MINUTES OF ESMBC AGM 7TH JUNE 2022

 HELD AT EBC CLUBHOUSE, EWHURST, SURREY

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Adrienne Jarrett, Jackie Rubie, Ken and Hilary Mitchell, Malcolm Wright and Tony Hodge.
2. APPROVAL OF 2021 MINUTES - Minutes were approved and signed by Chairman (DMcG)

Proposed by Jackie Wright and seconded by Ann White.

MATTERS ARISING: There were no matters arising.

1. CHAIRMANS REPORT: Thanks were given to all the members attending as participation was vital to our club.

Covid is still with us so we must continue with due vigilance. The Surrey edict is that all games and any welcomes and congratulations will be signified by verbal greetings with no physical contact.

The chairman reminded everyone of the enormous amount of work performed by every member of the committee but in particular over the years blighted by Covid. We have a strong committee who work well together but where each is happy to put the contrary view, always coming to an agreed conclusion. Thanks were given to them for their great support of the short mat club.

Having made those comments it was pointed out that the Chairman had strong beliefs in succession planning. There is a plethora of untapped skills within our membership and members were asked to seriously consider whether they or a colleague could benefit the club by joining the committee. Each of the sitting incumbents would be happy to be in competition with nominees for the positions held.

Thanks were given to Mavis and David Kempson for taking over the bar duties so willingly on our behalf at quite short notice. Thanks to Steph Taylor who has worn so many hats this season that we have lost count. Margaret Weeden and David Kempson successfully managed the competitions. At one time I likened Margaret to a surfer just keeping ahead of the engulfing wave, such were the changes.

The fact that folks join a sports club indicates that they have a level of competitive spirit. All are encouraged, on occasion, to leave their comfort zones they may initially find themselves

in, perhaps having recently joined, and to play in sessions with more experienced players. Anyone trying to improve will always get the help and encouragement from other players. The more skilled the more enjoyment can be gained. On the same tack participation in the club competitions and leagues is encouraged.

That leads to the rules and etiquette of the game. Most have only just a working knowledge of the rules and to widen and confirm our knowledge , early in the new season, we will organise a get-together when we can air doubts and highlight misunderstandings.

Elaine Phillipson and Delia Stimpson successfully managed the clearing rota. Although there were some non-shows and some casual comments were made questioning the cleaning responsibilities.

Being an exiled Scot, the last thing I want to discuss is money. However your committee has decided that the annual membership fee for next season will increase by £10 to £50. This increase allows, as a trial, to employ a professional cleaner for one year. Mike White is arranging this matter with an applicant. If this trial is successful the contract may be extended and the full cost, an additional £5 to members will be added to the annual fee. The sole involvement to members will be to cover any illness or leave periods on a voluntary basis.

1. SECRETARY’S REPORT: There is an attendance form for this meeting which all registered members must sign.

This has been a very strange and difficult year for all members but the committee has been working throughout to keep the club running and has kept members advised of any changes to the normal running of the club. My thanks to all those members who have helped, Val Sloman with supply of tea and biscuits etc. and Elaine Philipson with cleaning rotas, Roger Dobbing editing the Newsletter. We would also like to thank Jacki Mackenzie who took over the running of the Friendly Matches at short notice due to June Ives health problems. Thanks too to thos members who are organising the summer roll up sessions. We do need as many members as possible to come forward to get involved with various functions as it relieves the pressure on the same people giving so much of their time. We are always asking for members to get more involved but sadly do not get the response we would like.

We had a good response to our U3A course run by Margaret Weeden and had 9 new members joining. We also had some previous members rejoining after their lapse due to covid restrictions.

I would point out if at any time it is required when playing at the club we do have a first aid box in the cabinet in the kitchen and also an accident book should there be any incident which requires recording. We also have a defibrillator which we are in the process of replacing and we will be arranging to have a demonstration in due course so that members can attend and familiarise themselves with the operation of the machine.

Thanks to all those members who have supported us through this difficult time.

I also have to announce that with the sad passing of Derek Mortimer who was a Trustee of the club we did need to appoint another representative of the short mat club and it was a committee decision to appoint Dennis McGuinnes who we are sure with his knowledge and experience will be a worthy successor.

