly enjoyed my year in this role. Many thanks to those players who have helped me out by filling a gap for players who had dropped out at the last moment.

Finally I would like to thank you all for your support throughout the season.

Approval of Minutes of the Spring Meeting held on 15th March 2018

The chairman asked the delegates if the minutes of the Spring Meeting were an accurate record of that meeting.

Proposed by: Thorpe Bay

Seconded by: Fairwood

Matters Arising

- No matters arising

Minutes of committee meeting held on 27th September 2018

Matters Arising

- No matters arising

Officer Reports

Secretary's Report

Firstly I would like to thank every club for returning your 2019 Affiliation Fees & League subscriptions on time, this will allow John to report next years League structure at todays meeting rather than later. Thank you all.

On the same theme I would like thank all those clubs who have returned their nominations for next years Representative games, on time, very helpful, they will be passed onto the 3 selectors later this evening.

I would also like to thank the 16 clubs who returned their Green Testing Forms back to us at the beginning of the season, so they could be viewed on our website for everyone to see, hopefully next season will see the same response. (Thorpe Bay requested that we change their 'paired' club for next season)

I realise that not all clubs have held the AGM's yet, and you don't know who exactly your club officers will be for next season, I will e-mailing all the current delegates early in the New Year asking you to confirm the contact details for your Group 6 delegate and club secretary for the 2019 season. This information will be forwarded to the County Secretary for inclusion in next years County Handbook. I would request that you reply as soon as you can so we can ensure next years County handbook has up to date information.

The Group 6 Finals Day took place at Essex County Bowls Club on 25th September with the following results: -

Singles: 16 competitors – Gary Telling/BPBC 23 – Ken Smith/ECBC 13

Triples: 18 competitors -	Roy Chinery – BPBC	
	Brian Hennessy - BPBC	30
	Bob Locke - BPBC	
	Alex Hanton - TBBC	
	Peter Bates - TBBC	11
	Tom Coster – TBBC	

Group 6 would like to formally thank Essex County Bowling Club for the use of their facilities and the help of the club members to make it a successful day.

Finally, I would like to encourage all clubs to use the Group 6 website for all the latest information about Group 6 bowling.

In addition to all the normal information on leagues, representative games, green testing etc, next year we are hoping to publish more details on the friendly games such as names of players in advance of the games as well as the final results.

Treasurers Report

Everyone should have received a copy of the latest accounts for information.

As always the financial objective of the Group is to break even each year and with a fixed income of £670 per year our expenses are reasonably predictable, with shirts, printing, engraving and website costs being the most predictable, after these costs we are left with around £120 for one-off expenses.

The cost that does vary and is directly linked to our competitive bowling success is green fees, the more successful our Ashford Cup, Wally Ball and Inter Group Knockout Teams the larger our expenses. I would request that the selectors be less successful.

At this point, Dave Starkey stated that the selectors have made a decision that from next season all players in the above games would be charged a £2 rink fee, this not being unreasonable for this type of game and in fact in most games this season, players were offering to pay a rink fee.

The selectors feel it would be prudent to make the charge now while our accounts were still healthy than wait until it was imperative to spend less.

Chris accepted the decision but explained from a purely financial perspective it was not needed at this time.

The Secretary was requested by the selectors to formally ask the club delegates present if they had any objections to their players, who are selected to play in the representative games, be asked to pay a £2 green fee, the meeting unanimously agreed to the proposal.

County Competition Secretary's Report

Firstly the more observant of you will have noticed this year that the County Fours competition format was very different, with the first three rounds taking place in the same gauge how it would work going forward.

I would like to thank all the players and sponsors in this competition for their efforts in making the format work without too many complications.

From next season this one competition will revert back to its traditional day on a Friday.

The other item I need to raise was more of an embarrassment than anything else; if players change clubs between completing the competition entry form and playing the first game they cannot take that competition entry into any competition other than the singles.

For example:

If you were a member of Bournemouth Park when you completed your County competition entry form and you then moved to Essex County between seasons, the only competitions you can play are the singles, all the other team competitions are null and void, and cannot be played. You cannot transfer your team competition entries from one club to another.

