



Present: David Perry (President), John Mason (Senior Vice-President), Gordon Roberts (Match Secretary), Simon Elliott, Arthur Mobbs, Michael Howard, Danny Cawthorne (substituting for Steve Pope), Ed Alcock, David Bailey, Peter Chapman, Mike Kett, Arnie Ingram, David Eastwell, Tony Dunton and John Ottaway.

Apologies: Chris Taylor & Ian Wones

The President welcomed all members present, and then requested a minute silence in memory of members, friends and colleagues passed since the last meeting.

Minutes of the last Executive meeting: It was proposed by Arthur Mobbs, and seconded by Danny Cawthorne, and agreed by all members present that the minutes of the Executive Meeting held on Monday 10th June 2024 at Wymondham Dell IBC (circulated to all clubs) should be signed as a true and accurate record.

Matters arising:

1. Sponsorship via NBK and Finance Shop for a 3 year arrangement was agreed prior to the start of the 2024/25 season resulting in us being able to introduce the new shirts and jackets.

Correspondence:

EIBA Correspondence

1. Various administrative e-mails and exchanges between the County and EIBA to support the running of the Association.
2. EBYDS – The re-introduction of this event by the EIBA was published (July 2024) targeting the U18 players. With our limited number of junior players and decision not to enter the U18 EIBA County competition this season, we did not feel we were in a position to commit to such an event in Norfolk.

Following this discussions were held with Acle IBC on a proposed U18 event to be held in February / March 2025. Subsequently, however the Club have organised their own junior event which we have fully supported.

Subject to the level of support for this we will use the event to gauge future EYBDS and / or U18 Events.

3. EIBA Trial nominations from the Association with input from the team managers.

Senior – Aaron Johnson (Norfolk BC) (*) and Richard Summers (Norfolk BC) (*) nominated but unable to attend as on international duty.



Correspondence (cont.):

EIBA Correspondence (cont.)

4. EIBA Area 7 Competition Coordinator changes from Stephen Winter to Carl Higgins shared with all Clubs.
5. Coordination with EIBA and County Arts on the presentation of Merit of Service Award to David Perry.
6. Notification to EIBA on change of contact for NCIBA from Chris Taylor to David Perry effective 1st January 2025 until further notice.
7. Notice of EIBA Ltd Annual General Meeting to be held at Melton Mowbray Baptist Church on Saturday 17th May 2025.

County Correspondence

1. Various administrative e-mails and exchanges with clubs on the clarification of rules, general questions and changes to club contacts.
2. Various administrative e-mails and exchanges between the county officers to support the running of the Association.

Treasurers Report:

As mentioned earlier the sponsorship money from NBK and Finance Shop have enabled us to update the County shirts we use.

We are now in the final quarter of the Association's financial year and it is looking likely that we will make a profit for the season in some ways due to the lack of success in the National team competitions which has meant we have had less expenses to pay out.

Nothing else to report at this stage.

Competition Secretaries Report:

No Report Received.

EIBA National Competition results 2024/2025:

- a) Liberty Trophy:
26/10 Norfolk CIBA 110 Suffolk CIBA 117
- b) Over 60 Inter-County Knock-Out:
22/10 Norfolk CIBA 124 Cambridgeshire CIBA 108
19/11 Norfolk CIBA 129 Suffolk CIBA 103
14/01 Norfolk CIBA 113 Northamptonshire CIBA 125
- c) Under 25 Inter-County Double Rink:
25/01 Norfolk CIBA 33 Suffolk CIBA 45



League Secretaries Report:

Current season is progressing well with no problems to report in either the County League or Over 60 Double Rink Competition.

Format for Season 2025/2026

Proposed that the format for the County League will remain the same with 4 divisions (Divisions 1, 2 and 3 with seven teams and Division 4 with eight teams) and within each division each team playing each other "home" and "away" and each team consisting of 4 rinks of "fours"

The 2025/2026 Season will start on Saturday 4th October until Saturday 13th December when it will stop for the Christmas / New Year break.

The League will recommence on Saturday 10th January 2026 with the final round of matches scheduled for Saturday 11th April 2026 (Easter weekend being Friday 3rd to Monday 6th April)

The format for the Over 60 Double rink competition cannot be decided until the number of teams entering next season's competition is known. An update will be given on this in the June Executive meeting.

Entry forms for next season County League and Over 60 Double Rink competition will be sent out to the Clubs following this meeting to be returned to the League Secretary by 31st March 2025.

Michael Howard (Diss & District IBC) asked why there was a large gap in the fixtures for the Division 1 & 2 teams during December and January. The League Secretary explained that when scheduling the fixtures he avoided the Liberty Trophy, Denny Cup, Denny Plate & Under 25 Inter-County Double Rink Competition dates during those months as he could not predict how far either the County would progress in their National Competitions or how far those Clubs who had entered the Denny Cup / Plate would progress.