1. TREASURER’S REPORT AND ADOPTION OF ACCOUNTS: A copy of the audited accounts was given to members and it was pointed out that the committee waived the subscription for existing members last year. We had 67 members at the start of the year plus a further 20 who joined at the start of the season, a healthy 87 in total. We received a further £160 from existing members who generously paid their subs. A further £4000 was received from the government covid grant making a total grant received of £9907.

Thanks to the hard work of Mavis and David Kempson the bar contributed a healthy profit of £474.37 and thanks to the Social Committee we received £300 for our share of the social committee profits. These are shared equally by the 2 clubs and the chosen charity which this year was Phyllis Tuckwell.

On the minus side, the notable figure is the considerably increased cost of electricity. All the other costs are in line with expectations.

Thanks to the covid grant we still show a surplus of £1358.19 for the year, this means that going forward to next year we have a healthy £8733.46 in our current account and the savings account has a balance of £3552.66, a total sum of £12,286.12.

We can now look forward to a new season hopefully unaffected by the pandemic. That is not to say that we can just relax. We must continue to take care and respect our members’ space and concerns.

Members were asked if they had any questions regarding the accounts but none was forthcoming.

The accounts were accepted, proposed by George Shipway and Seconded by David Kempson.

1. NOTIFICATION OF ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION: The subscription for 2022/23 will be £50.

This increase is to cover the cost of employing a professional cleaner at a cost of £15 per hour. Many of our members are unable to cover the cleaning duties due to age or medical reasons and it was decided to see if this would solve the problem of cleaning the clubhouse. Jackie Wright asked if the £10 increase in Subscriptions was enough to cover this cost and was advised that it was but would be reviewed again next year.

1. MATCH SECRETARY’S REPORT: The last season has been so disjointed and unusual this report will be short and sweet.

Our Ewhurst teams in the SHAB Knockout League had some very competitive matches and the Red team did well to end up in third place and congratulations to them.

We failed to find anyone to lead the Lightwater League run on a Monday evening at Wey Valley so no participation in that unfortunately.

In the Surrey Triples League, also on a Monday evening, run by Roger Dobbing, our teams had some very good games to start with but ended in sixth place.

In the Woking Borough League run by Elaine Philipson this tim, on a Wednesday evening at Wey Valley, we started well but ended in twelfth place.

In the Thursday afternoon Charity League at Wey Valley, led by Tony Richardson, Ewhurst was within sight of the top lace for most of the season, ended up a creditable fourth place.

Our Magpies friendly matches, played against some good clubs, had mixed results and ended up with honours even. We thank June Ives and Jacki Mackenzie for running this League.

None of these leagues would exist without volunteers to run them and Roger, Elaine, June and Jacki have spent many hours organising and quite often coping with last minute changes. We should all be grateful for their time and enthusiasm.

1. COMPETITION SECRETARY’S REPORT: Happily this year David and I were able to run all our planned club competitions and all were well supported. Unfortunately Covid did occasionally cause some disruption and disappointment but all events were completed.

To comply with recommendations regarding Covid at the time, we reduced the number of entrants for the Star Cup and the Teams of Five. Hopefully next year we will be back to our usual numbers.

All results have been displayed on the noticeboards and reported in the Newsletter.

A big thank you to everyone who entered the various competitions and to those who provided help and support with the setting up and clearing up.

Information about next year’s competitions will appear on the noticeboards soon after the season begins so check the boards regularly so that you don’t miss out.

We hope members who have not yet dipped their toes into these events will join in the fun next season.

1. ELECTION OF OFFICERS: All the current officers were prepared to stand again. There was no opposition. It was pointed out that we would like other members to put their names forward to serve the club. The Secretary advised that as this was her eighth year on the committee it would be appreciated if any member who would like to take on this position would contact her to discuss the duties involved. Roger Dobbing also pointed out that he had been editor of the Newsletter since 2007 and would appreciate it if somebody else would take this over. Sheena Hall has volunteered to do this with Roger’s help.
2. ELECTION OF ACCOUNTS EXAMINER: Howard Quenell is prepared to continue. Proposed by Ann White and Seconded by Mike White.
3. ANY OTHER BUSINESS: There was no other business and the meeting closed at 8 pm.

Pauline Shipway Dennis McGuinnes

Hon Sec Ewhurst Short Mat Bowls Club Hon Chairman

June 2022