The only exception to that rule is; if the club that you made the original entry from ceases to exist, you are then allowed to play for one season only, under the name of that club. This is covered in the County handbook under competition rule 1.c page 34

Jim Bunce asked the question; if a player has entered the County Fours competition (his name is on the entry form) and then left the club, could the other three players in the team take over that entry and bring in a fourth player to replace the named player on the entry form, and play the game. The four players who play the first game would constitute the team and they could then be allowed to bring in a substitute for one of the players. This being justified because it is the club that makes the entry, not the players.

No one could confirm with 100% certainty that this was allowed and the meeting agreed that our County Delegate would raise this question with the County Competition Secretary at the next executive meeting.

The results for County competitions this year went relatively smoothly, I would like to thank everyone who phoned their results through to me on the evening of their game. It meant I was able to send my results spreadsheet through to the County that evening and the website is updated straightway without any delay.

Group 6 were well represented in the County Finals this year and anyone who came along to watch the finals witnessed some very good games.

Group 6 would like to congratulate Ed Morris from Essex County Bowling Club for winning the National Two Wood Final this year, a great achievement.

Ed Morris also became a full International this year at Leamington.

Ed Morris and James Fuge also won the County Pairs and went on to win the Eastern Counties Pairs Final, another great achievement

The Shoebury Park delegate asked the Competition Secretary if he could raise with the County Competition Secretary why players from more than one club cannot play together as a team in County Competitions. He feels this is discriminating against smaller clubs who haven't got the numbers to support one team but have players who would like to play in these competitions. This rule is forcing competitive players to move to larger clubs to play in County team competitions.

Richard will take this forward to the County.

League Secretary's Report

All the leagues ran smoothly this year with results being reported generally on time. We had a few games that needed to be rearranged because of players competing in the County Fours but those games were fitted in, just.

Thanks to all clubs for getting their results in promptly this allowed me to publish the league tables on time.

For next season, Bournemouth Park have withdrawn one team, Fairwood and Castle Point are both adding a team, so it is proposed to keep 6 divisions, with 8 teams in divisions 1 - 5 and 9 teams in division 6.

We will repeat the system we used the last time this happened which seemed to work OK, Division 6 teams will play through the normal two week break in early June and they will play two games in a week at the end of the season.

Finally congratulations to the league winners and I look forward to summer 2019.

Selectors

Ashford Cup – Another good year for Group 6 with us again reaching the final. A superb win at Grays was followed by two good performances at Frinton and Thorpe Bay.

It was especially pleasing to qualify for the final after having two away games.

The final at Thorpe-le-Soken was a close contest until the last few ends when we fell away. We drew three rinks each but our shot difference cost us the win.

I would like to thank my fellow selectors and all the supporters that travelled to the game. My congratulations to all the players who achieved their County Badge this year, especially Jerry Telling from Bournemouth Park who became a County Champion.

Next season we will be playing our home games at Essex County.

The selectors are discussing the possibility of having a trial game at the beginning of next season, do the delegates here today think we should, the meeting agreed to a trial game.

Jim Bunce

Inter Group Knockout – This was our worst performance for some years, going out in the first round at Loughton, who were the eventual winners.

The difficulty in fielding a strong team in this competition is that it is open to all players and 4 weeks before the game all the Groups 'superstars' want to play in the first game, and then in the last week we lose 8-10 players because of other bowling commitments. We then have to ask substitutes to play and some of those object to not being in the first selection so selection becomes a problem.

Having said that we still fielded a strong team but on the day it didn't work out. Our strong rinks lost and our weaker rinks won.

Next years we have a home first game that will be an advantage.

Alan Simpson

Wally Ball – On behalf of Group 6 I would like to thank Hockley Bowling Club for the use of their green and facilities during the Wally Ball home games. Hopefully we will be returning there for our one home game next season.

Throughout all the matches including the final, we played 16 games, winning 11. The games we lost, we only lost by a small number of shots, it does pay to keep games tight even when you are losing, that is how we won the final. Well done to all the squad of 20 players.

I am looking to bring in some new players for next season, I have received the club nominations for next season and I will working my way through the list during the close season, I look forward to a repeat performance next year.

