

# Norfolk County Indoor Bowling Association

## Minutes of the Special General Meetings held at Wymondham Dell IBC on Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2022



**Present:** William Windsor (President), C Taylor, D Perry, D Goodley, J Mason, P Clover, A Mobbs, D Bealey, S Pope, R Andrews, P Chapman, D Eastwell, Jean Webb, J Hipperson, R Haydon, K Baker, G Batley, R Addison

**Apologies:** J Ottaway (sub J Mason), C Bowles, G Roberts, M Todd, R Flatt

The meeting was opened by the President who welcomed the attendees and thanked them for making the time to discuss the important matters raised.

The President then asked Chris Taylor to lead the meeting through the necessary steps.

Chris Taylor then provided some guidance to the SGM, in relation to the proceedings and voting process. He clarified that each SGM would be treated as a separate meeting and that beyond the County League and County Competitions, which were the topics of the SGMs no other business would be transacted or considered.

The SGM then proceed to consider the two SGMs in the following order

- County League Changes
- County Competitions

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### SGM - County League Rules 2022/23

To consider, changes requested by the Hon. League Secretary (David Perry), to the rule agreed at the AGM related to the situation where a club has more than one team in the same division, this is the only business to be considered.

Current rule as agreed at AGM 10/07/2022

*Clubs with more than one team in the same division will not be allowed to move players between those teams.*

Proposed changes by Hon. League Secretary

*Clubs with more than one team in the same division will be allowed to use players registered within the second (e.g., 'B') team in that division in their first (e.g., 'A') team in that division, with no restriction on the number of players that can be used or number of games they can play.*

David Perry addressed the SGM stating that the need for this change was his error. Whilst trying to maintain the integrity of a division which had two teams from the same club this approach, in relation to the 2022/23 season, unfairly restricted Norfolk BC in comparison to the rules which applied to all other club's ability for players to move between teams not in the same division.

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The motion was proposed by David Perry on behalf of the Executive Committee, and seconded by Peter Chapman (Norfolk BC)

Voting:       FOR                       16  
                   AGAINST               0  
                   ABSTENSION           0

The motion was PASSED

There being no other business in relation to this SGM, the meeting closed at 10:09 am

**SGM - Subject: County Competitions 2022/23**

To consider, following the issues identified at the AGM, the format for the 2022/23 County Competitions, this is the only business to be considered.

Proposal		Proposing club
SGM.a.1	<p><i>Separation of the Club and County Competitions.</i></p> <p><i>Entry would be along the same lines as the Nationals, and then a regionalised (where practical) draw with the normal play by dates and challenger to offer dates etc. with agreement to be reached on when/if neutral greens are adopted before the final.</i></p> <p><i>This would ease the workload of the County and demands on clubs to free up rink space which has often not been used.</i></p> <p><i>It would also help the Club Competition Secretaries as their play-by dates would not be dictated to by having to completed in line with the County timetable (currently end of February)</i></p>	Acle
SGM.a.2	<p><i>A variation to proposal SGM.a.1</i></p> <p><i>Club &amp; County competition entries for the current season will be the respective winners of the previous seasons club competitions, effectively being a champion of champions competition in each discipline.</i></p> <p><i>This would NOT apply to the U25 singles which would remain unchanged from the current entry-based approach.</i></p>	Executive

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	<i>Where an individual member was no longer available then the normal substitute rules would apply from any eligible member of the club regardless of if they played the previous season or not and where a member changes clubs, they may represent their previous club.</i>	
SGM.a.3	<i>Club &amp; County competitions entries are reversed from the rule change agreed at the AGM and County Competition Rule no 7. should read "All qualifying Clubs will be allocated a single entry in each of the disciplines and the entrants to the County Playoffs must be that Club's respective competition winner"</i>	Roundwood

Chris Taylor provided the SGM with some context as to the current situation, and the vacancy for a County Competition Secretary. He summarised the discussion which had taken place at the AGM and the subsequent debate during the open forum which had triggered the SGM.

A summary of motion SGM.a.1 was provided Chris Taylor and then Denis Goodley (Acle IBC) was invited to address the SGM. He provided some clarity on the motion, but then went forward to state that having reviewed motion SGM.a.2 this met the outcome which Acle were proposing and if it had support, they would withdraw their motion and second motion SGM.a.2

With this direction the Chris Taylor then provided an explanation of the SGM.a.2 motion which proposed the county competitions will now be run on a Champion of Champions basis, with the current season's club champions progressing to the equivalent county championships in the following season. This removes a huge issue the Association has faced for a several seasons in trying to squeeze in the county championships, and avoid clashes, to the last 6- 8 weeks of the season whilst there are in parallel a significant number of national competitions of various codes.

It also removes the pressure on clubs to complete their internal competitions which led to the county championships having to be completed by mid-February or earlier and overcome the need for certain clubs to reserve rinks space for playoffs which might be better used for their own internal leagues and members.

On the new basis the county competitions, for the champions from each club, will run on the same basis the EIBA nationals with each team being responsible to arrange fixtures with their opponents by offering dates, and playing matches by publicised "play by dates" which would apply up to and including the semi-final, with the finals being played on a set date and a venue chosen by the President or Executive.

The proposal triggered some considerable debate, and a number of questions were raised in relation to the finer details and how for example players moving clubs would be treated which was summarised by Chris Taylor.

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In addition, there was some debate on how this should be applied to the 2022/23 season and the pros and cons of each option which was tabled.

Whilst there was some concern, given the challenges faced by the Association and the lack of a Competition Secretary there was a potential that we would have no County Championships in 2022/23.

The SGM were advised if the proposal was accepted and implemented for 2022/23 with the 2021/22 club champions taking part, whilst this meant these players would get a second bite at the cherry, the admin could be covered without a Competition Secretary and would avoid losing the competitions which could then be difficult to resurrect.

Having debated the proposal at length motion SGM.a.1 was formally withdrawn by Acle and SGM.a.3 was formally withdrawn by Roundwood. The situation was clarified with John Mason who queried this situation as the County Arts position was to support motion SGM.a.3, and he accepted that they would abstain on any vote for SGM.a.2.

At this point with the only motion still active being SGM.a.2 it was put to the meeting and seconded by Denis Goodley.

Voting:	FOR	10
	AGAINST	0
	ABSTENSION	6

The motion was PASSED

Having agreed on the structure of the County Competitions, the SGM then debated the approach for 2022/23 that the club champions from 2021/22 would be the recognised entrants. To ensure that County Competitions would take place it was felt this was the only viable approach.

This was formally proposed by Denis Goodley and seconded by John Hipperson.

Voting:	FOR	16
	AGAINST	0
	ABSTENSION	0

The motion was PASSED

There being no other business in relation to this SGM, the meeting closed at 10:41 am