

Annual General Meeting

Held at Symonds Green Community Centre, Thursday 3rd September at 7:30pm

Minutes

1. Present

Craig Hearn, Daniel Morrin, Andy Cobbold, Steve Lee, Alex Tillet, Dan Watkins, Ron Hart, Lisa Tillet, Dave Smith, John Tillet, Carole Morrin, Rebecca Hearn, Carole Drury, Chris Boakes, Caroline Boakes, Nyall Watkins, Ricky Drury, Malcolm Ward, Emma Thurley, Marilyn Cook, Pete Cook

2. Apologies for Absence

David Danby, Mo Ashman, Matt Thurley

3. Chairperson's Report

Thank you to everyone that has helped to run the county competitions and events this year, numbers of entries have been stable compared to last year, it would be great to try and increase those for the coming season. I hope you have enjoyed the Summer Series event that we have run, again it would be great to get everyone involved when we run this again next year.

Thank you to the officers of the Association for all their hard work throughout the year. Their time, effort, and support in keeping things running smoothly is very much appreciated.

4. League Secretary's Report

A competitive league season saw just 13 points separate the top and bottom teams. Kings Langley Reds finished in 5th place on 26 points, Stanstead Abbots were 4th on 30, Symonds Green Strikers were 3rd on 32, finishing just a point above them and taking the runner up spot were Kings Langley Blues on 33. The winners, and congratulations go to Symonds Green Shadows how finished on 39 points.

League Table 2025/2026

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drew	Lost	Points	SF	SA	Shot Diff
1	Symonds Green Shadows	8	5	1	2	39	297	194	103
2	Kings Langley Blues	8	4	2	2	33	237	250	-13
3	Symonds Green Strikers	8	3	0	5	32	232	258	-26
4	Stanstead Abbots	8	3	1	4	30	229	272	-43
5	Kings Langley Reds	8	3	0	5	26	249	270	-21

We are waiting to hear about Shenley and Kings Langley in terms of the league for next season.

5. Treasurer's Report

Hertfordshire Carpet Bowls Association - Financial Position as at 31st Aug 2026

Balance as Reported in Last Year Financial Statement	31.08.25	4,364.23
Bank Balance as Per Lloyds Statement	31.08.26	4,746.38
Clearing Items		
Bank Balance		<u>4,746.38</u>
Cash Balance		<u>16.50</u>
Balance as Reported in This Year's Financial Statement		<u>4,762.88</u>

County Competitions

	Hall Hire	Entry Fees	Food	Raffle	Profit/Loss	
Singles	- 214.50	135.00	72.50	21.00	14.00	29.03.26
Pairs	- 214.50	190.00	24.00	37.00	36.50	22.02.26
Triples	- 214.50	225.00	56.00	47.00	113.50	25.01.26
Fours	- 214.50	200.00	90.00	30.00	105.50	02.11.25
Scapa					-	
Total	- 858.00	750.00	242.50	135.00	269.50	

County Games/Events

	Hall Hire	Player Fees	Paid In Adv	Food	Raffle	Profit/Loss	
Team Bowl		120.00	- 96.00		- 10.00	14.00	05.10.25
Suffolk	- 214.50	120.00		65.00	34.00	4.50	14.12.25
Bedfordshire	- 214.50	120.00			105.50	11.00	15.03.26
Essex	- 214.50	120.00		76.50	45.00	27.00	18.01.26
Norfolk		120.00				120.00	04.01.26
Cambridgeshire		120.00		23.00	37.00	180.00	15.02.26
Six Counties		120.00	- 96.00		- 10.00	14.00	12.04.26
ECCBA Champion of Champions						-	
ECBA Champion of Champions						-	
ECBA Champion of Champions						-	
ECBA Champion of Champions annual subs						-	
ECBA Triples						-	
ECCBA						-	
Total	- 643.50	840.00	- 192.00	164.50	201.50	370.50	

Other Income/Expenses

	Income	Expenditure	Profit/Loss
Insurance		- 207.94	- 207.94
Affiliation Fees (HCBA Clubs)		- 100.00	- 100.00
ECBA Affiliation Fee		- 480.00	- 480.00
ECCBA Affiliation Fee		- 100.00	- 100.00
ECCBA Subs		- 60.00	- 60.00
HCBA Committee Meeting Expenses			-
ECBA Travel subsidy	484.00		484.00
Trophies / Engraving			-
ECCBA Raffle			-
video/recording equipment		- 119.98	- 119.98
County Tops	127.85	- 284.04	- 156.19
Acct charges		- 47.24	- 47.24
ECBA Raffle (Potters)			-
Hall Hire County Refund	643.50		643.50
Raffle prizes purchased in sales for various events		- 97.50	- 97.50
Total	1,255.35	- 1,496.70	- 241.35

Balance Brought Forward	4,364.23
County Competitions	269.50
County Games Events	370.50
Other Income/Expenses	- 241.35
Profit/Loss	<u>398.65</u>
Balance Carried Forward	4,762.88
Bank	4,746.38
Cash Float	<u>16.50</u>
	4,762.88

6. County Captain's Report

I apologise for not being able to attend the AGM.

This season has been remarkable for the unprecedented level of success at county level for Hertfordshire.

The season opener was the Six Counties Team Bowl in October 2025. Hertfordshire and Suffolk played each other in the final session with both counties able to win the tournament. A 17-7 win for us meant we ran out winners with 83 points.

In the league we won all 5 games. 124points scored and winning the league by 12points. This was another first for the county. Suffolk had the league title taken away from them for the first time in many a year.

