

## **KEY POINTS FROM ESMBA AGM July 12<sup>th</sup> 2014 – Northampton IBC 10.00 am**

The following does not attempt to replace the official ESMBA minutes which will appear in the ESMBA website in due course. They are points I noted or remembered and of course are subject to error. They are intended primarily for the information of NYSMBA members. (Roger Green NYSMBA delegate) 13 July 2014

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Meeting started 30 minutes late. Treasurer arrived 15 minutes after start. There were then 48 delegates and 11 committee members present.

### **MINUTES OF AGM & EGM for 2013** - Minor errors were corrected

### **REPORTS**

Chairman – no comments

Administration – various minor comments on report.

- Details of the changes in Safeguarding would be sent out together with how County Welfare Officers (Safeguarding Officers) can check their own counties DBS applications.
- Updating the new website is still “work in progress” (e.g. no Information Pack is up there yet). Current membership was 19817 – down around 400.
- The recent live filming of the John Jackson Cup (£5000 cost) was intended to publicise the sport and attract new members.
- Dorset allow all their U18s free membership and free entry into their competitions.
- All counties asked to pool any ideas they have regarding increasing membership.

Treasurer – surplus for year of £2837 was due mainly to interest of £2506 in 400 day account. This will not be so great in year ahead.

- Income from subs down by £11,000 due to 50p reduction in ESMBA fee last year.
- Increase in Stationery spending (£682-£2305) was due to outsourcing a lot of printing (to Purnells) originally done “in-house”. Reckoned to be cheaper than cost of maintaining printers and supplying ink.
- Several other figures were queried (e.g. Venue hire increase from £1364 to £4454; ICC up from £4022 to £6746; mid-summer tournament up from £1134 to £4001). It was clear from the answers that there were problems on the committee about which headings some expenses should be entered under.
- It was felt that the disparity in the figures should have been picked up by the committee before the figures were published.
- Several present commented that the last sentence in the Treasurer Report was inappropriate. JJ felt after 14 years and in his last year he was entitled to express his opinion. He had told committee to leave it off if they felt it should not be there but they had not.
- I mentioned the need to summarise income/expenditure under key headings so we could easily see where our money was going and how it varied year on year.

ICC – One county present congratulated the ESMBA for including the Woodbridge trophy as part of the U18 Championships and suggested the ESMBA make U18 entry free of charge.

Umpires – Number of Umpires increased by 17 to 146 in last year. Objective was to get umpires registered in ALL counties.

### **PROPOSALS TO CHANGE CONSTITUTION** (note 66% majority required)

Committee changes:

- 6 of the 7 “cosmetic” changes were passed although several could not see any benefit. 6(c)vii failed due to it being duplicated already in 6(d).

- Of the other 4 changes **not** connected to the introduction of an “Administration Officer” the following 3 were passed.
  1. 3(k) – To introduce the requirement for member counties to produce an insurance certificate for 3<sup>rd</sup> party liability.
  2. 4(c) (which we considered unnecessary)
  3. 6(c)ii – Adding June 1<sup>st</sup> as the deadline date for circulation of Treasurers annual reports.
- 5(b) (fees for “affiliate” members) failed

The remaining 13 changes all related to “Administration”. The 2 key ones were 5(k) which redefined/reduced the Officers of the Association and 5(L) which introduced an appointed (not elected) Administration Officer. Selwyn Goldsmith read out a lengthy prepared statement from Norfolk. The gist of this was that they appreciated all the work done over the last “trial” year of Administration and did not disagree with the general principle. However, they felt that the Administration Officer should be elected by the members at the AGM. Many agreed with this and also that the mention of “Sutton Winson” as the “paymaster” was inappropriate in the Constitution. As a result of this and further discussion, the Committee agreed to take all these changes away and re-submit them at an EGM. This will be held on Presidents Day (Sep 14 at 1pm). (Note that this meeting will also consider a proposal regarding Management Fees for 2014/15 and Affiliation fees for 2015/15 – both omitted in error from this meeting)  
Hampshire change: This was defeated so the deadline date for the submission of proposals remains as the end of December.