However he did suggest that in future if any of those dates became available Clubs could bring matches forward to fill those dates, obviously with the agreement of their opponents and subject to rinks being available.

This seemed to be met with approval of those present and the League Secretary said he would prepare a suitable motion for the Clubs to vote on at the AGM to allow for this in the County League rules.

AGM Proposals:

- a) County Competitions – Singles Competition – minor change to allow a Club Runner-Up to replace the Club Champion due to incapacity (e.g. broken leg)
- b) Eligibility Rules for County League to be considered – keep as they are, do away with or amend.



Appointment of Team Managers for 2025/2026:

1) The June Executive meeting covers the appointment of the team managers for Season 2025/2026 for the roles of:

- i) Liberty Trophy Manager
- ii) Over 60's Manager
- iii) Under 25 Manager

Posters will be sent to all Clubs before 10th February seeking nominations for the above roles – nominations to be returned by 28th May 2025.

2) The AM will cover the appointment of all Officers of the Association, other than those appointed by succession. It is hoped that the Officers already in roles will seek re-election, but nominations will be sought from Clubs in the normal manner and to capture members before the current indoor season ends will be shared with Clubs before 10th February.

At this point the President shared with the Executive the news that for personal reasons Chris Taylor (County Secretary) was stepping down at the 2025 AGM from his current roles. He would also be stepping down from his roles with Norfolk BC and also from any involvement with bowls.

Chris's decision will be a great loss to the County and everyone present wished him well for the future.

The President explained that he would continue in his current roles for the next two seasons in order to support the Senior Vice-President during his Presidential year and to complete one final year as President before he too would step down at the 2027 AGM.

In order to keep the Association going during that time he would cover the Secretary's role until someone was found to take on this role. The Match Secretary has kindly offered to ease the workload by taking on the responsibility of arranging forthcoming County Friendlies and President's Invitation games.

David Bailey (Lynnsport IBC) asked if job descriptions could be made available and the President agreed to get these prepared as soon as possible in order that they could be shared with any forthcoming candidates for the roles that would need to be filled.

Any Other Business:

1) The Match Secretary gave an update on the County Friendlies and President Invitation games played so far as follows:



01/02/2025, 12:56

Match Sec report - Google Docs

MATCH SECRETARY'S REPORT 03/02/2025

In the current season we had planned to play 16 fixtures, 8 Inter County Friendlies and 8 Presidents Invitation matches.

The ICF's are men only and the PI's are mixed teams which includes players from the NCWIBA.

2 ICF's have currently been cancelled, 1 by us as we were unable to field a team to travel to Northamptonshire in mid January and 1 by Cambridgeshires as they could not provide a team to travel to Norfolk last December.

Of the 4 matches played so far we have won 2 and lost 2.

It continues to be a problem getting enough players for away fixtures, this means we sometimes have to revert to 5 rinks or triples to enable the fixtures to keep going. For the cancelled away game at Northamptonshire I only had 14 people interested in going.

This is the second time we have cancelled this away fixture after they have visited Norfolk and I think we are in danger of losing the fixture if it happens again.

We have an ICF in Ipswich next Friday that has been reduced to 6 triples due once again to lack of numbers.

Because the PI games are all played in Norfolk and we are joined by the NCWIBA these are much better supported and we have been able to fulfil all of our fixtures so far.

Of the six played so far, mostly against club teams we have won 1 and lost 5.

I would at this point like to thank Irene Lambert the NCWIBA President for her help in selecting teams for these fixtures.

We will probably have to look for more of these fixtures against Norfolk clubs in the future as it looks as if the ICF fixtures are becoming more and more difficult to fulfil.

Over the next few weeks David and myself will be looking at the 25/26 fixtures to see if we can move some of the dates so as to give us better selection options.

As of last week both the ICF and PI teams have started playing in the new county shirts with black trousers/shorts.

In closing I would like to say that although this does not apply to everybody, there are a significant number of players who only put their names down for home fixtures.

I would ask you please to convey to your club members that if they want the ICF games to continue they need to be prepared to travel to away fixtures, as well as play at home.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1YkwPt1yExLPb_7jbtb1hwLuHqMPV5WXrML9RH9uuzK4/edit?tab=t.0

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Any Other Business (cont):

2) John Ottaway informed the meeting that the Bowls Development Alliance was holding a workshop at County Arts IBC on 26th February.

There being no other business the meeting was closed at 7.35pm.

Next meeting

- Executive meeting – Monday 9th June 2025 @ Wymondham Dell IBC starting at 7.00pm