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Minutes of the Management Committee meeting held on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January at Hartley Country Club, commencing at 8.00pm.

1. **Apologies for absence:** None

**Present:** Tim Edwins, Carolyn Edwins, Sheila King, Alan Cregeen, Ray Keemer-Richards, Ayjay Keemer-Richards, Bryan Yates, Mick Nash, David Holden, Bob Gaywood & Mike Cubitt

**Guests:** Ron Yates, Jean Olley & Bridget Snow

2. **Matters arising from the previous meeting**

The KPA calendar is now online. There are also 2 extra events in the calendar, a doubles at Meadow for KPL Division 4 and below, and a Lordswood open doubles.

3. **Treasurer's report**

David circulated the latest accounts by email on 7/3/18. David also announced he had received monies from Ray tonight for membership fees. There has been no KPA expenditure other than membership fees paid to the EPA.

4. **Membership report**

Ray reported that membership is going very well, there are currently 520 players registered in the KPL and 453 of those already have their 2018 KPA licences. Ray said that he is also working with a possible new club and new members in Lenham.

5. **Pétanque England Espoirs squad day**

Bob read aloud a chain of emails between himself and the espoirs coaches. The first KPA qualifier clashes with the second espoirs squad day. The espoirs coaches say they agreed the dates in November, however this was not put down on the EPA calendar that the KPA playing committee worked from. Bob has spoken to Martin Eggleton and he wants to avoid any problems between the EPA, KPA and espoirs coaches. Martin was unaware of the calendar discrepancies. Carolyn noted that having to make a choice between Kent and England was very unfair on the espoirs and we need to try and come up with a solution for them. Bob said that it is very unfortunate, but it has happened, and

we will have to try and manage the situation as best we can. Mike Cubitt suggested a formal email to the EPA making them fully aware of the situation and asking for their comments.

**6. Inter-Regional Combined Squad subsidy**

There were some healthy and passionate discussions involving the MC and guests present about the regional qualifiers format, possible prize money, subsidies offered, and representing Kent. Ron suggested that any major changes to the regional qualifiers should be put to the whole membership at the AGM. Carolyn suggested holding an EGM with the regional qualifiers the only item on the agenda and then members who wanted to attend and have their voice heard could attend to discuss and vote. A date for the EGM was agreed as 25<sup>th</sup> October 2018 at GRFC, with the MC meeting on that night to be moved to another date. Players at the first regional qualifier this year will be made aware of the EGM, and that they are invited to submit any ideas or suggestions to the KPA by the end of May. This will then give the playing committee and management committee time to discuss and form any proposals for the EGM.

Bob announced that this year's regional format, prize money and subsidies must be finalised tonight as it has been ongoing for a while. Bob then proposed to have this year's regional qualifiers exactly the same as last year's, as we are running out of time and players need to know what is happening. All present were in agreement.

**7. Regional qualifiers prize money**

See item 6.

**8. Date of next meeting – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April at GRFC**

Confirmed all ok

**9. Any other business**

Bob reported that the EPA have asked for final details on the Kent Open, being held on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> June at GRFC. The tournament will be pre-entry and open triples. Full details need to be finalised and emailed to the EPA.

Bob also said that the Kent School Games are being held at Canterbury on 27<sup>th</sup> June. There will be circa 1,000 children participating and the EPA have asked if the KPA would be interested in sending volunteers to the event to demonstrate pétanque.

Ray announced that the first and second Kent junior coaching days had been held and were successful. 5 juniors attended the first Saturday event and Ray and Ayjay have also been to Istead Rise on a Tuesday night to work with 2 juniors there. There is a report and photos on the KPA website. Ayjay said that they'd had feedback of Saturday morning clashing with football sessions so the next junior coaching day will be held at 2pm.

Ray also said that Mill Rythe have allocated beds to regions this year. Last year we had 66 beds but have only been allocated 44. It is possible that Kent teams 11 and 12 will have to be in caravans on

the Park Dean site. Some teams may prefer a caravan, so this could be swapped nearer the time when we know which teams have qualified.

Alan reported that the KPA website now has a map identifying clubs in Kent which also shows directions and travel time so potential new members could work out their nearest club or see their options.

Mike said he will have more details about help for the EPA titles weekend at the next MC meeting. This will be when help is required and what needs to be done.

Mick said that last night (7/3/18), was the finals of the winter cup and plate. The winter league AGM is 28<sup>th</sup> March. The summer league divisions and fixtures are now available on the KPA website. There are 63 teams in the league this year.

Ron asked Ray if there was any way of knowing how many members at his club had applied for their licences already. Ray said yes that is possible and he will email Ron a list of members at his club.

**Meeting closed 21:41**