The last fixture was the Six Counties Championship. Could we make it a clean sweep. We won the 1st session 8-4 against Cambs; the 2nd Session 9-3 against Norfolk; 3rd session was 8-4 against Essex; 4th session saw us win 7-5 against Suffolk. Our last session was against Beds and a 9-3 win saw us over the line by 4 points with 41points.

This level of success is amazing. When I first played for the county it was our objective to avoid the wooden spoon. Now we have real ambition and all the players that represented the county can be very proud of our remarkable year.

The county has Potters left to conquer, starting with the Friday night match v the Northern league winners. The first time we will have fought for the right to be the national league champions. We then move onto the main Potters event where hopefully we can take the next step and finally run out winners.

I have decided that this is a good time to stand down as County Captain. My thanks to Matt and Neil for their support on the selection committee. Of course, I wish my successor all the luck in the world.

David Danby, County Captain

7. Competition Secretary's Report

Fours was the first competition of the season, held on 2nd November 2025. There were 10 entries (same number as the previous year). The winners (retaining their title) were Emma Thurley, Amy Missing, Simon Missing & Matt Thurley. They beat Niall Watkins, Dan Watkins, Dave Smith and Craig Hearn 14-1 in the final.

Triples were held on 25th January 2026. There were 15 entries (up from 14 the previous year) The winners were Lauryn Walker (winning her first county title), Jack Smalley & Jason Ellis. They beat Lisa Edmead, Stuart Mcneil and Neil Tuckey 7-6 after an extra end in the final.

The pairs were held on 22nd February 2026. There were 20 entries (down from 21 the previous year). The winners were Rebecca & Craig Hearn who beat Lisa Edmead and Stuart Mcneil 14-7 in the final.

The singles were held on 29th March 2026. There were 27 entries (same as the previous year). The winner was Matt Thurley who defeated Neil Tuckey in the final 13-3.

8. English Report

I attended the AGM with Rebecca and Craig back in April. It was one of the most productive meetings that had been held for a long time, lots of discussion around how the game can be developed.

Lancashire were inducted as the newest member of the ECBA. They subsequently had a full team of 10 players representing them at the ECBA Champion of Champions event held at Hartlepool in June. Their aim will be to field a team at the national championships at Potters in November, but they are small in number, so that may be somewhat off.

Next ECBA meeting is a teams meeting on September 19th.

9. Eastern Counties Report

I attended the AGM in July. Two main things to come out of the meeting. Gerald Sutton, the current ECCMA chair, will be stepping down next year. Trevor Kidd of Essex was appointed as vice chair to shadow Gerald for the coming season before taking over as chair next year.

There was a proposal from Norfolk to reduce the ends at the six counties down from 9 to 7. Following lots of discussion it was decided to actually change the format of this event from 6 teams of four to eight teams of triples, this will result in a reduction to the length of the day (which was the main reason for the proposal) but we will still be playing 9 ends.

10. Proposals

No proposals were received.

11. Election of Officers

Position	Current Incumbent	Willing to Stand	Nominations
Chairperson	Pete Cook	Yes	
League Secretary	Pete Cook	Yes	
Treasurer	Jacqui Harris	No	Emma Thurley
County Captain	David Danby	No	
Selection Committee	Neil Tuckey	No	Marilyn Cook Stuart Mcneil Jack Smalley
Selection Committee	Matt Thurley	Yes	
Competition Secretary	Pete Cook	Yes	
ECBA Representative	Rebecca Hearn	Yes	
ECCBA Representative	Pete Cook	Yes	

With no further nominations for any other positions the incumbents willing to stand were re-elected and nominations for vacant positions were elected to post. With current positions now filled as follows:

Position	Current Incumbent
Chairperson	Pete Cook
League Secretary	Pete Cook
Treasurer	Emma Thurley
County Captain	N/A
Selection Committee	Matt Thurley
Selection Committee	Marilyn Cook
Selection Committee	Stuart Mcneil
Selection Committee	Jack Smalley
Competition Secretary	Pete Cook
ECBA Representative	Rebecca Hearn
ECCBA Representative	Pete Cook

No dedicated County Captain was appointed. The selection committee will divide those responsibilities between themselves.

Thanks to David, Jacqui and Neil for their hard work and commitment.

Committee Members

The following people put themselves forward to be committee members:

Craig Hearn (Existing member)
Carole Drury
Ricky Drury
Dave Smith
Chris Boakes

12. Competition Dates

Dates for the upcoming season are provided below. The county competition dates (highlighted in grey) are the same weekends as the previous year, those dates were available and have therefore been booked.

Date	Event	Venue
13th September 2026	ECBA Triples	Littleport
4th October 2026	Team Bowl	Littleport
1st November 2026	County Fours	Applecroft, WGC
6th-9th November	National Championships	Potters
22nd November 2026	Suffolk v Hertfordshire	Needham Market
13th December 2026	Essex v Hertfordshire	Great Sailing
17th January 2027	Hertfordshire v Cambridgeshire	Applecroft, WGC
24th January 2027	County Triples	Applecroft, WGC
21st February 2027	Bedfordshire v Hertfordshire	Barton-Le-Clay
28th February 2027	County Pairs	Applecroft, WGC
14th March 2027	County Singles	Applecroft, WGC
21st March 2027	Hertfordshire v Norfolk	Applecroft, WGC
18th April 2027	ECBA Rinks	Needham Market
27th-30th April 2027	Festival of Bowls	Potters
12th-13th June	ECBA Champion of Champions	Hartlepool

13. Any Other Business

Rebecca mentioned that a new club has opened at Pirton. They currently play on Tuesday evenings and Thursday mornings. Rebecca encouraged everyone to go and join in some of their sessions.

We will look to organize some friendly matches with them and invite them to enter our coemptions and join our league whatever format that may end up taking.

With there being no other business, the meeting closed at 7:50pm