## **ELECTIONS**

These went ahead on the basis of the existing constitution (committee of 15). All existing Officers were re-elected en-bloc apart from the following.

Chairman – After a short presentation by both Barry Hedges and Chris Hopkins, Barry Hedges (Essex) was elected after a “secret” ballot. BH 32 CH 24 Abstain 1. CH had completed 16 years in the post.

Treasurer – After 13 years John Jackson stood down and Barbara Mills (Cheshire) was elected. Barbara is a bookkeeper by profession and will be using SAGE software for the Accounts.

Umpires Director - After 1 year Graham Foote stood down. 2 of the 3 proposed candidates withdrew so John Hurst was elected.

Nationals Organiser – Chris Hopkins agreed to fill this vacancy and was elected.

Vice Chair, General Secretary, Membership Secretary and Coaching Director were all unfilled.

## **AUDITORS**

Barbara Mills requested that “Murray Smith” be appointed as they were more local to her than “Francis Webbs”. The cost would be £1200 (cheaper than current). This was agreed.

**2015 AGM** – will be on July 11<sup>th</sup> (tbc)

## **RULES REVISION MEETING**

There were 34 proposals on the agenda.

Note - there were 59 votes available. A 66% majority was required

North Yorkshire proposals: (7 passed and 5 failed)

1 – Remove colour restriction for mats.	Passed by large majority
2 – Delete wording from C2(b) LIVE JACK	Passed by large majority
3 – Reduce minimum size of bowls	33 votes for but not 66% so failed
4 – Bowl displacement options	47 against – failed
5 – Jack displacement options	56 against – failed
6 – Foot faulting	Passed by large majority
7 – Cosmetic word changes (wood to bowl etc)	Passed by a large majority
8 – The Last Word	Passed by a large majority
9 – Dress code to allow black	34 votes for but not 66% so failed
10 – Appendices updates	Passed by a large majority
11 – Big rewrite of D1/D2	Failed - One big problem was the fact that it made 3's up mandatory which several did not like.
12 – Second in a Triples	Passed by a large majority

West Sussex and Chris Hopkins withdrew their Foot Fault changes as ours had been passed.

Bob Weafer's suggestion re following wood up mat was discussed but was not taken to a vote as he was not present.

The following 3 items were not voted upon as it seems as if all counties had, for one reason or another, never received details of them.

The 6 un-headed proposals re: Second in a Fours game.

The 8 un-headed proposals (from Kent?)

The 5 proposals from Graham Foot.

**OPEN FORUM** - This was rattled through at the end of a long and tiring day.

Countdown discount facility would be renewed for another year at a cost of £2000. Usage of this "perk" had not been as high as expected.

ABC – Chairman had died and progress was slow. A website is being developed. CH is on committee with regards to Coaching development and KH with regards to Safeguarding.

West Sussex - Discipline procedure – West Sussex said no discussion required. All they wanted was a reply to their letter of Sept 2013 which expressed their concerns.

Hampshire - ICC consolation entry – Last year both Devon and Shropshire had withdrawn incurring a £100 fine. KH said he had no problem with counties with drawing so long as he was told of this intention at the beginning of the season. West Midlands stated they had decided to drop out if they did not qualify for the Premier KO next season. ICC entry form to be modified so counties can opt in or out in future.

Hampshire – Their proposals to change cut off dates for National entrants and National qualifiers were withdrawn.

Licenses – ESMBA issues these (cost £30) for any competition that is open to registered/non registered members but only on the following conditions.

- The date does not clash with any official ESMBA competition (England, Nationals etc)
- The organiser has a Public Liability certificate
- The organiser had a Safeguarding Officer

The above does not apply to commercial holiday competitions.

The day included 2 "comfort" breaks and a free lunchtime finger buffet and finally finished at 4.45 pm.