Dave Starkey

Match Secretary

We have spoken previously about playing some friendly games within the group to increase profile of Group 6 as a group.

I sent out to all the Group 6 clubs a questionnaire asking if clubs would be willing to provide one rink of player (4) to participate in any organised friendly games. I am please to say I received 16 positive replies from the 23 clubs.

The four friendly games were arranged towards the end of the playing season so to avoid clashing with competitions etc.

Of the four games organized only three took place, the fourth against Prittlewell was cancelled due to the very high temperatures that we experienced during August, in hindsight this was the right decision.

When it came to the selection for each game, I sent a letter to the Secretary of each of the clubs that would provide players, I did this on the basis that 'in my opinion' any correspondence should be sent to the Club Secretary who would pass of to the relevant club officer.

Following a brief discussion the delegates felt that any correspondence should be sent to both the Club Secretary and Delegate, this should ensure that at least one club officer will deal with the matter, Ken agreed to do this next season.

This follows Ken's experience this season where one club had difficulty responding to his letter.

A problem where one club who did not provide a rink for one particular friendly, which resulted in the Match Secretary paying for the rink fees etc. out of his own pocket was resolved on the night of the AGM

We have two games already fixed for next season against ECBA Vice-Presidents and Southend BC, the game against the Parks Circle I hope to play at Hockley BC if possible.

The Whitehall delegate expressed his thanks for an excellent days bowling at Southend.

Motions/Proposals

Proposal 1 from Group 6 Officers

Group 6 Officers would like to propose that from Spring 2019 the Group 6 Spring Meeting be deleted from our schedule.

The justification for the proposal being; The attendance at the last few Spring meetings has been reducing year on year, mainly because there has been very few meaningful items to discuss.

It is proposed that the Group 6 Officers would continue to hold their usual Spring committee meeting and if they felt that an item(s) of significance needed to be presented to the Group 6 clubs, a Special General Meeting would be convened as soon as possible.

Copies of the Spring Committee meeting minutes would continue to be distributed to all Group 6 affiliated clubs in the normal way.

A hand vote was taken (delegates only) and carried in favour of the motion.

Election of Officers

All Group 6 Officers are standing un-opposed for next season

The un-opposed positions are: -

<u>Chairman:</u>	David Jacobi
<u>Secretary:</u>	Chris Flack
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Chris Chorley
<u>League Secretary:</u>	John Welton
<u>County Competition Secretary:</u>	Richard Shillitto
<u>Match Secretary:</u>	Ken Griffiths
<u>Selector:</u>	Jim Bunce
<u>Selector:</u>	Alan Simpson
<u>Selector:</u>	Dave Starkey

Presentation of Group 6 League Trophies

The Chairman presented the winners Trophies to the delegates from: -

Division 1 – ECBC ‘A’

Division 2 – Thorpe Bay ‘A’

Division 3 – Thorpe Bay ‘B’

Division 4 – South Benfleet & Canvey ‘B’

Division 5 – Alexandra

Division 6 – ECBC ‘F’

Congratulations to all the above clubs

A.O.B.

1.

Dave Starkey (SB&CBC) reminded delegates from those clubs who provided players for this years Wally Ball squad, that Group 6 will be presented with the Trophy and badges at the County Luncheon on November 4th

2.

Chris Flack (ECBC) brought to the attention of the meeting this years County Luncheon on November 4th where the Wally Ball will be presented amongst other trophies.. A copy of the lunch details had been sent to all clubs asking for those interested to contact him ASAP. To date we have only 5 Group 6 members attending (plus some from Runwell BC who have made their own arrangements). He reminded everyone of the deadline for ticket application.

3.

Henni Gras (Thorpe Bay BC) stated that his club had proposed that one of their members (Morris Lane) has been proposed as recipient of the County Certificate of Merit Award for services to Thorpe Bay Bowling Club over the last 50 years, his club has not heard from the County as to if their nomination has been successful.

Jim Bunce offered to contact the County and ask that question as soon as possible.

There being no other business; the chairman thanked Rochford B.C. member (Pat Brady) for opening the bar this evening and closed the meeting at 8:10pm